

Briefing Note of the 37th Board Meeting of Horse Sport Ireland

held on 7th June 2011

Minutes of the 36th Board Meeting and Matters Arising:

The minutes of the 36th Board meeting were approved. There were no matters arising.

Board Correspondence:

The CEO said he had been asked to bring correspondence from the Show Jumping Centres Group to the attention of the Board. Following detailed discussion on this matter, the Chairman proposed that Horse Sport Ireland would appoint an independent evaluator to appraise the insurance policy and provide an advisory report back to the HSI Board. This report would be discussed with Show Jumping Ireland in advance of the next Board meeting, if it was finalised.

Finance Report:

The Director of Finance presented the Horse Sport Ireland draft accounts for 2010 which had been circulated to Board members prior to the meeting.

These accounts had been reviewed by the finance committee. The Board, having considered the accounts, approved and recommended them for adoption at the AGM.

Breeding Sub Board Report:

The Director of Breeding and Programmes presented the Breeding Sub Board Report included in the meeting pack.

The Director of Breeding and Programmes acknowledged and thanked the Teagasc team for their involvement in the Young Breeder Competition at Kildalton College on 19th April.

Appended to the Breeding Sub Board Report was a copy of the advertisement recently placed in the Irish Field and the Farmers Journal about the Horse Sport Ireland registration initiative for older unregistered horses or registered horses without recorded pedigree. Also appended was a copy of the dates and venues provisionally selected for the Irish Sport Horse and Irish Draught Mare Inspections for Autumn 2011.

HSI staff member Michael Doherty joined the meeting at this point to give a demonstration of Horse Sport Ireland's new online register 'CapallOir' and to answer questions from Board members on this. The CEO highlighted the link from CapallOir to FEI Website results. An agreement had been made with the FEI to do this and it was hoped to extend this to other competition organisations before CapallOir was formally launched.

Sport Sub Board Report:

The CEO presented the Sport Sub Board Report which was included in the meeting pack. He thanked the Finance Director for his involvement in setting up the Horse Sport Ireland Reining and Western Section which was now chaired by Declan McArdle.

He highlighted that the engagement with Coillte on access to forest trails would be a significant project for Horse Sport Ireland in 2011. Regarding the insurance review with Affiliate Organisations he said it was looking unlikely there would be a demand for an overall combined insurance policy based on questionnaires returned so far.

A letter which was sent to the secretary of all Affiliate Organisations on the 30th May in relation to the Horse Sport Ireland proposed National Anti-Doping and Medication Control Programme was also included in the meeting pack.

He also acknowledged the recent success of the FEI Global Education Forum for Course Designers held during Tattersalls International in May and the FEI Event Veterinary Seminar held in Bloomfield House Hotel Mullingar on the 4th and 5th June. He acknowledged the initiative and involvement of Dermot Forde, FEI Contact Vet, in running the veterinary seminar and the HSI staff involved in the organisation of the event.

Applications for Affiliation:

The CEO presented proposals for Affiliation from Pentathlon Ireland (PI) and The Hunting Association of Ireland (HAI), the umbrella body representing six hunting associations in Ireland. Both proposals were approved.

A.O.B:

The Chief Executive gave an update on a meeting with Des Leadon from the Irish Equine Centre regarding traceability of horses. The Department of Agriculture would be providing the Irish Equine Centre with funding towards a project to identify the number of unwanted horses in the country which would involve distributing a survey. The Irish Equine Centre had requested some assistance from Horse Sport Ireland on this project

The Chairman acknowledged some of the recent successes of Irish riders including the Senior Show Jumpers in the Nations Cup at La Baule and Copenhagen, the Show Jumping Ponies in Wierden and Fontainebleau and Capt. David O'Brien at Mullingar International.

Charles Powell asked for an update on Denis Lynch's involvement with the Show Jumping Irish Team. The CEO said that Denis Lynch had now indicated that he wished to be considered for selection for Irish Teams for 2011.

Belle Balding requested that a note of sympathy be conveyed to the family of Roma Kieran who recently passed away

The next board meeting and AGM was scheduled for **Thursday 21st July at 11.00am**

ENDS