



News & Updates

Upcoming Events and Socials

On 17th March British Riding Clubs cancelled both the novice and intermediate winter championships for this year, as well as the Festival of the Horse challenge and combined training qualifiers and championships, and the national horse trials qualifiers and championships. BRC also strongly recommended that no riding club activities should take place up to and including 30th June 2020. This decision was taken to support the government's advice on social distancing, reducing pressures on the NHS and the care of vulnerable individuals.

Since then BRC have confirmed that riding clubs should not be running any activities at this time. The reason for this is that in accordance with the government's advice, organised sports activities are non-essential and we should be reducing travel and social interaction for non-essential activities and not adding extra pressure on the emergency services should an accident occur. In addition if the club was to run any event or allow members to use the field, our BRC insurance could be compromised.

We have therefore closed the club field for member's hire of the field for schooling and cancelled training and open events, including the dressage at Priory in May, up to 30th June. At this point in time we have not cancelled our events beyond the 30th June but may well need to do this nearer the time in the light of BRC and government advice.

BRC have not at this point in time cancelled the National Championships at Lincoln scheduled for early September but whether this goes ahead is uncertain. The dressage qualifiers are scheduled to take place on 11th July and this date is still being held in the diary. The show jumping qualifiers will not take place on 20th June but could possibly be moved to a later date in the event that the championships were to take place.

However 2020 is not the first occasion when BRC championships (including Lincoln) have been cancelled – the last time was in 2001 when there was a national Foot & Mouth Disease outbreak.

Rule Changes

Equine Flu Vaccinations Update

BRC's latest update: What should I do if my horse is due a vaccination in the next few months and will any lapse of vaccinations affect me entering BRC events later in the year? Answer: "During this unprecedented time it is really important to follow the advice given by your vet. In respect of future BRC qualifiers and Championships, please rest assured that we will be understanding of any issues with regard to six monthly boosters not being given and 12 month boosters that may have been given later than they should have been due to vets cancelling routine appointments at this time. We will issue a further clarity as the situation develops."

Also please note that BRC rules don't require six month vaccinations if the horse is not competing in a qualifier or championship. However if the horse is taking part in an official BRC competition (qualifier or championship), the rules require that the horse must have been vaccinated within the previous 6 months and 21 days (but not in the 7 days before the event). So if there are no such competitions, not having a six month booster is not an issue as far as BRC rules are concerned which are as follows:

The rules regarding vaccinations are that after the first two primary vaccinations (the second being between 21 – 92 days of the first one) and the first booster (150 – 215 days after the second vaccination), vaccinations must be at least annually thereafter. However to compete in an official team (Area Qualifier or National Championship), the latest vaccination must be within 6 months and 21 days of (but not the last 6 days before) the competition.

Team Event Reports

Before we found ourselves in the grip of the coronavirus, ERC members took part in two team competitions during March.

The first of these was the Winter Intermediate Show Jumping qualifiers on 7th March at Berkshire College of Agriculture. In the Senior 90SJ our team came 2nd – well done to Emily Weeks (on Sky), Helen Klein (Limerick), Hannah Jackson (JJ) and Clara Jollands (Lily). Helen was individual 1st and Isabel Bailey-Collins (riding Solero Spirit as an individual in the 90SJ) was 6th. Our 100SJ team was 1st – well done to Emily Weeks (on Monta Mystic Clover), Lily Amero (Darcy), Helen Klein (Darcos Glory) and Jessie Drake (Hilton). Lily was individual 3rd, Emily was 4th and Helen 5th. Very many thanks to those team members and supporters who helped on the day, particularly Tish Harwood who travelled to BCA just to be one of our helpers for the whole afternoon.

The following weekend was the BRC HorseQuest Arena Eventing Championships at Aston-le-Walls. On the Saturday our Senior 80 team was 9th – Isabel Bailey-Collins (Solero Spirit), Clara Jollands (Lily), Tish Harwood (Twizzle) and Marion Spencer (George). Isabel finished clear with no time faults and was rewarded with individual 3rd place (out of the 73 that completed!). Our 70 team was 13th - Juliet Hamm (Grey Alley), Hannah Jackson (Belle), Sydney Aldred (Erne Valley Mel) and Sophie Stewart (Jays Reflection). On the Sunday our Senior 90 team was placed 10th – Caroline Bradshaw (Womble), Heidi Reed (Ilar Vincent), Emily Weeks (Sky) and Helen Klein (Limerick). Well done all and congratulations to Caroline

Bradshaw and Womble - clear with no time faults and the nearest to the optimum time to become the individual AE90 champion 2020 (out of the 61 who completed!). Very many thanks to our members who shared the helper roles for each team.
