

**AERC Board of Directors - conference call minutes  
March 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Campbell at 6:00 p.m. PST.

In attendance were Michael Campbell, Lisa Schneider, Susan Garlinghouse, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Monica Chapman, Connie Caudill, Sue Keith, Carla Richardson, Janet Tipton, Mary Howell, Nick Kohut, Olin Balch, Paul Latiolais, Steph Teeter, John Parke, Andrew Gerhard, Forrest Tancer, Roger Taylor, Barbara Reinke, Duane Barnett, Susan Kasemeyer, Tom Bache, Mike Maul, Christoph Schork, Terry Woolley-Howe, and Sarah Holloway (youth representative).

Jan Stevens requested to be excused due to travel for an FEI event overseas.

Roger Taylor made a motion to accept the agenda. Sue Keith seconded. Motion passed.

Connie Caudill made a motion to approve the minutes provided by the International Committee. Sue Keith seconded. Motion passed.

Roger Taylor made a motion to approve excusal for Jan Stevens, Lisa Schneider seconded. Motion passed.

**Statistical report – Kathleen Henkel**

**Membership Report March 2016**

<b>Membership as of 3/13/15:</b>	<b>3904</b>
<b>Membership as of 3/14/16:</b>	<b>4008</b>
<b>Sanction fees as of 3/14/15:</b>	<b>\$ 11,220</b>
<b>Sanction fees as of 3/14/16:</b>	<b>\$ 11,285</b>
<b>Rider fees as of 3/14/15:</b>	<b>\$ 9,823</b>
<b>Rider fees as of 3/14/16:</b>	<b>\$ 11,756</b>
<b>New members as of 3/13/15:</b>	<b>372</b>
<b>New members as of 2/14/16:</b>	<b>291</b>

**Business before the Board**

**Committee Updates** - John Parke described his recent experience in organizing and presenting an endurance 101 clinic in Solvang, California and the positive response by attendees. He commented on the importance of continuing to develop the educational and clinic events, and its implication towards the goals of the Strategic Plan.

**Longevity motion–Terry Woolley Howe**

Terry introduced the motion originally presented at 2016 Convention. Comments included a general agreement to encourage riders to pursue long-term goals similar to Decade Team recognition, but not in a way to dilute Decade recognition. Mollie Krumlaw-Smith commented that the Membership Committee is developing rider incentive programs. Mary Howell suggested also developing a program to recognize years of membership. Duane Barnett made a motion to postpone the motion until the mid-year meeting to further consider the program, Lisa Schneider seconded. A roll call vote was 13 votes yes, 12 votes no. The motion is postponed to August, 2016.

**Social Media motion** - Tom Bache postponed until next month. Lisa Schneider made the comment that a social media policy already exists and is in use by moderators.

**Trail Masters motion** - Discussion of \$5000 donation made to AERC to fund a Trail Master class to be held at Ft. Stanton after a budget had already been submitted. Monica Chapman commented that the donation will not fund more than six AERC members who may attend, this motion provides for up to an additional \$2000 from general funds to provide for any additional AERC members who may wish to attend. Motion passes.

**Madawaska Highlands Pioneer ride motion** - Mary Howell requests approval to sanction as a pioneer ride. Motion passes.

There being no other business before the Board, Sue Keith made a motion to adjourn. Connie Caudill seconds. Motion passes.

Michael Campbell adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m. PST.

#### **AERC International Committee meeting minutes, 2/2/15:**

##### **The AERC International Committee met via conference call at this time and date as follows:**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sleeper at 21:00 eastern time.

Roll call was made and the following committee members/advisors were present:

Meg Sleeper, VMD, Chair

Mark Dial, Vice Chair

Michael Campbell, AERC President

Mike Tomlinson, DVM, USEF Technical Committee

Valerie Kanavy, USEF Active Athletes Committee

Sue Phillips, USEF Technical Committee

Jan Stevens, USEF International Disciplines Council

Meghan Dunn, Central Zone Representative

Kelly Kimbler, Central Zone Representative

Bill Stevens, Mountain Zone Representative (other zone rep position is vacant)

Holly Corcoran, North East Zone Representative

Mary Howell, North East Zone Representative

Jala Neufeld, Pacific North Zone Representative

Ann Marie Barnett, Pacific North Zone Representative

Barb Thomas, Pacific South Zone Representative

Tracy Hofstrand, Pacific South Representative

Lynn Kenelly, South East Zone Representative

Kristen Brett, USEF Liaison

Teresa Cross

The following committee members/advisors were absent:

Joe Mattingley, USEF High Performance Committee

Mary Farris, South East Zone Representative

Michele Rousch, AERC Competitions Committee Liaison

Kathleen Henkel, AERC Executive Director

Dr. Sleeper announced that a quorum of the committee was present.

**AGENDA.** On a motion made by Mr. Dial, seconded by Ms. Hofstrand, the agenda for the meeting was accepted as presented, to include discussion of the sale of AERC-I logo items at the upcoming convention.

**MINUTES.** On a motion made by Ms. Kenelly, seconded by Mr. Dial, the Jan. 5, 2016 meeting minutes were approved with corrections noted to member titles and attendees.

**Treasurer's Report.** Ms. Corcoran shared the Dec. 31, 2015 report, which shows total liabilities and equity of \$48,881.57 and dues income of \$2,275. She noted that this is \$600 higher than last year at this time due to the increased annual membership fee.

**USEF Advisor Reports:**

**Technical Committee.** Mr. Tomlinson explained that FEI is reacting to pressure to ensure the correct performance of officials by discouraging the combining of classroom training courses. Given this concern, the "mega course" that USEF has been working to schedule for this summer has not yet been finalized.

Endurance Director's Report. Ms. Brett said applications of intent for the 2016 WEC have been posted online. FEI Endurance Director Manuel Bandeira de Mello and FEI Endurance Vet Committee chair Brian Sheehan plan to attend the AERC Convention. Preliminary Information on the Selection Process can be found on the USEF website. If you are interested in taking part in the Selection Trials, please make sure to read this information concerning what is required for the Selection Trial and your crew! <https://goo.gl/5iUeNK>

The Application of Intent will be available by Feb. 1.

Application of Intent Deadline: March 18 with a \$70 fee

Late Application of Intent Deadline: Between March 19 and March 26 with a \$150 fee. Applications will not be accepted after March 26.

Questions? Contact Kristen Brett or Mark Dial.

*USEF Active Athletes. Ms. Kanavy had nothing new to report.*

USEF International Disciplines Committee Report. Ms. Stevens said the Committee will meet Feb. 7; she will also meet with Kristen Brett and Mark Coley, USEF Director of Development, to discuss raising the \$25,000 in funding to host the 2016 NAJYRC. Ms. Corcoran suggested having each AERC-I regions agree to contribute a set amount, with donors encouraged to make five-year pledges to provide stable funding. Young riders from each zone should also be challenged to fundraise, whether individually or collectively. Committee members requested that Ms. Brett have USEF staff develop a slideshow-video containing images from the 2015 NAJYRC and Young Riders Championship to show potential donors/sponsors.

AERC Liaison Report. Mr. Campbell said the board has received several emails from members about the Jan. 30 Al Wathba video, but has not yet proposed action.

Ride Funding Subcommittee. Ms. Corcoran/Mr. Stevens had nothing to report.

Chairman's Report – Dr. Sleeper said the USEF Technical Committee is still considering hosting a 2017 North American Championship. The request for competitive trail rides sanctioned by AHA to count towards novice qualifications is problematic because AERC is the recognized national federation for endurance, but she is hopeful it will ultimately be approved since AHA is a USEF affiliate too. Dr. Sleeper said Ms. Barnett offered to set up a Café Press site for AERC-I logo items; committee members support this idea and Ms. Howell offered to assist with the process. Ms. Barnett has existing AERC-I logo inventory from Tinker Hart and agreed to coordinate staffing of a booth at the convention. Carolyn Hock and Lucie Hess offered to help; additional volunteers are needed. Dr. Sleeper provided a schedule with deadlines for when each committee member is tasked with providing an Endurance News column.

Zone Representatives Reports:

Central Zone – Ms. Dunn noted that the zone had an excellent turnout of young riders at the Jan 29-30 Broxton CEI event to develop a strong team for NAJYRC.

North East – Ms. Corcoran said Natalie Muzzio has agreed to serve as zone chef for NAJYRC. At this time, the Northeast Zone does not plan to host an FEI ride in 2016.

Mountain Zone – Mr. Stevens noted that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Ft. Howes ride and that he is working to fill the vacant position for zone representative.

Pacific North – Ms. Barnett continues updating AERC-I website information.

Pacific South – Reps will be at the convention and assist with the AERC-I booth.

South East – Ms. Kenelly had nothing new to report.

Other Business. Attendees agreed to develop a written response to the disturbing video of the finish of the Jan. 30 young riders event at Al Wathba. Mr. Stevens offered to share his draft with the rest of the committee so that a consensus may be quickly developed. Several committee members expressed the concern that if FEI does not act quickly and announce a change the venue for the 2016 WEC, USEF should consider a boycott of this event and instead focus its resources on domestic FEI championships. Mr Dial suggested a subcommittee made up of himself, Dr. Sleeper, Bill Stevens, Mary Howell and Holly Corcoran draft a proposal, which could then be forwarded to the entire committee for approval.

ADJOURNMENT        On a motion by Mr. Dial, seconded by Mr. Stevens, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m. EST.

Respectfully,  
Meg Sleeper, Chair

## MOTION PROPOSAL

**Motion Name** Longevity Recognition Program

**Proposing Committee** Competition

**Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)** March 14, 2016

**Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy) Policy**

**Proposed Motion (use exact wording)**

A horse that completes at least 50 miles each year (in endurance or limited distance rides – does not have to be consecutive years) would get recognition at 5 year increments, starting at the 10 year plateau. The horse's owner would receive a patch or pin (still to be determined), their names listed in an issue of Endurance News, and a power point slide listing the preceding year's new longevity recipients at either the regional or national award ceremony at the annual convention.

In order for a horse to qualify for this Longevity Recognition Program, the horse must be registered in the AERC horse mileage program and the rider/owner must be a current AERC member.

**Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)**

At the suggestion of one of our members and in keeping with this organization's emphasis on competition longevity, this motion would put a program in place that would acknowledge all horses that compete year after year at any sanctioned distance of 25 miles or greater.

The technical committee will write a program that will produce an annual report listing those horses in the horse mileage program, which in that year, reached the plateau of 10 years of completing at least 50 miles a year (in LD or endurance), and those horses who in that year reached the 15, 20 and 25 year plateau.

**Budget effect/impact** - \$300 or less to write the program, the cost of a patch or pin and postage to rider.

**Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization**

This program would recognize the entire career of those horses that may start in LD, move up to endurance and then later in their career move back to the LD distances. Because the owners of these horses who reach plateaus must be current members, it may encourage members to retain their membership because as they age and go to LD rides, those miles will also count in this program.

**Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)** - The office will be given the task of producing the report and mailing the patches or pins to the recipients.

**Committees consulted and/or affected** - Competition Committee, Technical Committee, National Office.

**Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)** - Immediately.

**Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)** - None

**Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)**

Competition Committee, Kathleen Henkel, Executive Director

## MOTION PROPOSAL

The AERC Bylaws require that Robert's Rules (RR) "shall govern the meetings of ... the Board". This Motion complies with RR guidance. Thus, the "Proposed Motion" specifies the actions to be taken should the Motion be adopted. These actions are specified in the "Resolved" clauses. The "Whereas" clauses provide context to aid comprehension of the "Resolved" clauses. These are needed because the Motion should be able to stand alone. The other material in this Motion Proposal is required by our internal policy for Motions. It adds other important background and context information, but it has no force (i.e., it does not commit AERC to anything).

**Motion Name:** AERC Social Media Moderator Policy

**Proposing Committee** Motion proposed by BOD member Tom Bache

**Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)** March 14, 2016

**Classification of Motion Request** New Policy

**Proposed Motion**

*Whereas,* The AERC Board of Directors (BOD) controls various social media sites that are provided to allow free discussion of AERC issues by the membership and sometimes non-members as well; and

*Whereas,* The AERC President may choose to appoint Moderators to police selected sites to delete posts deemed to be inappropriate

*Whereas;* That site users and Moderators need clear guidance ("Policy") on what is and is not permitted in Posts to the site; and

*Whereas;* That the Policy needs the flexibility to evolve as technology and circumstances evolve; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the AERC President shall propose a Moderator Policy and submit it for approval by a majority vote of the BOD; and

*Resolved*, That subsequent modifications to the Moderator Policy may be developed at the discretion of the AERC President and implemented unless two or more BOD members object; and

*Resolved*, That implementation of revised Moderator Policy will require a Motion passed by majority vote when there is objection to this revision by two or more members, and

*Resolved*, That the current Policy be stated clearly on all moderated sites; and

*Resolved*, That to the extent that is practical, authors of deleted Posts should be informed that their post has been deleted and the penalty for further transactions against the stated policy; and

*Resolved*, That the President is directed to make his/her best effort to select Moderators who are neutral with respect to current and ongoing debates; and

*Resolved*, That the President is directed to remove or replace any Moderator that fails to comply with the stated Policy.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

This Motion assumes that (1) AERC wants to continue to provide social media outlets for our members and perhaps other interested people; (2) AERC wants to assign people (“moderators”) to monitor these sites to keep the content civil and constructive. This is consistent with common practices for sites similar to ours.

This Motion requires that AERC upgrade its social media policies to be consistent with those of others who monitor content on social media sites.

The Motion does not specify the exact wording of the Moderato Policy because this would fix those words and (to comply with RR) require another Motion for changes now and in the future. Instead, passage of this Motion starts specifies a process for developing, implementing, and modifying the Moderator Policy over time. The specified process will probably unfold in a simple and straightforward way, but there is some complexity to manage controversy should it arise now or in the future.

The following is an initial draft of the Policy to provide an indication of what such things usually include. The President could offer this to the Board for approval or offer something else he develops by any method he thinks appropriate.

#### Suggested Moderator Policy

AERC welcomes comments about all subjects related to Endurance Riding including AERC policies and management. By posting on this site, you agree not to make unlawful, abusive, defamatory, vulgar, or obscene comments. You also agree to refrain from promoting or advertising goods and services, political comments, illegal activity, infringing on the proprietary rights of any party, or impersonating another person or entity. AERC reserves the right to remove any posts and/or block users that violate these agreements.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate) None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

Social media is an important element of modern communication, so our members want to use it. But they also want it to be effective and efficient for them. This Motion contributes to that Member objective, and it also assures them that AERC manages these sites with consideration and integrity.

**Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)** - Office staff (Troy Smith) is now one of the Moderators. She is an ideal example of the neutrality we should seek in selecting moderators. This has impact on the office work load, but this Motion would not increase that impact.

**Committees consulted and/or affected** - None.

**Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)** - This Motion simply requires an upgrade of ongoing actions. The only requirements for something new are to articulate our policy in writing, to enhance moderated sites to include the written policy, and, where it is practical, to implement a method for informing posters whose posts were deleted. These can all be doable within a few months and certainly prior to the mid-year meeting.

**Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)** - None.

**Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees)** - None needed.

## MOTION PROPOSAL

**Motion Name** Additional Trail Master Class

**Proposing Committee** Trail

**Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD)** March 14, 2016

**Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)** new

**Proposed Motion (use exact wording)** Add up to \$2,000 (depending upon the number of AERC members that enroll in the class) to the 2016 Trail Master budget to cover AERC member tuition for the Trail Master class scheduled at Fort Stanton that has been financed through a donation that occurred after the budget was approved.

**Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)**

AERC received a \$5,000 donation specific to a Trail Master class at Fort Stanton. This class has been scheduled for April 22, 2016. The donation pays for the other ½ of AERC member's tuition, Mike Riter's travel expenses and incidentals. The AERC Trail Master budget needs to be adjusted to pay the first ½ of AERC members as is usually done for Trail Master Classes.

**Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate):** Adjust budget to add \$2000 to the Trail Master class budget.

**Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization:** This adds an additional Trail Master Class to benefit the membership at a reduced cost to both members and AERC.

**Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget):** Minimal additional work associated with adding a trail master class.

**Committees consulted and/or affected:** Trails

**Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial):** Adjust budget and pay bills for additional Trail Master class.

**Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets):**

Attach Bonebrake donation letter

**Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees):** Trails