

## USDF FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Teleconference  
January 26, 2010

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Attending:	George Williams, President	Melissa Creswick, Vice-President
	Janine Malone, Secretary	Steven Schubert, Treasurer
	Alison Head, Region 1 Director	Terry Wilson, Region 7 Director
	Ken Levy, Region 2 Director	Fern Feldman, Region 8 Director
	Sandi Bishop, Region 3 Director	Bess Reineman, Region 9 Director
	Lloyd Landkamer, Region 4 Director	Cindy Vimont, Staff
	Theresa Hunt, Region 5 Director	Deborah Dunivant, Staff
	Donna Longacre, Region 6 Director	Stephen Hienzsch, Executive Director
		Sam Barish, Past President

### **Call to Order and Agenda Review (Additions/Corrections) - George Williams**

George called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm. He requested additions to the agenda and there were none.

### **Conflict of Interest & confidentiality forms, questions from EB members**

George requested that conflict of interest forms be sent to Deborah and stressed the importance of disclosing conflicts of interest and in confidentiality of information discussed in meetings. Deborah drew attention to the details of the forms and the procedure for declarations. George asked if there were any questions regarding the information sent to new EB members and regional directors and there were none.

### **Commission to study peer to peer competition and proposed appointments**

George reviewed his recommendation to appoint a commission to develop a plan to have similar levels of horses and riders competing against each other in “peer to peer” classes. Janine, Melissa and Lloyd reviewed examples where special divisions have already been created in shows and GMOs to incorporate this concept. George requested that Melissa Creswick chair a commission to include people with experience in other disciplines. Donna and Janine agreed that Novice and Limit divisions that are currently in the USEF rule book would be interesting to consider. It was suggested that an eventing rider should be added to the committee, and several names were mentioned as possible committee members. George envisions a committee of between five and seven members. George would like to have a recommendation from the committee by the end of the year and would like committee members suggested in the next few weeks. Suggestions should be sent to George and copied to Cindy and Melissa.

### **Ad Hoc Certified Instructor Strategic Planning Committee and proposed appointments**

George explained that the Certified Instructor program is good but needs improvement. More young professionals need to be involved and the program needs to become more attractive. USEA and USHJA now have programs and they are thriving. This issue will be approached from two different angles. George would like to form a planning committee to review where the program should go and how it should get there. Recommendations for the committee are Karen O'Connor, who is involved in the USEA program and Chrystine Tauber, with the USHJA. George recommended several names as possible committee members. Janine suggested adding a critic of the program, such as a non-certified high performance rider. Ken suggested adding a non-high profile instructor who could provide insight on why local instructors are not participating in the program. George would like to keep the committee to five people, but he would like to also include someone who is certified and has reached high performance success. Janine reviewed the second “angle” where a joint committee under the USEF FEI Affiliates Working group would appoint a committee to help provide direction and incentive to all the FEI affiliates in providing goals and direction for all of the affiliate instructor certification programs. Board members should suggest names to Cindy and copy George within the next two weeks

### **Committee on Governance Update**

Alison has been asked to continue as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Governance. The committee will continue

looking at council/committee restructuring, the presidential queue system, and finally, the size of the BOG, in that order. George would like to focus on one thing at a time, starting with council/committee restructuring.

**Committee Structure:**

George stated that the Audit Committee and Steering Committee should be moved outside the Administrative Council. Neither committee should have representatives on the Administrative Council. Alison noted that neither of these committees will be allowed to have a member on the EB. **Alison MOVED and Janine SECONDED a motion to remove the Audit Committee and Steering Committee from the Administrative Council so that they are independent of the Administrative Council. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Several chair positions are still open. The EB discussed several individuals who are qualified to chair the Membership, Steering, Certification and Officials, and Youth Programs committees. Possible chairs for the Judges and Competition Management subcommittees were also discussed.

**Discuss additional EB appointments to Councils**

George suggested waiting a bit longer to name appointments to 2010 councils. Terry suggested putting together a list of names so we can ensure that all levels of our members are represented in the structure. Janine suggested that a chart be created with all the names appointed so far, similar to the USEF Board appointment chart. It was also agreed to send a list of good/active C/C members who should be included in the new structure.

**“Inside USDF” column assignments for remainder of 2010.**

George will send list of topics and allow EB members to sign up for columns in USDF Connection each month, beginning with April issue. He would like to get names assigned with topics in the near future so that EB members have more advance notice than in the past about producing the column.

**Management Committee (RD appointment)**

George said that a regional director election of one RD to the Management Committee should have been made in December 2008 but was overlooked. We need a motion to keep Sandi as interim regional director on the Management Committee until an election can be held at the spring meeting. **Terry MOVED and Alison SECONDED a motion to appoint Sandi as the interim Management Committee member until a new member is elected at the spring EB meeting.** Only regional directors voted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Performance Standards/Riders' Tests joint Task Force**

USDF needs to appoint representatives to the Performance Standards/Riders' Tests joint task force. USEF has appointed Lisa Gorretta (chair), Janet Foy, Jayne Ayers, Marianne Ludwig, Hilda Gurney, and Hilary Clayton. Lisa Gorretta has suggested three people be appointed from USDF, to include one EB member. The EB appointed two members to this task force in addition to Fern Feldman, as the EB representative.

**Youth Executive Board**

George said we need to formally dissolve the Youth Executive Board (YEB) and cancel the 2010 YEB nomination and election process. Janine expressed concern that we have no plan for involving youth going forward. This requires more discussion than we have time for in this call. How will youth remain involved? With the youth silent auction and scholarships continue? Janine recommended a transition plan. It was generally noted that the EB needs to develop a transition plan. Cindy and Alison expressed the opinion that the current Youth EB should be allowed to go forward for this year. Stephan said the Youth EB was informed at the 2009 convention that changes are planned. The current board decided to remain active, but they did not hold their normal officer elections. Stephan said election ads need to be placed now and a motion is needed by the EB so that 2010 elections are not held. **Janine MOVED and Alison SECONDED a motion to suspend Youth EB elections for 2010 in order to facilitate transition to a new committee structure. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**Request from Regional Championship Committee chair**

The Regional Championship Committee has asked to implement immediately a “change of region” late fee of \$300, from August 1 to the closing date for each regional championship, for the current championship year. This provision was approved at the 2009 BOG with the original intent to go into effect for the 2011 championship year. Cindy explained that the committee asked to implement this for 2010 instead of waiting to 2011. Since it isn't written in the

rules, there is some risk that some competitors won't be aware of this option, if approved. The EB discussed pros and cons since this was approved by the BOG with a 2011 implementation date. Janine suggested that this option, if approved, be published in the regional championships prize lists and master omnibus. Lloyd explained how this change would increase flexibility for some competitors. **Janine MOVED and Theresa SECONDED a motion to change the effective date from 2011 to 2010 for implementing a "change of region" late fee of \$300 from August 1 to the closing date for regional championships.** Cindy explained the current rules and process. **MOTION CARRIED. Fern, Sandi and Terry ABSTAINED.**

Ken had a question on regional coordinator appointees. It was confirmed that only Nominating and FEI Jr/YR Coordinators are needed at the current time.

George adjourned the meeting at 10:23p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine W. Malone  
USDF Secretary