

19/12/23 Council meeting Summary

The chairman had attended the Derogation/HPS meeting at Brecon. There was a healthy entry of foals forward and a discussion of Glanusk Premiums.

Updates: from a recent Equine Studbook Association meeting there is a proposal to have scannable codes in England instead of horses having passports.

The CS reported that interviews were about to take place to appoint a new staff member. The office has been struggling with staff absences in the office so staff have been very busy. The new phone system has been installed as part of a new BT contract.

There was a discussion of progress with the Journal and its costings.

The President outlined the plans for his Dinner. Originally it had been agreed that the President's Dinner and the Performance Awards evening be a joint venture. However, this has led to capacity and costings issues. A change therefore had to be negotiated for this year whereby the Awards Night will have to be held on a different night to the President's Dinner and at a potentially different venue. It was proposed and agreed by all trustees that we need to look at the Awards in the long term and that the President's Dinner should revert to follow the AGM.

The possibility of a Showing membership was debated as the majority of people competing at shows were not members. A distinct showing membership (Australia was given as an example) would increase membership if competitors had to be members to show. It would have to be priced accordingly. The CS outlined issues that non-members who show often cause the office, furthermore they cannot be subject to any WPCS disciplinary action.

It was proposed that the Society would give a donation towards the cost of the rosettes for the International Show to be held in the Netherlands, together with the WPCS Overseas International Show medals for the five in hand sections. All trustees were in favour.

The J&S committee outlined their view that there are too many medal shows. After extensive discussion it was agreed to remove the Elite medal and the Triple Crown medal – all trustees were in favour.

It was proposed and agreed that that there should be a requirement that 14 animals were to be forward in that section for a bronze medal to be awarded and 20 animals to be forward in that section for a silver medal to be awarded. It was felt that the numbers had to be standard across the board as regional differences etc might affect entries in different sections. All trustees agreed apart from AB who abstained.

The feeling was that we must try and support the traditional county shows. All trustees affirmed that the Association medal be continued and that all Welsh sections including the in hand, ridden and driven are to be eligible.

Concern was raised over the Sire Rating Awards. In 2023 they were aligned with all 'status' shows counting towards the ratings. It was decided to revert to the list of selected shows. All trustees in favour. To support shows it was proposed and agreed by all trustees that silver medal shows should be allowed to have two or more judges for the five sections where, currently, they must have four separate judges for the five sections at a silver medal show.

All trustees were asked to review the 2023 handbook and feed back suggestions and amendments for the next meeting.