



# BRITISH HARNESS RACING CLUB

## MINUTES OF BHRC SUMMER COMMITTEE MEETING

held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 @ 7.00 pm via Zoom

<p><b><u>Present</u></b> Darren Owen (Chair) Heulwen Bulman (Secretary) Jason Podmore George Button Shirley Dixon (Observer) Will Evans Julie Park Anthony Fettah Eric Witherspon Robert Millichap (Observer) Garry O'Grady Huw Evans John Towe Gareth Bevan Andrea Barker Joseph Ripley (Observer)</p>	<p>(continued)  Jim McNally Carol Jenkins Bret Strickland Ryan O'Neil (left 8:50) Kayleigh Evans Hayley Cassells Bill Green (Observer) Barry Delaney AVTC (joined 7:50)  <b><u>Apologies</u></b> Viv Gill</p>
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The following resolutions were discussed and voted upon:-

### 1 REGIONAL STEWARDS

Amendment of the Constitution and Rule Book to confirm that Regional Stewards are not automatically appointed directors

The idea that a separate class of steward/racing commissioner who is not a BHRC director be created was discussed at the Q & A session on 30 June and it appeared that the issue was more fully appreciated by the committee than at the last committee meeting. Therefore, as it is more straightforward to amend the existing rules than to create new ones the resolution proposed previously will be considered again before moving forward with the racing commissioner role. This is a special resolution as it will amend the constitution if approved and therefore will only be passed if 75% of members (the committee) with voting rights approve it:

#### Resolution 1

For the amendment of clause 35 of the articles of association of the British Harness Racing Club from:

35. The Board (of directors) shall consist of the chairman, vice chairman, directors and regional stewards.....'

to

35. The board shall consist of the chairman, vice chairman and directors....'

If this resolution is passed the following resolution will also be considered (as an ordinary resolution approved if 50 % majority of the committee members voting, vote in favour):-

*This resolution was discussed and carried by 25 votes in favour, rule book to be amended accordingly.*

#### Resolution 2

For the amendment of clause E16 of the Rule Book from:

'E16 A Regional Steward is a person appointed by the BHRC to serve on the Council (Board of directors) and to represent the BHRC at race meetings...'

to

'E16 A Regional Steward is a person appointed by the BHRC to represent the BHRC at race meetings...'

*The Regional Stewards opinion were sought and they were happy not to be classed as directors, remain to have a vote at committee level and would be required to attend specific sub committees.*

*1 Abstained; 2 Against; 26 in favour - Carried*

2. ONE PERSON - ONE VOTE

#### Resolution 3

Resolution on the admission of affiliation paying licence holders to the membership of the BHRC

Consideration of the following resolution

(as an ordinary resolution approved if 50% majority of the committee members voting, vote in favour):

'That for a period beginning 1 month from the date that the affiliation payment is received [until 1 April](#) in the following year the person in respect of whom the payment is made is to be admitted as a voting but affiliation paying member of the BHRC'

(If approved, to be activated immediately after Committee Meeting of August 2<sup>nd</sup>)

*2 Abstained; 11 Against; 16 in favour - Carried*

3. TROTGING GOVERNANCE

#### Resolution 4

Vote to approve the governance of trotting in Great Britain to be switched to Trot Britain as set out in the proposed model presented to the Committee.

To be activated from January 1st, 2022.

*6 Abstained; 5 Against; 18 in favour - Carried.*

#### 4. Any Other Business

Questions were asked regarding the situation with the office at the present time - Nothing had been finalised to date.

Binchester meeting schedule for 11<sup>th</sup> August had been cancelled, due to the field not being available.

A general discussion took place regarding the number of races held at a racemeting, it was noted that there were a lot more pressure on the committee/stewarding committee etc when there were large number of races being held in one racemeeting.

As there were no other matters arising the meeting drew to a close at 9.30pm.