



**Notes of the Members Council at Windmill Village Hotel, Birmingham Road, Coventry,
CV5 9AL on Wednesday 27th March**

1)	<p>Apologies for Absence; John Jacks Teresa Tanner Mia Palles-Clark Claire Read Janice Mewse Donna Wood Richard Seals Jane Gregory</p> <p>Not present; Daniel Kehler John Bedford Craig Blackie Katie Smith Shaun Sands Rebecca Hawkins Danny Dunne Nicola McArthur Kaz McCoy</p>	
2)	Declarations of Interests	Paper 1
3)	To receive Notes of the Members Council Meeting held on Tuesday 29th January.	Paper 2
4)	<p>Board appointments</p> <p>The 7 Principles of Good Governance from the Sport and Recreation Alliance Code of Good Governance were explained and the Boards responsibility for delivery against these.</p> <p>IG explained recruitment process had recently taken place. The appointment panel for the Board interviews consisted of; Andy Borrie – Independent Chair Caroline Blatchford – Members Council Piers Warmouth – Members Council Iain Graham (CEO) and Les Harris (Chairman) in attendance The panel were unanimous in their recommendations for the following appointments; Integrity and Compliance – Samantha Livesey Finance – Jenny Quirke Showjumping Specific – James Broome Showjumping Specific – Laura Stockdale</p>	

	<p>Appointments were approved by those in attendance.</p> <p><i>KM – Questioned if previous Board experience was required.</i> Was confirmed that as outlined in the role description it is preferable to have previous Board level experience and experience of delivery against the Principles of Good Governance.</p> <p><i>AC questioned why Members Council can't choose who goes on the Board appointment panel.</i> The Board are accountable for delivery against the principles of Good Governance therefore it is there responsibility to ensure those on the appointment panel can assist in the appointment of Board Directors whom can fulfil this remit.</p> <p><i>KM questioned that had read something in relation to appointment of someone from BUS.</i> Was clarified that this is in relation to the Members Liaison Officer. A recruitment process has been completed and Caroline Blatchford has been appointed as MLO as was confirmed at last Members Council. The process for this is currently being checked by the lawyers to ensure it is legally robust and check data sharing implications.</p>	
5)	<p>British Showjumping Training Venue – update</p> <p>The Board have been conscious of planning for the future and ensuring security for the sport going forward with the likely reduction of funding being received.</p> <p>Hence have been looking to invest in a training venue to hold training for squads, pathway programmes, officials, volunteers, coaches as well as grass root competitors.</p> <p>One of the key factors which led the Board to pursuing this venue was that the Board were conscious of a venue having an additional revenue generator beyond just an equestrian property which is provided via the house, which will be let out as a high end holiday rental providing and additional income stream.</p> <p>The first phase of planning applications have been submitted to convert the courtyard stables into accommodation which can be used by delegates attending training. Also for the addition of meeting rooms along the long side of the indoor arena, which will be the similar to what is currently along the short side of the arena.</p> <p>Is hoped that the first phase of work will be completed by the Autumn and the venue will be available for use from that time.</p>	
6)	<p>Horse and pony grades (postponed from last meeting);</p> <p>The Grades of horses and ponies (A, B, C, JA, JC, JD) have been raised numerous times over recent years in regards to the fact that they are not performance indicators and do not reflect that a horse has competed to a level and therefore are largely redundant.</p> <p>Members Council were asked what their thoughts and feeling were regarding Grades of horses, what do they believe the Grades are there to do, are they required and if so what should they reflect;</p> <p>MM; Felt Grades should identify what level a horse is at within their career but the current Grades do not reflect that.</p> <p>AC; Agreed Grades should be a performance indicator and define having jumped at a certain level</p>	

	<p>EO; Agreed Grades should be on performance at particular heights but the current system doesn't work in doing this</p> <p>DF; Felt it didn't matter if Grades of horses were scrapped altogether as there are points limits for these classes and these can just be used instead and minimum performance results could be required to enter certain classes as opposed to a particular Grade as this will reflect if a horse is capable at a particular level which the current Grade system doesn't do.</p> <p>HJ; Felt Grades should reflect points at particular heights.</p> <p>PM; The current system is outdated and not needed, the points restrictions on their own would be fine.</p> <p>SW; Agreed, felt that there is no point in the current Grades and therefore they should be changed. Felt that for restrictions to entry could look at similar system to MER's in Eventing, whereby have to have results at particular level as opposed to being a certain Grade.</p> <p>KM; Has concerns about putting in restrictions of having results at certain levels as need to ensure there are enough classes at those levels to get the results required.</p> <p>CB; Felt current system is not a performance indicator and it should be based on performance at a particular height. Felt that particular classes should have experience requirement or results at certain level and that the issue of having enough classes to achieve these needed addressing separately.</p> <p>JB; Agreed current system is redundant.</p> <p>MM; Added could use Gold League points as a restriction to entry.</p> <p>All agreed needed considerable thought and more discussion.</p>	
7)	<p>AOB;</p> <p><i>AC & DF required clarification of insurance cover which was discussed at Academy conference.</i></p> <p>Confirmed what was being referred to at the conference was regarding members attending Academy training being covered by British Showjumping public liability insurance. Clarified would depend what happened in an incident as to whose insurance would come into effect.</p> <p><i>EO – Asked if classes could be combined at Category 2 shows</i></p> <p>Confirmed this had been back to NSC but was not changed as was brought in to support Category 1 shows and there does need to be differences in the categories otherwise everything is just run under category 2 shows and the whole of categorization becomes futile.</p> <p><i>PM – Asked if venue assessments will take place at Academy venues</i></p> <p>Confirmed is the intention that this will be the next phase once all of the competition venue assessments have been completed.</p> <p><i>KM; Concern over age of children putting up fences in warm up there should be a minimum age as is a real safety concern.</i></p> <p>Agreed to go to NSC.</p> <p><i>KM; Concern that don't have to be a member to be in the collecting ring so do not conform to the rules and no action can be taken against them, felt that anyone in warm up should need to be a member.</i></p> <p>Agreed is an issue and is being exploited by some who deliberately not become members however unfair where for example Mother is the member but Dad ends up taking children to the competition then can't warm children up, or people who take a friend or partner with them to help them but they</p>	NSC

	<p>are not members. Would impact on a lot unfairly for those few who are abusing the current rules.</p> <p><i>KM; At the 148 Pony Prems felt the Newcomers/1.10m should be schedules later in the day as it has a lot in it and pushes the qualifiers back late in the day.</i></p> <p>Agreed to go to NSC</p>	NSC
8)	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16TH October	
