



Icelandic Horse Society of Great Britain Ltd BoT Meeting + Management

MEETING MINUTES MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2025 ON-LINE

Trustees & Management.

Martine Bye-Duke Chair (MBD), Jem Adams (JA), Hilary Ashford (HA), Ellen Brimble (EB), Debbie Ede (DE), Chrissy Edwards (CE), Linnie Frith (LF), Freija Glansdorp (FG), Fi Pugh (FP), Mic Rushen (MR).

The Minutes were written up by Sabrina Chetcuti

1. Opening and Apologies

MB welcomed all to the meeting. **Apologies** EB

2. Minutes of last meetings & Matters Arising

- 2.1.** Are there any amendments to the minutes not already raised? **None**
- 2.2.** Is the Board of Trustees willing to accept the minutes of the last meeting as reflective of discussions and decisions made? **Accepted**
- 2.3.** Review of actions from previous meetings will be covered in the following agenda. Details listed in the Action list – copy the following link.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dhgKaWkTEdUQRX0PZBiW5z0m-NEN6sGUXZn0eyh873k/edit?usp=sharing>

3. Chair's Update – MBD

3.1. AGM review and feedback

- Positive feedback was received after the recent AGM. Timing and efficiency were noted thanks to everyone's efforts

3.2. Reorganisation Proposal

- Follow up proposed as follows
- January 21st- AGM webinar presentation re run
 - DE, EB, FG and Mike Adams to record the AGM presentation
 - DE emphasised the need for board involvement to show trustee support for the initiatives Action MBD to check EB's availability
- January 28th - Discussion Paper email and request for questions to the members. ACTION DE to update discussion paper
- February 18th - Webinar addressing issues and answering questions
- March 18th - Tidy up and Pull together for EGM
- April 11th/12th- Hybrid EGM (WHW dependant)
 - Date agreed to avoid clash with Easter, the breeding weekend and FPs judging commitment. ACTION FP to check Ian Pugh's availability
 - ACTION FB to Feedback to Ellen about webinar dates and get confirmation from World Horse Welfare for EGM date

3.3. Virtual Planning Dates for 40th Anniversary events

- January 17th provisionally set.
- Format: structured time slots with working group breakouts and check-in sessions, not a full-day meeting.
 - ACTION MBD to check EB's availability.
 - ACTION MBD to publish format and confirm date.

3.4. 40th Anniversary Bash

- Date 14th November 2026 and venue confirmation are both urgently required
 - Action FP to draft a programme outline for the 40th anniversary AGM weekend.
 - Action Kirsty Carson to check availability of Brimley for 14 November 2026.
 - A member communication to be sent gauging interest, framed as a celebratory 40th anniversary weekend. Action LF
 - Messaging to clearly differentiate this event from the April EGM.

- MBD presented custom 40th Anniversary merchandise and shared details with the group for review. ACTION LF to collate orders on a decision to proceed.

3.5. FEIF conference 1st December

Action CE to check availability and confirm attendance to MBD

3.6. Delegates assembly

Confirmed FP is attending

3.7. Planning Day Rescheduling January

40th Anniversary Presentation evening

- Awards list to be shared with all trustees for additions and review.
- Presentation evening date to be confirmed once Ellen's availability and webinar schedule are confirmed.
- A mix of serious and light-hearted awards to be included.

4. Finance-DE

- 4.1.** Membership income is down by approximately £1,000 at year end; only three full memberships remain to be paid; tapering funds mean new joiners will not significantly offset the shortfall. The board WAS advised to address membership strategy as a priority, beyond merchandise revenue.

5. Communications - LF

Nothing additional to report

6. Breeding & Studbook – EB (FG)

6.1. African Horse Sickness – DEFRA Exercise

- FP Attended a voluntary virtual exercise with DEFRA's Exotic Disease Control team and other equine organisations regarding African Horse Sickness preparedness.
- Key concern: government messaging is no longer trusted by horse owners; alternative communication channels are being explored.
- No current risk in the UK; occasional concerns emerging in Spain.
- DEFRA plans to set up a hub for relevant documentation and FAQs.

6.2. Conclusion

- FG to brief LF on the exercise outcomes.
- Society to be aware of the uk hub as a future resource for member communications.

7. Education – JA

- 7.1.** Secured a recording of a webinar by nutritionist Claire McLeod on metabolic syndromes in horses (EMS, Cushing's, etc.), normally priced at £300; negotiated access for £80. Claire McLeod will be available live after the recording to answer questions. Webinar scheduled for Wednesday 17 December.

8. Leisure – MBD

- 8.1.** Christmas Challenge is up and running despite some Facebook access issues.
- 8.2.** Camp Dates confirmed as 29–31 May. Overlap with BC dates acknowledged. Trustees encouraged to volunteer to assist at camp.

9. Sport – FP

- 9.1.** Noted concerns raised by members about lack of communication and perceived exclusion from the Sports Squad Initiative. The need for clarity and transparency was emphasised. Acknowledging that communication could have been better; a webinar open to all members to explain the Sports Squad and answer questions as proposed

Action FP to liaise with JA to schedule a Sports Squad webinar (timing to avoid clashes with other webinars). FP to take the matter back to the sport group for further discussion.

A possible combined webinar on rider development vs. sports squads to be considered.

10. Youth – CE

- 10.1.** No significant updates;
- 10.2.** A video is being prepared to accompany the HOYS form.

Action CE to notify the board when complete

11. Membership Administrator - HA

- 11.1. Membership retention.a simple automated exit poll for non-renewing members to identify reasons. The chair acknowledged the practice had lapsed and agreed to review it .
- 11.2. FP Raised the question of whether regional sport judges who have not renewed their IHSGB membership can continue to hold a judge's licence.
- 11.3. General agreement that membership should be a requirement for holding a licence.
- 11.4. Action FP to send HA the list of regional sport judges for review and report

12. Sleipnir Newsletter Editor- MR

- 12.1. Action MR to provide Sleipnir deadlines when available
- 12.2. CE to circulate current issues

13. Website- IP

14. AOB

15. Date & Type/Venue of next Trustees meeting –

19.30. Friday 12th January 2026 Trustees & Management team Zoom Meeting

Newsletter Schedule