

BD COACHES

Dear BD Coaches,

As 2018 comes to an end this also heralds the end of my term as the BD Scotland Coaches' Rep. I have thoroughly enjoyed sitting on the Scottish committee and trying to represent and support Scottish dressage coaches. It has been a challenging time seeing the introduction and implementation of the BD version of the UKCC and I know some of you have been rather pulled kicking and screaming into coming on board with this new qualification.

In 2017 the UKCC was revised and updated and this has taken time in Scotland to get ratified and accepted onto the SQA qualifications framework. This is important as it allows Scottish coaches to apply for funding from horsescotland to help towards the costs of training and assessment. I believe the new version is greatly improved with a much stronger bias towards technical knowledge and this was undoubtedly needed. BD believe that it is still very important to study your subject and would recommend coaches do both the BHS exams, as they encourage an in depth stable management and veterinary knowledge, as well as their BD coaches qualifications for an all-round equestrian career.

A new UKCC level 2 course is starting in Scotland at Rockrose Equestrian Centre in March and a level 3 course will commence later in the year. In the future these qualifications may become known as the BDCC as UK Coaching are no longer the body that endorses these certificates but this will have no impact on the actual delivery of the training courses or the standard of the qualification

Technical training courses have also been set up in Scotland to try and develop the standard of knowledge of our trainers and all coaches are warmly invited and encouraged to attend any training put on for BD judges. This is a great way for coaches to gain a greater understanding of what the judges are looking for and also enable them to improve their own eye and knowledge. There is a judge's seminar in May and I would recommend you attend as it is both informative and enjoyable.

During my time as Coaches Rep the standard of riding and horses competing in Scotland has improved greatly so BD Scotland is definitely doing something right and I wish you all the best with your coaching in the future.

Diana Zajda UKCC3(BD)! BHSI and UKCC3 Generic