Minutes of the British Dressage Annual General Meeting 2026
held on 8 October 2026 at The Arden Hotel, Birmingham

Directors present: Jill Day – Chairman
Caroline Godfrey – Deputy Chair and Finance Director
Judy Harvey – BD International Director
Hannah Moody – BD Youth Director
Harry Payne – BD Training Director

In attendance: Jason Brautigam – Chief Executive Officer
Lou Jones – Head of Sport
Charlotte Osborne – Head of Development
Jenny Hughes – Head of Operations
Clare Pascoe – Head of Finance
Becca Tuttle – Head of Marketing & Communications
Chris Phillips – Head of Commercial
Holly Hart – Regional Volunteer Manager
Nadine Head – Membership Manager

1.	**Introduction**
1.1	The Annual General Meeting opened at 14:00.
1.2	After welcoming members to the meeting, Jason Brautigam, British Dressage Chief Executive, formally opened the 2026 Annual General Meeting.
1.3	The Notice of AGM was taken as read.
1.4	Apologies were received from Jenny Ward, Islay Auty, Andrew Gardner, Suzanne Homewood, Richard Lane and Tracy Ormrod.
1.5	The Chief Executive introduced members of the Board and Senior Management Team present and confirmed that Director reports would be published alongside the Annual Report, AGM slides and meeting recording.
1.6	127 people attended the meeting in person, with 89 members eligible to vote. A total of 18 Proxy forms were received, with the Chairman nominated to vote on behalf of those not present.
2.	The CEO announced he would now take members through the Ordinary Resolutions, as set out in the Notice of the AGM.
2.1	**First Ordinary Resolution**
2.2	The CEO moved to the First Ordinary Resolution: To receive the Financial Statements of British Dressage for the year ended 31 December 2025 together with the Directors' and Auditors' Reports thereon.

2.3	Finance Director, Caroline Godfrey, then presented the 2025 Accounts. Points to note from the presentation: • A managed deficit of £102,541 for the year. • Charity deficit of £320,000 offset by a Trading Company surplus of £217,016. • Designated fund expenditure of £127,000 and restricted fund expenditure of £26,000. • Excluding these planned additional investments, core activities generated a surplus of approximately £50,000. • Year-end reserves stood at £2.59 million, with only £12,000 held as restricted reserves. • Auditors issued a clean audit report. • Total income decreased by 11.1% from £5.58m in 2024 to £4.96m in 2025. • Membership income reduced by £32,000. • Horse registration income reduced by £28,000. • Total expenditure reduced by 6.87%, from £5.52m to £5.14m. • Nearly £350,000 had been invested through the Designated Funds Initiative over a three-year period, exceeding the original target of 10% of Reserves.
2.4	Members were advised that all Designated Fund projects had now been incorporated into operational budgets.
2.5	The Auditors, Forvis Mazars, were willing to attend but attendance was deemed unnecessary given their clean audit report. Formal thanks were recorded to the Auditors for their work.
2.6	The CEO proposed that the Financial Statements, together with the Directors' Report and Auditors' Report for the period ended 31 December 2025, be received.
2.7	On a show of hands, all members present voted in favour and none against. 18 proxy votes were also received in favour, with none against.
2.8	The CEO declared the resolution duly carried.
3.	**Second Ordinary Resolution**
3.1	The CEO then moved on to the Second Ordinary Resolution, that the Board be authorised to appoint the auditors of British Dressage and to fix their remuneration. He asked for a show of hands for and against.
3.2	On a show of hands, all members present voted in favour and none against. 18 proxy votes were also received in favour had been received ahead of the meeting, and none against. The CEO declared the Resolution duly carried.
4.	**Third Ordinary Resolution**
4.1	The CEO then addressed one item of special business. An Ordinary Resolution was proposed to amend the roles included in Article 18.13 of the Articles of Association: • Judges Director to become Officials Director. • Sport Operations Director to revert to Rules & Fixtures Director.

4.2	On a show of hands, all members present voted in favour and none against. 18 proxy votes were also received in favour and none against.
4.3	The CEO declared the Resolution duly carried.
5.	**Director Elections**
5.1	The CEO announced the results of the Director elections, administered independently by Mi-Voice.
5.2	The following positions were subject to election:
5.3	**Chair**
5.4	Jill Day received 1,196 votes (95.1% of votes cast) and was duly re-elected as Chair for a second term, commencing immediately and continuing until the AGM in 2030.
5.5	**International Director**
5.6	Anne Keen received 1,173 votes (96.4% of votes cast) and was duly elected as International Director, commencing immediately and continuing until the AGM in 2030.
5.7	**Officials Director**
5.8	Paul Hayler received 760 votes (52.6%) and Richard Baldwin received 686 votes (47.4%).
5.9	Paul Hayler was duly elected as Officials Director, commencing immediately and continuing until the AGM in 2030.
5.10	The AGM also noted: • David Hunt had been appointed for a second term as President, commencing immediately and continuing until the AGM in 2030. • Andrew Gardner had been appointed as Vice President, commencing immediately and continuing until the AGM in 2030. • Derek Pullem had resigned as Sports Operations Director for personal reasons. The Board will make an interim appointment before the position is put forward for member election in 2027.
5.11	Congratulations were given to Anne, Paul, David and Andrew.
5.12	The formal business of the AGM was then concluded.
6.	**Presentations**
6.1	There followed presentations from the Chairman, CEO, Head of Sport and Head of Development, summarising the progress achieved over the last 12 months, as well as an update on plans for 2027.
6.2	A copy of the slides and videos from the presentation are available for viewing on the BD website.

7.	**Member Questions**
7.1	The CEO confirmed that no questions had been submitted in advance of the AGM. The CEO invited any questions from members in the room.
7.2	Two questions were raised by members:
7.3	**Reserves Policy**
7.4	Additional information was requested regarding the level and future use of British Dressage reserves.
7.5	The Chief Executive and Finance Director explained: • The organisation maintains reserves in line with its reserves policy. • A minimum reserve level is required to protect the organisation and staff from unforeseen circumstances and force majeure situations. • Significant investment continues to be made in IT infrastructure and cyber security. • The proposed Dressage Foundation will provide a formal mechanism for future reinvestment into the sport.
7.6	**BD Open Series**
7.7	A question was asked as to whether the proposed BD Open Series classes would be run as standalone competitions or alongside affiliated competitions.
7.8	The Head of Sport confirmed that the intention was for venues to have flexibility to run Open Series classes alongside affiliated competitions, providing members with opportunities to compete without affecting eligibility records.
7.9	No further questions were raised.
8.	**Conclusion**
8.1	The Chief Executive thanked: • The Board of Directors • British Dressage staff and senior management team • Volunteers, officials, organisers and venues • Sponsors and commercial partners. • British Dressage members for their continued support.
8.2	Members were invited to speak with Board members and staff following the meeting if they had any further questions.
8.3	With there being no further business or questions, the meeting closed at 3:10pm.