

USDF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Teleconference
November 15, 2011

Attending: George Williams, President Beth Jenkins, Vice-President
 Janine Malone, Secretary Steven Schubert, Treasurer
 Lisa Schmidt, Region 1 Director Fern Feldman, Region 8 Director
 Ken Levy, Region 2 Director Stephen Hienzsch, Executive Director
 Kimberly Taylor, Region 3 Director Cindy Vimont, Staff
 Lloyd Landkamer, Region 4 Director Kathie Robertson, Staff
 Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director Erica Minks, Staff
 Donna Longacre, Region 6 Director Kim Sodt, Staff
 Terry Wilson, Region 7 Director Sharon Vanderziel, Staff

Absent: Bess Reineman, Region 9 Director

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

George called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm. George added one item to the agenda regarding an update regarding the appointment of committee chairs for 2012-2013. Janine requested to add two short items: a report from the USEF Task Force on Collection of Non-USEF Fees, and a report from the USDF Sport Horse Committee on consideration of adding Young Event Horse classes to DSHB competitions. **Kimmie MOVED and Heather SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.**

Committee Chair Updates

George reported that he had contacted Kat Kyle, Kristi Wysocki, Holly Hilliard, Lois Yukins and Gary Rockwell, all of whom have agreed to chair their respective committees for 2012-2013. Debra Reinhardt is considering the invitation to chair the Competition Management Committee. George said that two chairs positions still must be appointed and are on the agenda to discuss during this meeting.

Youth Programs Advisory Sub Committee (proposed revision to its structure) – Erica Minks

Erica said she had looked for directives regarding how to populate this subcommittee and there were none. The subcommittee would consist of six members plus the chair, plus the two representatives on the USEF Young Equestrian Advisory Group, for a total of eight members plus the chair. She noted that individuals nominate themselves for the two age brackets for the USEF Young Equestrian Advisory Group. Fern expressed concern that this is only a one-year term. Terry asked how the chair determines who to appoint, since there are no guidelines in the document. What is the criteria for being on the committee? EB members expressed concern that a youth subcommittee chair will appoint the rest of the subcommittee. George asked for approval in concept, to send it back to Roz Kinstler's committee to further develop. **Terry MOVED and Donna SECONDED a motion to approve in principle the concept of having a Youth Programs Advisory Subcommittee but that the appointment structure be clarified to establish specific guidelines and criteria for membership on the subcommittee. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Proposal for change in "L" Program Committee size and membership – Kim Sodt

Kim explained the proposal presented to the EB is based on recommendations from the EB in early 2011. "L" program chair Marilyn Heath had requested that all faculty be on the "L" Committee, with an advisory group to be appointed with no voting rights on the committee. Two options are listed in their report, and they recommend approval of Option 1. Option 1 specifies that three people will be appointed as non-voting advisors. The "L" Committee supported Option 1 since they don't want to lose voting rights of the faculty members. **Terry MOVED and Donna SECONDED a motion to accept Option 1 as recommended by the "L" Program Committee. MOTION CARRIED.**

Freestyle Committee recommendation to USEF for dressage judge designation – Kim Sodt

Kim said that this is a joint proposal from the Freestyle and Judges Committees that USDF should request of the USEF Dressage Committee that Freestyle be given a designation as is given by USEF for DSE and YH. Those USEF licensed officials who attend a USEF freestyle event would be tracked and recognized by an asterisk, or some other distinguishing mark/symbol, in the USEF licensed officials listing. It should be noted that USEF, in their licensed officials publications, now tracks and recognizes judges who attend a Young Horse or Dressage Seat Equitation educational event by an asterisk. Lloyd asked why this is necessary and it was noted that the committee felt shows need to know who has the experience and knowledge to judge freestyles. The EB discussed the reasons such training and designation should be requested. **Donna MOVED and Lisa SECONDED a motion to accept the proposal from the Freestyle Committee to recommend to USEF that a designation be given for Freestyle. MOTION CARRIED.**

Instructor-Trainer Chair – Kathie Robertson (bio info for the three names mentioned on the last EB is attached)

George said he has had conversations with several people regarding the chair position and noted that this is an important committee that has an impact on the future of dressage. George thinks the chair needs name recognition and respect from the entire dressage community. The chair needs to be relevant to the sport so it is meaningful to upcoming trainers and it probably should be a co-chair position that has geographic diversity between the co-chairs. The new chair or chairs need to know the committee well and have some history with the program. George thinks we need to take time to find the right people and recommended two individuals as co-chairs. Both have been passionate about the program and have the necessary experience, history and credentials. Donna felt this is a good idea to give the program credibility. Kathie noted that with the change of administration over the years, everything is now organized in house by USDF and she feels it is easier now for the chair to work with the committee and staff. A motion was approved to ask the two trainers to co-chair this committee.

Membership- Review of Membership Committee mission and goals (mission and goals reference document is attached)

Stephan said the mission and goals were sent to the EB for both the Membership and GMO committees. Stephan feels that we need to clarify the purpose of the Membership Committee and that it will be difficult for any chair and committee without better definition of what the EB expects it to accomplish. He feels it is a disadvantage to the chair and committee to have inadequate guidance from the EB. Janine expressed the opinion that the mission and goals of both the Membership and GMO Committees are very broad and that they needed more EB guidance in setting specific objectives. Ken, as a former Membership Committee chair, felt that a future Membership Committee needs to reach across boundaries of GMOs and all membership types, as well as the programs, in order to be effective. George explained that the EB has already determined that we need a membership advisory committee. There is a need to meet the goal but we are not reaching that goal with the current system in place. Stephan noted that the BOG represents the membership. Maybe the Membership Committee should be a small group populated by members of the BOG. George recommended that the current Membership Advisory WG should recommend how to proceed in the future. A liaison between BOG and the EB should be the function of the revised structure. **Donna MOVED and Lisa SECONDED a motion that Stephan work with the current Membership Advisory WG to reorganize the Membership Committee to incorporate BOG representation with the goal of best serving the needs of the membership.** It was clarified that a proposal should be developed at the latest by spring 2012 but that the chair will be asked to delay appointment of the 2012 committee pending restructuring discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Membership – Chair

George recommended that Anneliese Vogt-Harber remain as chair of the Membership Committee during the restructuring period.

USEF Task Force on Collection of Non-USEF Fees

Janine reported that she was appointed by USEF to be a member of a task force to review the collection of non-USEF fees at USEF licensed competitions. The task force met last week to review a report of fees currently collected by USEF affiliate organization members and the use of those fees. Five USDF GMOs currently collect non-USEF/USDF fees at USEF/USDF licensed competitions. Strong concerns were raised about the collection of non-member fees from competitors who are not members of local or regional organizations. The possibility was discussed of requiring the Recognized Affiliate for each breed or discipline to approve a participation fee. The

Working Group agreed to continue discussion within the breeds and disciplines at their upcoming annual conventions and report back to the WG in an upcoming meeting. Janine will try to meet with representatives of the five GMOs at the upcoming convention.

Young Event Horse classes in the DSHB Division

Janine explained that USEA has proposed a USEF rule change to allow Young Event Horse (YEH) classes in the DSHB division of Dressage Competitions. The USEA proposal was not supported by the USEF Dressage Committee or the USDF Sport Horse Committee, as it could hurt the USDFBC program and would conflict with several DSHB rules. However, the Sport Horse Committee supports developing a program, with the agreement of USEA, to incorporate classes for young event horses into the DSHB division and possibly into the USDFBC program. Janine will continue communication with USEA representatives to further develop a plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine W. Malone
USDF Secretary