

SCOTTISH DRESSAGE GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 12th February 2026

Rockrose Equestrian Centre

Chair: Darren Miller

Attendees: Evelyn Orr, Sandra Kay, Susan Whiteford, Karen Scott,

Bonnie Clarke, Hazel Hunter, Sarah Hawes, Susan Loch, Joan Lauder, Emma Goodman, Julia Robinson-Dow, Lorna McElhaney, Kareen Jones, Rhona Mitchell, Emma Hogg, Anne Paxton

1. Apologies for absence

Claire Scott, Lesley Sinclair, Mari Coyle, Dawn Purchase,

2. Chair's report

Welcome everyone to our AGM. I have made the decision to step down as Chair after 7 years. It has been a great experience and feel it is now a good time to hand over to someone who is actively riding. I will still be involved in the committee, looking after teams

Tonight, you will hear reports from a few of our committee members about how the club has done over the past year. A lot of what happens cannot be done without the countless hours and dedication from everyone involved. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped out this past year making the club what it is and also thank you to those who sit on the committee.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Bonnie Clarke, Craig Donnelly and Lisa Rothwell, all of whom stepped down from the committee this year. We would appreciate more volunteers to join the committee and help us keep the Club serving all its members. If you would be interested in joining the committee, please speak to any current committee member about what is involved.

The following committee are happy to stand again for 2026 and Evelyn has also kindly agreed to stand as Chair.

Evelyn Orr willing to stand for Chair

Susan Whiteford
Sandra Kay
Darren Miller
Claire Scott
Karen Scott

Re-election of committee and new Chair
Proposed: Joan Lauder
Seconded: Bonnie Clarke

3. Membership Secretary's Report

2025 was another busy year for SDG, during which we organised our usual winter and summer competition series, alongside several clinics for our members. At the end of 2025, we had 41 members (including 5 non-ridden members). This represents an increase of 2 compared to 2024; however, membership remains down compared to 2023.

For 2026, we have kept our membership fee unchanged at £35, with non-ridden membership at £25 (which covers the £24 BRC membership fee).

This year we are looking to offer additional opportunities for members, including pole work and dressage clinics. All members attending the AGM this evening will receive free access to the Dressage Ringcraft Crash Course, worth £25.

Membership benefits include:

- £4 discount per dressage test
- £5 discount per clinic
- Automatic entry into our competition leagues (provided you have volunteered at least once during the year), with opportunities to win trophies and rosettes.

There are also BRC-associated member benefits including:

- Up to £30,000 public liability insurance whilst at a BRC event
- A quarterly subscription to "Rider" magazine
- Opportunities to compete at BRC events, either individually or as part of an SDG team
- Exclusive BRC member discounts on a range of equestrian products and services - from magazine subscriptions (up to 35% off *Horse & Hound* / *Horse & Eventing*) to feed, and lots of other companies

No questions.

4. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the audited accounts for 2025 have been circulated. The first page sets out the club's bank balances at the start and end of the financial year and shows that the club recorded an overall loss of £879.87.

Income and expenditure are summarised on the second page. As in previous years, the majority of our income was generated through competitions and training events, with the final two pages providing a detailed breakdown of the associated costs and revenue.

Training events ran at a small loss the year, and the absence of the BRC training grant meant there was no longer funding available to offset this shortfall. Competition entries were again lower than hoped and, as a result, competitions also operated at a loss.

On a more positive note, the club's financial position has since improved. We received a generous donation of £2,810.78 following the dissolution of Almond Riding Club, and our first training event of the year - a poles clinic at Drum RDA - ran at a profit.

I'm happy to take any questions on the finances now or via email when you have had time to scrutinise the accounts.

Annual Accounts

Proposed by: Lorna McElhaney

Seconded by: Anne Paxton

6. Competition Secretary's Report

Our competition Points League changed format slightly in 2025, we now have a league for the whole year rather than split between Winter and Summer.

In 2025, we had Sunday day competitions in March, April, October and December. Mid week Wednesday evening competitions during the summer months – June, July, August and September. Unfortunately, our Wednesday May competition had to be cancelled as we were unable to secure a judge.

In general numbers for our competitions have been low, a general trend in horse events at the moment.

We have not had any catering this past year at our winter shows as we have not had the minimum rider numbers to book a caterer. There is tea and coffee available in the hut for riders, and grooms, to help themselves.

The months that we did not have a competition we had training clinics for our members, when non members were welcome.

In March we had a dressage clinic with Claire Scott, April and August we had clinics with Jill Grant which are always very popular, then in November we had Liz Love hosting a Training and Test Riding clinic. All of these clinics were well supported.

We would like to thank Jim Barclay who attends as our First Aider, also Cousland Park for allowing us to host our competitions there.

Our thanks also go to the judges, and members who offered to help during the year. Remember part of your membership is to help at one event during the year, it takes time and effort to be constantly asking for helpers, why not look at your diary decide on a date and let us know as soon as entries open. It is easier if you can spare half a day, or an evening, than helping before or after you ride – it makes the organisation very tricky.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their help with my role.

Thank you

No questions

7. Team Report

Over the past year we have had...

- One rider go to Morris for winter dressage
- Two riders go to HT gaining a 1st and a 3rd

I would like to say a massive WELL DONE to all those who went to ride at one of the qualifiers!

Darren explained the new entry process and costs for BRC competitions. Darren advised that the Club will determine how, or if, the Club will pay. Susan advised that it will be the rider responsibility to apply for their pass. An email will be sent out the in the coming weeks with dates for qualifiers and seeking interest in taking part in the Teams as an SDG rep.

8. Any Other Business

Joan asked about joint working with other clubs. Darren confirmed that we had run one combined event that had gone well. Julia noted that the thinking had been that with three clubs, there would have been a lot of entries, however, this had not been the case. On review, had confirmed that the eligibility criteria would benefit from review as could increase options to take part.

9. Presentation of Trophies

Evelyn and Darren presented the rosettes and trophies

Special Achievement: Lorna McElhaney

Volunteer Award: Jennifer McLeod

2024 Winter League

Intro: Rhona Mitchell

Prelim: Rhona Mitchell

Novice: Lorna McElhaney

Elementary: Alison Scougall

2025 League Results

Intro – Mari Coyle, 2nd Anne Paxton, 3rd Lesley Sinclair

Prelim – Samantha Donnellan, 2nd Susan Loch, 3rd Sandra Kay

Novice – Lorna McElhaney, 2nd Alison Scougall, 3rd Jennifer McLeod

Elementary – Lorna McElhaney, 2nd Alison Scougall, 3rd Sandra Redpath

Medium – Evelyn Orr

Adv M – Evelyn Orr

10. Presentation

Presentation and session with Alex Gingell

Alex guided us through ringcraft techniques to help us achieve higher marks in our tests