

FRIESIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (FHAGBI) LIMITED

Minutes of the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23rd February 2019 at 1:30pm

Held at the Hogarth Hotel, Solihull

PRESENT:

Directors:

Elaine de Boer (President & Chair)
Michaela Green (Finance)
Vicki Knapp
Justine Fieldhouse

Members & Committee:

Sarah Fisher	Barbara Maurice	Sarah White
Dean Manders	Helen Elcome	Paula Gallon
Sarah Watson	Julie Messenger	Alexandra Yudina
Delia Harris	Barry De Boer (Minutes)	

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Elaine de Boer

1.1 The President welcomed all attendees to this AGM

1.2 The “low” point of 2018 had been the cancellation of the Ireland Inspections, due to the low number of Irish horses entered.

1.3 A further challenge in 2018 had been the mandatory requirement for compliance with GDPR (the new European Data Protection legislation which had to be met during May, 2018.) FHAGBI has met these requirements, which involved both IT and procedural changes.

1.4 There were additional challenges, particularly around DEFRA changes to documentation and procedures and the need for FHAGBI to gain “3rd Country Status” for operating as a breed society with links to the KFPS. Michaela Green has been working with DEFRA for several months to achieve this status. To facilitate this, FHAGBI is now a member of the “826 Association” of passport issuing organisations in the UK, an affiliation that provides a stronger voice in our dealings with DEFRA.

1.5 The 2018 Inspections

- The 2018 Inspections did go ahead in England, with 25 horses entered (as per FHAGBI's contract with the KFPS) although only 22 were able to attend on the day due to unforeseeable problems for 3 of the entered horses.
- G E (Bert) Wassenaar, Chairman of the KFPS, kindly accepted the Board's invitation to attend the Inspections and expressed his appreciation for the hard work put in by the FHAGBI Board, Committee and Members.
- Mr Wassenaar stated that he would like to attend our 2019 Inspections in Scotland, as would KFPS Director Ids Hellinga.
- The FHAGBI Board would like to offer their sincere thanks to Mr Wassenaar for his support and will greatly value both his and Ids Hellinga's attendance.
- The President noted the fantastic sponsorship received for the 2018 Inspections, without which the event would have made a financial loss. The FHAGBI Board would like to offer their sincere thanks to all sponsors.
- The President also thanked Michaela Green and Vicki Knapp for their work in securing some exceptionally good and valuable Tombola prizes which certainly helped the Inspections to make a small profit.

1.6 Memberships in 2018

- Overall memberships were very slightly down from 284 at the end of 2017 to 282 at the end of 2018. This is, in part, due to the award of an honorary life membership to former acting president Julian Atkins who retired at the 2018 AGM.

	2017	2018		
	Closing	Re-Join	New	Closing
Gold	210	142	67	209
Silver	55	42	2	44
Bronze	19	10	19	29
TOTAL	284	194	88	282

Memberships summary, 2018 versus 2017 (slide shown at this AGM)



FHAGBI has grown from 94 members in 2004 to 282 members in 2018 (slide shown at this AGM)

1.7 Display Team

- The display team put on an entertaining display at the Warrington Horse Show in 2018.
- They also participated to great effect in the New Year's Day Parade in London, an event drawing crowds of thousands and covered by TV around the world. This participation was duly noted and appreciated by the KFPS in the Netherlands.
- The President expressed sincere thanks to Justine Fieldhouse for her work in organising the team and participating herself in the event, and to Vicki Knapp and Dean Manders for hosting the team and their horses on New Year's Eve.

1.8 Plans for 2019

- Two inspections are planned, one in Scotland and one in England
- 2 Inspection Clinics are planned
 - May 2019 at Vicki & Dean's (Manders) premises
 - June 2019 at Helen Sinclair's premises
- June 2019 – New Forest Ride arranged by Delia Harris
- Various Display Team events being planned
- FHANA (the Friesian Horse Association for North America) run 3 or 4 excellent webinars on various Friesian topics each year and an agreement has been reached that FHAGBI members can join and view these webinars free of charge. FHAGBI members can also view historical webinars on FHANA's website.

1.9 Other Topics

- New merchandise is now available and will be viewable/purchasable at FHAGBI's on-line shop, although new photographs of the items are currently being provisioned for improving the shop.
- A special anniversary event is planned for 2020, to be combined with the Inspections.
- The President thanked Michaela Green for stepping into the Finance Director role at short notice and doing an exceptional job.
- The President also thanked Vicki Knapp and Justine Fieldhouse for their invaluable work on the Board and for their commitment to FHAGBI and the Friesian Horse.

2. **MINUTES of the LAST AGM** (February 2018)

- 2.1 Vicki Knapp read the minutes to the members present
- 2.2 Michaela Green proposed them as an accurate reflection of the last AGM
- 2.3 Justine Fieldhouse seconded the motion
- 2.4 The minutes were unanimously accepted by show of hands.

3. **ELECTION of DIRECTOR**

- 3.1 The President explained the resignations of 2 directors during the year and expressed sincere thanks to Justine Fieldhouse for stepping up to the Board.
- 3.2 Questions from the floor were invited but none were asked by the members present.
- 3.3 Helen Elcome proposed the election of Justine Fieldhouse
- 3.4 Barbara Maurice seconded Justine Fieldhouse
- 3.5 There were no further proposals
- 3.6 Justine Fieldhouse was elected unanimously by show of hands

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- 4.1 Michaela Green, Finance Director, presented her report
- 4.2 An external accountancy firm inspected and reported on the FHAGBI financial transactions for 2017 and 2018 and prepared both the Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss Account for 2018.
- 4.3 For the 2018 Inspections, £1,900 had been received in sponsorships and the raffle and tombola raised £800. As a result, the 2018 Inspections showed a small profit.
- 4.4 The detailed Profit & Loss Statement for 2018 and Balance Sheet were shown to the AGM on slides and circulated as printed copies.
- 4.5 Both P&L and Balance Sheet will be made available on the FHAGBI website as soon as possible.
- 4.6 The Directors and Committee have decided that annual budgeting is too imprecise a measure for FHAGBI and that it will be done quarterly going forward.
- 4.7 The Finance Director noted that the FHAGBI Board members had made personal & significant financial contributions to FHAGBI in order to overcome the short-term problems brought about by the sudden resignation of the previous Finance Director and the consequential restricted access to FHAGBI bank accounts. Without these contributions (now repaid) the 2018 Inspections could not have gone ahead.
- 4.8 From the floor, Dean Manders proposed a round of applause for the Directors as thanks for taking over a difficult position and ensuring that the 2018 Inspections went ahead and were profitable. This was seconded and the members duly expressed their appreciation.

5. MEMBERSHIPS 2019

5.1 Delia Harris (Memberships Secretary) presented the memberships to date in 2019

- Gold 128 (13 new)
- Silver 39 (2 new)
- Bronze 16 (3 new)
- **TOTAL 183** (as at 23 February)

5.2 Delia noted that there is normally a significant increase in memberships each October.

5.3 The President noted that after the end of March 2019, a fine of up to £5000 can be levied (DEFRA) if passport is incorrect but that passport changes can be handled free of charge via FHAGBI

6. FHAGBI COMMITTEE - Notes and Thanks

6.1 Fiona Griffiths – will be taking on the Dressage Points. The dressage points winner for 2018 was Sarah White. Congratulations to Sarah who was presented with the trophy and a photograph was taken for the Newsletter.

6.2 Linda Howley – will be joining Justine Fieldhouse with events and drill/display team

6.3 Sarah Fisher – special thanks for her exceptional work on FHAGBI IT, on-line shop and website

6.4 Delia Harris – thanks for her work (and resilience) with memberships

6.5 Helen Sinclair – thanks for her hard work on the Newsletters (and a reminder that she needs input and articles from members)

6.6 We have just learned that John Moon is unwell – a card and best wishes are being sent

6.7 FHAGBI needs further recruitment to the committee, especially as we will be running two inspections this year.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 The new merchandise was displayed and modelled. Sizes, colours and prices were explained and the new merchandise was generally appreciated and welcomed by the members present.

7.2 Vicki Knapp – Inspections 2019

- This year's Southern England inspection is planned to be held at Keysoe, near Bedford, and will be on Sunday 29th September 2019. A minimum of 25 entries is needed contractually by the KFPS.
- The Scotland Inspections will be held on Friday 27th September 2019 at Highfield Equestrian, at Howe in Fife. Again, a minimum of 25 entries is needed contractually by the KFPS.
- A deposit of 50% of the entry fee for each entrant will be required by end of April but is refundable if the event is cancelled.

7.3 An Educational Week to be held in the Netherlands (15 – 19th July) is getting a lot of interest from FHAGBI members. Also the possibility of an educational week in the UK in 2020.

7.4 Vicki Knapp – is currently producing a handbook for FHAGBI Directors and Committee. This will outline the essential recurring tasks for Inspections, Passports and Registrations. An outline document with topic headings has been produced by VK and was shown at the AGM as an illustration of the document's direction. The handbook is still work in progress. The President expressed her thanks to Vicki.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:10 pm