

BOD phone meeting minutes December 3, 2007

In attendance:

Mike Maul, Connie Caudill, Nick Warhol, Patti Pizzo, Mike Jaffe, Joyce Mocilan, Joe Long, Jan Stevens, Stan Eichelberger, Tom Dean, Gail Williams, Terry Woolley Howe, John Parke, Susan Kasemeyer, Joe Schoech, Roger Taylor, Jeff Trinkle, John Crandell III, Randy Eiland, Laura Hayes, Robert Ribley, Heidi Smith, Bruce Weary, Kathleen Henkel

Guests: Melissa Ribley DVM

Duane Barnett DVM

Absent: C. Mike Tomlinson

Excusals for tonight:

Barry Waitte- requests excusal from tonight's meeting for family medical emergency.

Heidi Smith excused from the Nov. 5th meeting due to a family issue.

Motion to excuse both passes unanimously.

I. Housekeeping

1. Motion made for acceptance of November 5th phone meeting minutes. Motion passes unanimously.

2. Membership Statistics: Kathleen Henkel

- Present date 2007: 6920 members compared to 6579 in 2006.
- Ride entry fees present date 2007: \$104,409. Same time in 2006: \$98,985.
- Sanctioning fees present time 2007: \$15,189, same time in 2006: \$15,231.
- New members present time: 1194, same time in 2006: 1133.

II. Committee Reports (see Attachment for written reports)

a. International Committee

III. New Business:

1- Insurance committee: Roger T. Bob Walsh is a guest on the call to answer questions. Roger sent the BOD current quotes for 08 insurance options in advance of the meeting. Diane Leshner from Equisure recommends the option that provides a \$2M policy for each separate region. Some discussion about the about claim history in the past. John P suggests a single large policy that covers the whole AERC is more appropriate than 9 individual policies at a smaller amount. Bob to investigate umbrella policy on a lower amount, issue tabled while research goes on.

2- Melissa Ribley- Rule 9.3 Duane Barnett for Melissa. BC eligibility. Currently the rule for top ten selection for BC awards says the BC is selected from the top ten "finishing" equines. The vet committee requests a change the word from "finishing" equines to "completing" equines. It's a clarification, but should be put in front of the membership for feedback, since there is not real urgent need for the change. Melissa has written an summary for EN- it will go out in the next three issues.

3- Melissa Ribley- drug testing policy. Motion presented to change the current drug testing policy to be consistent with the new drug testing rule. Motion was presented at last meeting, motion was sent out to BOD for review. The main adjustments are Travel expenses, increases number of horses tested per ride. Motion from committee- passes unanimously.

4 - NC ride data change: Connie C- Connie notifies the reason for the ride date changed is a conflict with a trail ride in the same forest on the original date, now Oct 16/18th. Approved by Exec Committee and BoD approved of action.

5- Mike Maul- Marcom committee needs a leader, due to the resignation of Jennifer Nice. Troy Smith is nominated to head Marcom for the interim, Kim Fues to be co-chair of competitions committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

6- Roger Taylor- Santa Fe ride insurance issue. Rides that go through multiple states have different issues due to the logistics of these types of rides. Kathleen suggests a policy for these rides to obtain their own insurance. Equisure reports that if we insure these rides with our policy, there will be a policy rate increase. Mike asks the BOD if the consensus is that the GSHR needs to get its own insurance. Board agrees. John P suggests we leverage the work that Diane has done for the last GSFR, since it is exactly the same issue.

7- Trails committee- Roger T

a) Roger brings up the MOU (memorandum of understanding) that The BLM agrees to work with the AERC for special recreation permits. This is very important for rides who need to use BLM land for rides. This MOU has been raised and worked on for several years. This Motion from committee is to request that Kathleen sign the MOU. Motion from committee, motion passes unanimously.

b) Requests for a one time membership (1 year) for Paul Happle from the BLM in return for helping the AERC in the future. Motion from committee, motion passes unanimously. The BOD agrees this is the correct method for awarding free memberships.

c) Trail master class. Paul from the BLM requests a class to be held in Fort Stanton for half BLM, forest, and park service people. The cost would be to pay Mike the teacher for the class, \$3600. Roger requests this class be approved as one of the 4 current classes in the budget. The class will be held as one of the 4 classes currently in the budget, and if a fifth class is requested, the committee will bring it up as an exception at that time.

8- Heidi Smith- Weed free motion. Mike Maul discusses the changes in the weed free hay study. There are a few issues to resolve, including having a discussion on which ride sites should be studied. Roger T suggests we need to move on it to keep the program moving forward due to the timing. Suggestion is to approve the grant of \$25k, and let Kathleen solidify the exact details of the agreement. It is a \$65K total project, funded \$25K from AERC. Motion from committee, approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business:

1) Finance committee: Patti P IRA adjustment to correct the excess contributions issues. Re-categorize the dollars, no tax to employees, see attached motion proposal. Motion from committee- passes unanimously.

2) Patti P- a motion to increase the employees salaries by 3% to make up for the 3% reduction in the IRA contribution issue. Net is the same cost. Motion from committee- passes unanimously.

3) Connie C- modification to rule 14- gives a full refund of the protest fee to be a complete refund of the protest money if found in favor of the protestor, rather than keeping \$50. Motion from Connie, second by John P- motion passes unanimously.

4) Heidi- Raises a motion to return the protest fee from \$150 back to \$100. Second by John P- Motion fails, fee stays at \$150.

5) Mike M- reports on Canadian endurance reciprocity agreement- no further issues have come up from the board. No other issues reports.

6) BOD election results- the results from regions that had elections will be delivered in a few days.

7) Some discussion about how to re-staff the region after Jennifer's resignation. Mike J can nominate a new director for the duration until the convention, with the board's approval. Once the elected candidates take office from the election, a sanctioning director can be chosen.

8) Kathleen reports there is a potential good site for the 2009 convention in Louisville, Ky. Connie has checked it out and reports a positive finding. More information will follow.

The BOD went into Executive Session
Meeting adjourned by Mike Maul at 8:01 PM

**AERC-I Committee
Board Report On
November 6,2007 AERC-I Meeting**

Conference call meeting November 6, 2007, 9:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Attendance: Carol Giles, Chair
Mike Tomlinson, USEF Technical Committee
Betty Baker, Treasurer
Kirsten Kimbler, USEF Youth Council Representative
Jan Stevens, Junior Committee
Cia Reis – East
Lynn Kenelly – East
Martha McMurray – Mountain
Holly Ulyate - Mountain
Michele Roush – Pac North
Hal Hall – Pac North
Joe Mattingley – Central
Grace Ramsey – Central
Teresa Cross – Pac South
Carolyn Hock – Pac South

Absent: Mark Dial, Vice Chair
Art Priesz, USEF High Performance
: Kathy Brunjes, Advisor (Excused)
Carolyn Hock – Pac South (Excused)
Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance Director (Excused)

1. AGENDA

- Joe Mattingly moved to approve the agenda for the November meeting and Hal Hall seconded the motion, which was then approved unanimously.

2. MINUTES

- Joe Mattingly moved to amend the October minutes to reflect that the “tabled” items were actually “not discussed” rather than formally tabled. Joe then moved to accept the minutes as amended and Cia Reis seconded. The motion was approved.

3. TREASURERS REPORT – Betty Baker

- Betty did not receive an updated report from AERC so, as far as she is aware, the committee’s Profit/Loss remains approximately the same as was reported last month.
- Robin Groves has been invoiced a third time for the cost of airfare that she was to pay. Kathleen has offered to write a letter to Robin seeking payment. AERC-I asked that Betty instruct Kathleen to send such a letter.
- Betty continues to work with the AERC office to determine if AERC-I was credited \$250.00 per speaker from the Education Committee as was agreed.

4. USEF UPDATE

A. Technical Committee. Mike Tomlinson

- Rather than holding an Officials Course Sunday and Monday after the AERC Convention, a combined Officials Course will be held later in the year – probably September, October, or November. This course will be open to individuals wishing to become an official as well as for advanced officials.
- The NAYRC is on track and Jan Stevens will report on further details.
- Art Priesz has resigned from all of the USEF committees upon which he sat so as to focus on his work for the WEG OC. His resignation is effective as of Jan 1, 2008 unless Jim Long indicates that it becomes effective at an earlier date.
- There will be a follow-up meeting to the endurance meeting held last year in Louisville. It will be held on January 10, 2008. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.
- Michele Roush reported on the Developing Rider Program: She is currently testing the selection criterion that was developed. She needs a list of people that have previously ridden FEI so they can be excluded. Michele will contact Vonita to see if there is anyway USEF can generate such a list.
- It was asked whether Art might address this committee regarding course design for the WEG. Mike indicated the committee is free to invite Art to attend the next meeting to address this topic, but believes that most information will come through Vonita.

B. High Performance Committee. Art Priesz - not present

C. Active Athletics. Julie Bullock - not present

D. Endurance Director's Report. Vonita Bowers – not present.

5. CONVENTION SUBCOMMITTEE

- Martha reported that the reception will most likely be held adjacent to the trade show. She has been unable to obtain cost information from the caterer. The committee indicated its desire to keep the refreshments at the reception simple due to the large number of attendees.
- Holly is working on the slide show for the regional awards. She asked that anyone having z-tec pictures send them to her. She will also need pictures from Malaysia.
- It was decided that we will have two educational sessions. The first will be to raise enthusiasm for the 2010 WEG. This will be accomplished by using footage from past international events, materials from the WEG OC, and putting together a panel of prior WEG participants to discuss their experience. The second session will a “how to” session. A panel can be created to discuss each step of preparing to ride a FEI ride. The panel should include a USEF representative (probably Vonita) as well as others knowledgeable in passporting, etc. Carolyn will continue to work on this upon her return from Malaysia.
- We need to approve a budget for the reception.
- Teresa and Betty will work to determine merchandise inventory and any additional merchandise that should be ordered. At the next meeting we will need to approve a budget for these materials.
- Hal Hall will develop a schedule for manning the booth. Carol will check with the AERC office to make sure the Young Riders have a booth adjacent to the AERC-I booth.

6. North American Junior/Young Rider National Championship 2008 and demonstration event

- Jan Stevens reported that the Championship date has been changed to July 31, 2008. Vonita has been in contact with the OC and has discussed the special needs that endurance has. The OC has been very receptive. Holly reported that there are some issues with trail but she and Jan agree that these issues will most likely be resolved.

7. USEF Youth Council. Kirsten Kimbler

Kirsten reports that there 60 individuals are signed up to attend the USEF Youth Council. She would like to encourage more endurance youth to attend. Carol suggested she contact Mike Maul to get a list of AERC youth that live in the Kentucky area.

- Kirsten will work with Teresa and Kathy to make sure that items donated by AERC-I make it to the appropriate person at USEF. Those items should be mailed between Dec 10th and the 14th.
- Kirsten has contacted Betty to help her work on the budget for the youth program. Carol will contact Betty to ask her to follow-up on this request.
- Kirsten is planning another fund-raiser at the AERC convention. There has been some discussion about selling some merchandise as well.

8. EN ARTICLES

- Next month's article will feature Malaysia.

9. GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

A. AERC-I membership contact information.

Hal Hall reported that he has received a spreadsheet from Mike Maul that contains contact information for all AERC-I members. This will be forwarded to all zone reps so they may develop a method to distribute information to members in their particular zone.

B. AERC-I Member Packets.

- Carol continues to work with Kathleen and Vonita on member packets. She anticipates that the packet will be done in the immediate future so that it can be sent to new AERC-I members.

C. Revision of AERC-I Procedure Booklet.

- Teresa asked that AERC-I begin considering whether to abandon its current 5 zones and align itself with the AERC zones. Some advantages to such a change would be: (1) better understanding by riders of what area they reside in; (2) easier communication between zone reps and riders since contact information could be more easily generated for the committee by AERC; and (3) easier for the office to conduct elections. Mike indicated that whatever decision the committee reaches will be accepted by USEF.

D. Ambassador Program. Carol Giles. Not discussed.

10. ZONE REP REPORTS

- Not discussed.

11. 100-MILE RIDES

- Martha McMurray. Not discussed.

12. Old Business

- 2009 PanAm/North American Championship (see minutes – September 2007). Not discussed.

Without further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m. eastern time.

Tentative 2008 FEI Rides

Dec. 30, 2007	New Years in New Mexico	La Mesa, NM	SR 100/ 50, YR 100/50
March 8-9,2008	Fits	Florida	SR 100/50, YR 100/50
April 19	Git R Done	California	SR 100/50, YR 75
May 25	Owyhee	Idaho	SR 100/50, YR 100/75/50
June 6-8	Ft. Howes	Montana	SR 100/50, YR 100/50
July 31	NAYREC	Colorado	YR 75
Sept. 6	Desert Classic	New Mexico	SR 100/75/50, YR 100/75/50
October 18	World Endurance Festival	Asheville	SR 75/60, YR 60
November 6 - 9	World Endurance Championship	Malaysia	
November 8	Weg Pre-Breeze	Kentucky	SR 60, YR 60

You can contact Vonita Bowers for more information about any of these events. vbowers@usef.org

Director's Report 11/1/07

World Championship Test Event

I will be leaving on Saturday November 3rd for the World Championship Test Event in Malaysia. I will return on Tuesday, November 13th. You can follow the action by going to *Endurance.net*. The website also includes daily reports from the US riders and staff.

Art Priesz Resigns as IHP Chair

Art has resigned his positions on the IHP and Technical Committees as well as other USEF Committee and USET board positions. Art will continue as Discipline Manager for the WEG 2010. The vacancy of Chair of the HP committee is filled by a vote of the membership of HP. The Vice Chair, Julie Bullock shall oversee that vote. Art's position on the committee will also need to be filled. That position will be filled by the President or President-Elect of USEF in consultation with the Eligible Athletes Chair, with the resigning HP chair and with Mike Tomlinson as HP discipline representative to the BOD. It is important that the Chair of the HP Committee understand the HP program and the interaction of the HP Committee with the USEF and with the Discipline Director. To that end, the chair should have a history on the committee and in the HP Program.

Art's position on the Technical Committee was by appointment as well, and the USEF President or President-Elect will appoint a replacement.

Endurance Chef d' Equipe

The Search Committee has received several more applications for the Chef d' Equipe position in the past month. Interviews are expected to begin in November.

Endurance Team Training List

The final Ranking Trial will take place over the Thanksgiving Holiday. On December 1 or shortly after, the first Team Training List will be named. These riders will nominate horses, and the Chef will begin to develop the horse/ rider teams. Some of these teams will be possible contenders for spots on the 2008 USA World Team

while some will be part of a long range plan – dependent on the experience, talent and preparedness of the horse and rider.

Joint Endurance Committee Meeting set for USEF General Meeting

The joint endurance committees will meet January 10th at the USEF General Meeting to discuss the progress of the Endurance Program. All USEF Committee members are urged to attend.

2008 FEI Ride Schedule

I have included with this report the tentative 2008 ride schedule.

Submitted by,

Vonita Bowers