



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY PARA COMMITTEE MEETING

2 May 2018

- Myerscough Winters wash up meeting will take place in the next fortnight, superb feedback received to date, any other contributions would be welcomed and should be sent through to the Chair via Natasha or the feedback@britishdressage.co.uk. Planning for 2019 will also take place at that meeting and will include dates, schedule, invitations to judges, sections, the bronze championship (new for 2019), a gala night/FSM.
- Plans to promote Bishop Burton CPEDI, 1 and 2* were discussed. Options for the opportunity for WEG potential squad members to ride the team test to music were considered. Respectful of the fact this is an FEI (not a BD) show; the chair will chat with the venue to see what can be arranged. Promotion to *all* riders and awareness of how to be selectable for the event has already begun.
- World Class update covered a rejuvenated approach to coaching, which had delivered excellent results so far this year. Importantly, particularly for our riders, was to promote that Podium Potential selection takes place this autumn and that both existing squad members and the wider rider population were made aware and encouraged to apply.
- A note will go out to all para riders, advising what the selection criteria are and what the programme can offer to develop potential international talent.
- FEI are conducting a Classification Project during 2018 and there is significant enthusiasm for the UK to be represented; this is being championed from within World Class.
- A great deal of out-of-committee work has been done on clarifying, explaining and promoting the pathway to become a para judge. The Judges Committee have fully supported the work done and this will now be taken forward. Information will be disseminated and we will now explore how we increase awareness and encourage judges to consider including para in their portfolio. We also identified how we can grow the pool of para tutor judges.
- RDA Championships – BD have been very kindly offered a stand at the RDA National Championships. In support, and in recognition of the importance of this opportunity, World Class have offered the support of squad riders on Saturday 14 July. Sadly the Chair will be on a pre-booked family holiday and regretfully unable to attend.
- Competition Structure 2019 formed the core of the meeting. A separate paper is attached but the headlines are:
 - The new process will start on 1 Dec. There will be a hard cut off so that we switch to the new qualifying period and don't run two systems in a 'changeover' period. This shortens the winter qualifying period (this year only, to qualify for the Winter Champs in 2019) and we will need transitional arrangements.
 - All tests will have a gold, silver and bronze section. Specific tests are qualifiers (Introductory for Bronze, Nov A for Silver, Ind Champ for Gold) and riders are responsible

for making sure they have entered the correct section. Entry in the wrong section (effectively a non qualifying test therefore) will mean the points don't count. Irrespective of rider grading, riders must hold a valid FEI classification to compete in the Individual Championship test.

- Gold, silver and bronze will each have two championships a year. This will start with gold, silver and bronze championships at the Winters 2019. This means a new bronze winter championship.
- Transitional arrangements are required for a clean break, in summary:
 - Gold is unaffected – their qualifying period will be up to 30 November.
 - Silver qualifying period reduces to 30 Jul – 30 Nov, therefore 8 points will qualify for the 2019 championship. Points have been reduced on a pro rata basis as the period shortens by 2 months.
 - Bronze is a new championship. To encourage riders, 2 x 60%+ scores will guarantee a place at the new Bronze Winter Championship 2019.
- Two gold semi-finals, second one in the school summer holidays (Festival of Para Dressage Solihull).
- Clarification on rider groups – what makes a bronze, silver and gold rider.
- Dates, deconfliction and awareness of 'working backwards' from major dates is a high priority and has the attention of several committee members who will work (away from the meetings) to take this workstrand forward.
- National Convention. The committee were very appreciative to be afforded a 45 minute slot to showcase para dressage at the National Convention. Whilst the headliner will be Sophie Wells, she will have the full support of the committee and as a team we will create the session.
- Para Home International was discussed and a wash up (and then future planning) meeting has been booked. Comments, feedback and suggestions will be welcomed as per the Winters washup/planning.
- More work is required to clarify how we conduct Para Intro Shows and dovetail into the BEF requirements for funding support.
- Future dates agreed: 16 August and 28 November, both at Meriden. The regional reps meeting will take place on 5 November and we will look at how we engage with our regional reps as being able to find a date in the first six months of the year has proved a challenge.

Director: Julie Frizzell