

WILLIAM BUCK



I am standing for election so that I can ensure BE becomes a more effective governing body for the benefit of all the sport's stakeholders; riders at all levels, owners and landowners, our amazing volunteers, dedicated officials and everyone who shares our sporting passion.

Whilst by profession I am a barrister specialising in commercial litigation, my involvement in eventing is longstanding and entirely without financial interest. As an amateur rider I am happy to say I achieved absolutely nothing other than having fun! I now devote my time as an event organiser. In this voluntary role, I have helped develop Frickley Park into a high-quality venue, run for charity, and which is known for developing competitions for amateur riders, such as the Yorkshire Challenge, and which successfully hosted the U18 Championships for four years.

It is as an organiser that I have experienced and come to understand the real difficulties faced by our sport; the need for a clear sense of direction, a lack of effective representation from stakeholders in decision making, difficulties with transparency and communication with members, the overspend on projects; regrettably leading to a deterioration in the relationships between those who make up our sport.

If elected I would work fearlessly and without favour to ensure good governance and to make sure that *all* views are properly canvassed and considered so that the *best* decisions are made for our sport. Whilst good work has now started along this route through the setting up of various advisory committees, coupled with better communication from BE, much more is needed. BE, as the protector of our sport, must fully represent all its members in the following ways:

- Being transparent and accountable, remembering at all times that it is a Members organisation.
- Having an effective and efficient executive which makes and then implements good decisions.
- Properly engaging with all stakeholders in formulating its decisions and creating inclusive processes.
- Developing and then delivering a future vision for eventing that caters for all – from those competing at their local venues two or three times a season, to our elite athletes striving to take our sport to ever higher levels of professionalism – what we must *not* become is elitist and, as a sport, marginal and increasingly irrelevant; and which
- Genuinely innovates at all levels of the sport, so that we are constantly assessing how we can do things better, more efficiently and by offering fixtures, competitions and formats which members want and which exposes our sport to as wide an audience as possible.

I wish to help deliver such an organisation. I believe that, if elected, I would be an effective director who will make a difference. As those in the sport who know me will attest, I am a strong voice who will stand up for our sport; I am also collaborative, open-minded and someone who is willing to work constructively with all those who wish to help take eventing forward.

Thank you for reading these words.

If you wish to discuss my candidacy, please do not hesitate contacting me either by email (wbuck@monckton.com) or by phone 07787 527171.