

AERC Board of Directors Conference Call

April 10, 2017

President Paul Latiolais called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. PST

Present at the meeting were Paul Latiolais, Lisa Schneider, Susan Garlinghouse, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Monica Chapman, Connie Caudill, Sue Keith, Janet Tipton, Mary Howell,, Susan Kasemeyer, Duane Barnett, Barbara Reinke, Roger Taylor, Andrew Gerhard,, Mike Maul, Heather Reynolds, Bob Marshall, Michael Campbell, Paul Sidio, Christoph Schork, Jody Wyatt, John Parke. Youth representative Sarah Holloway

President Paul Latiolais asked for any changes to the agenda. None requested

Susan Garlinghouse moved to accept agenda, second by Connie Caudill. Motion passed

Mary Howell made a motion to excuse Jan Stevens, Nick Kohut, Olin Balch, Roger Taylor second, motion passed

Roger Taylor moved to approve the BOD minutes 3/9/17, Convention General Session meeting minutes 3/11/17 and the convention BOD minutes 3/12/17. Second by Susan Garlinghouse . Passed

Roger Taylor moved to accept 12/6/16 and 3/11/17 AERC-1 minutes, second by Connie Caudill. Passed

Roger Taylor announced -Deidre Monroe, our trails advocate, has two major trails projects going on with Carson National Forest, who wishes to review the MOU. Roger sent it to Kathleen to sign.

Membership report - 4/10/17

Membership as of 4/11/2016	4323
Membership as of 4/7/2017	4045
Sanction fees as of 4/7/2016	\$ 13,245
Sanction fees as of 4/7/2017	\$13,468
Rider as of 4/7/2016	\$ 15,089
Rider as of 4/7/2017	\$14,573
New members as of 4/11/2016	359
New members as of 4/7/2017	301

Business before the board

Steph Teeter will now be the NW sanctioning director.

Jody Wyatt has declined to be P&G Chair, Paul has been in discussion with another potential chair person and plans to present the name for approval at the May meeting. The Research Committee will need a new chair, Paul hopes to have a name by May meeting.

Ratify formation of the Ad-Hoc investigation committee with all Central region directors plus John Parke, with Monica Chapman as Chair on Central Region Shanghai ride investigation. Susan Garlinghouse moved, second by Mollie Krumlaw -Smith . Passed

Motions before to board

The Trails Committee motion from committee – Chair Monica Chapman stated this policy will allow trails grants to bring in outside money but with some controls so the office would not be over worked with small donations. Motion passed one opposed.

Proposing Committee: Trails and Land Management Committee

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD): April 10, 2017

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

Proposed Motion (use exact wording): Donations may be made to fund AERC Trail Projects in one of two ways:

1) Funds donated to AERC for our general trail use are deposited directly into our trails grants reserves for unspecified trail projects. These funds are allocated to and as projects are identified and approved by the AERC Trails and Land Management Committee and Board of Directors.

2) AERC will also allow for the donation of funds (cash only) to be collected and used for a specific trail project. All of these projects must present a financial plan (to exceed \$1,500), a detailed project scope, must meet all current policy for an AERC Trail project, and be approved by the AERC Trails and Land Management Committee and AERC Board. All funds donated to a specific trail project must include the name of the project with the donation. All donations must be a minimum of \$25.

Once funds have been donated the donor has no right to further designate their specific use.

Any donation made to AERC on behalf of our trails fund is an allowable tax deduction based on IRS regulations for the related tax period. Cancelled checks and credit card receipts may be used as supporting documentation.

Any donation of over \$1,000 will receive a thank you letter from the AERC office stating the amount donated.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving): The Project Related Trails Grant Donation Policy will clarify the process and restrictions donors must understand when they make donations to an AERC Trails Grant. In the past AERC members have wanted donors to be able to get tax deductions for such items as gates, hand tools, etc. Small dollars donations have also been encouraged. It is not feasible to expect the AERC office to handle these donations for all of the small projects our members are part of across the United States. There are plenty of friends groups at most of these locations to handle any projects under the \$1500 amount. In the past the Trails and Land Management Committee has not encouraged Non AERC funded trail projects to be run through AERC. The policy would publicize AERC as a Trail Grant source to a wider base of user groups and Land Managers. This would be great public awareness for AERC.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate): None

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization: AERC members would be able to encourage donors a tax deduction in supporting trails projects. The trails grants are a positive talking point with Land Managers about AERC.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget): Increased time in accepting donations and paying grant invoices.

Committees consulted and/or affected: Finance & Office

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Publicize the new policy in Endurance News, AERC Facebook pages, and email lists.

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

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees): Trails and Land Management Committee, Finance Committee, AERC Office.

Stabling Motion: Connie Caudill – riders are responsible for their horse from the time of arrival until departure from ride camp. This solely is on the owner and rider of the horse not on ride management. A question was asked if this motion passed, would it start this ride season or wait until next year? Dr. Garlinghouse asked about sending out post cards if it is this ride year.

Steph Teeter moved to send motion to the rules committee for clarification on the wording. Mary Howell second. Motion passed with 3 opposed.

Proposing Committee Heather Reynolds/Connie Caudill

Date of Motion To be presented in the 4/10/17 Board meeting

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

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

Rule 11.2

Riders/owners should follow safe and proper containment procedures at an endurance ride and are solely responsible for their equines at all times

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

No containment is totally safe or fool proof. Riders/owners are the people who are responsible to make sure that their horses are securely contained at all times

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

Not sure, but if enacted immediately a post card would need to be sent out to all households.

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

Just adding to the rule that the rider is the responsible party and emphasizing that they need to be diligent in how they contain and take care that their horses are under control

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget): Notifying the membership

Committees consulted and/or affected: None

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial): Immediately

Young Riders Team Challenge Motion – Steph Teeter, motion from committee second by Roger Taylor. Motion amended cost from \$10.00 per team to free. Amended to start May 1, 2017. Motion passed.

Motion Name: Young Rider Team Challenge

Proposing Committee: Junior/Young Rider

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD): April 2017

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

Proposed Motion (use exact wording):

Create a team competition for Young Riders. These teams would compete against each other formed by regions. Using AERC points for each of the team members at individual competitions throughout the competition year. The teams would be for all eligible riders in the recently formed AERC Young Rider's Division. Teams of up to 5 Young Riders from AERC Regions with an unlimited number of teams within a region, including individual or combined teams for high schools & colleges. *See attachment Team Challenge Rules.*

Background, analysis and benefit:

We have polled many current and past endurance youth and found that many quit competing during their high school and college years because the endurance competitions are not an official sport and absences for these events are not excused. This would create an avenue that once developed could be proposed to athletic directors at the aerc members schools as an organized school sport.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate):

Minimal, we have people interested in sponsoring awards and individuals interested in getting the program started. We will be charging a minimal fee of \$10.00 per team to help offset any costs incurred for time spent to get the registrations processed.

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

This would create a nice way to develop and promote the new AERC Young Riders Division. Young Riders would form teams from their regions and/or teams created in high school or college thus creating friendships and learning team skills. Having an organized competition such as a high school team would provide students with an avenue to compete and train as school athletes and have their absences excused for team competitions. *See attachments draft team letter and team excuse.*

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget):

A small amount of time may be required of the AERC office to input registrations and if needed to verify results.

Committees consulted and/or affected:

Junior/Young Rider & Membership. Paperwork would be complied by the Team Coaches and submitted to the Young Rider Team Challenge Coordinator for verification and year-end tally. *See attachments team registration & team tally.*

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

The formation of teams would include a Coach to be in charge of submitting the necessary paperwork and fees. The team members would need to be AERC Young Rider members in good standing with AERC. The competition year would run concurrently with the AERC ride year. We would like to start this program on June 1 for the 2017 ride year with the time between now and June 1 to be used to promote and register teams.

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

I have attached several documents that would be part of the package to be distributed to High Schools and Colleges on request and for your review in voting on this motion.

1. All youth must be eligible to compete in the AERC Young Rider Division.
 2. Teams should be made up of Young Riders within their AERC Region, and by high schools and colleges or combined teams within the AERC Region from multiple high schools and colleges.
 3. If a Young Rider is not able to compete the entire year due to illness or another reason such as horse injury, the Team Coach can submit a replacement to the Team Challenge Coordinator for approval with reason for replacement. (Points for the old member will stand and points for the new member will only count for future events once approval has been given, no retroactive points for new member.)
 4. Ownership of a horse is not required and you can compete on any number of horses.
 5. It is not mandatory that each Team compete together or that the entire team be present at a ride for points to count towards the Team Challenge. However the more team members present the more points that will count towards that event.
 6. All teams must be registered with AERC on or before the first competition in which the team wishes to have points tallied. **The Team Challenge year will be from Dec. 1 – Nov. 30, and no points will be given retroactively for rides before registering your team.
 7. All team tally sheets must be recorded 60 days after the ride for the points to count, any received after 60 days will not be counted.
 8. Printed AERC ride results can be submitted with team members highlighted as official results along with the tally sheet.
 9. It is the responsibility of the Coach to send the team results into the Team Challenge Coordinator.
 10. The Overall Champion Team, Reserve Champion Team and Top Team in each Region will be selected on the basis of points accumulated at events attended by the team members during that challenge year. The highest scoring five events for each team will be totaled by the Team Challenge Coordinator and used to determine the winners. (An event will consist of all distances on the same day of the same ride, for multi-day rides each day will be a separate event and tallied on a separate tally sheet.)
 11. Teams are composed of 5 Young Riders and at a given ride if all five team members compete only the top three placing team members' points will be counted. If four team members compete only the top three placing team members' points will be counted. If three or fewer team members complete all team members points will count. (Team members at the same event can ride in any distance on the same day to be counted, so your five team members can ride in different distances and still be counted as the same event as long as they are on the same day.)
 12. AERC Points as given online for our new AERC Young Rider division will be how points are accumulated, any tie breakers at year end will be based on number total number of BC's for tied teams.
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13. Team Points will be tallied monthly throughout the year and the teams will be posted on the AERC website in ranked order.

**For the 2017 ride year the Young Rider Team Challenge will begin on June 1st – Nov. 30th.

The BOD went into executive session to discuss impending legal issues. Started at 6:40 p.m. PST
Executive session came out of session at 7:23 p.m. PST

President Paul Latiolais – on dates for the BOD Midyear meeting in Chicago, IL. August 26 had some votes but several people can't make it to have a quorum. Paul will do another poll with the results at the May meeting.

With no other business before the board. John Parke made a motion to adjourn, second by Connie Caudill

Meeting adjourned 7:43 p.m. PST

Respectfully submitted by Sue Keith