



INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

THE MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION (GREAT BRITAIN) LTD

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to membership of MGA(GB) - the Mounted Games Association of Great Britain. We hope that you have a happy and successful time with us! The following information is designed to give you an insight into the workings of the Association.

ASSOCIATION STAFF

The Association has TWO members of staff. The Executive Officer, Mrs Mary Worth, who works full time for the Association and the MGA(GB) Secretary, Rosie Thornton, works part time. Both staff work from home and can be contacted as follows:

Executive Officer

Mrs Mary Worth
Wyelands Cottage
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Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6XA
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Mobile: 07971 201830
Email: mary@mgagb.co.uk

Secretary

Mrs Rosie Thornton
Bampton Downs Farm
Cove, Tiverton
Devon EX16 7RY
Tel: 01398 331548
Email: rosie@mgagb.co.uk

Mary's office hours are 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday. Rosie's office hours are 10.00am-1.00pm Monday to Friday March to October inclusive. From November to February inclusive Rosie is available from 10.00am for 1 hour. However, both offices have answerphone facilities.

For all matters concerning membership and entries to Team, Individual & Pairs competitions contact the Secretary. For all other enquiries contact the Executive Officer.

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

- The Mounted Games Association (Great Britain) Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. This means that the liability of each member is limited to £1. The company does not have share capital.
- All affairs of the company are governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company, a copy of which is on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/about/articles-of-association>
- The company is run by the General Committee of the Association which meets at least 3 times a year. The General Committee consists of the following officers: The Chairman, The Vice Chairman, The Treasurer, and The Chairman from each Regional Committee. Also sitting on the committee with a non-voting position is the Safeguarding Officer. The current General Committee details are listed further on in this document.

The Executive Officer & Secretary also attend General Committee Meetings but do not have a vote on the General Committee.

- An Annual General Meeting is held in February or March each year. Any member is entitled to attend the AGM. The Officers of the General Committee are elected at the AGM.

COUNTIES & REGIONAL COMMITTEES

- The country is divided into counties which run the teams. Each county has a County Representative who is responsible for all matters relating to the teams in their county.
- Each county is also a member of the Regional Committee for their region. The Regional Committees are England North, England South, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Each regional committee consists of county representatives from teams in the region plus extra members who may be co-opted onto the Regional Committees. The Regional Committees meet at least once a year and are responsible for organising events within their region.

SHOWS

There are 2 types of shows organised by the Association. We call these External and Internal shows. External shows are where the Association have been invited by the show organisers to perform Top Level Displays in the Show's Main Arena. MGA(GB) perform at many of the country's top County and Country Shows. Details of the External shows for the season are sent out to each County Rep in January. The County Reps should liaise with their team members and then send their choice of shows back to the Executive Officer who allocates teams to shows.

Internal shows are those where a venue is hired and Head Office host a competition for our members.

- MGA(GB) Head Office organises 12 internal shows each season - 8 team shows, 1 individual show and 1 pairs show.
- The team shows are The Spring Championships, The Great British Friendly, the UK Masters, The John Scott Championships, The Future Stars, The Open Cup Challenge, The Inter Counties Championships and the End of Season Show in September/October.
- The Individuals Show is the British Individuals and the Pairs show is the British Pairs
- Each Regional Committee also organises at least 1 team show per year. For details regarding these Regional competitions please view the website or contact the relevant Chairman of the region organising the show.
- Home International competitions are also organised by Head Office whereby teams from each region compete against each other, these are held in all Age Groups and may be held at Internal or External Events.

AGE GROUPS

All competitions organised by the Association are run in 4 age groups. These are as follows:

Future Stars - For riders who have not attained their 12th birthday by 1st January

Under 14s - for riders who have not attained their 14th birthday by 1st January

Juniors- For riders who have not attained their 17th birthday by 1st January

Open- Any age

Riders may ride in more than one age group at some shows, however they may only ride up ONE age group. Competitions will not be held for riders who have clashes with riding in another age group, this is done at your own discretion.

WEBSITE

The latest news and all Association information can be found on the website – www.mgagb.co.uk.

You should have received an email advising you of the login details for the website so you can access the members area, but if you have not please let me know and I will send it to you. If you have any queries please contact Rosie Thornton – rosie@mgagb.co.uk. We would like to encourage our members to use the website as it contains all the information you will require, and you can also post classified advertisements which will reach a wider audience than just MGAGB members. The members area contains information not available to non-members.

Entry forms for competitions will be available by going to “Events” and clicking on the event you require. These will be updated as forms become available. Updates will be shared via Social Media (Facebook – Mounted Games Association of GB – MGAGB). We also have various Facebook Groups.

INSURANCE

All members are covered for Third Party Public Liability Insurance while competing at events organised by MGA(GB), or its Regions. Rider members have 24/7 Personal Liability insurance which is included in the membership fee. Details of this insurance are on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/membership/members-public-liability-insurance/>

DISCIPLINARY

The Association has a Disciplinary Code of Conduct with strict rules concerning behaviour. A copy of the Disciplinary Code is available on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/rules/disciplinary-code-of-conduct/>

All members will be bound by this code of conduct. Members will be deemed to have accepted the Disciplinary Code by joining the Association.

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

- The MGA(GB) Ltd fully accepts its legal (Children's Act 1989) and moral obligation to provide a duty of care, to protect all children (and vulnerable adults) and safeguard their welfare, irrespective of age, any disability they have, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual identity.
- The MGA (GB) Ltd aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of race, gender, ability, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation, have equal opportunities to take part in equestrianism at all levels and roles.
- MGA(GB) has a dedicated Safeguarding Officer

SOPHIE MORRIS

32 Green Lane, Radnage, Bucks HP14 4DN
07828 705499
sophiemorris8@hotmail.com

The full Vulnerable Persons Policy is on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/rules/vulnerable-persons-policy-substance-misuse/>

MEMBERS RULES & HANDBOOK

A Rules & Handbook is produced in April each year and available to each member. This contains details of addresses of all officials and county representatives for the Association, as well as our rules and guidelines. It is recommended that this is read by all members each year to keep up to date and refreshed on the recommendations and requirements of the Association.

GAMES RULES BOOKS

Handbooks containing the rules for all games are produced by IMGA - the International Mounted Games Association and can be downloaded from the IMGA Website - <http://www.mounted-games.org/imga/games/rules/index.html>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December. In December you will receive the membership letter for the following season and this will include the membership renewal form. All membership renewals must be received by the secretary by 31st March at the latest. Any late renewals will incur a £20 administration fee. Due to the unreliability of the post please check the mgagb.co.uk website as the renewal forms will be available to download there.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU COMPETE BETWEEN 1ST JANUARY AND 31ST MARCH YOU MUST RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BEFORE YOU RIDE.

TEAM TRANSFERS

A rider can transfer teams, once, for free each calendar year – between 1st January and 30th April. From 1st May to 31st December the rider may transfer once incurring a fee of £50 – payable by the rider if it is their choice to transfer or payable by the county if the transfer is being implemented through no fault of the rider. If the County Rep does not agree that rider must stay with the county, if then there is no place available up to inter counties the transfer fee payable by the outgoing county rep is £100. **If the fee is not paid no teams in that county can compete at Intercounties.**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU WISH TO TRANSFER YOUR CURRENT COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE WILL NEED TO SEND AN EMAIL TO rosie@mgagb.co.uk CONFIRMING THE TRANSFER. THE RIDER AND THE COUNTY REP OF THE TEAM YOU ARE TRANSFERING TO SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE EMAIL. YOU WILL THEN ALL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION BY RETURN EMAIL.

Example **To - Rosie@mgagb.co.uk**
 From - Outgoing County Rep
 CC - Rider, Incoming County Rep
 I agree to the transfer of (rider) from (outgoing county) to (incoming county).

Alternatively, signed paper transfer forms will also be accepted and are available on the website under Membership.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Several International competitions take place each year, these are hosted by different countries around the Globe. The two International Team Competitions are the World Team Championships and the European Championships. The World Team Championships is for Open and Under 17 teams only but the European Championships have competitions for Under 12s, Under 14s, Under 17s and Open riders. There are also International World & European Individuals and also World Pairs. Information for these events can be found on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/imga>.

Each of the 4 nations involved in MGA(GB), England, Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales send teams to these competitions. For selection and team details contact the Chairman of your National Committee – details on the Website.

FINALLY

I hope that this has given you some insight into the Association. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Rosie, who will be only too pleased to help you.

I look forward to meeting you at our competitions.

Mary Worth, Executive Officer

CONTACTS FOR THE MGA(GB) GENERAL COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:
MR JOHN SCOTT

CHAIRMAN:
VAL EDWARDS
The Chase, Treflach Road, Trefonen, Oswestry. SY10 9DZ
01691 670709 07980 710552 V.Edwards@hatchers.co.uk

VICE CHAIRMAN:
PAUL WHEATLEY
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TREASURER:
TREVOR CLINGO
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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:
SOPHIE MORRIS
32 Green Lane, Radnage, Bucks HP14 4DN
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RIDERS REPRESENTATIVE
Annie Morris
High Lea Farmhouse, Witchampton, Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 4AA
07825 001878 annie_ajojo@hotmail.co.uk

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

SOUTHERN ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVE:
JO MORRIS
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07799 320003. 07799 320003. jomorrisdorset@gmail.com

NORTHERN ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVE:
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SCOTTISH REPRESENTATIVE:
VERONICA DODDS
Pottermount, Potterhill, AYR, Ayrshire. KA6 5JS
07479 325343 veronicadodds@hotmail.co.uk

WELSH REPRESENTATIVE:
ALUN WHITNEY
25 Dulais Road, Seven Sisters, Neath. SA10 9EL
07977 420266 alunwhitney@btinternet.com

NORTHERN IRELAND REPRESENTATIVE:
ALLISTER HAMILTON
52 Hillsborough Road, NEWTOWNARDS, Co Down. BT23 6AY
07939 488525 ahamilton521@outlook.com

Riders representative details are on the website - <http://mgagb.co.uk/contact/riders-representatives>



INTER COUNTY COMMUNICATION

DUTIES OF A COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- To be responsible for all affairs and financial affairs relating to the County team/s.
- To represent their County, and the views of their County members, at Regional Committee meetings.
- To communicate with Head Office and to pass information from Head Office to all members of their County.
- To pass all information from Regional Committees to the members of their county.
- To inform all riders of competition dates and venues and to check the availability of members to enter competitions.
- To encourage their County Members to Volunteer and become involved with the wider Association.
- To assist their Regional Committees with the running of their Regional Shows.
- To actively support their County riders within the Region i.e. Training opportunities, National team selections etc
- To support the General Committee with any disciplinary proceedings regarding their county/members

RESPONSIBILITIES AT SHOWS

- The County Representative is responsible for the general behaviour of all members attached to their team/s whether they be parents, riders or guests.
- The County Representative is responsible for appointing trainers for each team in their county and for ensuring that each trainer has been DBS checked.
- The County Representative is responsible for passing on all communications from the show organisers to their members, families and any guests during the duration of the competition.
- The County Representative should ensure that any guests pay a temporary membership fee to the Show Organiser.
- The County Representative should ensure that all riders are correctly attired and are wearing the correct tack when competing.
- The County Representative should ensure that all ponies are fit for purpose for their rider and for competition. They should ensure that ponies receive an adequate level of care.
- The County Representative should make it clear to members and parents that under age consumption of alcohol on the Showground will not be tolerated under any circumstances. They should promote the view that excessive Alcohol consumption for those over age is discouraged as it is incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity.
- The County Representative is responsible for the cleanliness of their parking and corralling area and for making sure that the area is left clean and tidy after the show.
- The County Representative is responsible for appointing responsible Adult Deputy to represent the county if he/she is unable to attend any event at which a team from the county is competing. The Show Organiser should be made aware of the name of the replacement official
- The County Representative should be aware of a named person who has parental responsibility for any rider under 18 who is not accompanied to a competition by their parent or guardian