

MALCOLM WHARTON CBE Interim Chair



Effective 7 October 2019

Malcolm Wharton has spent all his working life in agriculture and land-based education, including 22 years as Principal of Hartpury College and is a graduate of the Royal Agricultural College. Malcolm has extensive experience in equestrian sports developing the Hartpury Equestrian Facility and organising and directing major equine events including World and European Championships.

Malcolm's board experience includes 6 years as a Director of the Rugby Football Union, including chairing the RFU Community Game Board, he is currently Chair of the Rugby Football Foundation, a Trustee of the British Eventing Charitable Trust and an Honorary Vice President of the Riding for Disabled Association.

In 2012 Malcolm established his own consultancy business specialising in strategic development in the Educational and Sports sectors.

Malcolm was awarded the CBE for Services to Education in 2012. Malcolm supports his wife Sarah in her grassroots equestrian sports' endeavours acting as groom and lorry driver.

JULIA BIDDLE Nominated non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Julia Biddle's experience spans many areas of equestrianism. A law graduate of the University of Reading, it was while studying that she first took ownership of a horse and soon competed in all three Olympic Equestrian disciplines, which she continues to do today.

A few years as proprietor of a show venue have been followed by periods as both Area and Regional Representative for British Showjumping. Julia is a non-executive director of British Showjumping and was involved in a restructure to ensure good governance principles. Although no longer a show organiser, Julia is a British Showjumping Judge and long-term national sponsor.

Based on the family farm in Essex, Julia has a particular interest in the development of young talent, both equine and human. She has supported several riders, helping them fulfil their potential on the national and International stage.



CHRISTINE BLACKFORD Nominated non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Christine Blackford is Finance Director of the Newhall Group and joint Managing Director of the Group's trading company, Newhall Publishing, where she leads the Publishing Agency business. Christine has held senior management roles for a variety of companies across a number of sectors in the North-west.

Christine graduated from the London School of Economics with a BSc (Econ) and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and a Fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA).

Over 35 years ago, Christine learned to ride and acquired her first horse, who was with her for nearly 25 years. Christine currently has three horses, adopted from the Horse and Pony Protection Association (HAPPA), in need of a knowledgeable and caring home. Actively involved in the equine community, Christine recently stepped down after completing the maximum of six years as voluntary Treasurer of the British Horse Society, during which time she contributed to the successful change strategy that has driven forward the delivery of the Society's charitable objectives.

SARAH BROUGHTON Independent non-executive director



Effective 1 February 2018

Sarah has worked in Human Resources for 30 years. She has been at director level for the last 18 years in a variety of organisations across a number of sectors including retail, FMCG and not-for-profit.

In 2015 Sarah became the Group HR Director for Mothercare, a global retailer for parents and children. Prior to this, Sarah was a director at World Duty Free Group, now part of the Dufry Group, the largest airport retailer in the world as well as Virgin, Kingfisher, Britvic and Performing Rights Society.

After moving to Warwickshire in 2016 Sarah set up her own consulting and interim business to continue helping large enterprises as HR Director, with a focus on designing and implementing their people strategies.

Growing up on a working farm in Cornwall, Sarah had a much loved pony as a child and rode until leaving home to work at Marks & Spencer as a management trainee. Sarah currently owns an Irish Sport Horse and two rescue dogs.



JESS COOK
Council-elected non-executive
director



Effective 30 October 2017

Jess Cook has over 14 years' experience of working in disability sport. She started her career in Cornwall as the Disability County Sports Development Officer. She then joined English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS) as a Regional Development Manager in the South East and East regions, supporting the County Sports Partnerships with inclusion and development of activities for disabled people in the regions.

Jess has progressed with EFDS to work with national governing bodies of sport on a wide variety of strategic outcomes, from support and guidance to the development of national strategies and organisational changes for a more inclusive approach. She also works with national disability charities to support a better link between sport, physical activity and disabled people.

Jess has always been very passionate about sport and inclusion for disabled people, having had first-hand experience when she competed over several years as an international swimmer. She attended both World and European championships until 2000, when she retired due to injury.

TIM HOLDERNESS-RODDAM Nominated non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Tim Holderness-Roddam was educated at Radley College, followed by military service in the King's Royal Hussars. He is joint owner of West Kington Farms/ West Kington Stud & Stallion Centre.

He had a 30-year career at Tate & Lyle plc (UM Group), culminating in the role of MD of the United Molasses Group, responsible for the worldwide trading, storage and distribution business.

Since retiring from the City in 2000, Tim has held a number of consultancy and non-executive roles. He is senior consultant to Bristol Port Company, which handles much of the import/export trade for the west of England; and a consultant to and former director of Abercrombie & Kent, the luxury and tailor-made travel business.

Tim is a trustee of the pension fund of Countrywide Farmers plc and former deputy Chair; Chair of the British Equestrian Federation Fund; Chair of Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials; Director and Chair of the Finance Committee of British Eventing; and Deputy Chair of Friends of Conservation.

Tim is married to Equestrian Olympic Gold Medallist, Jane Holderness-Roddam.



MARK JEFFREYS
Interim Independent nonexecutive director



Effective November 2019

Mark Jeffreys has worked in sport and education for over 25 years. Currently Director of Sport and Physical Activity at Birmingham City University, his role is based around developing an infrastructure for sport so that students and staff can engage in sport and physical activity at any level.

Mark has worked in sport throughout his working life. His relationships with a wide range of national governing bodies of sport have furnished him with a deep understanding of the sporting landscape and the challenges that all sports face.

Passionate about sport, Mark's main sport is Rugby Union, where he played as a junior international and he has also coached at international.

BARRY JOHNSON Council-elected non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Barry Johnson qualified as a veterinary surgeon from the University of Liverpool. He founded Oakhill Veterinary Centres and was senior partner of what is one of the largest practices in the North-west.

Whilst a practising vet, Barry was an elected member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Council, becoming its President in 1993 and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 1994. As a member of RCVS Council, he chaired many of its main committees and was involved in many changes to the governance of the profession. In 2017, he was awarded the RCVS Queen's Gold Medal for outstanding achievements to the veterinary profession.

Barry has many years' experience serving on charitable boards, including The Animal Health Trust, Newmarket and World Horse Welfare. He retired as Chair of World Horse Welfare in 2016. He has also been an independent non-executive director of the British Greyhound Racing Board.

Selected to be High Sheriff of Lancashire in 2013, Barry now serves as a Deputy Lieutenant of the county.



JANE NIXON
Council-elected non-executive
director



Effective 30 October 2017

Jane has acted as a veterinary evaluator for multiple sports horse gradings over 35 years and headed the veterinary surgeon team for the BEF Young Horse Evaluation, Futurity and Bridge events. She is Senior Veterinary Surgeon at Towcester racecourse and has been an RCVS Riding Establishments Acts County Council Inspector since1980. She lectures widely with particular focus on the production of the young sports horse and improving standards of biosecurity.

As Liveryman and member of the Worshipful Company of Farriers Craft Committee, Jane was responsible for the initial liaison, in 1994, between veterinary students and apprentice farriers, which resulted in much improved dialogue. She is Veterinary Consultant to the Society of Master Saddlers and member of the Worshipful Company of Saddlers steering group.

Jane's extensive voluntary sector work has included BEVA, BHS and Sports Horse Breeding GB. She originally joined the board of the BEF in 2012 as an independent non-executive director.

LISE-LOTTE OLSEN

Nominated non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Lotte is a Chartered Accountant and business graduate with many years' experience of providing professional training, business consultancy and financial management to a wide range of clients including professional firms, corporations and not-for-profit entities.

She has previously served as Treasurer and Commercial Affairs Director of the BEF. This followed a term of office as the first Finance Director of British Dressage when it was established as a separate legal entity in 1998.

Lotte is a former Chair of Governors of Writtle University College, and on completion of her extended term of office, was recognised for her services to education and the University College with an Honorary Doctorate Degree of the University of Essex.

A keen participant in dressage as an amateur rider and judge, Lotte is the current Chair of the Eastern Region of British Dressage, complementing her personal involvement in the sport and helping to make the sport accessible to others at a level that is appropriate for them.



KEVAN TAYLOR
Senior Independent non-executive director



Effective 1 February 2018

Kevan Taylor has a wealth of experience at director level in four sports - athletics, lawn tennis, football and rugby union; a FTSE 100 media company and a range of private companies.

He holds a Fellowship of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, England and Wales and qualified as an Associate of ICAEW at the age of 22.

From 2011, he was Group Finance Director of UK Athletics, retiring in September 2017. As part of that role, he was Chief Financial Officer of the 2017 World Athletics Championships. Prior to joining UK Athletics, Kevan ran his own consultancy, providing services in performance management, business strategy and growth. He supported the acquisition of two professional football clubs; a new digital business; and the merger of two trust and administration businesses in Geneva.

Kevan was Finance Director of the Lawn Tennis Association from 2007-2009; CEO of Stockport County AFC from 2004-2006; and Chief Financial Officer of Latium Management Services from 2002-2005. Earlier in his career, he spent almost 20 years in television at Granada plc (now ITV plc), rising up from the role of management accountant to Finance Director of Granada Creative.

CLAIRE WILLIAMS Council-elected non-executive director



Effective 30 October 2017

Claire Williams is the Executive Director of the British Equestrian Trade Association. BETA is the leading representative body working on behalf of over 800 UK equestrian-related businesses in manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing sectors. It is recognised as the equestrian trade's representative body by Government and leading riding organisations and is a member of the British Equestrian Federation.

Claire was born and educated in New Zealand. After completing a Master's degree in Modern Languages and History, she developed a career in business consultancy and export market development. 1n 1991 Claire took up a Europe-wide development and sales role for a NZ company based in Germany, where she remained for 10 years, dealing with sales, management and marketing.

In 2000 she moved back to the UK when appointed Chief Executive of BETA and in 2004 the role was widened to her current position, adding responsibility for the Association's wholly-owned subsidiary EMC Ltd and its highly successful Trade Fair, Beta International and publishing arm.

Alongside her BETA role, she also sits as a director on the Animal Medicines Training Regulatory Authority.