

**MFHA TEAM CHASE COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON Tuesday 23rd November 2010
AT THE ORIENTAL CLUB, LONDON at 11am**

AUTUMN 2010 SEASON REVIEW

JB produced a summary of comments from the organizers of the autumn events these were all fairly positive although there remains a lack of Open entries. 10 teams have qualified for the Championship to date

RoR PROPOSAL

Di Arbuthnot from RoR attended the meeting and explained the proposal to sponsor special prizes at the Fernie for the highest placed ex-racehorses registered with RoR at both Open and Intermediate level. The committee welcomed the proposal and it was agreed that Di should liaise with PEC to agree the detail and practicalities

THE GORING HOTEL ORDERS OF MERIT

George Goring has confirmed that he is happy to continue the Goring Hotel sponsorship of the Orders of Merit next year. The competition ran well and Mick Hawkins has worked incredibly hard on the administration. Mick and Philip Cowen were outstanding in their help at Foxcote. There needs to be an amendment to the rules to allow for situations where there is a "tie" on points.

THE WAY FORWARD – OPEN AND INTERMEDIATE

We need to continue to raise the profile of the sport and encourage more teams to compete at Open Level. It was felt that the Orders of Merit would continue to encourage more teams to compete on a regular basis.

DATES SPRING AND AUTUMN 2011

The spring dates for Open events have been approved and published. It appears that the Badsworth and Bramham Moor plan to hold a Novice and Intermediate event on 6th March York and Ainsty South may also wish to run in April.

There are two proposed new Intermediate events for the Autumn, Warwickshire and Grove and Rufford, however the Berkley have indicated that they can no longer run because of problems with the landowner/farmer.

THE NATIONAL SPONSORS 2011 ONWARDS

Discussions are still ongoing with Chesterton Humberts regarding renewal of the National Sponsorship for 2011 and onwards. The Sponsorship committee are investigating other options in the meantime we need a business that has a nationwide profile and who is willing to grow with us and take the sport forward.

COURSE INSPECTION AND COURSE BUILDING

Generally the standard and consistency of the courses had improved this season. It is always difficult to create the correct balance especially in the Open Courses – a proper Open Course needs to have some big places but without creating panic fences which discourage new teams from having a go. We still need to strive for more standardisation in all 3 classes across events and encourage events to introduce longer "time wasting" options over the biggest fences to encourage more new competitors and intermediate teams to upgrade.

THE RULES

There was a lengthy discussion about the different rules applied by individual events and it was unanimously agreed that there should be a single set of national rules to be applied to all events which who would no longer be allowed to have their own local rules.

It was agreed that the Rules would be amended from Spring 2011 to ensure that the Championship winners would automatically qualify for the following seasons Championship

THE LEVY

It was agreed that the levy should continue at the same rate for all teams at all levels, and that the funds raised should be used for the promotion of the sport and in particular to support the Open Qualifier events.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Standardizing levels of prize money is to be discussed at the next meeting.

We need to appoint new committee members at the next meeting and all were asked to consider nominations prior to this.

Chris Leigh has unfortunately indicated that he is giving up commentating at Team Chases. It was felt that events need to be encouraged to use a “professional” commentator – this usually costs £150 -£200 for the day.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The committee meeting and AGM will again be at Cheltenham Racecourse on Wednesday, 4^h May, 2010.