

Minutes of Open Meeting

Held on Sunday 16th June, in the Bridge of Earn Institute, Bridge of Earn

Present:	Derek MacIver	Ian Bain	Colin Crawford	Margo Crawford	Gordon C Beattie
	Joyce Mitchell	Andrew Mitchell	Willie Grieve	Ian Cruickshank	Dave Carnegie
	Tom Laing	Mark Skea	Jim Thomson	G Black	E Anderson
	Ed Bennie	Elaine MacRae	Frank Blyth	Brian Baxter	

In Attendance: Fiona MacKintosh

1 Welcome

Derek MacIver, the Chairperson, welcomed all to the meeting, and mentioned that this meeting clashed with Father's Day and may need to be moved to another date in the future. He also mentioned the passing of Elizabeth MacFarlane, who had been a previous secretary for Scottish Ploughing from 1974 until 2002 and a minute's silence was held in her memory.

2 Apologies

Gordon Hepburn; Gordon Hepburn Snr; W Daniel: James Jack; Carol Jack; Iain MacRae; Scott MacRae; Hugh Currie; Robert McKechnie; David Kirkpatrick; Alan Ramsay; Fraser Tait; Gavin Robertson; David Jack; Ewan MacIver; Norman MacIver; Neil Ramsay; Neil Keilor; Steven Eccles; Ron Philips' A Mitchell (Jnr); Alex Keith; Jock Aitchison

3 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 March 2024

Dave Carnegie mentioned that he attended the last meeting but was not recorded as being in attendance. The minutes were agreed to be a true record proposed by Brian Baxter and Seconded by Colin Crawford.

4 Classes 2024

Classes were change in 2023, and agreed to leave them as is. Only change is the Fergie class to plough both days.

5 Scoring

A scoring team is in place for the match.

6 Nomination of Judges

See attachment

7 Head Steward

Ian Cruickshank (north area) –World Style
Jim Harrow – Vintage

8 Stewards

See attachment

9 Marking Out Plots

Raymond Middleton; Ian Cruickshank; Dave Carnegie; Willie Grieve; Mark Skea; Andrew Mitchell; Brian Baxter (possible); North Contingent; Gordon Beattie; Neil Keilor

10 Cleaning Up

Same as above and Frank Blyth

11 Marshalling Yard

Alan MacKay; John (David Jack's employee)

12 Parade

Neil Keillor and Ali Greenhill. Parade arrangements cannot be streamlined until the plot draws and we know the entry.

Penalty deduction for not appearing in the parade. Chief Steward should also be involved in the parade.

It would be good to try and speak to some of the first people who ploughed in the Scottish Championships and see if any of them can attend and possibly lead the parade.

13 Blessing of the Plough

Simon Jackson a lay preacher will do this, and the minister will also take part.

14 Competitions

World all organised – Andrew Mitchell and Brian Baxter competing. European no representatives.

6 Nations – Scotland decided not to host this, however there is some unrest. Willie had contacted Gordon Harris to advise, it would now appear that there will be no 6 nations this year. Tayforth ploughers would be prepared to run this competition either in the last weekend of July or the first weekend in August. Ed Bennie has offered land. There appears to be a lack of structure, and if this is going to be run some form of structure should be put in place. The other countries would support. Gordon B agreed that if there was some structure in place that this should go ahead. A practice should be held on one day, and the competition the next. Information will be passed to Gordon Harris, and Willie Grieve and Ed Bennie to organise.

5 Nations – entries are sent in for Wales

15 Future Sites

2025 - Ardvikie, Arbroath – hospitality being looked and everything in hand

2026 – Colin is looking into venues

Any other possibles for the future?

Borders/Aberdeenshire 2027 – Mark has been speaking to someone.

16 200 Club

Licence has finally been received. Suggested to do 2 draws, of 1st 2nd and 3rd. Forms are available. Various methods of payment for this. Proposed £2 per month per number.

17 Judges Training

This will be held in Fettercairn Home Farm near Laurencekirk. It was suggested to give what 3 words for the directions. There will be signs to direct. Demonstration plough will be available, Fraser Tait is to going to liaise with Derek. This will be held on 21st July.

Plots to be ploughed the day before. The KV plough will be on show. Vintage 2 furrow will be done the day before. There will be some form of catering. People will have to book in for this, it will be advertised on Facebook. Margo will help and also possibly Elaine. This will start at 10am.

Calendar -Robert and Robbie need to speak to each other.

Trophy Returns - It would be good to start this sooner rather than later. Perhaps some could be taken to the stand at the Black Isle show

Newsletter – some information from the host, update to match and dates etc.

Banners – to display at the Highland Show, there is a picture being taken on the Friday.

T-shirts – what should be ordered for the match to commemorate 60 years. Various thoughts expressed, best option thought to be 60 years of competitive ploughing. It was agreed that a decision would be made prior to leaving this meeting today.

Entry Packs – these are available now for collection today and will be sent out first week by post. A facebook post will also be done to advise this.

18 **Date of Next Meeting**

AGM it was mentioned that perhaps the timing of this should be changed, getting accounts for early in March is a problem. It was suggested that perhaps the office bearers to table should be put in place in December. There would be no harm in looking to change dates, and the team for organising the match could be in place earlier. Tom agreed that changing the AGM to December would be beneficial and maybe move the judges meeting to March. Mark Skea proposed the AGM move to December and Tom Laing seconded this. The date of 8th December was suggested. The articles of association will need to be checked to see if this can be done.

It was thought that we could hold the Greeting Meeting first then the AGM, the accounts will be behind, the financial year is January to December, but we should know the expenses of the match by then.

The date of the next meeting was suggested to be 8th December.

The meeting closed at 2.55pm