



MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 19TH JANUARY 2018

The Au-Delà des Pistes charity held its **first Annual General Meeting** on Friday 19th January 2018 at Deauville La Touques racecourse, just prior to the Route des Etalons weekend.

Around 50 people from all over France came to see the charity's team present the results of the first full year of operations for Au-Delà des Pistes, as well as the objectives for 2018.

The charity's President, Alette Forien, opened the meeting by thanking all those people responsible for Au-Delà des Pistes' successful story so far. These included: the Aga Khan Studs and Godolphin, the founding members of the charity; the donors and purchasers from the December 2016 stallion nomination auction, that has principally financed the charity to date; France Galop, the indispensable institutional partner; the accredited retraining and rehoming structures; the board members and finally the numerous volunteers that have contributed their time for the various events.

OBJECTIVES & EVENT SCHEDULE

Marine Thévenet, the communications and events manager, reminded the audience of the charity's key **objectives**, which are detailed in the link here and she also presented the events schedule for 2018.

The four **Retrained Racehorse Days** that took place during 2017 at Le Lion d'Angers, Deauville, Chantilly and Auteuil were welcomed with enthusiasm and emotion by both the public and participants. Following the success of these events and due to good relationships formed with the individual racecourse organisers, Au-Delà des Pistes announced the plan to hold **five further Retrained Racehorse Days in 2018**.

ADDP was also present at several trade shows and equestrian competitions throughout 2017 (see the 2017 calendar here) in order to promote the versatility of the ex-racehorse to equestrian riders. 2018 will also be full of similar events due to new partnerships with Polo clubs, the Dimanche au Galop events at Saint Cloud and Auteuil racecourses, the National Equestrian School of Saumur etc.



** The calendar of events is subject to change, all confirmed dates will be put online on the website.*

ACCREDITATION

The accreditation and charity development manager, Julie Degand, then took over the presentation and expressed the need to **create a community** that deals with the retraining and the rehoming of ex-racehorses. The accreditation of quality establishments through a predefined and transparent process, guarantees traceability and the wellbeing of these thoroughbreds (to know more).

Au-Delà des Pistes' «**Retrained Racehorse Network of Quality**» today counts twelve structures throughout France, that specialise in different disciplines (Click here for the List of Structures). In 2018, a key ADDP objective is to **enlarge this network** and to assist these structures, mainly in order to solve administrative and legal difficulties they encounter and to help new owners of retrained racehorses, through the creation of a **Guide to the Retrained Thoroughbred**, which outlines the best practises to put in place after acquiring an ex-racehorse. Au-Delà Des Pistes is also working on the creation of a database to track retrained racehorses, their owners and where they are situated.

COMMUNICATION

The charity actively promotes the versatility of the thoroughbred through its **social media** platforms Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. These posts also show a positive image of the racing industry to the equestrian community. The monthly “**Retrained Racehorse of the Month**” article has become a popular feature with the ADDP followers. Au-Delà Des Pistes also benefits from the support of several racing media publications notably the Jour de Galop, Paris Turf, France Sire, Equidia and the Parisien that regularly pick up press releases and news regarding ADDP events. Finally a monthly **Newsletter** is sent to all members, accredited structures and partners, in order to report on the retraining community through various types of information, news and events. In 2018, ADDP would like to **build the number of members** in order to increase the number of future buyers of retrained racehorses.

JOURNÉES DE LA RECONVERSION

6Mai – ParisLongchamp*
25Août – Deauville
15Sept – Chantilly
13Oct – Maisons-Laffitte*
4Nov - Auteuil

SALONS / CONCOURS

1-4Fév – Jumping International de Bordeaux
10-11Mars – Championnats de France Pro Élite Horse-Ball Deauville
25-27Mai – Concours Complet International de Saumur
Juin à Août – Partenariat coupes de Polo Paris / Deauville / Chantilly
6-10Sept – Concours Complet d'Équitation Lamotte-Beuvron
22-25Oct – Concours Complet International de Pau
11-13Nov – Conférences « Journées du Complet », Saumur ENE
24-2Déc – Salon du Cheval de Paris



PARTNERSHIP

In order to gain further financing for the charity and to broaden the network of investors within the racing community, Au-Delà Des Pistes has put in place a three tiered partnership scheme aimed at enticing studs, professionals, racecourses, vets and equestrian manufacturers to invest. The three partnership packs offer Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of investment.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The main fundraising action of the stallion nomination auction in December 2016, as well as the donations from the Charity Mile race in February 2017 and the Nuit des Amazones event in August 2017, should finance Au-Delà Des Pistes for 2018 but this does not relate to a sustainable funding mechanism. The member's payments through adhesions to the Charity, provide a low level of financing but they are important in terms of enlarging and building loyalty within the retraining and rehoming community.

Au-Delà des Pistes believes that a sustainable funding solution should be put in place within the racing community to fund the Charity and this should be through a systematic contribution from France Galop account holders that would represent a small percentage of their winnings.

The main expense line is the remuneration of Marine Thevenet and Julie Degand, without which the Charity would not have achieved all its actions so far. Thereafter the principle expenses are event organisation, communication, merchandising and charity administration costs. A large amount of the communication actions, notably the films and the website, have been achieved without cost by volunteers and therefore do not appear in the accounts.

THE 2018 AU-DELA DES PISTES TROPHY

The announcement of the creation of a showjumping **championships, reserved for ex-racehorses** was warmly received. The national challenge, comprising of seven different stages and recognised by the official French Equestrian Federation (the FFE), will take place throughout the year at Boulerie Jump – the European Pole of the Horse at Le Mans. A circuit dedicated to retrained thoroughbreds is an essential part of the promotion of retraining in Great Britain and the USA, but this is a first in France. This innovation responds to a real need for the riders of ex-racehorses when they start participating in the equestrian circuit as they are often outclassed by Selle Français horses and other breeds that are “bred to jump”.

QUESTIONS / ANSWERS / DISCUSSION

Several questions, notably from representatives that run accredited retraining structures, were asked to the board following the presentation. A number of retrainers asked to have access to the maximum amount of veterinary information upon receiving a horse to be retrained. At the present time there is a lack of transparency from some trainers and owners which is regrettable, given this can lead to the horse being placed in the wrong type of retraining facility. Au-Delà Des Pistes confirmed they were



aware of this situation and they would work towards improving relations between trainers, vets and retrainers in order to move towards greater transparency, when a horse is to be rehomed from training.

The retraining structures also expressed their need for assistance from Au-Delà des Pistes to facilitate the transfer of ownership documents relating to the horse and legal assistance with litigations arising from sellers guarantees, which currently last for 2 years. The ADDP team iterated that both administrative and legal assistance to accredited retraining structures was part of their objectives for 2018. The IFCE have already been contacted by ADDP for several ownership document issues and this type of relation was expected to grow with this organisation. Furthermore a general sales contract has been worked on with Constance Popineau from the Federation of French Breeders, which will be made available to accredited structures.

Following the Question and Answer session, those present were invited to share a galette and light refreshments.

To download the Annual Report please [click here](#)

For further details about the Charity and its events, please visit the [ADDP website here](#)

To renew your membership / or make a donation, then please [click here](#).