

Minutes of the Meeting of
AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 2, 2009

The members of the American Endurance Ride Conference International Committee (the "AERC-I") of the American Endurance Ride Conference held a meeting via Conference Call at the time and on the day set forth as follows:

TIME: 6:00 p.m.
DATE: June 2, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Hal V. Hall, Chair.

Roll Call was made and the following Committee Members were present at the meeting:

Lynn Kenelly, Vice Chair
Cia Reis, East Zone Representative
Dinah Rojek, East Zone Representative
Martha McMurray, Mountain Zone Representative
Holly Ulyate, Mountain Zone Representative
Michele Roush, Pac North Zone Representative
Teresa Cross, Pac South Zone Representative
Carolyn Hock, Pac South Zone Representative
Mike Tomlinson, USEF Technical committee

The following Committee Members were absent:

Betty Baker, Treasurer
Grace Ramsey, Central Zone Representative
Jeremy Olson, Central Zone Representative
Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance director
Joe Mattingly, USEF High Performance
Jan Stevens, Junior Committee
Kirsten Kimbler, USEF Youth Council Representative
Carol Giles, Advisor

A quorum of the Committee was present. Mr. Hall acted as the recording secretary.

I. Agenda

There were no objections to the meeting agenda as presented.

II. Minutes:

Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Teresa Cross, seconded by Carolyn Hock, the May 5, 2009 meeting minutes were approved without any additions or corrections as previously mailed.

III. Treasurer's Update

In the absence of Betty Baker, the Chair presented the Treasurer's Report that addressed the following:

- A. Financial Condition – The current balance of the Checking Account is \$15,712.66 and the Certificate of Deposit is \$25,000.00 for a total of \$40,712.66. Total receipts are \$3,796.78 and disbursements are \$4,705.89 with a net of receipts of a negative \$909.11.
- B. Outstanding General Debts – Robin Groves bill \$556.61.
- C. USEF Reception Reimbursement 2008 and 2009 – USEF has been invoiced for \$900 for 2009, \$700 for 2008. Betty has not had time to follow up on the convention meeting bill the AERC paid for USEF. **Action Item:** Vonita and Betty will follow-up on the status of payment.
- D. FEI Ride Loan Reimbursement – There are two outstanding loans for a total of \$1,600 or \$800 each from the Vermont and the Shine and Shine Only rides. Was the Shine & Shine Only ride cancelled? **Action Item:** Betty will be following up on reimbursement of FEI Loan to ride manager.
- E. Multi-year Membership Dues – AERC International will be assigned the dues in the year they are owed. Discussion ensued about when AERC-I dues are earned. **Action Item:** Hal Hall will inquire to the AERC Office of the accounting of AERC-I membership dues.
- F. Other Items – Interest earned for 2009 season will be less than previous years. The Committee needs to decide if they still want to donate \$700 a year to the Junior Riders budget or just what is actually earned. The original figure was drawn from the interest earned on the CD's. Interest rates have declined significantly over the last couple of years. Remainder of donation would come out of the Committee's cash account. A **MOTION** duly made by Michele Roush, seconded by Carolyn Hock that a \$700 donation be made to Junior Riders. Dinah Rojek informed the Committee that USEF has already made a \$12,000 contribution to the Junior Riders budget. The **MOTION** failed but was tabled pending a determination that a donation is warranted. **Action Item:** Determine from Vonita Bowers if there is a need for a donation.

IV. Chair Report

Hal Hall reported upon the following from his written report:

A. AERC-I Procedures Revision

As discussed in previous meetings, the AERC-I Procedures last revised in March 2005 are out-dated and in need of revision. For example, AERC-I was originally started and funded to select and support a USA team; however, AERC-I is no longer involved in USA team selection governance assumed by USEF. In addition, FEI no longer recognizes USA zone competitions which leads us to decide on how the AERC-I Committee should be structured to best represent its members. As a result, the document should be referred to as a Charter as procedures are no longer needed. Based on prior discussions and the results of the surveys conducted, revised AERC-I Procedures have been drafted and circulated that is an attempt to better reflect the goals and purposes of this Committee. However, it may be necessary to ask the membership for their comments before a decision is reached. Upon the Committee's acceptance, the revision would have to be submitted to the AERC Board of Directors for their review and approval.

Discussion ensued that included several suggestions of possible organizational reorganization including the following:

- Dinah Rojek indicated that the current organization structure may not be appropriate given that FEI zone competitions no longer exists and that future invitational FEI competitions maybe similar to the Z-TEC and the upcoming North American Zone Challenge based on the USEF Ranked Riders List thus eliminating the need for zone selection, etc.
- Holly Ulyate suggested we may want to consider dropping the existing zone form of organization structure for something more suitable to our members.
- Cia Reis suggested we may want to wait until after the upcoming North American Zone Challenge/WEG test event to decide.
- Teresa Cross recommended that we may want to finalize this process before Zone Representative elections scheduled to occur later this year.

Action Item: The Committee is to provide their comments to the draft revision and at a future meeting we will be asked to accept the Charter. No defined timeline was established but that this matter will remain as an agenda item.

B. Support – Strategic Planning (Revenue and Spending Plan)

This was tabled to the next meeting.

C. Facilitation – AERC Endurance News Column Tentative Schedule

The tentative schedule of authors for future AERC Endurance News columns was reviewed. Connie Caudill, President of AERC, has requested that we consider authored contributions that address Canadian AERC-I members. There were no objections to having someone make such a contribution to the International Column of AERC Endurance News.

D. Education – AERC Convention Planning of Topics and Speakers

This was tabled to the next meeting.

E. Promotion – AERC Convention Reception and Booth, International Mentor List Update, Loan and Grant Program, and Rider Development Program)

Plans for the next year’s AERC Convention were tabled to the next meeting.

The International Mentor List that was sent to all Committee members was reviewed.

Action Item: Include the appropriate Zone of those listed as mentors in addition to the AERC Region before placing it on the AERC-I website.

Michele Roush indicated that the AERC database should be periodically distributed to AERC-I Committee members and may also need to be updated and/or better organized. **Action Item:** Hal Hall will inquire to the AERC Office to determine if we could receive the AERC-I membership database more frequently and whether it needs to be updated. In the meantime, the Chair will re-circulate the database copy to all AERC-I members that was received from the AERC Office in March 2009.

The AERC-I website links are outdated or go to unrelated sites and the content should be made current and relevant.

F. Inventory of Merchandise and AERC-I Store

Since Carol Giles was unable to attend this evening's meeting as she was traveling to the Ft. Howes Ride, this was tabled to the next meeting.

G. Announcements

The annual USEF Youth Sportsman's Award for the 2009 competition began on May 1, 2009, which recognizes youth members of both USEF and a USEF Recognized National Affiliate for their participation in the community and equine industry and is focused on developing leaders in the equine industry. To be considered for the award a certain criteria must be met. **Action Item:** Hal Hall will distribute the nomination packet to the Committee and placed the subject on the agenda for the July meeting. Committee member will also be asked to submit possible nominations at future meetings.

We have received two written solicitations for donations from USEF Foundation and the Kentucky Horse Park. **Action Item:** Betty Baker should report upon any past donations to these organizations. Hal Hall will summarize both requests for donations and circulate it to the Committee prior to the next meeting. This matter will also be placed on the agenda for the July meeting.

V. **Vice Chair Report**

Lynn Kenelly indicated that she did not have anything to report upon at this time.

VI. **Zone Representative Reports**

A. Central Zone Representatives

Since Grace Ramsey and Jeremy Olson were unable to attend this evening's meeting as they are traveling to the Ft. Howes Ride, no report was given.

B. East Zone Representatives

Cia Reis reported that the East Zone webpage is being updated.

Dinah Rojek reported that both a Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian have been confirmed for East Zone Team in the upcoming Kentucky Cup/North American Challenge.

C. Mountain Zone Representatives

Martha McMurray a Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian have not been chosen for the upcoming Kentucky Cup/North American Challenge.

Holly Ulyate reported one likely ranked rider from the Mountain Zone may also serve as the Chef. A concern was raised over fund raising at this point.

D. Pacific North Zone Representative

Michele Roush reported that both a Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian have been confirmed for the Pacific North Zone Team in the upcoming Kentucky Cup/North American Challenge.

Efforts to find a Zone Representative to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Hall's selection as Chair has not resulted in a recommended appointment.

E. Pacific South Zone Representatives

Carolyn Hock and Teresa Cross both reported that naming a Chef d'Equipe and Team Veterinarian is pending for the upcoming Kentucky Cup/North American Challenge. Top ranked riders are involved with the selection of both the Chef and Team Vet.

The Chair indicated that Vonita Bowers originally had a deadline of June 1st for naming each Zone's Chef and, possibly, Team Vet, but that such a request has yet to be made.

VII. USEF Advisor Updates

A. Technical committee – Mike Tomlinson, USEF Technical Committee Chair, reported upon the following:

1. There will be a new official's course at the WEG Pre-ride Test in October in Lexington, Kentucky.
2. There will be a course for any endurance veterinarian registering for and attending the FEI course at the December 2009 AAEP continuing education course.
3. June 30th is the deadline for applications for a FEI sanctioned ride in 2010.

B. International High Performance – Joe Mattingly, USEF International High Performance Committee Chair, was not in attendance and no report was given.

C. Endurance Director's Report – Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance Director, was not in attendance and no report was given.

D. USEF Youth Council Representative Report – Kirsten Kimbler was not in attendance and no report was given other than she provided the Chair with a notice regarding the Fourth Annual USEF Youth Sportsman's Award. **Action Item:** This matter will be the subject of a future agenda item.

VIII. AERC Liaison Update

A. AERC President – Connie Caudill was not in attendance and no report was provided.

B. AERC Executive Director – Kathleen Henkel was not in attendance and no report was provided.

- C. Competitions Committee Liaison – Michele Roush reported that the AERC National Championship has received dual sanctioning approval as a 160 km/100 mile FEI 3* on September 11, 2009, and as an 80 km/50 mile FEI 2* on September 11, 2009.
- D. AERC-I Young Rider Sub-Committee – Jan Stevens was not in attendance given this weekend’s Ft. Howes Ride and, as a result, no report was given.
- E. Junior Rider Representative to AERC – Kelly Kimbler was not in attendance and no report was provided.
- F. Education Committee – Susan Kasemeyer was not in attendance and no report was provided.

IX. Adjournment

There was no other business brought before the Committee and upon **MOTION** duly made by Michele Roush, seconded by Carolyn Hock, and carried, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:09 p.m., PST.

Respectfully submitted,

Hal V. Hall, Chair
AERC-I Committee