

Hi Everyone and Welcome to all our new members!

We have been relatively lucky with the winter weather so far. Our fields are dry - that is unheard of for January and the extra hour of daylight also makes a good difference. Hopefully this latest snow doesn't come to much!

Thank you to everybody who came along to help kickstart the 2019 season at our January Training Day!

It was great to see so many members old and new joining in and enjoying the various sessions on offer - Jumping with Les Smith, Rider Alignment sessions with Emma McCagherty and Dressage training with myself.

We had our first committee meeting on 16th January this year and successfully managed to wipe out most of the committee with the flu!! However, we are all on the mend now and have lots of interesting activities and ideas lined up for 2019 as well as our regular club competitions!!

Our February events coming up

Enter online at www.almondentries.com

Harry Payne is coming back again on **Monday 4th February** to teach at SNEC. There have been a couple of call offs so there are 2 shared or a private session available.

Club Day Sunday 10th February Dress Down Day at SNEC Full schedule available online.

A mix of SJ and DR competitions, Polework with Patrick Print and Dressage training and test riding with Linda Penman.

We are delighted to have Patrick Print OBE, FBHS coming to teach polework at the February club day. Patrick is happy to teach all levels from wobbly starters to riders who are out competing or those getting ready for the new season. All levels and disciplines welcome.

Relaxed Club Day – No show jackets required. Sign up online to join in the fun!!

Something Different for 2019!!

While Winter runs its course, some riders can have problems with transport, just finding time to ride at home is a challenge, so motivation to get out to a competition or training can be a bit low!

Here are some new ideas to gently break yourself in to 2019!!

**** February Video Dressage Competition **** Full schedule available online. www.almondentries.com

What's involved

- Choose which class/classes you would like to enter INTRO to ELEMENTARY

- Film your test
- Go to <http://clubentries.com/almond/> and enter your chosen class
- Email your video directly to almondvideoentries@gmail.com or upload to YouTube and email a link
- Classes will be judged on Wednesday 27th February
- Results will be published and sheets and rosettes posted out
- **Guidelines**
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- Gloves must be worn
- Tack must conform to current BD rules
- Film from C, the judges position
- Your horse or pony must wear boots or bandages if you are wearing competition clothing
- If filming on a smartphone, hold the device in the landscape orientation
- Zooming - you must include some zoom when the rider is at the A end of the arena
- **Goal Setting and Motivation Workshops - What motivates you?**
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- **Are you where you want to be?** Doing what you want to do? In life, work, horses, competing or just surviving? Who or what stops you or holds you back? Competition nerves, Unhelpful beliefs, Anxiety, Self-Sabotage Want to make a change?
- Are you interested in meeting up to make the most of your 2019?
- Workshop sessions with Linda. Coach, Master NLP Practitioner and Hypnotherapist. Find your Competitive Edge!!
- **Wednesday 13th Feb 7pm** at West Broadlaw Farm, EH52 6NB £10 includes cuppa and cake!
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- **A YEAR FROM NOW YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU STARTED TODAY!!!**

Open Showing Show 14th April at SNEC

Sponsorship Appeal 2019 SPONSORS WANTED

We are looking for any interested individuals and/ or companies to sponsor this open show.

Sponsorship £30 per class and £50 per Championship. If this is something you would like to do or you know someone who would be interested please contact Lynne Denholm show organiser or our treasurer Jenny Dall or can sign up directly online. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up.

Club Matters!!

HELPERS

Our events always rely on members volunteering to help so our events can run smoothly.

It is a requirement of your Almond membership that members complete at least 1 helper stint (i.e. 1 half day at event or 1 set up session) in 2019. **To sign up to** please get in touch with Karyn – by replying to your newsletter

email, or contact Jo Tavern on Facebook. Jo will post up Helpers wanted on the Almond group Facebook page.

Helping is a great way to learn from trainers and judges while writing, scoring, stewarding on the day. If your horse is off or you are sadly horseless at the moment it is also a great way of still being involved and active within the club and a chance meet up for a chat with fellow members!

If you are not sure about what a particular job involves, we will help you. There's lots of helper jobs - scoring, stewarding, dressage writing, pole picking, set up sessions helping to build courses and arenas etc.

****New**** for this year we are going to run a Helpers points scheme. Joanne Tavern, Karyn Hynd and Ali Chaffe are going to co-ordinate all this!

****New **** We also know some members who do much more than their minimum requirement of 1 helper stint and you are regularly first to put a hand up to help. The helper team are going to record who has helped when throughout 2019 and if you have clocked up 5 helper stints you will be eligible to a free entry for a competition class or half price lesson at any club day. (this does not apply to Harry clinics).

Memberships

New Members - We have had lots of new members sign up online already. Welcome to Almond Riding Club!

Renewals – this is just a reminder that membership renewals are due now. To allow for later pay day timings we will extend the renewal period to the end of February. After this time those who have not renewed will be removed from the 2019 membership mailing list. Renewals and New memberships can now be completed online.

Facebook Members Group

This is for current Almond members only. It is currently set up as a public group but very shortly we are going to change this to a Closed group as the group admins get so many extra messages and requests from non-members. Non-members will still be able to access information about all Almond's open events which are also advertised on the club's public page. So, if you get some random messages from Almond members Facebook group it is the above admin team at work!!

Linda Penman

Chairman Almond RC
07803 927 975

Diary for 2019 CLUB Dates at SNEC

2019

Mon 4th February - Harry Payne Clinic from 4pm

Sun 10th February – Club Day, dressage and polework training, SJ and DR competitions

Mon 4th March Harry Payne Clinic from 4pm

Sun 17th March – Open Dressage Competition and TREC training

Sun 14th April – Open Showing Show

Mon 6th May Harry Payne Clinic from 4pm

Sat 18th May (Sat) WH show tbc re Blair Qualifiers

Sun 16th June – **Club Day mix** of training and competitions

Sun 14th July – **Club Day** mix of training and competitions

Sun 11th August

Sun 15th September

Sun 20th October

Sun 17th November

Sun 15th December – Xmas Party!!

These are all the dates we have booked at SNEC for 2019. Please put them in your new diaries and phones!

Thursday evenings SJ competitions and weekend Coxhill clinics will be starting up in early spring.