

HOOFPRINTS

The Newsletter of the Fife Riding Club



October 2011

Time for another short newsletter!

CRAIGIE AUTUMN HUNTER TRIALS

We had a great turn out of riders with entries well up on April. The weather was fairly kind with only a couple of sharp showers sending everyone scurrying into the tents for cover.

Amazingly – and in spite of starting 15 minutes late – we finished pretty much on time - well done our starters! It helped that we didn't need to call the ambulance out at all. There were a few fallers and a number of runaway horses but no serious injuries to man or beast.

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation of the course and on the day itself. We managed to get the track looking good with barely four weekends work – hard enough at the best of times but made worse by finding about 15 trees had been blown onto the track by the summer storms. Luckily some folk just love playing with chainsaws..... Seriously, we had tremendous help this time – much appreciated!

Thanks to our sponsors – **Anne Porter, Aileen & Alastair Walker and Hardies Surveyors** –and to the **Foster** family who have been such great supporters of Fife RC now for over 30 years. We have been so lucky to have had the use of Craigie in all that time.

As to the competition, there were no real "bogey" fences this time although the carrot boxes caused a few to take a second look.

Lucy Baker and Goldcrest's Gem were the first recipients of the **Monty Memorial Quaich** kindly donated by former committee member **John Embrey** this year. It's a stunning trophy – our thanks to John for this magnificent award

The full results are now on the website

CROSS COUNTRY CLINIC

Held 2 October at Craigie, we had a good number of names although a few dropped out possibly when they looked out the window and saw the weather. Okay it rained a bit but you can only get so wet and anyhow the ground is always fine at Craigie and there's plenty shelter in the wood. It certainly didn't put off instructor **Jane Gilchrist** who just put on another set of dry clothes between sessions. In fact the weather did clear up by the start of the last group and of course the rain stopped altogether as soon as we finished but no one really minded as they all had a great time out on the track. Thanks to all involved, not least the Foster family and groom Morag for their help.

SHOWING SHOW

Committee had a busy programme through the summer and had opted to "rest" the **Showing Show** this year; however Mandy Law offered to run it at on 11 September. By all accounts it was a great day in spite of it being put together at very short notice. Our thanks to Mandy for getting this show on the road; Results are on the club website.

SUCCESS AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Well done again to **Mandy Law and Innes**. As the only qualifier willing to travel south to Championships, Mandy made the long trip to BRC Championships at Lincoln on the Craigie weekend where she did fantastically well being placed 4th in her arena and 19th overall - a great result when you consider there were over 130 riders in the class.

There are over 40,000 members of Riding Clubs in Britain.

By qualifying for Championships, Mandy was in the top 5% of riders in Britain – well done to her and, of course, Innes.

STOP PRESS

Shona Brearley was bored so she decided to run more dressage! The **Open Dressage Show** will be on **30 October** – details and schedules on the website. Can you help on the day? – we'll need writers, scorers, stewards etc. We will also need help to set out arenas on the 29th. Why not spare an hour or two to help? Contact Shona if you can.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are nearly at the end of the Club's year and all members are invited to the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Thursday 13th October at the Lomond Hills Hotel, Freuchie at 7.30pm.

A number of committee and office bearers are due to stand down having reached the end of their term in office. Several have indicated they are prepared to put

themselves forward for re-election but at the time of writing we still look likely to have a couple of vacancies. If anyone out there is interested in standing for committee then we need to know. What does it involve?

Committee meetings are held about once a month throughout the year. Committee members are expected to do what they can not only in planning the club's year but also in running events. They should be prepared to take responsibility for organising Club meetings or undertaking other tasks necessary to the smooth running of this very active organisation.

Above all, members must act in the best interests of the entire club at all times.

It can be **hard work**. It **is** a commitment.

Anyone interested in joining committee should put a note **in writing** to the Secretary Liz Glasgow, 296 Muirfield Drive Glenrothes to arrive **no later than Monday 10 October 2011**. Details should include the name of the nominee accompanied by details of a proposer and seconder (both of whom must have been members for at least a year). In the event that we have more nominees than spaces on committee then there will be a ballot of members at the AGM to determine who is elected.

The agenda will reach you separately in accordance with the Constitution

The AGM will be followed by the presentation of annual awards for the Points Competitions, Dressage Leagues etc. Members will also get a chance to vote for the **Vic Trophy** winner – to be the most improved horse of the year. If you won a trophy last year please ensure it is returned in time for the AGM, engraved and polished. **REMEMBER, your annual subscription will be due for payment at the close of the AGM.** There are no proposals to increase charges which will remain at £35 for Riding Members, £25 for Associates and £10 for Non- Riders, so bring your cheque books.

That's all for now – see you at the AGM!