

**BRITISH SHOW PONY  
SOCIETY**

**68<sup>th</sup>**

**A.G.M.**

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**SATURDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> February, 2018**

**AT**

**1.30 P.M.**

***THE***

***Leicester Marriott Hotel, (Smith Way)***

***Grove Park, Leicester. LE19 1SW***

***The British Show Pony Society a Company limited by guarantee***

***Registered in England and Wales No 5308982***

**Notice of Annual General Meeting of the British Show Pony Society**  
**(Registered number 5308982)**

**Notice is hereby given that the British Show Pony Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) on Saturday, 3rd February 2018, at 1.30 p.m. at The Leicester Marriott Hotel, (Smith Way), Grove Park, Leicester. LE19 1SW**

The following business will be dealt with at the AGM:

- 1) Apologies.
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the 67th Annual General Meeting of the Society held on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 these Minutes having been circulated, and to discuss matters arising.
- 3) The 2017 Financial Reports - Head Office and Championship Shows.
- 4) Elected Council members.
- 5) Consideration of the following Reports :-
  - 5.1 National Chairman
  - 5.2 Company Secretary
  - 5.3 Summer Championships Show
  - 5.4 Winter Championships Show
  - 5.5 Midsummer Show
  - 5.6 Dope Testing
  - 5.7 Joint Measurement Board
  - 5.8 Entertainment Committee
  - 5.9 Heritage Championship Show
  - 5.10 Chairman of Area Chairman
  - 5.11 Chairman of Scottish Branch
  - 5.12 Qualifying Shows
  - 5.13 Judges Assessment & Conference Committee
  - 5.14 Chef D’Equipe
- 6) Presentation of Awards – Mrs S. Thomas
- 7) Any other business

Members wishing to bring up items in Any Other Business are requested to write in six days prior to the A.G.M.

Please note that proxies may be used. For copies of proxy voting form and details contact Head Office on 01487 831 376.

**The Meeting will close by 3.30 p.m.**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT MARRIOTT LEICESTER  
HOTEL, GROVE PARK, SMITH WAY, LEICESTER, LE19 1SW ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY  
4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 AT 1.30 PM**

**1) ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

78 Members attended, 20 Apologies were received.

The Chairman, Mrs Pat Pattinson gave a speech:

“2016 – an Olympic year – an amazing year, who could fail to be impressed by Team GB especially our equestrian stars. The Society can lay claim to playing a part in some of their early years. I strongly believe that we are a great springboard for our young people – so maybe we will see the emergence of future stars.

Our Winter, Midsummer, Summer and Heritage Championship Shows each with their own identity, offer competition across the board at the highest level and were once again well organised, well supported and successful Burghley continued to work its magic from the moment you arrive. This year, alongside the 3 testing disciplines for our older jockeys, we introduce the all new LR Working Sports Pony. I know this is already causing ripples of excitement:- from “little acorns mighty oak trees grow”. Don’t miss it.

Olympia is a truly unique experience and we are extremely proud to have a significant presence there. We are also delighted to work with and continue to support both the RIHS and HOYS. All in all a brilliant package in itself plus opportunities for young judges, future judging, social events, entertainment – a great annual ball go to make the BSPS a front runner.

The Showing World was shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Roger Stack. Roger made a huge impact on showing whilst keeping that wicked sense of humour.

I know that David – David Ingle will continue to build on Roger’s legacy in his role as Show Director at Hickstead.

Also much missed, late Council member and good friend to the Society – Pat Monaghan. Council took the decision at the EGM not to replace Pat; so elected Council members now stand at 14.

As a Society we aim to deliver the best of tradition whilst evolving and moving forward.

New for this year:-

LR Working Sports Pony at Burghley

Young Competition Pony

Blue Riband Heritage WHP

A re-vamping of the Blue Riband ridden Classes

We do listen!

I recently came across a quotation by the American author Mark Twain :- “A lie can travel halfway across the world while the truth is putting on its shoes” ... that was over 100 years ago before the invention of social media. That is probably still true today maybe now round the world in an instant on Facebook, Twitter etc.

I can however see the good and positive when used correctly as a means of communications. This Society will not tolerate the misuse created by a very small minority.

Given genuine complaints that come to table re social media, we will deal with such matters in accordance with our stated structure, our rule and our policies.

It will come as no surprise to you when I pay tribute to our Areas (not forgetting Scottish branch).

My personal thanks to Lyn David standing down after three years as Chairman of Area Chairmen, their Committees, the willing band of volunteers who form the backbone of the Society. Couple this with our generous sponsors, judges, officials, your Council, the excellent management led by Executive Officer Joy Hall you have the British Show Pony Society – Simply the Best.”

The Chairman then asked the meeting to stand for a minutes silence in memory of Pat Monaghan, Mrs Pease, Gladys Mann, June Horsfall, David Horsfall, Charlie Baxter, Lillian Taylor, Richard Deptford, Noel De Quincey, Roger Stack Dianne Miller, Sir Simon Benton Jones, Sara Burkeman and Andy Cook.

2) **MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM MEETING**

The minutes of the last AGM held on Saturday January 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 were signed as a true record. The minutes were proposed by Allen King, seconded by Janet Bushell and approved.

3) **2016 FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Copies of the Head Office and Championships Show Accounts were circulated.

The Treasurer, Mr Pole went through the accounts. Both the Head Office and the Championship Shows companies had made a profit. Mr Allen King proposed the accounts, seconded by Mr Paul Cook and adopted.

4) **REPORT ON COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mr Wood from Gross, Klein Wood, the Accountants reported that there had been no ballot and the following members had been elected:-

Mr P Pattinson, Mr P Cook, Mr P Emmerson, Mrs J Griffin and Mrs P Baker-Beall.

5) **CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS**

Chairman's, Secretary's, Joint Measurement Boards, Summer Championships Show, Dope Testing, Chef d'Equipe, Press and Publicity, Entertainment and Fundraising, Winter Championships Show, Qualifying Shows, Young Judges, Assessment and Conference Committee, Chairman of Scottish Branch, and Chairman of the Area Chairmen. All the reports were proposed by Mr Terry Pattinson, seconded by Janet Bushell and adopted.

6) **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS – Mrs Sharon Thomas**

**AREA CHAIRMEN AWARDS FOR LONG SERVICE**

Our first award of the afternoon is to recognise the importance of the BSPS Areas.

This is a Special Award to recognise long standing Area Chairmen. These dedicated people have made an enormous contribution over many years to the success of their Areas and in turn the success of the Society. The award is in the form of a lapel pin to wear alongside their Chairman's badge as recognition for long service as Area Chairmen.

This year we are delighted to award these pins to four Area Chairmen. The Society is, indeed, very indebted to these loyal, committed and very dedicated ladies in running fantastic areas.

They are:-

Mrs Carol Barker, Mrs Pat Dorman, Mrs Lyn David, Mrs Mary Allison

## **GAY SOWERBY AND ANN CLIFF – LONG SERVICE**

This year we would like to acknowledge to two incredibly loyal and hard working ladies who dedicate their time voluntarily to the society and our competitors over many weekends throughout the showing calendar,

The first of these ladies was involved in hunting and show jumping more years ago than she cares to recall. Later involved in showing with her son Bobby who was successful in LR Show Pony, 12h SHP and Cradle Stakes.

After many years, she is still an active member of Area 4A Committee. She was the Press Officer for five years and Area Chairman for three years. Holding responsibility for the WHP section of Midland Counties Show and an enthusiastic committee member.

She is always to be seen at the side of WHP rings, earlier than most stewards, taking declarations, with her little table, marker pen, Jumping order list and always a tin of sweets!

The other half of this team spent her equestrian formative years as Head Girl with the Meynell and South Staffs Hunt, also competing in Show Jumping and Eventing. Later producing WHP ponies for her sons Luke and Hugh.

She has been an active Committee member of Area 4A for over twenty years, and still finds time to hold a job at Uttoxeter Race course on race days, coupled with her stewarding duties. The showing part of her life has recently been resurrected with grandchildren starting off in their showing careers and I am sure she is very excited at the prospects of her own grandchildren jumping a WHP course.

For nearly 20 years they have been inseparable stewards at WHP rings at our own Championships, Area and County shows all over the Country. They are known affectionately by thousands of children and parents for their kindness and encouragement.

## **PHOEBE PRICE – LITTON ENTERPRISE**

The first award for outstanding achievement is made to Phoebe Price and her pony Litton Enterprise. Phoebe attends King Edward School at Bury St Edmunds and is studying for her GCSE's.

She started riding at the age of three and joined Julie Templeton's team four years ago. She had her first win at the RIHS in 2015 when she was thirteen years old on her 143cm SHP, Greylands Stardust. In the same year, she was second at HOYS on Litton Enterprise, her 148cm SP.

In 2016 some of her notable successes on Litton Enterprise were:

1<sup>st</sup> and Champion BSPS Area 15  
1<sup>st</sup> and Champion SBSP Area 4A  
1<sup>st</sup> and Champion South of England  
3<sup>rd</sup> RIHS Part Bred Small Breeds

Last year Horse and Hound did some interesting research after HOYS. It has been twelve years since a SP went Supreme Champion Pony at HOYS and thirty-five years since a SP won and went Champion at both the RIHS and HOYS in the same year.

In 2016 this fourteen year old went EVEN one better than that record, she won and went Champion SP at both RIHS and HOYS and then took the Supreme Pony also at HOYS.

What an amazing achievement for Phoebe Price and her pony Litton Enterprise.

## **MICHAELA WOOD AND DPUK NIGHTDANCER – OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS 2016**

Who would have thought that a little 13hh Coloured pony called William would be the beginning of a ridden career that now boasts 7 HOYS wins for this young lady.

William was the ideal first pony for this little girl as he taught her a great deal, helping them to form a wonderful partnership. Much to her parents surprise, they went on to win their local county show, "The Great Yorkshire"

She will however be remembered for her achievements in Intermediates and Hack classes – she was the only BSPS Rider to win the Small and Large Intermediate Show Riding Type of the Year plus the Small and Large Hack of the Year at HOYS and both Championships all before the age of 25

With Royal Angel in 2010 Michaela Wood became the youngest rider ever to win the Hack of the Year Championship

With DPUK she won BSPS Supreme Intermediate Champion in 2015 and went on to achieve great heights in 2016, winning the Horse Of The Year Show Small Hack of the Year and two days later winning the Small Intermediate Show Riding Type of the Year before claiming the Colored Ridden Native Cob title with 'Log in Lucky Lad' and then going on to secure Reserve Champion

## **LUCY EDDIS & CASHEL BAY JJ – OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT 2016**

Before this young lady even had a pony, she and her mother used to go to the Championships at Peterborough every year to watch the Cradle Stakes. She started her riding career on the Lead Rein pony Bradmore Raindance progressing to Tiny Tots and Cradle Stakes.

She moved on to Nursery Stakes and Open 133 cm with the 6 year old Valentine Hazel, finishing reserve champion for the English WHP team in 2012.

After successful years with Champfleurie Cream Cracker in 14 hands, she was offered the ultimate pony, Cashel Bay JJ and together they went on to win countless championships including Royal Windsor. She has won at HOYS three times. In 2016 winning both the plaited 153 cm and the M & M exc. 143 cm sections. She has loved being part of the English WHP team, particularly at the International Event held in 2015.

She is Horse & Hound's first teenage blogger, with a regular online spot in which she describes balancing a teenage life with that of a WHP devotee. She loves her hunting and school life, and is hoping to read Classics at university after her A levels this year. She sounds to be an all round well balanced young lady.

## **PONY AND RIDER OF THE YEAR – HANNAH SLOAN AND TINKAS FLASH**

This award winners pony was originally purchased by the family in 2010 for her brother who competed him for five years. In 2013 they won the Dessert Orchid Championship and the Noble Bing Supreme at the Summer Championships. In the same year he won his class at RIHS and HOYS

In 2015 his sister took over the ride feeling very fortunate to compete at the level the pony had attained. A partnership then developed over time and by the 2016 Summer Championships and they went on to win every class they entered

1<sup>st</sup> and Reserve Champion WHP Inter Country Teams.

1<sup>st</sup> and Reserve Champion Champion of Champions WHP.

1<sup>st</sup> Anthony Evans Performance WH.

1<sup>st</sup> Premier League Red Division WHP.

1<sup>st</sup> with a clear round and Champion Leavesley Group Desert Orchid Blue Riband.

Noble Bing Supreme Working Hunter of the Year.

and finally taking the Overall Supreme Championship which after such a week reduced her to tears.

At home Flash's life is kept very varied with lots of hacks, fieldwork and xc schooling.

Pam Prickett picked up the Award for Hannah Sloan.

### **OUTSTANDING SUPPORT - Charlotte Thompson Classic Security (UK)**

This young lady started riding on leading rein at the age of two and went on to hunt a 12.2 pony with whom she held the high jump single pole record in the Channel Islands

She later graduated to National Hunt Racing with her first winner being on Father Fortune in 1996 at Huntingdon Races, she even received flowers from the Queen Mother after a fall at Sandown.

After a separate back injury she went on to ride the flat where she had various winners with horses including Littleton Zeffer and Graft. She was the first English woman to have a winner on the flat racing courses in Poland

The family first joined the BSPS when their eldest son was 4 and after spending the week at the 2005 Summer Champs where they watched him in his last class, she told her husband "we need to leave!". Twins Freddie and Harriet were born soon after just before the Supreme of the Show was presented.

Josh, now 18 was a member up until last year, Harriet continues to compete whilst Freddie prefers go cart racing.

As far as the Thompsons family go, it is a family affair with Charlottes parents Pru and Paul Townsley supporting their grandchildren throughout the year whilst her husband Jamie stewards in the WHP rings at all 3 championship shows.

They first sponsored the Classic Security Ring in 2007 and started to sponsor the Classic Security Challenge in 2010 and this will be their 7<sup>th</sup> year as the Classic Sponsors.

### **BARBARA RICH – EQUESTRIAN PERSONALITY**

This lady joined the BSPS Panel over 40 years ago and has been a well known and hugely respected judge on the BSPS Panel, judging at all the major shows many times over.

Until recently she had a yard of 25 of the best hunters in England and was the ultimate dealer, always managing to find the correct horse to suit each client's ability and requirements perfectly, mostly sourced from her contacts in Ireland.

She knew that Field Masters and Huntsmen need a horse that can gallop and jump anything in their path ! No Huntsman can do their job and provide good sport unless he is superbly mounted and she knew this better than anyone. Consequently over the last 40 years has been responsible for some of the best sport in England.

She was so well trusted that she mounted Prince Charles for many years when he hunted regularly with the Quorn in the 1980's. She kept HRH's horses at Thorpe Satchville, always ensuring they were fit for purpose, and that the Prince was also suitably accompanied by David Bland, the ultimate guide across the Quorn Country.

She has judged all types of horses and ponies all over the World. Her knowledge is unsurpassed, she is unique in her ability and speed to assess an animal's conformation and relate this to long term soundness, she misses nothing! Many judges have learnt so much from judging with her. She is also great fun and her comments make judging a real joy. Her greatest asset is the ability to make rider, owner, child and parent appreciate their horse.

7) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 2.40 pm.

**NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017**

2017 – My starting point is usually my ending – that is with a great many 'thank you's' for fantastic shows, excellent competitions, social events, training days, fun, friendship and so much more. This is down to hardworking staff, dedicated volunteers and a committed membership who enable the B.S.P.S to lead and be Simply The Best.

Times change many things, so the saying goes, this is probably true and why I believe it is important to evaluate, assess and continue to evolve; by working together this is more than achievable.

Our rules, policies and structure are there for a reason and I remind the very small minority of members who think social media sites are the place for hurtful and often untrue dialogue; the Society will take strong and appropriate action if necessary.

Once again, our Judges Conference was well attended thought provoking with a diversity of marks re confirmation that gave rise to interesting debate. Well done Paul Cook, Joanne Pybus and Karen Toynton Ward.

It was good to see new faces at the AGM which was well supported. As always Sharon Thomas did a brilliant job sorting the awards. Congratulations to all recipients.

The Ball yet again was a total sell out with our young and not so young, dancing into the wee small hours. My thanks to all who supported this amazing evening; with generous donations of raffle and auction prizes and the buyers of same! All proceeds raised do go to the Children's Entertainment Fund. Another triumph Sharon!

Early February saw a good number of WHP candidates at Arena UK. As always, the assessment is vigorous but fair and assessors keen to encourage and enable.

For many, Easter means our Winter Championships Show, a great showcase for Novice ponies, not to mention the high demand for Easter eggs. Well done Joanne Griffin and team.

Under the direction of Pip Baker-Beall, the Mid Summer Show runs like clockwork. A busy show with qualifiers that attract good quality entries across the board.

Personally, July means one thing in my equestrian calendar. I thoroughly enjoy being part of The Tea Ladies R Us Team, who dispense gallons of tea, tons of sandwiches and cakes, and dare I say the occasional glass of Pimm's! Plus of course the pleasure of meeting members and seeing them enjoying this great show.

Our Summer Championship Show saw a good turnout of enthusiastic and very smart young people in the young Judges competition. Congratulations to all involved and well done to Dawn Christie and Area Chairman; those training days really are worthwhile.



Sharon Thomas and Marilyn Ludlow once again provided an amazing, ever changing daily entertainment for our young children. One of the highlights of the Show. Meanwhile the exciting mix of showing culminates as always in the Saturday evening finale where after a dazzling display Harriet Dennison rode SP Laybalands Fly By Night to stand overall Supreme of Show, kindly judged by Brian Lears Super Stuff.

The magnificent backdrop of Burghley House continues to work its magic as another unique and amazing day was enjoyed by the 40 competitors in the prestigious B.S.P.S Gold Cup Sports Pony Final, our judges this year; Linda Pearce (Dressage) Ally Boswell (WSP and Gallop) and Bruce Saint (Show Jumping) had the difficult yet exciting task of assessing the three different stages. Results gave Anthea Derby ably assisted by Mark Cain quickly came up with the final line up, seeing 133cm winner James Holden with Pebbly Paintbox, Reserve Champion and 143 winner Mollie Harris and Stambrook Miss D'Mena and 153cm and Champion Irish rider Lucy Hancock with Coppenhagh Spring Sparrow.

Making their first appearance here, were 12 very young LR WSP jockeys, who not only enjoyed this exciting day but proved to have crowd appeal with a grandstand full to capacity and ringside spectators a plenty, young seven year old James Ward with Kyregate Peter Pan and led by mother Kelly got the nod from the judge Phillip Hilton to take the top spot. Fabulous!

Much of showing fraternity moves to the N.E.C Birmingham and H.O.Y.S in October. As always it is great to see so many of our members give good account. This year for me was extra special, to step out with Executive Officer Joy Hall into the Andrew Bowen Arena and judge the Supreme Horse of the year and Supreme Pony of the year. All forward were worthy champions, but we agreed (yes we did agree!) that Oliver Hood with Diamonds are Forever had the edge and of course the ever consistent L.R Thistledown Van Der Vaart ridden by Olivia Brightmore and beautifully led by Sharn Linney took the pony title. A memorable moment.

Over the years, the Heritage Show has developed its own identity and indeed is now famous for its relaxed atmosphere. Afternoon tea remains popular as do our Olympia qualifiers which are filled with some of the best M&M's in the country.

There is no better way to end a year of showing than making the journey to Olympia, who could ever have believed that 40 ponies could make such a impact and generate this magical excitement.

However, they do, from early morning in their individual shows to standing proud in front of the Royal Box for the final line and presentations. Awesome.

As I write, I have enjoyed the privilege of joining so many of you at your Area awards and points parties. It is truly fabulous to see so many young people taking part, making friends and reaping the rewards of all the hard work put in by their families! Well done and my personal thanks to Area Chairmen and Committees, you are the backbone of The Society.

Another year of memorable moments, excellent competition brought about by Head Office Staff led by Executive Officer Joy Hall, committed council members, dedicated Area Chairman, judges, stewards, officers, course builders, Team Arena UK and our Sponsors. My personal thanks to Patron Joanna MacInnes and our President Robert Oliver for their continued support. The B.S.P.S exists for its members and will continue to strive and deliver the very best of showing. Thank you all – I remain proud to serve as our Chairman.

**PAT PATTINSON**  
**(National Chairman)**

## **COMPANY SECRETARYS REPORT**

### **BSPS IS ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD!**

**I am delighted once again to present my annual report and highlight some of the reasons why this has been another fantastic year for the BSPS.**

We started the year with over 200 judges attending one of our best ever Judges Conferences, followed by the Annual Ball, which goes from strength to strength as over 300 members partied well into the night.

Winter Championships came next and thanks, as always, must go to the fantastic team of stewards and officials, headed by Joanne Griffin as Chairman, whose efficiency and professionalism ensured a well-run Show.

The Midsummer Show, created for plaited ponies, was another great success with entries at record levels in most classes. Members have now firmly welcomed this Show into their calendar and thanks must go to our Chairman this year, Mrs. Pip Baker-Beall and her team as well as Grandstand Media Ltd for their Horse of the Year Show qualifiers.

The Summer Championships were again the highlight of the year. The Show was well attended, with over 150 stewards and 200 judges giving up their time, free of charge, to co-ordinate and run the rings in conjunction with a small Show Committee headed by our hardworking Chairman, Mrs Pat Pattinson, assisted by enthusiastic Show Director Mike Hall. Specials thanks must go to Sharon Thomas who again entertained an ever increasing number of children with lego, party games, decorating cookies, Playbus, and an enormous Dog Show!!

With only a week in-between, a small team of hardworking officials and stewards moved to Burghley International Horse Trials for the White Company Gold Cup, a wonderful competition in an enviable location in front of Burghley House. This year saw the the new Lead Rein Working Sports Pony Class which was a wonderful display. This has certainly become a competition to win and the camaraderie between children certainly sums up all that the BSPS is about. Special thanks must go to Anthea Derby, ably assisted by Marc Caine, for producing the results on the computer so effortlessly.

Our calendar moved on to the Heritage Championships in October, classes were well filled with exceptional, quality ponies and dedicated riders. Members really enjoy this show at the end of the year and if they do manage to qualify for Olympia it is the “icing on the cake”.

The membership of the society, and pony registrations, as well as entries for all the shows are slightly down which has been the trend for the year. In view of this and to encourage more members, the Society is, for the first time ever, allowing ponies to be registered without height certificates for non RIHS and HOYS qualifiers so I do hope that more exhibitors will “have a go” at local level!

Thanks must go to all our Council Members who give up enormous amounts of time and energy to ensure that the Society continually strives for perfection, to Lynne, Sharon, Shirley, our long standing staff and Alison and Lorraine our new members of staff for their commitment and hard work, to the stewards and officials for running brilliant shows in all weather and last, by my no means least, our Executive Officer, Joy Hall, for guiding the Society this year, for over 35 years and more, in the right direction.

**KAREN TOYNTON WARD**  
**(Company Secretary)**

## **THE 2017 SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS SHOW REPORT**

What a week.....across the board top class showing in all rings; good going on the grass plus the added bonus of the very popular hospitality marquee ably manned by Debbie Gregson.

My thanks to Sharon Thomas and Marilyn Ludlow, who once again took the Entertainments Programme to a whole new level. Its keeps getting better and 'that' Dog Show seems to attract more competitors than Crufts!!.....well almost.

The Young Judges competition saw some very smart and enthusiastic young people forward. Emerging victorious were Team Area 6 and individual Will Morton. congratulations to all involved; well done Dawn Christie your hard work paid dividends. The future looks bright when our young members take such an important step.

Hard working Show Vice Chair and Chef D' Equipe, Philip Hilton led England Kempton to the top spot in yet another cracking Inter Country WHP competition. Ta Scotland Nevis were just pipped into second place and third were England Aintree. Again well done to all who took part.

Course builder Graham Barclay, built a challenging but fair Desert Orchid track, a test of skill for all so special congratulations to Champion Zara Weir with her 153cm partner Otto.

Jasean Spraggett certainly made her final Intermediate appearance here count with a tally of titles including heading up the £1000 Noble Bing WHP Championship and standing Reserve in the Binks Family sponsored Champions of Champions.

However, taking the Champion of Champions top spot was 5year old James Burchell with his LR SP Seamoor Lady Derby...magical.Other young jockeys posting great wins and worthy of mention were;- Ruby ward who captured the Supreme Heritage Mini WHP with Blackhill Imogen; 4year old Jessica Summers riding LR Thistledown Kintra, taking the Heritage Mini title; Georgia Grace in her final season with Priestwood Roc Star triumphed in the LR SHP and Chloe Smalley in her first season off the lead took the Coulstock Mini Supreme SP title with FR pony Ravara Mr. Tod. Super stuff.

Well done also Jodie Simmonds who took the SHP Supreme with home produced Dartans Big Impression.

The final evening saw twelve Champions give of their best to impress well known equestrian enthusiast and judge Brian Lears for the ultimate top spot...Supreme of Show. After a dazzling performance, Harriet Dennison with Laybalands Fly By Night emerged triumphant, having previously taken Both Novice and Restricted SP titles. A great start to their showing career.

As always, I make no secret that my personal highlight of this amazing week is the Parade of the Area Teams. The Arena buzzes with excitement, banners proudly carried , an abundance of 'diddies', make this a magical and slightly manic celebration of our wonderful children and young people. My thanks go to Area Chair and Committees who make this possible by their hard work before and during the show.

Shows don't just happen and the hard work of Executive Officer Joy Hall, Company Secretary Karen Toynton-Ward, Head Office Staff, Show Vice Chair Philip Hilton, Derek Larner, Show Director Mike Hall, the Show Committee, Arena UK Staff, the 'back room' boys, our generous sponsors, judges, stewards, officials, course builders, members and competitors all make the Summer Champs the success it is...a truly Championship Show and the BSPS remains SIMPLY THE BEST.

Until next time

Enjoy your sport

**PAT PATTINSON**  
**(Chairman Championship Show)**

## **THE 2017 WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT**

The 39<sup>th</sup> BSPS Winter Championship Show took place at Arena UK over the Easter Week-end of 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> April. It had been decided to keep the show to 3 days, as in 2016, ensuring the children would be on holiday from school. The new layout for stables and parking worked very well and we were all impressed by the work done over the winter at Arena UK.

Great competition was had throughout the 3 days in the 7 rings with most of the entries forward. Due to the new "Hat" rule coming into force at the start of the year random hat checks took place during the show and I am happy to report that no illegal hats were found.

Friday, the first day was dominated by the, ever popular, Gold Cup classes for both Novice and Open ponies. Competition is fierce especially in the classes that qualify for Burghley. The overall Open Championship went to the 133cm winner Birkinbrook Arabella ridden by Matilda Lanni and the Novice Championship to the intermediate ABC Liberty Belle ridden by Emily Waterston. Many thanks must go to Anthea Derby and her team who run these classes. Also, the first half of the RIHS qualifiers took place on this day with quality animals competing for the much sort after 'ticket'.

Saturday, the second day, is primarily 'Winter Novice Day' where all the ponies come together for their finals after qualifying over the winter months. The Winter Novice Supreme Championship took place during Saturday evening with the eight winter novice finalists forward. Mrs Rosemary Morris was the guest judge who had the daunting task of judging this championship and her winner was the Welsh Section 'A' Nantfforchog Blue Moondust ridden by Libby Grot. This combination had won the Heritage Mini Championship earlier in the evening. More RIHS qualifying classes took place during the day along with a new competition for 'Young Competition Ponies'.

The Winter Restricted classes took place on the Sunday with all the competitors having to have qualified over the winter season. Our guest judges for the Winter Restricted Supreme Championship were Pam and Barry Coton and again their task was not easy with the standard being so high. Their champion Arizona Gold ridden by Bethany Gregg came from the Intermediate Section. Also taking place on the final day was the CHAPS Winter and Open classes, Pure Bred Arab classes qualifying for the HOYS and a new class 'The Leading Rein Working Sports Pony'. This leading rein class proved to be very popular with the first four ponies qualifying for the final at Burghley. The winner was James Ward riding the evergreen Kyregate Peter Pan who also went to win at the final. To see the little people walk the course with 'Mums and Dads' was a delight.

This show run over the Easter week-end would not be the same without the 'Eggs'. All the winners of the 'Winter' classes receiving one. The children's faces are a joy when they walk into the Secretary's office and see the eggs piled high. They also love the Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Bonnet competition and the Egg Decorating competition all organised by Sharon Thomas. A big 'Thank You' goes to Sharon from us all. A big 'Thank You' also to the 'Team' that make this show happen, the officials, judges, stewards, course-builders, the head office ladies and the Arena UK staff. Thank you to all our very generous sponsors we are indebted to you. Teamwork makes this show good but it is you the members that make it 'Fantastic'. Easter is earlier next year 2018 and will be held at Arena UK on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

**Joanne Griffin (Chairman Winter Championship Show)**

## **B.S.P.S. MIDSUMMER SHOW 2017**

The B.S.P.S. mid-summer show has now become a well-established fixture on the showing calendar. Competitors came to Arena UK from across the country and the classes were well attended with many classes boasting 20+ entries.

This event was designed with a focus on the HOYS qualifiers and, with only 25 classes all day, everyone gets the chance to enjoy a lovely relaxed atmosphere whilst watching top class ponies.

This year was no exception. The Sarah Burkeman Supreme of Show judged by [Steph Smith], was awarded to Waxwing Pringle, the 122cm SHP and SHP Champion, owned by Lucy Brennan and ridden by Lily Brennan. This pony impressed the judges in it's class with an impressive gallop and Lily pulled out all the stops in the championship. Standing Reserve Supreme was the SP Lead Rein, Barkway Sweet William, owned by Team Ahern and ridden by Lilly Jane Ahern-Lee.

The Working Hunter Pony classes in particular enjoyed large entries. The courses built by Amanda Routledge were challenging but rode well. Champion went to Intermediate WHP, Belleview Tomboy, owned by Matthew Cooper and ridden by Mark Davidson. Taking Reserve was the 153cm winner, Pebbly Housemartyn, owned by Mrs C Wheeler and ridden by India Wheeler. Judges Sarah Lears and Miss V Smith said that they thoroughly enjoyed their judging.

Anthea Derby does a brilliant job organizing the Gold Cup competition all season, including the Championships at the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials. Barry Coton built a cracking course. And it was great to see Simon Somers back judging the dressage as his clear comments are so appreciated by the competitors.

A new class for 2017 was the introduction of the Working Sports Pony on a Lead Rein. This innovative competition enables our youngest jockeys the enjoyment of qualifying for, and riding at, the Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials. Our winner was Miss Chloe Spencer riding 27-year old Pumpkin Pie, and with huge smiles all around!

Show Pony Classes were judged by Miss K Iggulden and Mrs L Windsor and were as strong as ever. The Championship was awarded to the ever-consistent 148cm winner, Wilderness Early Bird, owned by Zoe Holmes and ridden by Georgina. Reserve went to the 138cm winner, Broadgrove Narrator ridden by Mia Donaldson.

Intermediates were judged by Davina Whiteman and Fiona Cabrol. Firecrest C, winner of the 158cm Show Riding Type class, took the Championship, ridden by Caitlin Bradley and owned by Kirsty Hamilton. Reserve went to the 153cm winner, Runnon Ruby Tuesday.

In summary, another fantastic one-day show, brilliantly organized by our small but effective team, led by our Show Director, Sharon Thomas, and Secretary, Karen Toynton-Ward. A massive thank you to everyone involved.

**PIP BAKER-BEALL**  
**(Chairman)**

## **DOPE TESTING REPORT 2017**

It has been another active year with regards to the BSPS Dope testing schedule! It is not the most popular job, but I hope that I have been able to undertake this task in a professional manner and make it an easy process for all involved.

I began the year by visiting early Area shows, namely Area 6 at Onley and also Area 2A show held at Somerford park, both of which have excellent adjoining Veterinary facilities. Tests were also taken at the BSPS Winter and Summer Championships and would have also been taken at the Heritage Championships had I not had a crashing fall at HOYS the weekend before (It was 6 am in the morning and no alcohol involved!)

Other Shows attended were Suffolk, Windsor and RIHS. Twelve tests were taken and

**I am pleased to announce that all test balloted to be sent to Newmarket during 2017 came back negative.**

I attended a meeting of the Showing Council at Stoneleigh and dope testing was an item on the agenda. Showing Societies are aware of the misuse of new substances which many competitors/owners/producers think are unable to be detected. However, nothing stands still and there is increasing amount of work being done behind the scenes to ascertain new levels of substance abuse and identification....which is sad news when children's ponies are involved. Many still do not realise the long term damage that they are doing to the ponies besides placing the children in immense danger....after all if an animal collapsed in the ring with a child underneath it, the consequences could be dire.

It is up to each Owner and Producer to engage in full and frank conversation about substance abuse.

The British Equestrian Federation are working closely with Societies and the new updated FEI banned or controlled list of drugs will be on their website in January so please check this list and make sure any veterinary procedure precludes these drugs if you wish to compete.

**A new rule for 2018 will be that the BSPS will be extending the ban up to a year if any Animal is now tested positive. It may also be banned from competing with other showing societies for the period of the ban.**

Let's hope 2018 year is another "clean" year as far as results go.....Stipendiary stewards will be present at shows and of course a Judge can report a pony if they have a suspicion that it may have been given a substance.

At the end of the day, as with all sports, DOPING IS CHEATING!

On a final note I would like to thank all owners and producers for being compliant, polite and helpful during the process when their animals have been selected for testing. Clearly children have been made aware by parents that this is a random process and nothing to do with the children who ride the ponies!

**DAWN CHRISTIE**  
**(Dope Testing Steward)**

## **JOINT MEASUREMENT BOARD REPORT 2017**

Well, another year has gone by as your representative on the JMB board and I have been able to attend most meetings and report back to the BSPS Council accordingly. The JMB board is made up of representatives from the equestrian stakeholder societies and the veterinary industry. We are continuously looking at ways to measure more accurately but currently the "stick" method still gives the best results.

The biggest move for 2017 was the new "paperless" system which has streamlined the process for all concerned, full details are on the JMB web site.

You are also probably aware by now, especially if you have read the report in Horse and Hound that the BSPS have decided that JMB certificates will now only be needed for RIHS and HOYS qualifiers, this move is aimed to make showing a little easier ( & cheaper!) for many members. However, it is likely that any obvious over height ponies can and will be called in by the society for JMB measurement and our Special Show stewards will be briefed accordingly.

I have also acted as an observer at various re-measurements in my role as a JMB steward. I am also concerned about calls for re-measurement done on a strategic basis which might eliminate competitors from major shows, we therefore will be proposing a period whereby no objections can be made.

Finally, I cannot stress strongly enough that if a pony or horse is called for re-measurement then please keep to the agreed time, place and conditions, cancellations do cost money.

The JMB have issued 3297 certificates so far this year compared to 3514 in 2016. Most queries can be resolved by looking at the JMB website ([www.thejmbonline.co.uk](http://www.thejmbonline.co.uk)) or contacting the JMB office ([admin@thejmbonline.co.uk](mailto:admin@thejmbonline.co.uk) or 01293 862101)

Once again, please note that I am YOUR representative on the JMB so if you are unable to resolve a pony measurement issue via the JMB then don't hesitate to contact me directly, details in the BSPS rule book or via the BSPS office.

Happy Showing in 2018!

**SIMON RICHARDSON**  
**(BSPS JMB Steward)**

## ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2017

Looking at last year's report I finished off by saying " Sharon & Mal sounded a bit like the BBC Bake Off Team and I hoped that, we too didn't lose our jobs!!

Needless to say we didn't, so here we are again.

As two very hands-on Grannies, with all the grandchildren we have between us, you might think " Are they Mad?" or just plain Crazy?..... but actually, we really enjoy our time with all the BSPS children, either playing or helping them to be creative.

At both the Summer and Winter Championships we organized the same favourite competitions, creative activities and entertainment that never seems to fail in keeping the children busy and entertained.

Last year, at the Summer Champs we made one change, substituting the Sports evening for an evening with Punch and Judy with a bit of a magic thrown in. The children's Marquee opened every day at 1.30 and we were met by a gang of children who had been hanging around from mid morning for us to open. There was always an endless queue outside the Play-bus – it is already booked for 2018

The Lego table proved to be a great success with both boys and girls sitting around building and many Daddy's were also enthralled to sit down for an odd hour to assist or do their own thing, some maybe just keeping a low profile.

Organized chaos is the only way to describe the dog show. However hard we try or plan, it does not get any better, but what an entertaining evening for the dogs, competitors and spectators. Exhausting....but what a great night.

The five a side football was again a great success with teams competing on a much fairer basis, being mainly children's teams. Mick Clark again organized and refereed this activity for us and we are extremely thankful for the time and effort he puts into this activity. He did tell me 2017 would be his last year. Watch this space!

The Ball was a sellout success again with the theme being The Roaring Twenties with a waiting list for cancellation tickets. Guests, as always were keen to follow the theme and judging by the time we all got to bed thoroughly enjoyed them selves. The Ball is our opportunity to raise funds to pay for all the organized events for the children's entertainment and it is fitting at this point for me to thank our sponsors of all the auction and raffle prizes. In particular, Whitewall Galleries who donated two pieces of stunning art work for auction and Edward Young who auctioned his services????... for a day.

There are so many people to thank for helping to make the entertainment so successful in every way, so to everyone of you, on behalf of the children, Mal and myself THANK YOU and to the children THANK YOU for making us smile every day.

Secretly.....We have as much fun as you do!

**SHARON & MAL**



## **THE B.S.P.S. ELEVENTH HERITAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS SHOW**

The 2017 show was my second as Chairman; it just gets better every year, we were even blessed with superb weather for the weekend.

My feelings and observations at the show that things were going well and it felt good, have been confirmed many times since in the press and by the competitors themselves. The comments are much appreciated. The show ran smoothly, the rings ran on time, with very few clashing classes. When they did the chief stewards went out of their way to accommodate the competitors' requests. Thank you to them and all the stewards for a great job well done. The ring surfaces and the ring sizes seemed to be just right. The jumping rings were well supported with competitors finding the tracks inviting but testing. They ran on time except for the first day when it was rumoured Trevor Frost's ring was thinking of finishing in car headlights as dusk crept in. The flat rings were well filled with entries. The Olympia classes were amazing for quality and numbers present and exciting to watch cumulating in a tense prize giving waiting to see who had qualified for Olympia who then received beautiful rugs donated by LeMieux. Then with the bonus of Paul Cook's commentary; this made it more interesting and informative for competitors and crowd alike.

On the last afternoon I had the time to sit and watch the performances in the Team Wood Show Horses Arena and wow the championships were amazing. First the mini championship won by Stourton President ridden by eight year old Jennifer Sellers with confidence beyond her years, asking her pony to outperform the rest and he did just that. Then came our supreme of show, Rhencullen Bubbette ridden by Katy Marriott Payne who, although a novice, still outperformed all the section champions with a balanced flowing performance in a snaffle bridle. The combination then received a cheque for £100 and a rug from the sponsors The Native Pony Magazine and The Deri Julian Trophy donated by the Fitzgerald Family. Many thanks to all our sponsors for supporting us at this show. It was so nice to see many of you enjoying tea and cakes in the sponsor's lounge, organised by Joanne Pybus and Debbie Gregson.

In my experience the ultimate success of running a successful event, show, conference, is determined by the effort, preparation and planning that has gone on before. For this, thanks must go to Karen and her team at the office overseen of course by Joy. On the day thanks go to the Show Director Sharon Thomas who worked tirelessly in her 'working clothes' to prevent problems happening and when they did got stuck in and sorted it. Also to Vice Chairperson Joanne Griffin and her husband David for keeping us all up to date with what was going on over the loud speaker.

Thank you to anyone I have missed, the shows over for another year and we are planning for next year. Many ideas have to be discussed; we cannot rest on our laurels.

**PETER J EMMERSON**  
**(Chairman)**

## **CHAIRMAN OF AREA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

As I sit writing this snow is covering the ground making thoughts of an early spring very appealing! I have been very honoured to be Chairman of Area Chairman this year, taking over from Lynn David who had completed her 3 year term. My role this year has been that of caretaker until Barbara White takes over for 2018. Within BSPS "The Areas" are hugely important and therefore so are all of the individual Area Chairmen. We meet twice a year, late Spring and late Autumn to discuss everything relevant to our members. We give Council feedback on all of the Championship Shows, we very thoroughly discuss and debate New and proposed rules including those which aren't popular!! We also support each other with new ideas, problems and queries. I have thoroughly enjoyed my short term as Chairman and wish Barbara every success in the future.

Here's to another season of super showing.

**JOANNE PYBUS**  
**(Chairman of Area Chairman)**

## **BSPS SCOTTISH BRANCH LTD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017**

Our Summer Shows are over for another year, the rain has been incessant for months now and good hay is hard to find. Fortunately, our Shows are all held at Centres so they are not affected by the weather.

This week is half term and lots of ponies will be having a well-earned holiday. New ponies and jockeys will start their work towards next year, and all will look forward to competing again in 2018.

The Branch has had a very busy year, with new Members and ponies in all sections. We constantly target our grass root riders who are needed in the future. I would like to congratulate all Scottish Members in all sections who have been competing. I was thrilled to hear of the success of Hannah Sloan and Tinka's Flash who won WHP Championship at HOYS, and Philippa Weir and Freckleton Maximus who was the Desert Orchid WHP Champion at the BSPS Summer Champs.

Our Affiliated Shows have enjoyed a steady entry from BSPS competitors and I urge Members to continue to support these shows so that they run as many of our Sections as possible. The Points Competition goes from strength to strength and certainly encourages people to enter lots of classes.

The M & M classes continue to flourish, and we now have more of them than the Plaited Ponies. The standards are improving all the time and I have been delighted to see all native breeds being represented. This has been a huge bonus for all our M & M Breeders, let's hope the Plaited Sections will improve and catch up.

Our Young Judges, coached by our Trainer Fiona Stewart, did well at the Championships. The Team were 5<sup>th</sup> and got full marks for their turnout, which was superb. I must thank Fiona most sincerely, for giving her time and effort to train our Members. Also, I must say Thank You to the parents who drive many miles to the Young Judges Training Events, it is greatly appreciated.

Our Showing Season has been very busy as usual, starting with the Warm Up Show at Muirmill. We had increased entries this year and we hope to put on more Classes next year. Thanks to Margaret Smith for running this Show. The Training Day remains very popular and was almost full in both Sections. Sincere thanks to Helen Outram for organising this Event. Our Summer Show was held at Howe EC in Fife for the first time and Thanks go to Peter Page for organising this. Entries were good in some Sections, but we need to encourage more Competitors to take part. The weather was a bit mixed and facilities were good. We have therefore decided to hold the 2018 Summer Show at Howe again and hope to increase our entries as we are going for the later date of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

The WHP jumps have been quite well used this year but getting them delivered and loaded continues to be a major challenge. We have decided to down size our jumps and from 2018 onwards only one Trailer of jumps will be operating. We have also upgraded our cup system on the jumps. The trailer is being stored at Alex Bankier's barn over the Winter where Graham Barclay will repair and paint the jumps. A huge thanks to Graham and also my sincere Thanks to Stephen Cowan for our wonderful WHP courses.

The Finale Show was again held at Morris Equestrian Centre, the jewel in our crown. This show has become our most popular event. Standards were high and entries up on the previous year. The Evening Performance featured a Concours D'Elegance for the first time and it was received very well. Our Competitors had made a huge effort, so well done to them. Phase 3 of the Gold Cup proved very exciting and this Competition has become extremely popular with entries well up on last year. The atmosphere was electric and with the added glitz and glamour we witnessed a wonderful night. Well done to Mandie O'Donnell who was Show Convenor, what a triumph for your first time. A huge Thank You to our Sponsors whom we rely on to give our members the variety of awards they deserve throughout the year. Sponsorship is essential to the growth of BSPS Scotland.

The Points Award Dinner Dance was again held at the Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld and we all enjoyed a wonderful evening with family and friends. The photo booth again proved popular and will again feature at this year's Dance. Thank you to Karen Slight for presenting the prizes and trophies, what an array of beautiful rosettes we had. Sincere thanks to Helen Outram for continuing to organise this event. The 2017 Awards Dance is again at the Westerwood Hotel so please come along and bring some friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Judges and Stewards for giving their time to support BSPS Scotland. Our Winter Season is already underway. Dates and details of which are now on our website.

This year we have a new Secretary and Elaine has had a huge learning curve to endure. She has also updated our website with great success and our paper trail is now very small and getting less. The online entries are working well and photos and information always available 24/7. Thank you Elaine for working so hard to complete all our BSPS tasks. I would also like to thank all my Directors for generously giving their time and energy to attend Meetings and support our Shows and Events over the year.

This year BSPS Scotland has been in operation for 50 years so we have celebrated that milestone by giving out Special medals, rosettes and rugs. I would like to say how proud I am to have been involved with the growth and development of our Branch for many of these years. We have matured into a strong and successful Unit and I look forward to seeing all our Members taking BSPS Scotland to many successes in the future.

**Joyce Coltart**  
(Scottish Chairman )

## **QUALIFYING SHOWS REPORT 2017**

Following my meeting at Head Office, I put my recommendations to Council based on the reports received from all the qualifying shows. I am pleased to say that the number of adverse comments from the 2017 shows were minimal. I would also like to take the opportunity of thanking all those who prepared reports from the shows, I do need quality information especially numbers entered and numbers forward. The reporters were also able to send these in by e mail.

The RIHS qualifiers were allocated once again on as fair a basis as possible and any new shows requesting qualifiers, I have tried to accommodate accordingly. Unfortunately there are restricted as to the total number of qualifiers that we are allowed to allocate. The RIHS is being held in 2018 at Hickstead from 24<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> July. If you have never been then it is well worth the visit and many members tell me that it is one of their favourite shows.

By the time you read this, we will have completed the seventh BSPS Heritage classes at Olympia with a fantastic line up of 40 ponies qualified. The format for 2018 will be the same successful formula with the champion from the 10 direct shows qualifying. No doubt it will still mean that all the top quality Mountain and Moorland ponies in the UK will want to qualify for this prestigious competition either at the direct qualifiers or via the semi finals or breed classes at the BSPS Heritage Championship show in October. The Heritage show is going from strength to strength, 2017 being no exception with excellent entries and an exceptionally friendly atmosphere.

Happy Showing in 2018!

**SIMON RICHARDSON (Qualifying Shows Representative)**

### **REPORT OF THE JUDGES ASSESSMENT & CONFERENCE COMMITTEE 2017**

#### **Introduction**

This report covers the work of the BSPS Judges Assessment & Conference Committee for 2017.

#### **Committee**

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all my Committee members for all their hard work and dedication during 2017.

#### **Judges Conference**

The BSPS Annual Judges Conference, held at the Marriott Hotel on Saturday.

Judges are required attend one conference on a 5 year cycle but as always, judges come more frequently than they are required to do so. Particular focus in 2017 was conformation, type and bread type for Show and Hunter ponies and Mountain and Moorland Ponies and involved the conference looking at DVD, each table discussed the DVD clips, marked the show and these were discussed by the whole conference. The DVD is available for purchase by judges and members.

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank all our judges for giving up their time and expertise to judge for the Society in 2017.

#### **Future Judges Training & Assessment Days**

Future Judges Training & Assessment Day was held at Arena UK in February 2017.

This year we held assessment for Working Hunter Ponies.

Future Judges have to complete an application form outlining their knowledge and experience. It is highly recommended that candidates attend a training event on the morning of the Assessment in preparation for assessment.

Candidates for the SP/SHP Panel are required to assess a number of ponies judged as a Championship class, e.g. Show Pony and Show Hunter Ponies together. Candidates for the Heritage Panel Judge Class or Heritage Ridden Mountain & Moorland ponies.

Candidates are required to assess the pony's way of going and manners both within a group and during an individual show and then the pony's conformation and type, giving them marks to produce an overall result. Candidates for the Working Hunter Pony Panel, judge a mixed height working hunter pony class, which also requires them to walk the course and pick up course building errors.

Candidates come forward to a senior assessor where their marks and placings are analysed and individual ponies brought forward for an in-depth discussion. This is followed by a rules and dilemmas interview. Candidates are then advised of their results at the end of the day. Not all candidates pass the assessment whilst others will be required to undertake a number of Future Judges appointments over a 1 or 2 year period.

If reports are acceptable, candidates will then go onto the main judging panel.

From 2016 future Judges Assessment took place on a Sunday only, with a Training event in the morning. Assessments will alternate bilaterally with the next Show Pony, Show Hunter Pony and Heritage Mountain & Moorland assessment in 2018 and Working Hunter Ponies in 2019.

From 2017 Future Judges will be required to have three undertake stewarding appointments at BSPS Shows and if, going forward for WHP Panel a course building training appointment also. We also engage Future Judges to observe / stand-in with a SNR Judge to gain experience subject to signing a confidentiality agreement before being accepted for assessment. To undertake this programme candidates will need to be members of the BSPS.

### **Ride Panel**

From 2018 Anglo and Part Bred Arab RHS qualifying class (large) will no longer be ridden by the Judge. Ride Judges who have attained their 24<sup>th</sup> birthday on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 will be allowed to come for Assessment for the judge's panel free of charge in 2018.

### **Heritage Working Hunter Pony Panel**

Heritage Ridden Mountain Moorland Judges were offered the opportunity to coming to a Training Assessment Event held at the Summer Championships Show to be upgraded onto this panel. The Society upgraded a further 17 judges onto this panel.

### **Judges Panel**

The Judges Panel is reviewed annually. A number of judges have decided to retire from the panel and on behalf of the Society I would like to thank them for their contribution to the Society over many years and hope to see many of them at shows for years to come.

### **Young Judges**

The Society has continued to run a Young Judges Competitions in 2017. A team and individual competition at the Summer Championship Show, judging a Supreme Championship of Show Ponies and Hunter Ponies allowing a younger team member in 2016 (12 years or above) proved popular and increased team numbers.

I am extremely grateful for the very hard work of Dawn Christie who organises and oversees this competition. This year we had increased sponsorship and The Showing Journal gave a subscription to the winning individual and team. Prizes for the top 3 in the team and individual was sponsored by Jean Andrew and Best Turned Out Team by Michelle Bettaney.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking all the BSPS Areas for the effort they put into training the young judges and for the standard of turn out at the final and our leading producers for hold training events at their yards.

**BSPS Show Hunter/Show Hunter Pony Bursary.** Candidates who applied were selected to come forward for assessment at Summer Championships Show in 2017 and the one successful candidates have commenced the training programme.

The Society recognises that for some of our younger judges to gain the necessary experience is both time consuming and costly and therefore have developed a 2 year bursary that supports a successful candidate (each year) to go forward onto the judging panel by covering expenses for travel, training events and where appropriate accommodation costs.

### **Who can apply and selection criteria**

« This bursary is open to candidates who must have reached the age of 23 but not their 30th birthday on the 1st January in the current year.

« Candidates will be required to complete an application form requiring them to

- Explain clearly why they would benefit from this bursary
- Previous experience and knowledge of Show Hunter and Show Hunter ponies, including for example; stewarding, unaffiliated judging, attending breed shows and events etc
- A commitment to undertake the training programme

Following receipt of the application form a limited number of candidates are invited to assessment which will include judging Show Ponies and Show Hunter Ponies and being interviewed by a senior judge. This again will take place over the Summer Championship Show where down selected candidates individually judged a designated classes, assessed by a senior assessor (this assessment is free of charge). (In 2014 and 2015, candidates were selected in the Heritage Ridden Mountain and Moorland Bursary).

### **The Future Judges Training Programme**

The successful candidate will be required to undertake a 2 year training programme

This will include;

- Attending 8 Future judging appointments for Show Pony and Show Hunter pony classes (4 per year). The BSPS will inform the candidate of the shows they are to attend and with which senior judges
- Attending the BSPS Championships Show for the following 2 years undertaking Future Judging appointments.
- Attend training events at seminars as required by the Society
- Steward at the BSPS Championship Show for the following 2 years in classes designated by the Society

Following successfully completing and passing the above requirements, candidates will be considered for election onto the BSPS Show Hunter and Show Pony Judges Panel.

To support the candidate in carrying out this training programme, the bursary will cover;

- « All travelling expenses for attending Future Judging appointments.
- « Travel and accommodation expenses for attending the Heritage Championship Show
- « Any other expenses that the Society deem appropriate for further education and training

This demonstrates the Society's commitment to the future training and education of our young Judges. The Society is indebted to Pip & Peter Baker Beall for their generous sponsorship of the Bursary.

### **Summary**

This has been a very busy year for my Committee. As always I am accessible for judges and members alike to contact me with any queries or issues so please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## **Dates for your diary**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

BSPS Judges Conference - Marriott Hotel Leicester

If you are a BSPS and NPS judge next year, Judges Conference (2018) will count for NPS also. The 2018 conference will focus on judging will be judging Working Hunter Ponies, course building (course builder have been invited to next year's conference) and the use of social media and judging dilemmas.

Sunday 11th February 2018

Future Judges Training & Assessment – Arena UK-  
Show and Show Hunter Ponies and Heritage Ridden Mountain  
and Moorland Ponies

**PAUL COOK**

**Vice Chairman, BSPS**

**(Chairman, Judges Assessment & Conference Committee)**

### **CHEF D'EQUIPES REPORT**

Once again the WHP Home International Teams competition was a very close affair. Sadly Northern Ireland were the only home country not represented, finding it difficult to tempt enough members to make the very expensive journey across the Irish Sea. What they missed was yet another masterful lesson in WHP course building from Graham Barclay. He really is the Capability Brown of course builders. All of the four height sections acquitted themselves very well but clear rounds were difficult to find. It followed that fifth and sixth placing's in the classes were needed to split the first places in the overall team competition. England Kempton finishing first, closely followed by Scotland Nevis with England Aintree hot on their heels.

Scotland have an exceptional team at the moment, I believe some of their current team ponies will go down in history as the best of their type ever, so to record a victory over a team containing these animals was a great effort. When giving the team talk on the eve of the competition I used the analogy of the GB 4x100 metre relay team who recorded such a memorable victory over the USA team which was full of world record holders and gold medallists. By working as a team they overcame those wonderful individuals, and so it was with our young riders.

Joanne Griffin, my fellow selector, and I feel it is important that members feel it is attainable to represent their country, surely the goal of any young sportsman, so we try to select on form. We look for combinations who have put together a string of good results over the more challenging courses. Obviously not everyone agrees with our selections and it is possible we miss some deserving of consideration, but we do strive to make the whole process transparent. Every year we have new team members who exceed our expectations and some that do not deal with the pressure of being in a team environment so well, but as we always stress never give up. This year the lower placing's made the difference, splitting the first three teams.

My thanks as always to my fellow selector Joanne and the forever enthusiastic WHP fraternity who never fail to bring a smile to my face.

**PHILIP HILTON**

**(Chef D'Equipe)**