**SHOWS AND JUDGES COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE AGM 2016**

As my term of office comes to an end I would like to thank Carol Morse and the Shows and Judges committee members past and present, for all their hard work and contribution during my time as Chairman.

I hope that I have been of some help to both Judges and Competitors, and I wish Elma Cunningham all the best in her new role as Chairman.

On the whole 2016 has been a productive year and members have been out in force with numbers forward at shows up on previous years, which is good news for shows. This year the decision was made to bring the date forward for closing the showing points card and subsequent submission of points, making it easier to collate the results for the AGM, and I’m pleased to say it seems to have been a success.

The Showing Council, which is the Governing Body for Showing Societies, has informed us that a new standard of riding hat has been produced to replace that which has been specified until now. So be aware that a new British Standard and new rules apply. PLEASE NOTE, that it is the competitors’ responsibility to be wearing the correct protective headwear; should you have an ACCIDENT in an old standard hat, insurance will be invalid.

On a solemn note, it has been brought to our attention that a small number of competitors have adopted a very unpleasant manner towards others at shows; a manner which could be classed as bullying. Such behaviour WILL NOT BE TOLORATED and in the same way that we have a code of conduct for our Judges, we will be introducing and implementing a Code of Conduct for exhibitors. Bullying and rudeness will not be tolerated; nor will failure to act in a respectful manner at shows; such behaviour could be construed as bringing the society into disrepute, and therefore measures will be taken by the Shows and Judges Committee against any person or persons implicated.

Showing should be a pleasure for everyone, not just the few.

Please remember the golden rule, put your brain into gear before your mouth, because once something is said it cannot be taken back.

I wish you all well and hope you have a great season next year.

CHRIS PORTER

(CHAIRMAN OF SHOWS AND JUDGES)