



Delamere Forest Riding Club

A British Riding Club affiliated to the British Horse Society

NEWSLETTER

March 2019

Unfortunately it's been rather a roller coaster start to 2019. The outbreak of equine flu caused the cancellation of DFRC's IHT as well as a number of other "outside" events. It was a difficult decision to make (more later in the letter) but health of all horses had to be our first priority. We are delighted to be able to tell you about an exciting next quarter which includes some great events and opportunities to shine on a larger stage read on !!

PAST EVENTS:

The Clear Round Show Jumping Event took place on Sunday, 27 January at Forest Gate Farm starting with the 60cms class. All our "exciting" fillers were in evidence and the majority of horses, confronting them the first time, went round with eyes on stilts; but then proceeded to get round like old pros (though the clearance given on some occasions elicited deep in-takes of breath from the audience). Weather conditions were rather testing as there was quite a strong wind blowing which caused one or two problems in the practice arena. However conditions improved dramatically when riders went inside for the main course and the traditional chocolate bars were awarded for clear rounds. There was a good group of helpers and supporters who braved the weather and their presence was greatly appreciated – as I suspect were the hot drinks (medicinal glassfuls ?!) on the return to home.

Indoor Hunter Trials as mentioned above, following prolonged discussions with Jane and Richard; following guidelines laid down by organisations and checking to see what other venues were doing as regards the equine flu outbreak, it was with great reluctance we felt we had no option but to cancel the IHT. We know this caused a lot of disappointment – not least amongst the committee members who had spent a lot of time organising the event to date and for those who were also hoping to compete. We are pleased to say we have arranged a replacement event for Sunday, 26 May and details appear later in this letter.

AREA QUALIFIERS

Area Dressage

Another strong team represented DFRC at the Area Dressage and the team of Jenny German, Vicki Lowe, Elaine Reading and Madelaine Davies did exceptionally well to finish in third place as the competition is fierce at these qualifiers. We would also like to extend an enormous thank you to Meriel Stynes (who had only gone to the event to help Elaine !), Jenny and Madelaine who, because of an admin mix-up, kindly helped out on the day – we really appreciated your assistance. However the icing on the cake at this event was provided by Madelaine Davies who won the Medium section and therefore qualified for the championships. We all wish her the very best of luck at Bury Farm, Bedfordshire on 26 April.

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Area 20 Novice Show Jumping Qualifier

Once again we were pleased to send a team to compete at the SJ Qualifier on 27 January at Southview, which was made up of Caroline Brammer, Jo Bateson Emma Reading and Amanda Lyne. Unfortunately the team didn't manage a place but, as an individual, Caroline Brammer and her flying machine Maisie did exceptionally well to finish in second place individually. This meant that she qualified for the championships but, unfortunately, a prior commitment has precluded her taking part but we are very proud of her excellent placing.

FOTH Challenge

This event fell victim to weather conditions last year but was rescheduled to Saturday, 16 February at Llanymynech as an arena event style competition. Unfortunately, for various reasons, it did not prove possible to send a team but we were grateful to Rowena Butler for representing the club in the 80cm class.

FUTURE EVENTS :

Dressage Competitions

The full schedule of dressage competitions is now available on the web site but the dates and tests are confirmed as follows : Please note that this is now the Summer Schedule so there is a change of organiser .

- 14 April - Intro C (2016); P2 (2016); N24 (2010 rev 2016); E42 (2008) M71 (2002)
Entries open 25 March
- 12 May - Intro A (2008); P7 (2002 rev 2016); N30 (2006); E44 (2002); M63 (2002)
Entries open 22 April
- 16 June - Intro B (2009); P13 (2006 rev 2016); N34 (2009 rev 2016); E49 (2009); M71 (2002)
Entries open 27 May
- 14 July - Intro C (2016); P18 (2002 rev 2016); N27 (2007); E50 (2007); M63 (2002)
Entries open 24 June
- 11 August - a new addition to the diary and tests will be confirmed in due course.

To enter, please use either HorseMonkey or contact Sue Lea to confirm a place and send a payment. As the organiser is not always present at the event, all entries have to be paid for in advance as it can be a problem if helpers also have to collect and forward the fees. Once the tests being used are confirmed, details will be posted on the web site.

Combined Training

The annual Combined Training competition will take place at Cheshire Riding School on Bank Holiday Monday, 6 May. Full details of heights, how to enter etc, will be posted on the web site in due course.

Hunter Trial / Arena Event Sunday, 26 May

We are delighted to advise that we have arranged a competition at Forest Gate Farm on 26 May (in place of the indoor hunter trial). At the moment, we are planning a mainly working hunter type course on the outdoor arena. Weather permitting, the plan would then be to ride across the paddock to access the cross country fences but this will be very dependent on ground conditions. Fences will be 60cm; 70cm; 80cm and 90cm. Details will be on the web site as soon as a couple of aspects have been confirmed.

DFRC Horse Camp

The now absolutely famous DFRC Horse Camp will be held over the weekend of Friday evening 31 May to Sunday 2 June at Somerford Park. Word of just how good the days are has meant that Cathy is currently being approached by non members wanting places. Obviously it's a weekend

primarily for members and, as we don't want to disappoint any of you, if you are interested in taking one of the places, please can you contact Cathy London as soon as possible?

Bolesworth International Horse Show

We are delighted to advise that a Riding Club Show Jumping competition has been announced again for this year's Bolesworth Horse Show on Saturday, 15 June. We can enter teams at 80cm and 90cm. If you are interested in representing DFRC, please contact Sue Griffiths as soon as possible. Her email address is susangriffiths@metronet.co.uk

Area Horse Trials, 23 June

Date for Eventers' diaries June 23rd at Radford EC, Llanymynech the Area 20 Horse Trials. Register interest with Sam at samsansom@hotmail.co.uk and start thinking of any helpers that may be available for the day. Volunteer helpers from our lovely members are always gratefully received as we need at least 2 for every 4 riders. Thank you.

One Day Event

This is early notification that the DFRC one day event will take place slightly earlier than usual. It is booked for Sunday, 1 September at Smallwood Equestrian Centre.

Social

We are hoping to arrange an evening social at Crowton Village Hall in the next couple of months (dates are proving a bit difficult to pin down !!) when a specialist on the art of correct biting will come and give us a talk on the perils and pitfalls of buying a new bit. As soon as we have a confirmed evening, all details will be on the web and fb.

TRAINING

Sue Griffiths has arranged a cross country training session at Kelsall Hill with David Llewellyn on 13 April. The first class will begin at 1.00pm at a height of 80cm and the second session will be at 2.00pm and the height will be 90cm. It is envisaged that there will be 4 (possibly 5) in the group and the cost will be £28 per horse. All details are on the web site (under training). Please contact Sue as quickly as possible if you would like to book as places are now heavily subscribed.

Cathy London is also arranging a similar training session at Kelsall on 13 April with Sarah Johnson for those riders or horses who would prefer a slightly lower height – 60cm and 70cm. The cost will be £28 per horse with a maximum of 4 people in the group. If you would like a place, please contact Cathy to see if one is available as there has already been a great deal of interest in this session.

MICRO CHIPPING HORSES

As a lot of you will know, from October 2020 it will be a legal requirement that all horses are microchipped. Although there is a bit of time in hand, it might be a good idea to check whether your horse has a chip and, if not, getting one done at the same time as having an annual booster injection; routine inspection etc.

FLU VACC CERTIFICATES

Passports with up to date vacc details are still being required. For the training at Kelsall, please make certain that the paperwork is with you when you arrive but please leave some additional time before the lesson times to ensure all details can be checked.

Also, as regards Camp, please make sure that you have similar up-dated details as we have received the following letter from Somerford:

Somerford Park Statement on Equine Flu 13.2.19

Given the recent news regarding Equine Flu, Somerford Park are asking at the present time that ALL visiting horses or horses on livery:

HAVE VACCINATIONS WITHIN THE LAST 6 MONTHS

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We have taken advice from our on-site Vets as well as the latest statement from the BEF. We have a large number of horses stabled at Somerford and have a duty of care to them.

If you cannot attend due to the above we will issue a refund.

This is subject to review based on epidemiological evidence from the Animal Health Trust.

7 Day Rule:

(Different rules will apply for the BE events and local rules may apply for particular shows and festivals later in the year)

You can attend if your "booster" was within 7 days.

You cannot attend if you have started a new course of vaccinations within 7 days.

New Course of Vaccinations:

A new course consists of 3 vaccinations.

You can attend after the 2nd vaccination has been administered (this is approx. 4-6 weeks after the first jab)

Thank you.

If you have any queries about the validity of your Flu Vacc dates, Peter Booth has offered to check all passports if all the vacc dates are scanned and sent over to him. If you would like any further details on this, please can you contact Peter.