



## Dressage Ireland Clg. 2018 AGM MINUTES

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020  
Time: 19:30 – 21:45  
Venue: Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise

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### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### Present:

Deborah Tems	Sarah Mellor	Clare Harrington	Dermot Cannon
Elizabeth Thackaberry	Davina Monahan	Orla Harrington	Rose Carr
Dorothy Tynan	Niamh Mahon	Oonagh Fitzgibbon	James Cosgrave
Norbert Von Cramon	Sonya McCormack	Bernie Foley	Claire Fitzsimons
Tess Walsh	Sarah Logan	Leanne Foster	Mary Flynn
Collette Ward	David Keane	Patricia Frost	Leona Frayling
Bernie Webb	Christine Keane	Aisling Deverell	Jan Heine
Liz White	Lorraine Kennedy	Lisa Dundee	Marguerite Kavanagh
Jillie Rogers	Aoife Keogh	Anne Marie Dunphy	Kevin Kavanagh
Mark Ruddock	Emma Kieran	Kate Dwyer	Gillian Kyle
Claire Sammon	Davnet Kiernan O'Brien	John Cooper	Petra Larkin
Claire Sedgeman	Sinead Heffernan	Mary Cox	Genna Kavanagh
Samantha Smyth	Jenny Heffernan	Ruth Daunt	Sarah Loane
Louise Somers	Marie Hennessy	Lynne Cassidy	Joanne Logue
Sarah Quaid	Maeve Hennessy	Joan Adrain	Catherine McCourt
Joe Reynolds	Gisela Holstein	Jane Averill	Richard McCracken
Kathleen Reynolds	Heike Holstein	Sean Burgess	Jane McDowell
Julie O'Callaghan	Kerry Isom	Donie McNamara	Michael Moore
Sue Owens	Karen Gibney	Adrian Mellor	Charlene Moore
Kevin McGuinness	Ann Glynn	Ceara Banner	Ronan Murphy
Rebekah McNally	Grainne Hallahan	Lindsey Ilona Brady	Aileen Murray
Brona O'Mahony	Owen Smyth	Deirdre Seale	Annika Rohrssen
Lisa O'Brien	Jane Whitaker	Ruth Wiseman	Richard Twomey
Philippa Kearns			

#### Apologies:

Sinead McGrath	Beth Wright-Shields	Damien McCormack
Cassandra Morris	Jenny Doran	Edel Quinn
Caroline Moran	Tara Flynn	Philippa Tegglin
Judy Reynolds	Fiona Hayes	Barbara Delahoyde

Chairperson: Gillian Kyle  
Minutes: Philippa Kearns

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## **WELCOME / DISCUSSION:**

Gillian Kyle addressed the meeting and explained the voting procedure, and that only 2020 members can vote.

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## **1. APOLOGIES**

In addition to those received prior to the meeting, the following apologies were made verbally: Debbie Cherry, Caroline Mellor, Rebecca Keane, Faith Ponsonby, Sam Deverell, Maureen Cassidy. List of others received prior to meeting to be provided by Norbert von Cramon.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 2018 AGM PART 1 (22/05/2019)**

David Keane – one amendment please and it's a particularly important one. If you remember we had no minutes for the extraordinary meeting held. Details of which motions were passed and not passed were lacking. These minutes are now an official record of the EGM as well. We cannot approve these minutes until this information is complete. Richard has recommended that instead of writing them down as 1, 2, 3... that the proposals are fully worded. Please can the minutes be amended so that EGM proposals are properly worded and included in the 2018 AGM minutes.

### 2018 AGM Part 1 (22/05/2019) Minutes

Proposed: Bernie Foley

Seconded: Deborah Tems

## **3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

### Gillian Kyle

I would like to thank all of you who have taken the time to come to this meeting tonight.

Last May I was proud to announce that we had qualified a team to represent Ireland at the European Championships in Rotterdam. As we are all aware the team of our four 'Girls in Green', Judy, Peetsy, Heike and Kate made history by successfully qualifying our first Olympic Dressage team putting Ireland firmly on the world Dressage stage.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations at our recent National Championships was a great success. We were delighted to have the 'Girls in Green' and team trainer Johann Hinneman attend to share their Pearls of Wisdom with the members on the Friday evening. Saturday evening's line dancing was something I was disappointed to have missed! We are very grateful to each of our generous sponsors for the Championships while securing a title sponsor in Slieve Bloom Stud was much appreciated.

I also mentioned in my last report that the Board would be addressing specific Terms of Reference for our Board sub-groups. I can report that these have been updated. At our most recent Board meeting

we discussed the need now to focus now on preparing a strategic plan for Dressage Ireland for the next few years.

I am delighted to report that after the teething problems of 2017, that the 2018 accounts were compiled and submitted on time with no penalties incurred. Thanks to our Honorary Treasurer Tony Hession, our Auditors, our general Administrator Norbert von Cramon and the Regional Treasurers for the work involved in this. Tony informs me that we are well on track for the 2019 accounts to be prepared in a timely fashion.

Our membership continues to grow and we are now close to 1,000 members which is a significant increase in membership in a few short years. Our youth membership in particular is benefitting from the success of our specific Trailblazers category. To provide a progressive pathway for younger riders we introduced Junior Preliminary and Novice classes at the National Championships. We have also expanded the Sportsmans category to include Elementary and Medium level classes and hope to see this category grow in the coming years as we encourage participation in the sport to riders and horses of all levels.

Collectively, the entries for the first Dressage Ireland shows this year were up by 42% when compared with the same shows last year. Last Sunday alone there were 360 entries at the four shows that took place in Leinster, Midlands & Western, North Munster and South Munster Regions. I think it's safe to say that we are all very grateful for the work that Regional Committees put in to running shows for the members. The Board were recently approached by two venues that were interested in running affiliated Dressage Ireland shows. After much discussion on the pros and cons over the course of a few Board meetings it was decided by a vote that this was something that needed further consideration and could be re-visited in 12 months' time.

I would like to thank our Board sub-groups; The Judges Committee – who maintain the judges list and provide training and exams; The Championships Committee – who organise the Winter Finals and National Championships; The Rules and Grading Committee – who update the Dressage Ireland competition rule book and evaluate appropriate grading of imported horses etc.; Youth Development and Silver Spurs; Training and Child Protection. Special thanks also to our general administrator, Norbert Von Cramon, and our admin assistant Charlene Moore for their work in keeping the 'office' side of things running so smoothly

#### **4. REPORT FROM THE AUDITORS**

##### Richard Twomey

We are presenting the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

On page 9 - total income €372,664 is combined income of Central and regional income, same way it was in 2017. €392,364 expenditure. Deficit c. €19k. For breakdown between Central and regions turn to page 16, which is supplementary information for Central. Total income is €176,589. Total cost of sales is €3,516 which is write down of stock/merchandise value. Total expenditure €186,880. So deficit of €13,807 – comprises of c. €1,200 arising from national championships, €4,000 due for Silver Spurs which wasn't provided for in the accounts as only just come to light that it was owed, provision for €3,516, €887 increase in auditor fees, €3,000 increase in office charge, €800 in relation to Combined Training.

Page 17 – Regions total deficit €5,893. Some regions had overall loss, some had overall profit. This combined with Central loss gives total loss of €19,701 overall.

In the next AGM we are going to have more of a breakdown for the Championships to make it more understandable.

David Keane – if you compare like for like there is a loss of €16,000 on the Championships. I've never been involved with a Championships where levies....

Jane Whitaker – it offsets the prize money, more or less.

Norbert von Cramon – €1.50 for prize fund and €0.50 for training. And this year an additional €1 for the Olympics fundraising.

Richard Twomey - €3,200 merchandise stock value probably going to be written down in 2019.

Debtors – €1,065 Central, €1,094 Regional

Creditors – Central €14,784 including balance owing to Silver Spurs, part of which is going to be written back in 2019.

Unknown - We can't hear you.

Unknown - This is double-dutch without a set of accounts in front of you.

Unknown - I can't even get it [the accounts] on my phone.

Gillian Kyle – they [the accounts] have been sent out to you.

Richard Twomey - Net current assets €136,910. Total reserve €143,708.

Gillian Kyle – any questions?

Unknown – You say you are going to have more of a breakdown going forwards?

Richard Twomey – Yes.

Unknown – What specifically are you going to break down?

Richard Twomey - Historically the Winter Finals and the National Championships have always been combined, but it's confusing when you're trying to decipher whether the National Championships have made money or not.

David Keane – RT you've done a great job, but to help people in the room, could I please ask to go back to page 17. Net deficit of €6,000 [€5893] for regions. Total income of €196,075 for regions.

There's €11,000 [€10,780] in Sponsorship, so a lot of that money would have gone back into the championships. Added to levies that's €33,000 [€10,780 + €22,142] so far given to Central. In

Training - €42,000 [€41,797] income, €58,000-59,000 [€58,806] costs.

Richard Twomey – Problem is that how each one [region] is classifying their costs and income varies, so it's hard to know exactly what the case is.

David Keane – As regions, having large cash balances is not good, so we're purposefully spending and getting money back into the members. If it wasn't for €140,000 [€140586] coming in from entries, they wouldn't have had that money to spend.

Accounts proposed: Sarah Mellor

Accounts seconded: Mark Ruddock

## 5. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

Gillian Kyle - We need to approve the remuneration of the auditors.

Proposed: Kevin Kavanagh

Seconded: Fiona Frayling

## 6. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Gillian Kyle – Everyone should have a voting paper.

Jane Whitaker – No, it was too difficult for Charlene to manage, so please go up to Charlene in an orderly fashion to collect your voting paper and hand it in to Richard Twomey.

Unknown – there are members who have paid and submitted their membership form.

Gillian Kyle – You have to be present to vote.

Jane Whitaker – To apply for membership you have to pay your money and also submit your signed form as part of your application. Charlene was processing memberships until lunchtime yesterday. So if they're not approved it is because they were too late.

*< VOTING PAPERS HANDED OUT and BREAK FOR TEA, COFFEE & FOOD >*

Candidate Presentations:

- Joanne Logue
- Mark Ruddock
- Sarah Mellor
- Donie (Daniel) McNamara
- Gillian Kyle

*< VOTES CAST AND COLLECTED >*

< Presentation by Peter Hannigan of EquiVet >

## 7. RESULT OF VOTE

Richard Twomey – the three directors who are successful in the vote are:

- Daniel (Donie) McNamara
- Mark Ruddock
- Sarah Mellor

< Presentation by Davide Focardi, followed by Q&A with Peter Hannigan and Davide Focardi >

## 8. NEXT AGM

TBC.

< 21:45 Gillian closed the AGM >

**<END OF AGM>**