



The North of Scotland Welsh Pony and Cob Association

MINUTES OF THE 2024 AGM

Held on 24th February at
The Newmachar Hotel, Oldmeldrum Road, Newmachar. Aberdeen, AB21 0QD

Present: Aina Barwell (Chair), Susan Reeve (Secretary & Vice Chair), Committee: Lynneanne Cameron, Moira Leggat, Fiona Leslie
Alison Walker, Jeanette Fulton, Roby-Mae Leslie, Lyn Robertson, Joyce Robertson, Stuart Finlay, Rachel Duthie, Marie Sutherland, Marie Thompson, Sadie Barron, John Barron, Mary Buchan, Nicola Ingram, Kirstie Hosie, Lisa Gill

Apologies: Stacy Angus (Treasurer) Lesley Rice, Kirsy Finnie

Welcome by Chairperson: Aina opened the meeting @ 7.15pm

Approval of the 2023 minutes

Aina asked for those present to read the 2023 Minutes.

Matters arising - none

Proposed by Allison Walker & seconded by Susan & approved

Approval of the 2023 Financial statement

Aina asked for those present to read the 2023 Financial Statement.

Matters arising - none

Proposed by Susan & Seconded by Alison Walker & approved

Election of Committee Members

The current committee all agreed to stay on & Marie Thompson was elected to committee being proposed by Susan & seconded by Aina

Election of Office Bearers

Susan stepped down as Vice Chair & Marie Thompson was proposed by Moira Leggat & seconded by Fiona to take the position.

Marie thanked the committee for electing her. She told us that although her background was in Clydesdales she was now the proud owner of 3 Welshies & she has previous experience of being a Riding Club Chair. She was keen to organise training days & clinics for the Association.

The future - finding a way forward

Due to the changes made by the WPCS for 2023 regarding Bronze Medal status and their 2024 review, the committee felt an open discussion on how the Association has been impacted by these changes was important. Those present were asked to read the document supplied & Alison Walker opened the discussion by saying that she felt the Association should drop the Medals altogether as they were very expensive. She also mentioned how restrictive it is in respect of having to invite panel Judges that can judge all 5 sections plus the expense of bringing judges up from Wales. The cost of flights & providing accommodation was becoming prohibitive when entries were not covering costs. Alison stated that since Covid many regular exhibitors have given up showing & entries are very much lower at shows across the UK & because we are so far North, exhibitors from outside our area were reluctant to travel up. She went on to say that it is only in hand exhibitors who have interest in medal status & until entries increase it was not worth the expense. The room was in agreement to drop the WPCS medals for the time being but review them in future.

AOB

Membership: Susan answered the question of how many members the association had. She explained that membership was suspended during Covid & was being re-introduced for 2024 but prior to that Membership was steady at around 45. The desire, going forward, is to regain that number & hopefully increase it. She also explained that Membership was open to all breeds, not just Welsh as we have classes for all breeds/types at our shows.

Fiona asked what were the benefits of Membership: Susan explained that Members get reduced entry fees at all shows & events, are eligible for Member rosettes & Championships, can enter the Members Performance Scheme & are eligible to be elected onto the Committee.

Spring Show: Schedules were available & those attending were encouraged to take some away to distribute. Susan explained the Association was trialling its own online entry system & that Membership, Performance Scheme & show entries can be made via www.nswpca.co.uk with payment by Bank transfer or Paypal.

Aina closed the meeting & introduced the first of our guest speakers.

Mr Jim Dukes BVM&S, MRCVS - Dukes Equine Vets Ltd
Topic - Is Your Horse Fit Or Fat?

A short break was taken before the second guest speaker

Craig Taylor DipWCF (HE)
Topic - Getting The Hoof Show Ready

Raffle Prize Draw raised £143

The Association made a donation of £25 to the charity Horseback UK whom Jim Dukes works closely with
<https://horseback.org.uk/>