



# The Association of **British Riding Schools**

## **Chair of *The Association of British Riding Schools***

### **Role Description**

#### **About the ABRS**

Founded in 1954, The Association of British Riding Schools runs Britain's longest-established Riding School Approval Scheme. Their aim is to promote and support riding schools throughout the UK so as to encourage participation in the healthy recreation activity of horse riding for everyone and thus achieve thriving businesses. They aim to do this by providing advice to riding schools in respect of regulation, welfare and safety issues and they maintain a strong link with the British Groom's Association and the Equestrian Employer's Association on employment and business issues. The ABRS also compiles tests and awards for competency in both riding and horse care and last but not least, provides a social network for riding school owners and staff to share information and experience in a friendly and informal setting.

#### **Role Summary**

The role of the Chair is to provide leadership and direction to the board of Trustees. The Chair's aim is to enable the board to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the ABRS, and to develop further the service and benefits for ABRS members.

The Chair's role is also to build partnerships with aligned organisations, potential clients and potential funders or donors, all to help achieve the aims of the ABRS. In addition to the general responsibilities of a Trustee, the Chair has a number of tasks specific to their role.

#### **1. Main Responsibilities of the Chair**

- Providing leadership for the board of trustees in their role of setting the strategy and policy of the ABRS
- Chairing and facilitating the board meetings
- Representing the organisation at appropriate events, meetings or functions
- Acting as a spokesperson for the association where appropriate
- Lead the Board to develop further service and benefits to members

- Lead the Board in fostering relations with potential clients, potential partnerships and potential funders/donors
- Consult with president and vice presidents on matters of strategy, governance, finance and HR
- Oversee activities in the context of the implementation of Board's strategy and policies
- Attending and being a member of other committees or working groups when appropriate in role as Chair

## **2. Qualities of a Chair**

- Commitment to the ABRS and its aims and principles
- Leadership ability
- Integrity and strategic vision
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to their duties as Chair and trustee
- Ability to take decisions for the good of the organisation
- Pragmatic, independent judgement
- Good communication skills
- Tact and diplomacy
- Willingness to speak one's mind but also to and listen to and consider the views of others
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team

## **Desirable experience**

- A passion for horses and equestrian sport
- Prior experience of committee/trustee work
- A track record of delivering results
- An understanding of ABRS's aims & objectives

## **3. Time Commitment**

- The Board meets quarterly, either in Peterborough or London, other meetings when required are done by audio or visual conferencing
- It is important that the Chair is able to visit the charity office and be available on a regular basis.
- The Chair will be expected to represent the ABRS at regular BEF meetings and other committees, events and functions, which are usually during the day.

NB: This position is not remunerated but reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred fulfilling the duties of the role are reimbursed.

If you would like to apply for the role please send your C.V. and a brief covering letter to [jane@people-innovation.com](mailto:jane@people-innovation.com) by no later than **19<sup>th</sup> August 2019**.