



MEON RIDING CLUB

1968 - 2009

NEWSLETTER

Hon Sec: Mrs Brenda King
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JANUARY 2009

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL

The Riding Club calendar seems to become more crowded every year! We wonder whether demand for new competitions will keep up with supply, though the start of this year has been encouraging, so lets hope we can sustain it. Details of most activities for the next couple of months have already been sent out, and are also on the Club website, so this is just an update, and a reminder to put the dates in your new diary.

AREA 17 WINTER DRESSAGE QUALIFIER **SPARSHOLT 24 JANUARY**

Lots more volunteers came forward for Club teams following the appeal in the Christmas Newsletter. We can only enter two teams, so cannot offer everyone a place on this occasion. If you are not selected remember there are other individual classes on this schedule you can enter. Horses often go wrong at the last minute, so if you are in the right place at the right time you may well get the chance to ride for the team if someone has to withdraw. If you are one of the unlucky ones who has to drop out, please make yourself available to help on the day. All team members are expected to do something to help out during the year - its a condition of entry for many BRC competitions that competing Clubs have to supply volunteers - and we would prefer them to do so willingly rather than have to put pressure on them! You may even learn how to avoid some of the common ways of losing marks in the process! Names please to Peter Buist (01794) 368061; email: peterbuist@aol.com

AREA 17 NOVICE TEAMS INDOOR SHOW **JUMPING QUALIFIER** **CROFTON EQUESTRIAN CENTRE,** **15 FEBRUARY**

Again, we now have more volunteers than team places, so we would like to see prospective team members out training and competing in order to select those showing the best form. There is a warm-up class before the team classes, which you might find useful if you haven't been to an Area Qualifier before. A schedule can be downloaded from the Area 17 website.

Volunteers are needed for stewarding, arena party and poo-picking. Names please to the organisers who are:-

Janet Irving (01489)892494 jan@jamoleo.co.uk

Sue Francis-Stukings(01489)877295 jostukings@aol.com

Barbara Wood(01489)877398 barbara@ashlands.me.uk

As this is a home fixture we hope to see lots of members coming along to cheer our teams on.

ROYAL WINDSOR HORSE SHOW

Royal Windsor is going to run three classes for BRC members, starting this year. They will be Riding Test on 13 May, plus Novice and Intermediate Show Jumping on 14 & 15 May. In the future the first stage will be a qualifier as part of a Club competition, but there is insufficient time to arrange one this year, so the qualifier will be held at Area level. The show jumping will be on 4 April at Sparsholt, and the Riding Test at Crofton on 10 April. Schedules for these will be sent out when available.

TRAINING

Details of jumping training sessions were sent out last month, and bookings have been coming in well. If you haven't signed up yet, but would like to do so you don't have much time left!

Show Jumping courses begin at Crofton on 12 January; at Medstead Grange on 14 January; and at Quob on 23 January. For information on spaces still available contact Penny Briggs (01730) 892297; email: woolmerlodge@yahoo.co.uk

Cross-country training will start with an indoor session with Vittoria Pannizon at Medstead Grange on 17 January, and a separate session on 14 February. For further information contact Helen Vernon, tel: 07801425625; email: hv@commodity.eu.com. Please note that course 6 on the cross-country training sheet, at Fair Oak, Rogate, has been rescheduled to 27 May to avoid a clash with the camp at Lower Peake.

EQUITATION TRAINING

Riders who already compete in Dressage often prefer to have individual instruction with their preferred trainer. If there is sufficient interest out there we would like to arrange training at a foundation level for small groups of riders. This would be aimed not just at young horses, but at anyone returning to riding after a long break, or after a set-back which has undermined their confidence, or just those who would like to do a bit more with their horses without getting too competitive! We have a wide range of venues and instructors available to us, and just need enough people to show an interest to get started. If this appeals to you please get in contact with Jan Desty, (01489) 877209; email: jandesty@btinternet.com, and we'll try to put something together to suit your needs.

MEMBERSHIP

The Committee has accepted applications from the following:-

Miss Aimee Barnard, 28, School Rd., Wickham
Mrs. Sarah Jennings, Wyck Barn, New Barn Rd.,
Buriton
Miss Laura Macarthy., 9, Red Barn Lane, Fareham

BRC has changed the minimum age for competitors in Senior teams to eighteen, with effect from 1 April 2009. We shall have to consider changing our own age of membership to bring it into line with this, but until this is done any members who have not reached their eighteenth birthday will not be able to compete as part of a Senior team, but can enter Junior classes as individuals

PHOTO COMPETITION

Solent Juniors are attempting to raise £10,000 for Cancer Research UK. They are holding an open photographic competition with a wide range of classes, not just horses, but people and pets as well. To see how the competition works visit www.solentridingclub.co.uk. Entries can be made online, or by post.