



# USIHC Membership Meeting

February 26, 2022

12-3pm EST

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## How to join:

Watch via Zoom: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/82283430053>

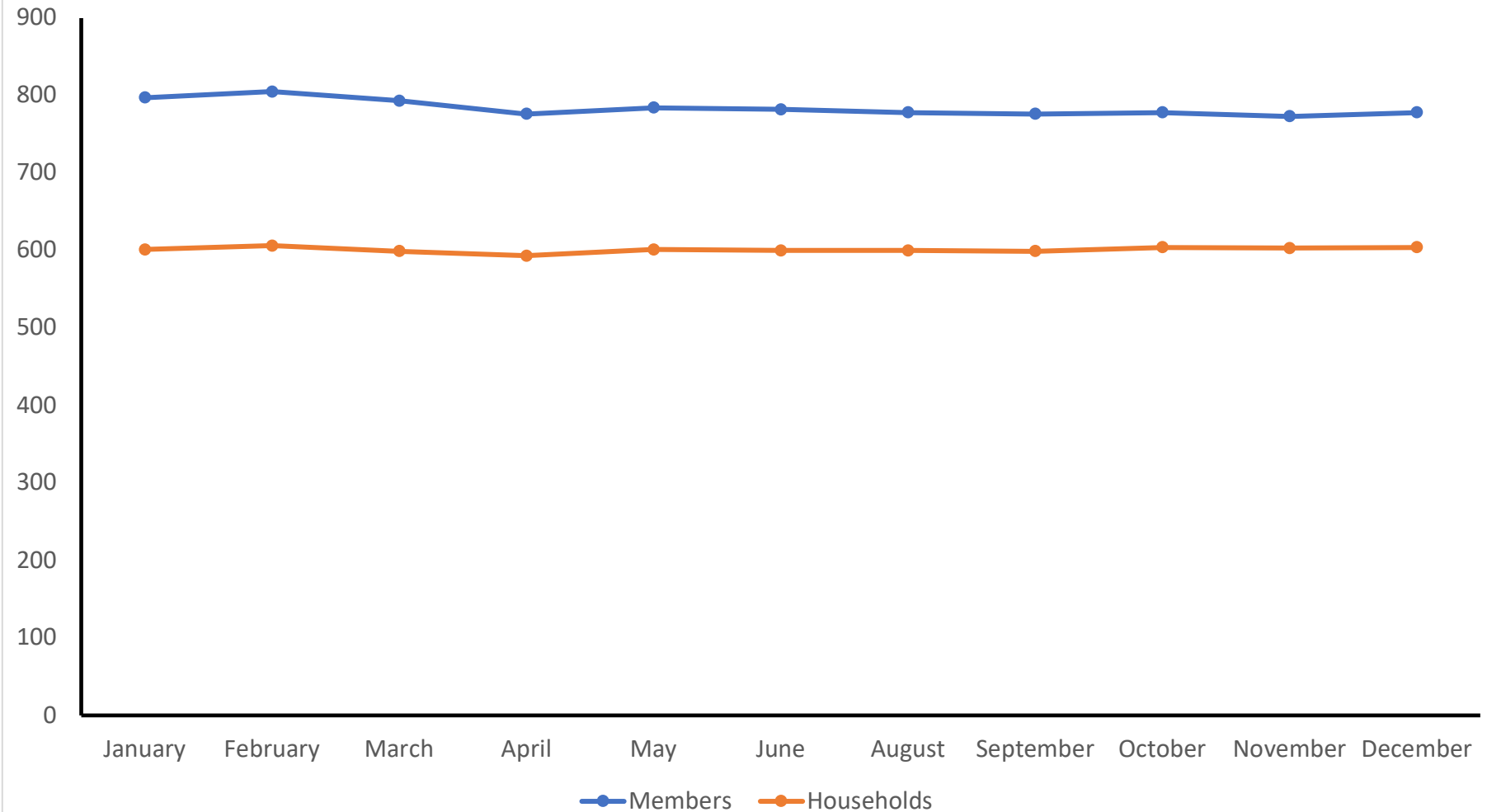
Or watch our livestream on the USIHC Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/usihc>

Both options are interactive, and questions are encouraged during the sessions.

## Program

1. Welcome, Will Covert
2. Educational Outreach Fund, Jeff Rose
3. Treasurer's report, Lori Cretney
4. Registrar's report, Ásta Covert
5. Affiliated Club Committee Report, Leslie Chambers
6. Breeding Committee report, Virginia Lauridsen
7. Education Committee Report, Will Covert/Jeff Rose
8. Leisure Committee Report, Janet Mulder
9. Promotions and Website report, Emily Potts
10. Quarterly Committee report, Nicki Esdorn
11. Sport Committee report, Martin Nielsen
12. Youth Committee report, Lucy Nold
13. How to get started with a breeding program, Virginia Lauridsen
14. Closing remarks, Will Covert

# USIHC membership 2021



## USIHC General Membership Funds

11/30/2021		12/31/2021
\$ 43,423.55	Checking	\$ 41,025.85
\$ 96,047.76	Money Market	\$ 96,048.58
\$ 10,000.00	CDs	\$ 10,000.00
\$ 149,471.31	Subtotal	\$ 147,074.43
\$ (458.72)	Breeding Fund	\$ (561.02)
\$ (4,000.00)	Judge Scholarship Fund	\$ (4,000.00)
\$ (6,020.46)	World Champ. Team Fund	\$ (6,161.36)
\$ (7,304.99)	Youth Fund	\$ (7,590.65)
\$ 131,687.14	<b>USIHC Unrestricted Membership Funds</b>	\$ 128,761.40

Net Change from 11/30/2021  
\$ (2,925.74)

12/31/2020 Balance      Net Change from 12/31/2020  
\$ 117,520.11              \$ 11,241.29

**United States Icelandic Horse Congress Inc.**  
**Profit and Loss Standard**  
**January through December 2021**

Income		Expense	
<b>Breeding Committee Income</b>		<b>Breeding Committee Expense</b>	
Breeding Manual	\$ 13.99	Breeding Education Seminar	\$ 500.00
Breeding Education Seminar	\$ 1,253.75	<b>Competition/Sport Expense</b>	
<b>Total Breeding Committee Income</b>	\$ 1,267.74	Sport Judge Continuing Education	\$ 800.00
<b>Competition/Sport Income</b>		USDF Expense	\$ 580.00
Ice Test Fee	\$ 307.11	2021 Virtual Sport Show Expense	\$ 3,860.25
FEIF World Ranking Comp. Fee	\$ 274.80	2020 Virtual Sport Show Expense	\$ 1,190.00
NR Competition Fees	\$ 369.86	Ice Test Annual Fee	\$ 268.62
Virtual Competition Entry Fee	\$ 6,881.56	National Ranking Award Exp.	\$ 605.35
Virtual Competition Sponsorship	\$ 1,106.55	<b>Total Competition/Sport Expense</b>	\$ 7,304.22
<b>Total Competition/Sport Income</b>	\$ 8,939.88	<b>Funding Programs</b>	
		Flagship Event-Clinic/Schooling	\$ 500.00
<b>Interest Income</b>	\$ 29.34	Flagship Event-NR Show	\$ 250.00
<b>Membership Related Income</b>		<b>Total Funding Programs</b>	\$ 750.00
Farm Listing	\$ 3,411.42	<b>Leisure Committee Expense</b>	
		S2SS 2022 Expense	\$ 240.40
		S2SS 2021 Expense	\$ 690.70
		S2SS 2020 Expense	\$ 13.99
		<b>Total Leisure Committee Expense</b>	\$ 945.09
		<b>Membership Related Expenses</b>	
<b>Membership Dues</b>		Administration	
Family Memberships	\$ 6,897.15	Mbshp. Postage	\$ 292.63
Foreign Friend mbshp	\$ 465.59	Office/Supplies Expense	\$ 105.82
Individual Memberships	\$ 20,035.00	Tax Prep. Services	\$ 405.50
Youth Membership	\$ 638.51	<b>Total Administration</b>	\$ 803.95
<b>Total Membership Dues</b>	\$ 28,036.25	Annual Meeting Expense	\$ 150.00
		<b>FEIF Related Expenses</b>	
<b>Quarterly Income</b>		FEIF Mbshp Fees	\$ 2,359.79
Quarterly Ads Income	\$ 7,792.23	Insurance	\$ 715.00
Quarterly Back Issue Sales	\$ 40.00	<b>Quarterly Expenses</b>	
<b>Total Quarterly Income</b>	\$ 7,832.23	Graphics	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Total Membership Related Inc.</b>	\$ 39,279.90	Postage for Quarterly	\$ 1,673.88
<b>Registry Income</b>		Printing	\$ 12,133.83
DNA	\$ 362.44	<b>Total Quarterly Expenses</b>	\$ 17,807.71
Duplicate Registration Fees	\$ 463.73	Toll Free Line	\$ 186.60
Horse Name Change Fee	\$ 48.25	Website	\$ 9,019.71
Late Stallion Report Fees	\$ 983.22	WorldFengur	\$ 1,940.41
Registration Fees	\$ 4,645.63	<b>Total Membership Related Expenses</b>	\$ 32,983.17
Transfer Fees	\$ 1,998.49	<b>Promotional Expenses</b>	
<b>Total Registry Income</b>	\$ 8,501.76	Promotional Banners (Club)	\$ 237.90
		Promotional Material Printing Exp.	\$ 123.47
<b>USIHC Non-Member Fees</b>	\$ 663.82	Promotional Postage Expenses	\$ 76.85
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 58,682.44	RC Co-op Promo Expense	\$ 450.00
		<b>Total Promotional Expenses</b>	\$ 888.22
		<b>Registry Expenses</b>	
		DNA	\$ 227.00
		Clerical for Registry	\$ 2,866.00
		Printing & Reproduction	\$ 400.18
		Registry Office Supplies	\$ 84.34
		Registry Postage	\$ 361.80
		<b>Total Registry Expenses</b>	\$ 3,939.32
		<b>Youth Committee Expense</b>	
		2022 FEIF Youth Cup Expense	\$ 131.13
		<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 47,441.15

**Net Income: \$ 11,241.29**

## Annual Report: Icelandic Horses Registered for year 2021

	Domestic Bred Under 12 Months	Domestic Bred	Imported from Iceland	Imported from Canada	Imported from other countries	Total Registered		Total Transfers
Mares	17	4	27	5	0	53		56
Stallions	17	0	9	1	0	27		6
Geldings	3	5	33	4	3	48		49
Total 2021	37	9	69	10	3	Total	128	111
Total 2020	43	22	58	9	3	Total	135	193
	-6	-13	11	1	0		-7	-82

**2021: Total number of horses registered: 128**

**2021: Total number of horses transferred: 111**

Domestic Horses registered in Worldfengur **3516**

Imported Horses registered in Worldfengur **3131**

Total number of Icelandic horses registered in WorldFengur 12/31/2021 **6647**

# Affiliated Club Committee Report for Virtual Annual Meeting February 26, 2022

## **Defining the duties of the Affiliated Club Committee (ACC) and Chair**

*The purpose of the Affiliated club is to promote the knowledge of the Icelandic Horse and its correct use as a competition and riding horse in accord with the policies of FEIF and the United States Icelandic Horse Congress. If the club's by-laws are revised at any time during the life of the club, they must be re-submitted for approval.*

## **Duties of the Affiliated Club Committee Chair:**

1. Review applications of clubs seeking recognition as an Affiliated Club of the USIHC. Maintain records of required documents.
2. Review renewal applications of clubs seeking to maintain their status as an Affiliated Club of the USIHC. Renewal period begins the first of August and ends the last day of August of each year.
3. Maintain club member lists of each Affiliated Club, these lists are required of clubs renewing and applying for recognition as an Affiliated Club of the USIHC.
4. Assist in calculating the USIHC/regional club census for FEIF renewal documents (Fall of each year)
5. Oversee committee discussions and present any proposals to USIHC board of directors, act as liaison between the clubs and the board.
6. Oversee any programs dedicated to the Affiliated Clubs.
7. Review icelandic.org website pages dedicated to Affiliated Clubs on a Quarterly basis and submit any necessary changes or updates.
8. Keep the clubs informed of information from the board meetings.
9. Promote and facilitate club to club interactions.
10. Arbitrate any club to club issues, if needed.

## **Duties of the Affiliated Club Committee Members:**

1. Encourage clubs to share ideas and discuss them in a constructive manner.
2. Encourage clubs to promote USIHC membership among their members.
3. Review club information on the icelandics.org website for accuracy on a quarterly basis, report any needed changes to ACC chair.
4. Share information back to your Affiliated Club, report any relevant feedback or comment back to this committee.

## **Review of 2021**

- We began and ended the year with 13 regional and 1 activity club(s):
  1. Alaska Icelandic Horse Association
  2. California Icelandic Horse Association
  3. Cascade Icelandic Horse Club
  4. Flugnir Icelandic Horse Club
  5. Frida Icelandic Riding Club
  6. Hestafolk
  7. Klettafjalla Icelandic Horse Club
  8. Kraftur
  9. NEIHC
  10. NWIHC
  11. Saint Skutla Icelandic Horse Club
  12. Sirius Ohio Kentucky Icelandic Horse Club
  13. Sleipnir (Trainers/Instructors) Activity Club
  14. Toppur

## **Summary of FEIF Census:**

Fall 2021, the USIHC reported 778 members\*.

Please note the increase in USIHC membership over the last 5 years (2017-653, 2018-673, 2019-748 and 2020-767).

## **USIHC and Regional Club Census Report (Fall 2021):**

Thirteen regional clubs and one activity club have renewed their USIHC Affiliated Club status and contributed member lists for the census report. These member lists were combined so members who belong to multiple clubs could be noted.

The census number reported to FEIF will be the number of USIHC members at time of FEIF request.#

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017*</b>
<b>Total USIHC members</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>653</b>
<b>Total USIHC and Regional Club members</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>1003</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1008</b>
<b>Number reported to FEIF#</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>1008</b>	<b>1008</b>
<b>Regional Clubs (reported members)**</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>664</b>
<b>Alaska IHA</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Cascade</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>

CIA	19	19	17	22	23
FIRC	103	114	85	60	60
Flugnir IHC	38	35	69	60	93
Glitfaya	-	-	15	12	17
Hestafolk	23	23	29	33	33
Klettafjalla IHC	54	48	43	54	58
Kraftur	43	44	42	26	67
NEIHC	157	164	190	170	150
NWIHC	22	22	26	11	7
Saint Skutla IHC	34	33	34	30	34
Sirius OH KY IHC	40	34	31	49	38
Toppur IHC	31	33	35	32	7
USIHC members who belong to No RC	-	285	288	339	-
% RC members who also belong to USIHC	58.2%	62.4%	47.5%		
# RC members who also belong to USIHC	337	355	295		
People who belong at least one RC	579	569	621	-	-
People who belong to 1 Additional RC	33	45	46	-	-
People who belong to 2 Additional RCs	6	8	11	-	-
People who belong to 3 Additional RCs	4	4	5	-	-
People who belong to 4 Additional RCs		1			

## **Regional Club Clinic Support - Policy #31, 2021**

### **Summary of 2021 Clinics:**

Two (of 13) Regional Clubs were able to hold clinics which were supported by Policy #31 funding in 2021. COVID-19, still affected many clubs ability to hold their group events. The USIHC paid out \$500 of the \$3500 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for one grant not to exceed \$250 in 2020 (grants were based on number of USIHC members in participation).

1. Saint Skutla, IHC: clinic in Mendon, NY
2. NEIHC: clinic in Claverack, NY

### **Summary of 2020 Clinics:**

One (of 13) Regional Clubs held a clinic supported by Policy #31 funding in 2020. Due to COVID-19, most clubs had to cancel their group events in 2020. The USIHC paid out \$250 of the \$3500 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for one \$250 grant in 2020. (No more than one grant/club was approved. Maximum of \$250.)



**Summary of 2019 Clinics:**

Ten (of 14) Regional Clubs held 10 clinics which were supported by Policy #31 funding in 2019. The USIHC paid out \$2275 of the \$3500 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for one \$250 grant in 2019. (No more than one grant/club was approved. Maximum of \$250.)

**Summary of 2018 Clinics:**

Ten (of 14) Regional Clubs held 10 clinics which were supported by Policy #31 funding in 2018. The USIHC paid out \$2500 of the \$3500 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for one \$250 grant in 2018. (No more than one grant/club was approved. Maximum of \$250.)

**Summary of 2017 Clinics:**

Ten (of 14) Regional Clubs held 17 clinics which were supported by Policy #31 funding in 2017. The USIHC paid out \$8500 of the \$12000 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for two \$500 grants in 2017. (No more than two grants/club were approved. Each at a maximum of \$500.)

**Summary of 2016 Clinics:**

Eight (of 12) Regional Clubs held 8 clinics which were supported by Policy #31 funding in 2016. The USIHC paid out \$4000 of the \$6000 budgeted for this program. Each club was eligible for one \$500 grant in 2016. (No more than one grant/club was approved. Each at a maximum of \$500.)

The committee's request to continue funding of Policy #31 for 2022 at the 2021 funding level was approved on January 13, 2022.

**Promotion: Regional Clubs banner Update:**

Promotions working in collaboration with AC committee was budgeted \$1960 in February 2020 (\$140/club, figuring 14 clubs) for creating banners to promote both the affiliated club and the USIHC. A Google form has been provided to each club to submit their request, files and information. To date, four clubs their banners.

**Banners Received:**

1. Sirius (2020)
2. Hestafolk (2020)
3. Klettajalla (2020)
4. NEIHC (2021)
5. Toppur (2021)

**Banners in Progress:**

1. CIA

**Banners in Planning:**

2. Cascade
3. Frida

Funding has been continued into 2022 for the clubs who have not yet received/requested their banners.

1/25/2022

LKC

## USIHC BREEDING REPORT February 26, 2022

The breeding committee made notable progress in 2021, but COVID-19 continued to stymie live events. Important accomplishments include:

- Completion of a Breeding Manual for the USIHC
- A very successful “Virtual” Breeding seminar, given by Arnar Bjarki Sigurðarson. This seminar was attended by over 20 members and made over \$1200 for the USIHC.
- Three issues of the *Quarterly* featured “Spotlight on Domestic Breeding” articles.
- The breeding committee brainstormed ways to make breeding assessments easier to host and made a goal of having an assessment in four areas of the country (East, Central, West and Alaska) every year. This would help raise the visibility of domestic breeding and help breeders have their horses assessed.
- The USIHC established an award for the highest scores of a domestic bred horse in Green Horse classes at sport shows.
- There will now be a stallion listing included with every farm listing on the USIHC website. Stallion owners can list one stallion free of charge with their farm listing. The page may include pictures, evaluation scores, breeding lineage, a description and any other pertinent information the owner wishes to highlight.\

2022 looks very promising for Breeding in the U.S. we currently have two official FEIF Breeding Assessments scheduled, a young horse linear assessment, two live seminars, and plans for a virtual seminar. The USIHC Board voted to support each official assessment with \$1000 and the virtual seminar with \$500. Dates and locations are as follows:

March 5-6      Breeding Seminar and Young Horse Linear Assessment with Elsa Albertsdottir at Lettleiki Icelandics in Kentucky

May 20          Breeding Seminar at Montaire Icelandics in Virginia

May 21-22      Official FEIF Breeding Assessment at Montaire Icelandics in Virginia

August 30-31   Official FEIF Breeding Assessment at Harmony Icelandics in Iowa.

The breeding committee continues to search for ways to encourage high quality domestic breeding in the U.S. and welcomes new members who are also dedicated to this aim. The committee believes that education about breeding is the first step. The 2022 USIHC Annual Meeting will feature a presentation by the USIHC Breeding leader Virginia Lauridsen. The breeding committee encourages any and all potential breeders to participate in the discussion and work towards a greater quantity and standard of domestic breeding in the U.S.

# **2021 USIHC Education Committee Annual Report**

Presented by Will Covert and Jeff Rose Co-Chairs

## **2021 FEIF Trainer Of The Year Nominee from the US**

In 2021, Janet Mulder was announced as the USIHC nominee for the FEIF Trainer of the Year award. The winner was announced during the FEIF Virtual Delegates Assembly on February 4<sup>th</sup> and it was Camilla Hed the Swedish nominee.

## **Trainer Continuing Education**

Again this year with Covid there were very few in person events. As with many areas of life this also went virtual and a wide variety of options were available for trainers to attend online for their continuing education. FEIF made their annual Sport Judges Seminar available to some of our US judges and hosted it on Zoom, it included lectures, discussions and video judging. LH the Horse Association of Iceland held a large online seminar over several weeks that was open to Licensed Trainers.

## **Trainer Certification**

Our subcommittee lead by Virginia Lauridsen has been hard at work creating the new trainer certification system for the USIHC based around the FEIF Trainer matrix. They have completed the exam, study guide along with a Fast Track option to help get experienced horse people who are already actively working with horses and riders a chance to be certified in the first few years. The first exam using the newly completed US Trainer Certification program will take place in Des Moines Iowa this September with more dates and locations to be announced soon!

## **2022 - Judges Seminar and Exam to take place in Colorado June 2-5**

After being canceled each of the past 2 years we are happy to start planning in person education again!

## **Plans for 2022??**

Our goal for 2022 is to implement the certification for Instructors and Trainers. We also will continue to encourage the use of the USIHC Riding Badge Program as an educational tool for our members to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the correct use of the Icelandic Horse as a Competition and Pleasure Riding horse.

## **USIHC Trainer Certification Committee 2021 Annual Report**

The USIHC Trainer Certification Committee (Laura Benson, Carrie Lyons Brandt, Caeli Cavanagh, Jana Meyer, Alex Pregitzer) met regularly throughout 2021 to create a formal system for FEIF trainer certification in the US. Due to the severe shortage of certified trainers in the U.S., the committee decided to first develop a “Fast Track” exam for individuals who have previously completed extensive training and are currently acting as trainers in the U.S.

An advisory committee, comprised of high level trainers and judges from Iceland, Germany and the U.S. was formed to guide in the development of the exam.

The committee first developed a theory exam based on the requirements for a level 1 trainer in the FEIF Educational Training matrix. Following completion of the theory exam, the committee developed areas of training for a practical exam. As each FEIF participating country is tasked to develop their own certification system which is unique to their culture, the committee sought to include areas of horsemanship which are important in the U.S. horse culture, such as obstacle courses and a presentation appropriate for a public exhibition.

The committee developed a list of requirements which fast track applicants must fulfill. The Fast Track program will be utilized for a maximum of two years, and then individuals interested in obtaining certification will complete a series of modules before testing.

The committee is currently finalizing specific details for the practical exam areas, requirements for testing locations and horses to be used. The first tests are planned for fall of 2022 in Iowa and Virginia. Applications will be due June 1, and should be submitted to the education chair Jeff Rose. A committee comprised of two FEIF trainers and one USIHC board member has been formed to handle any problems with the application process and potential issues with testing.

## 2021 Leisure Committee Report

Submitted by Janet Mulder

2021 Sea 2 Shining Sea was a 5,000 mile virtual ride, following 4 regions and 20 checkpoints.

118 Riders logged hours during the 2021 Sea 2 Shining Sea Ride

8 Teams completed the 5,000 mile challenge, Ice Trekkers were the first to finish

Finishing teams: Ice Trekkers, Solheimar Dream Team, Merrimack Valley Icelandics, Hestafolk, Frozen Tundra Tolters, Hestafolk II, Merrimack Valley Icelandics II, Solfaxi.

2022 Sea 2 Shining Sea Ride currently has 90 riders logging hours and 19 teams. It will follow the route ridden by Annie Wilkins from [The Ride of her Life](#) from Minot Maine to Hollywood California in 1954. The 2022 ride is 4000 miles covering 20 checkpoints.

## **2022 Promotions + Website Report**

### **Policy 21**

USIHC budgeted \$750 to support Affiliated Clubs attending expos and riding in demonstrations to promote the breed. In the past, this Policy has helped us reach over 200,000 equine enthusiasts each year. Due to Covid 19 cancellations and restrictions, there were not as many expos as there were in the past. However, three Affiliated Clubs did receive Policy 21 funding in 2021:

Toppur - Iowa Horse Fair, Des Moines IA

Flugnir - Minnesota Horse Expo, St. Paul MN

Northeast Icelandic Horse Club - Equine Affaire, Springfield MA

### **Banners**

In partnership with the Affiliated Club Committee, USIHC purchased retractable standing banners for use at expos and for promotion. Both NEIHC and Toppur received banners. The program is being continued through 2022 for the remaining clubs to continue to design and receive banners.

### **USIHC Partners**

USIHC continued Partnerships to support Membership benefits. USIHC Partners include:

Scootboot - USIHC members receive a 10% discount on Scoot Boot products.

Flying C Ranch Tack Shop - USIHC members receive a 10% discount for Flying C Ranch Tack Shop

Smartpak - SmartPak provided gift certificates as a part of several USIHC events this year

## Website Stats

2020	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 16K visitors, 26k sessions, 75k pageviews</li><li>● 50% of traffic was direct, 30.5% was organic search, 13.2% was from social, and 6.2% was referral.</li><li>● Top 5 pages visited were<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Registered Horse Search</li><li>○ Sea 2 Shining Sea Ride</li><li>○ Farm List</li><li>○ Registry</li><li>○ Quarterly Magazine</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 16K visitors, 28k sessions, 91k pageviews</li><li>● 50% of traffic was direct, 34% was organic search, 10% was from social, and 7% was referral.</li><li>● Top 5 pages visited were<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sea 2 Shining Sea</li><li>○ Farm List</li><li>○ Registered Horse Search</li><li>○ Virtual Show</li><li>○ Registry</li></ul></li></ul>

## New Features

### Improved Farm List

The Farm List will now allow viewers to filter Farms based on State and Services. Each farm will also have their own Farm Profile that includes a short farm description, logo, location map, and contact information/website.

### Stallion Listing

The new Stallion Listing will highlight stallions in North America and continue to support US Breeding. The Stallion Listing features photos, description, video, scores, bloodlines, and offspring photos.



## USIHC QUARTERLY COMMITTEE 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Nancy Brown and Nicki Esdorn, co-chairs



In 2021 our 20 committee members produced four 52-page full-color issues of *The Icelandic Horse Quarterly*. As many as 40 contributors per issue provided the exceptional content and editorial oversight that makes the Quarterly such an effective “face” of the USIHC, as well as the advertising that helps us produce such a high-quality magazine.

Our committee membership itself is widely representative of Icelandic horse owners in the U.S. We have members from Maine to Alaska. We are professional writers and editors, photographers, illustrators, and graphic designers, but also horse trainers, a veterinarian, college professors, and business people. We are trail riders, competition riders, and breeders. Some of us have many horses, and some only one. Some are new to the breed, and some have over 20 years of experience with Icelandics. The only thing we don’t have on the Quarterly committee are any men! We’d love to have you join us (male or female).

Please also continue to send us your stories and photos. You don’t need to be a committee member to contribute to the Quarterly. And remember that we are always looking for “Wow!” photos for the cover.

In keeping with the USIHC mission statement, the Quarterly committee has three broad goals:

- to promote the knowledge of the Icelandic horse within the United States and its correct use as a competition and riding horse;
- to facilitate communication among all USIHC members;
- and to encourage Icelandic horse owners in the US to join the USIHC.

As one of our goals is to educate Icelandic horse owners, we focus on commissioning and printing stories about training (basics, groundwork, training methods, and fitness), stories highlighting the versatility of the Icelandic horse, and stories that promote the welfare of the horse. In 2021, we printed feature stories, for example, on:

- breeding and the care of mare and foal
- acclimating an imported horse
- the importance of registering imports
- tips on virtual showing
- organizing an in-person or hybrid clinic
- riding in harmony
- fixing common riding problems, like stumbling and “no brakes”

- dressage exercises for all gaits
- positive reinforcement training
- endurance riding
- competing in dressage
- driving, archery, equitation, fox-hunting, and other all-breed events
- taking care of and retiring an older horse
- trekking in Iceland

In keeping with our goal of providing a two-way communication channel for the Board, the Committees, the Affiliated Clubs, and the members, we dedicated 79 of the total pages printed in 2021 (208) to USIHC News and announcements, FEIF News, and Club News. Paid advertising accounted for another 55 pages, bringing in over \$8500 to offset the cost of publishing the magazine.

Since most demonstrations and expos were cancelled by Covid again this year, we reduced our regular print run to 600 per quarter. Member households received 547 copies in March, 545 in June, 540 in September, and 537 in December. (Please note that, while USIHC members in December resided in 604 households, some members choose to receive only the e-Quarterly). As the magazines are mailed at the most economical bulk rate, printed copies were received by all members by approximately March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15.

Thanks to webmaster Emily Potts, the e-Quarterly of each issue was posted on the USIHC website and announced on Facebook in the first week of March, June, September, and December. They have been added to our online archive.

The additional copies printed each quarter support the third goal of our committee: to promote the USIHC and the Icelandic horse in the U.S. We accomplish this through our policy of giving out free copies of the magazine to Quarterly contributors and advertisers and to other USIHC members for distribution to prospective new members at expos, demos, and other events. Contributors and advertisers received 1-2 free copies each (the issue totals were 22, 24, 21, and 20 copies, respectively).

In December, we printed 50 extra promotional copies, as requested by the Affiliated Clubs. These were sent to Caeli Cavanagh, Coralie Denmeade, Sherry Hoover, and Maggie Brandt to distribute at clinics, demos, or expos. We welcome requests from any USIHC member or club for copies of the magazine to use to promote the USIHC and the Icelandic horse at 2022 events, but please get your order in early, as we may have to increase our print run to cover these requests.

A copy of the Quarterly is also included in each of the Welcome Packets that Nicki Esdorn sends to new USIHC members.

We'd like to thank Jean Ervasti for doing a great job as our advertising representative. With Jean's help, we increased our advertising pages by 10 pages from our 2020 total, bringing in an additional \$1500 in revenue to the USIHC. We thank, as well, treasurer Lori Cretney for handling invoicing and helping us track our advertising income.

Thanks for your support in 2021. We hope to bring you four more spectacular issues of *The Icelandic Horse Quarterly* in 2022.

## **2021 Sport Committee report**

### **Committee members**

Sport committee members during 2021 were Alex Pregitzer, Will Covert, Asta Covert, Carrie Brandt, Lori Cretney, Leslie Chambers, Lucy Nold, Deb Cook, Kristina Behringer, and Martin Nielsen (chair). Em Jacobs joined the committee in January, 2022.

### **Virtual shows**

Given the success with the virtual shows during the lockdowns in 2020, we have decided to organize two virtual shows every year going forward. We find that these shows are a great supplement to the traditional in-person shows and they provide an opportunity for riders to gain more experience with the sport, get more constructive feedback from the judges, and score points for the national ranking. Furthermore, we made the decision to always have five judges and make sure that two of these are national US judges. This allows our judges to gain more valuable experience and become better judges.

We have found that despite thorough instructions, a proportion of riders do not follow the guidelines when recording their videos. Horses were not always zoomed in, vegetation was sometimes blocking the view, the video did not zoom in on the equipment upon completion of the test etc. Having to disqualify a rider because of a procedural mistake is never fun, so our judges' taskforce will now work on developing one or two instructional videos with good and bad examples of how a virtual show video should be made.

Leslie Chambers deserves a big recognition for her tireless efforts with organizing these shows. Em Potts has worked hard getting the video infrastructure to work and Will Covert has been our valuable liaison with the international judges.

### **Judges' taskforce**

As announced last year, our judges have organized themselves in what we call the judges' taskforce, led by Alex Pregitzer. The group has met several times during the year and organized a set of sessions where they received training and feedback from Alex Dannenmann. Task force members were involved with judging and scribing several shows in the fall gaining valuable experience, and this was greatly facilitated by shows that were making use of five judges. The taskforce is also tasked with developing a set of preparatory modules that can be offered online and help introduce people to the sport and its rules. The idea is to make taking these modules a requirement before signing up for a judging seminar. Most recently, we have welcomed a new judge to the group: Alex Montan Gray joins the other Alex's and brings lots of experience as a sport rider at the highest level as well as a sport and gæðingakeppni judge in Sweden.

As chair of the taskforce, Alex Pregitzer has shown great initiative and enthusiasm and has managed to achieve substantial momentum. We are excited to see the next steps unfold.

### **PP2**

Late in 2021, we started working on adding PP2 (100 m pace) to the national ranking. We have a separate application form in place, which asks the organizer to specify the officials and the

time-keeping arrangements. The show reports generated from IceTest will now include the pace times, and we are working to get these imported into the National Ranking database. We hope that this will encourage more riders to participate in pace riding.

### **United States Dressage Federation All Breeds**

Thanks to an initiative taken by Janet Mulder, the USIHC is now paying for a membership of the USDF for three years to encourage our members to promote the Icelandic horse at these events and provide more diverse opportunities for our members. As you will see below, some of our members had some outstanding results already.

### **Honoring US bred horses**

Another new feature that we are working on is a national ranking for US bred sport horses. This would be another way to highlight US breeding and acknowledge both the horses and the breeders. After some discussion in both the sport committee and the USIHC board, we decided to rank the US bred horses in the two Green Horse classes. This is to recognize the young and talented horses and create a level playing field with horses being at comparable levels of education. Given our criteria for scoring out of these classes, this will also mean that we will be electing new winners every year.

And speaking of which. It is my profound pleasure to announce the best US bred horses in the green horse disciplines in 2021:

#### Green Horse Tölt:

1. **Freyja from Four Winds Farm** (6.43), Thorunn Kristjansdottir, USIHC Fall Virtual Show.
2. Hnokki from Windsong (5.43), Caeli Cavanagh, USIHC Spring Virtual Show
3. Tholinn from Vinland (5.05), Carrie Lyons Brandt, Montaire Show.

#### Green Horse Fourgait:

1. **Leikur from Dalalif** (5.90), Lucy Nold, USIHC Virtual Spring Show.
2. Tholinn from Vinland (5.65), Carrie Lyons Brandt, Montaire Show
3. Hnokki from Windsong (5.43), Caeli Cavanagh, USIHC Spring Virtual Show

### **2021 USIHC National Ranking winners:**

T.1: Ásta Covert, 7.90

T.2: Terral Hill, 6.99

T.3: Jeff Rose, 5.79

T.4: Lucy Nold, 5.95

T.5: Lori Cretney, 6.15

T.6: Eden Hendricks, 6.40

T.7: Julian Feldner, 5.15

T.8: Jackie Harris, 6.50

F.1: Ayla Green, 6.65

F.2: Heidi Benson, 6.00

F.3: Nadia Rusterholz, 3.87

V.1: Ásta Covert, 6.95

V.2: Laura Benson, 6.55

V.3: Kydee Sheetz, 5.88

V.5: Amelie Maranda, 5.55

V.6: Jackie Harris, 5.80

**USDF All Breeds Dressage Icelandic horse winners:**

Adult Amateur and Open Champion, Training Level: Terri Mielke and Dynur from Creekside.

Reserve Champion, First Level: Paetra Henniger and Ísak from Four Winds Farm.

Champion, First Level: Virginia Lauridsen and Herkules from Dalalif.

All horses are US bred!

## **USIHC Youth Committee Report**

### **The Spaeri Award**

There were no submissions for the Spaeri Award in 2021. We hope to gain more interest in this in 2022. We encourage youth members to submit articles to the quarterly on any topic regarding the Icelandic Horse. This can be as simple as telling us about your Icelandic horse or about an event you attended with your Icelandic horse.

The articles should be at least 750 words and have at least one photo (high resolution JPG or TIFF file). The articles will be reviewed and edited by the Quarterly Committee.

Deadlines for the next 4 issues at April 1, July 1, October 1, December 31.

### **FEIF Youth Cup 2022 Cancelled**

The FEIF Youth Cup 2022 has unfortunately been cancelled. FEIF intends to still hold the event in 2024 at the same location in Switzerland. The tryouts for this event will be held in February 2024.

### **USIHC Youth Show 2022**

The 2022 USIHC Youth Show deadlines have been postponed to allow more participation from youth in various regions. The registration deadline will be July 29<sup>th</sup> 2022 with the videos due by August 5<sup>th</sup> 2022. The USIHC Board has also made the decision to make this year's youth show free to our youth members! We hope this will encourage as many youth as possible to participate! The show will offer T1, T2, V1, F1, T8 and V6 classes. Registration is available on our website.

The Board intends to make this youth show a yearly event. To be consistent with the FEIF Youth Cup tryouts, the event deadlines for future years will be end of February. We will accept videos made up to 6 months prior so long as they have not previously been judged. We encourage our youth members who live in areas where winter conditions make it hard to ride to film their videos for this event in the fall before the weather begins!

### **USIHC Pen Pal Program**

The USIHC will be launching a new program this spring to connect youth across the country. Youth members can sign up by filling out a form on our website and writing their first letter to their penpal. They will then be connected with another youth member to exchange letters with for the year. A list of topics and ideas for these letters will be provided. Each year youth participants will receive a new penpal but can decide to also continue writing with their previous penpals. We hope this will forge new friendships for youth who love Icelandic horses!