

**USIHC Board Meeting
Minutes of Nov. 21, 2006**

Regional Club Observers: Dawn Shaw (Cascade)

Members present:

Andrea Barber, Betsy Covert, Caryn Cantella, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaertner, Barb Riva, Judy Strehler, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Committee/Area Reports

Treasury – Ed reports a Sept. balance of \$20,640. The Oct. balance is \$20,008. After the checkbook was balanced checks were written for a total of \$3,847.59. There is one outstanding bill to Turley publications, New England publisher of the Equine Journal for \$350. This bill will be paid but Barb will make contact with them at 800 824-6548 to determine if we are getting our money's worth with this publication.

Non-profit status update

Ed received a call from IRS which indicated that we are not eligible for the original non profit status we requested but that we are eligible to 501c4. A letter has been sent to the accountant for correction. The issue of investing the funds in the registry account has been brought up again with the accountant.

Pleasure Riding – Ed

Board member spotlights approved via e-mail

The board approved to have each board member spotlighted in the member spotlight section of the website. This was an idea that Amy and Andrea came up with so that everybody could get more familiar with the members of the board.

Amy's Regional Prize proposal:

I have a question and proposal for the Board, regarding the PRP for Regional prizes.

At the Annual Meeting last March, it was decided that we should determine the regional club winner by calculating the club with the highest percentage of its members enrolled in the PRP by counting only the USIHC members of that club, not the entire membership. So, for example, if the club had 30 members, but only 20 are USIHC members, and 10 of those are in the PRP,

we would determine that 50% of the club's USIHC members are enrolled in the PRP.

My question is: do we then give prizes only to that club's members who are enrolled in the PRP, or to all of the USIHC members in that club (whether they are PRP members or not)?

My proposal is that, each year, we award a gift to be shared by the entire club (such as a food basket) and also a small gift for each club member, such as Icelandic horse key chains or lapel pins. Andrea mentioned that the USIHC recently received some flags from FEIF, and that perhaps we could use one of those for the gift to be shared by the entire club.

Thanks,

Amy

Caryn moved that gifts etc. should only go to members of the program who are members of the congress because the funds for this come from the congress. Prizes should go to the individual members who are participants in the program only. The group gift was the Feif flag which has been sent.

Seconded by Andrea

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Registry – Caryn

The current balance is \$61,656.53. There has been a lot of early renewals so far this year. All micro chip and freeze brands have been entered into WF and our data base. Breeding certificates were ready but an error was discovered in the handler of one horse. That is now corrected so certificates will go out soon. Caryn also reports that the scores from the Tulsa evaluation are now entered in WF.

Martina has requested a special list for sending out ballot information to voting members instead of family memberships. It will take some time to get this from the master list but it will be good to have it for future use.

WorldFengur for all

Andrea asked if we are set up to go on this. Caryn has asked WF and received an e-mail on how to prepare the information but so far its not been done.

WorldFengur issues - Caryn, Bernie and Anne were discussing a guide for entry of information in to WF at evaluations. Caryn will develop this over the Winter. The project is to be finished before the next evaluation scheduled for June 2007.

Promotion - Barb

Barb has accepted the chair position of the promotion committee. She would like a representative from each RC to give input for promotion. Andrea will send a notice to the regional clubs.

Trail Rider ad

Kimberly Douglas put together two ads for the publication. Barb indicated that a column in the Quarterly about how individuals promote the horse will begin in the March issue. She will wait until the year end to come up with a budget for promotion. She will also work on the USIHC brochure.

Plan for FEIF flags approved via e-mail.

One flag goes to the winning club of the PRP program, one to Sara for inclusion with the promotion booth material. Barb will take the third flag for RC use for displays. Andrea has sent the first two flags out and will send the third to Barb.

Website

Mark Peal is the new chairman of the website committee. So far he hasn't had direct contact with Doug Smith on the tracking project but has been working with Asta on web updates

Andrea addressed the cluttered look of the website bulletin board.
Ed moved to clean up the bulletin board every two months.
Seconded by Bernie.

Vote, Yes - unanimous

Proposal tracking project

According to Caryn, Doug is waiting for board approval before making more corrections

Caryn moved that we approve the tracking procedure with on going developmental changes. Caryn said she would follow up with Doug and Mark on this.

Seconded by Andrea,

Vote, Yes - Unanimous

Newsletter – Judy

Things are going fine except for a computer crash at the print shop. The magazines are out now. The deadline for the March issue is Dec. 1st.

Education – Bernie

Bernie acknowledged that there are contradictions in the currency requirements for the Sport Judging Program and that the education committee met in Kentucky this past weekend and is considering changes that will make it mandatory to practice judge at a sanctioned show and a large European show each of the two calendar years after taking the Sport Judge Seminar. In addition there may be requirements to scribe, judge a non sanctioned show, attend the seminar or work as a show secretary within two years following the seminar. If these requirements are not met the Intern judge may be required to attend the seminar and retake the test to remain part of the program.

Secretary – Bernie

Bernie will find out what it cost to get more brochures from Iceland.

Regional Clubs – Andrea

Andrea has one renewal so far and an inquiry about restarting a club in PA.

Insurance for all

Bernie reports that two of the five companies have responded and that they can write insurance in only a few states. Anne suggested that FOSH, Friends Of the Sound Horse, may be a good organization to deal with as they provide low cost insurance for the show in Dillsburg. She will provide contact information.

Breeding – Anne

Dawn Shaw has questions about the FEIF fees. Anne did get a message from Per Finn and learned:

1. The fee is only for fully evaluated horses.
2. The fee is 15 Euros or about \$20.00
3. The congress will be billed at the end of the year by FEIF.
4. The fee is due no matter who entered the data in WF.

Anne moved that the congress charge a \$20.00 fee per horse that is fully evaluated at a breeding evaluation so that when FEIF bills the congress at the end of the year funds will be on hand to pay the bill.

Seconded by Bernie

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Boise Evaluation – Based upon the above decision Ed can now bill the Cascade club for the FEIF charges at the Boise Evaluation.

Anne also will contact FEIF about an refund of fees from the Wisconsin evaluation based on the fact that it was not an International Evaluation.

New FEIF requirements/Breeding Evaluation Handbook

Anne will finish the outline of the requirements and send it to Steve Barber to review the appeal procedures and calibrating information with Systs in Iceland. This is the last item to be included in the Breeding Evaluation Handbook. She plans to have this finished by Dec. 7, 2006.

Youth – Sandie

- General update no update

Independent Panel update – Eileen Gunipero has received a response from John Parke and they plan to work on the Friday or Saturday after Thanksgiving. They created the due date of mid Jan. They will figure out how to meet it. Sandie is reminded to contact the panel if she has any body she wants the panel to interview.

Competition – Betsy (from Heidi Kline)

There has been an e-mail discussion about combing the WC tryouts with a sanctioned show.

Vote - No, Unanimous, The board members felt that this would be difficult to accommodate due to scheduling (some try-outs locations are mid-week), the USIHC may lose money that it would otherwise gain to cover the costs of the try-outs, and that a show may overshadow the importance of the tryouts.

Kentucky show issues

A horse owner made a complaint that her horse should received scores yet the judges declared it to be lame from injury after the fact and placed her horse in last place.

Ed moved that we support the judges decision

Seconded by Bernie

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

WC try-outs proposal

1. I propose that the tryouts for the World Championships 2007 be set up to benefit 3 groups of riders;

A. Riders wanting to ride on the US team for 2007

B. Riders having an interest in scores only for this tryout but the possibility of being on the US team in the future

C. Riders unsure about riding at the WC but want to get scores in WC classes and input from this qualified judge 2. I propose that the classes are only 4-gait, 5-gait, tolt 1, tolt 2 and pace race (easier to man than pace test) 3. I propose that we also take advantage of having a FEIF training judge here for tryouts and have some teaching and judging time for our intern judges.

Betsy moved we accept this proposal.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Bulk ticket purchases for WC

The tickets must be pre-purchased. It is too early for people to commit so the congress could be left holding tickets for a large number of unused seats.

Ed moved we don't buy bulk tickets.

Vote - No, Unanimous

General Items

Election Committee (Andrea)

The notice of elections and membership renewal is in the mail. The printing costs were approved by e-mail.

Committee Chairperson Proposal

Barb has presented a proposal for the smooth change and review of committee chairpersons. This proposal will be discussed at the January meeting.

Agenda Items

Andrea moved that all agenda items be submitted by the Friday before Tuesday meetings. Seconded by Bernie

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Next board meeting date set for: Dec. 19, 2006

Meeting Adjourned at 11 PM EST

