



Icelandic Horse Society of Great Britain Ltd BoT Meeting + Management

MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2025 19.30 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** None

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** with the following amendments:
 - **Changes made to the Breeding & Stud Book were edited**
 - **Finance elements needed expanding as the budget was approved.**
 - A snap shot is available on the shared drive with the minutes**
- 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 Plans

The calling booklet draft has been issued for procedural timings for mailings and the draft Agenda.

It was agreed that

- The individual reports need to be shorted or presented in a different format to ensure that there is sufficient time for presentation and discussion of the new structure proposal **Action AII**.
- The reorganisation proposal should not be provided to the members before the group makes its presentation
 - A group approach of 3-4 dynamic people and not just the project team to present so that the members know that the board and the management team are behind it.
 - The presentation to be focussed on the rational and advantages of the new structures. Delivered as a Q&A session to pre-empt potential questions from the members.
 - The way forward was agreed to use an open email thread for the board members to add questions and then pulled together by a working group using EB's original slides as the basis for the presentation
 - To be discussed at the next trustee meeting in November
- AGM agenda as presented in the draft calling notice was agreed. Any final amendments to be provided by 12th October. **Action AII**.
- IT – tech test. Requirements to be checked with Ian **Action MBD**
- Accommodation – All to organise own accommodation
- Museum Tour & Quiz in the morning before the AGM
 - Agreed to arrange for the tour & quiz for members attending.
 - Social media will be used to push interest and sign up for the Museum tour
- Catering refreshments Tea & Coffee etc **Action MBD**

3.2. Planning meeting

- Sunday Timings room required between 9am and 4 pm with a working lunch. Catering options to be explored. Numbers to be confirmed including MR attendance
- Cost package including Museum tour & Quiz, catering and two days hire to be negotiated **Action DE**
- Planning day priorities
 - Reorganisation
 - 40th year celebrations
 - Webinar options

- Requests for additional topics to be sent to MB. **ACTION All**
- 3.3. 40th Anniversary logo has been finalised and needs approval ASAP as requested by email. **ACTION All**

4. Finance-DE

- 4.1. Final Accounts have been finalised with the accountants in accordance with Charity commission requirements. Detailed statement of financial activities was reviewed as the critical element for trustees. Individual analysis of expenditure by domain and offers of further reviews were offered.

Chair expressed her thanks and that of the committee for all the work that has gone into finalising the accounts.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2025 were agreed by the trustees.

Electronic signatures will be required following the meeting **Action All**

Annual report including the Finance report is available in draft form for further information.

- 4.2. Member email process for the AGM calling papers needed to be covered for DE's absence at the end of the month. Cover for DE has been arranged within the Trustee and Management team.
- 4.3. Re-election of trustee posts. DE requested anybody standing for re-election to provide nominations and candidate synopsis early.

It was agreed that in the process of announcing any trustee posts coming up for re-election, trustees that are actively seeking to continue their service will be announced. If more than one person is seeking to cover a trustee post, then selection through the election process will be impartial. This will be included in the calling booklet

5. Communications – LF

Icelandic Horse rescue as announced in social media. Information was circulated to Manatees and a statement was prepared and issued in the IHSGB website on 7th October about the society providing assistance to WHW

6. Breeding & Studbook EB & FG

6.1. WHW- Welfare case – Update provided above.

- Helen Pointer has made contact to offer information held on file for any of the older surviving horses to the society and WHW
- If any horse has been identified with micro-chip the society has offered a duplicate passport to WHW. Unfortunately this is not possible in the majority of cases. One stallion has been provided with this and it is proposed to offer it free of charge. **Agreed by All.**
- The Horses are not registered Icelandic horses, without FEIF I.D's They will have non breed ID passports without any pedigree and have a complete lack of DNA profiles Clear communications about the rescued horses will be essential so that members and public understand their status when they are being rehomed. **ACTION FG**
- WHW have welcomed IHSGB support and recommendations. They will happily provide any IHSGB communications to those adopting the horses (loan only) at some point in the future. Trustees agreed that there will be opportunities to support adopters of these horses as members of the gaited community.

6.2. Blood Mares

- FEIF is asking societies to become active in condemning this practise
- Proposal to prepare a letter expressing IHSGB support of the FEIF position. **Agreed by All.**
- A letter format for customisation will be circulated by MBD
Action EB

7. Education – JA

Webinar planned with a physio focusing on posture and how it affects horses

Member's questions will be requested to pre-empt the presentation

Webinar suggestions from EBD include the reorganisation, and offers from a saddle maker and designer of Icelandic bit. Details to be provided

8. Leisure – MBD

8.1. Events in planning stage include

- Christmas Challenge is being planned
- Forty Challenges for next year
- 1st May

8.2. Showing council

- Meeting minutes to be circulated
- Article about the 2025 BC's will be in the next showing journal

9. Sport – FP

- 9.1. Sports Squad training weekend at Connegar 12th/13th October (by Kirsty Carson) for squads A and B
Recommendation to the board to cover travel expenses for squad training sessions including Kirsty. These may be sourced out of current budgets under squad support. Only one trustee LF could vote with EB, MDB, JA, FP declaring an interest, including FG although not a trustee. **AGREED**
- 9.2. Monmouth show organisers have been contacted to cover expenses (£300) for attending
- 9.3. AGM 2026 option of the Scottish Outdoor Education Centre, details provided by Kirsty Carson, will be circulated for discussion and an early decision.

10. Youth – CE

Hoof and harmony only attracted one youth entry (2 total)
No one taken up youth discount membership , which is disappointing.
Youth Camp 2026 in the UK, option to hold it in Shetland next summer currently under review
Webinars aimed towards youth being explored
Youth Cup 2026 – seeking selection criteria to attend
Society matters have been seen in private accounts on social media. Society matters need to go through comms

11. Membership Administration - HA

A small number of members have not yet paid and are being followed up. These individuals will not be able to vote at the AGM.
DE raised the point that whilst convenient, PayPal fees last year cost the society the equivalent of 5 memberships. It was proposed that BACS transfers be encouraged for renewing membership. **AGREED**

12. Sleipnir Newsletter Editor- MR

Currently investigating the materials and print for 40th Anniversary publication

13. AOB

- 13.1. EB raised the matter of the society Insurance which renews in October. It was proposed that it is renewed and then reviewed once the future plans identify any changing needs. **AGREED**
- 13.2. FP Shona Stuart is planning a virtual tolt series for members in the Northern Regions by using TOLT-on-line. Possibility for leader board on the IHSGB site was discussed. All forms will need to have a consent to publish names and scores. ACTION FB
- 13.3. DE reminded the board that prices have increased Tolt on line is now £15 and Courses for members are £175
- 13.4. FEIF invitation has been issued. MBD requested the possibility of sending more Trustees next year. This would need to be reviewed
- 13.5. FEIF questionnaire needs completing MBD to follow up
- 13.6. Action List review by the board has been requested to ensure its up to date
- 13.7. Manatees communications regarding decisions and feedback need to go on email to ensure all necessary board members are included and to establish an audit trail.
- 13.8. Sandy Riddle's funeral was attended by several members of the IHSGB.

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

19.30. Monday 10th November Trustees & Management team Zoom Meeting

Reminder

Newsletter Schedule

To be moved till after the AGM date to be confirmed

Publication: early December, Christmas edition

Agreed