

Minutes of the Meeting of
AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 1, 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., PST
DATE: September 1, 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
Betty Baker, Treasurer
Jeremy Olson, Central Zone Representative
Grace Ramsey, Central Zone Representative
Cia Reis, East Zone Representative
Dinah Rojek, East 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
Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance director
Joe Mattingly, USEF High Performance
Kirsten Kimbler, USEF Youth Council Representative

The following Committee Members were absent:

Carol Giles, Advisor
Martha McMurray, Mountain Zone Representative
Mike Tomlinson, USEF Technical committee
Jan Stevens, Junior Committee

Others present:

Brad Green - Guest

Mr. Hall announced that a quorum of the Committee was present. Mr. Hall also served as the recording secretary.

I. Agenda

There were no objections to the meeting agenda as presented.

II. Minutes:

Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Dr. Roush seconded by Ms. Ulyate the August 4, 2009 meeting minutes were unanimously **APPROVED** with the following corrections:

- Ms. Kenelly was in attendance at the last meeting
- Dr. Ann Stuart is serving as the Chef D'Equipe for the East Zone

III. Election

Mr. Brad Green was introduced by Dr. Roush as a possible replacement of the Zone Representative vacated when Mr. Hall assumed the Chair of the Committee. Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Dr. Roush and seconded by Ms. Hock that Mr. Green be recommended to the AERC Board of Directors to fill the Pacific North Zone Representative with a term to expire 2011. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Treasurer's Update

Ms. Baker presented the Treasurer's Report that addressed the following:

- Financial Condition – The balance of the Checking Account and the Certificate of Deposit is \$40,811.08. The net of receipts and disbursements is \$3,613.66. There may yet to be possible adjustments from the AERC office.
- USEF Reception Reimbursement 2008 and 2009 Accounts Receivable – USEF has been invoiced for \$900 for 2009, \$700 for 2008, and \$330 for general convention expenses for a total of \$1,930.
- FEI Ride Loan Reimbursement – There is an outstanding loan for a total of \$800 due from the Shine and Shine Only Ride that is expected to be paid off soon.

V. Chair Report

Mr. Hall reported upon the following:

A. AERC-I Procedures Revision

The AERC-I Procedures, last revised in March 2005, has undergone revision and has been previously provided to Committee members. At the August meeting it was determined that more time was needed to review the draft and the matter tabled to the September meeting. Since then only one a minor revision occurred to reflect that elections take place on “odd” not “even” years. No other comments were received since the last meeting. Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Hock, seconded by Ms. Cross, the following Mission Statement is adopted and incorporated into the AERC-I Charter:

The International Committee of the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) shall promote excellence in the sport of international endurance riding through education, facilitation of communication and support of members of AERC and the United States Equestrian Federation.

The Motion was unanimously **APPROVED**. Further discussion ensued regarding the remaining portions of the AERC-I Charter. Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Hock, seconded by Dr. Roush, that Mr. Hall, along with any needed assistance from other Committee members, prepare the revision without edits and distribute the draft via electronic mail to the Committee for final approval prior to submission to the AERC Board of Directors with our recommendation to formally adopt and approve

the Charter. The Motion was unanimously **APPROVED**. **Action Item:** Mr. Hall will produce an unedited version of the Charter and schedule a vote via electronic mail prior to the next meeting. Upon Committee approval, the Charter will be forwarded to the AERC Board of Directors for their review and acceptance.

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

We will be working to develop a strategic spending plan that safeguards our resources, while also putting them to good use to promote USA international endurance riding, as described by revised the Committee Charter. This form of planning is typically a culmination of ideas for long-term viability of an organization and meeting related goals and purposes. Ms. Hock commented that in order to raise funds for Committee purposes it is necessary to have a well designed spending plan that promotes our goals and objectives. Ms. Baker indicated that past Committee contributions have been toward USEF's young rider programs, support of USA squads at WEGs and Pan American Championships, etc. Ms. Cross provided a history of the contribution of approximately \$22,000 many years ago from the Mark Dees Foundation which was established to spend the income to promote USA international endurance riding while preserving the corpus. Ms. Hock suggested that we expend funds to improve communications that publicizes our efforts through an enhanced web page. Mr. Hall indicated that these and other ideas such as publicizing a limited number grants to new FEI ride organizers would benefit Committee purposes further. **Action Item:** Mr. Hall will survey the Committee on establishing, at a minimum, a spending plan.

C. Facilitation – AERC Endurance News Column Tentative Schedule

The tentative schedule of authors for future AERC Endurance News columns was distributed prior to the meeting. Mr. Hall asked if there are any topics and/or authors that should be considered in future International News columns. There were no additions and/or corrections to the schedule at this time.

D. Education – AERC Convention Planning of Topics and Speakers

Ms. Kenelly has agreed to spear-head an Ad Hoc Committee that will develop educational plans for the upcoming AERC Convention in 2010 and present ideas at future Committee meetings. Mr. Mattingly indicated that the USEF High Performance Committee would be interested in coordinating educational presentations.

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

Planning for the next AERC Convention also includes a welcoming reception and trade show booth that Ms. Kenelly will be planning. Ms. Giles has volunteered to gather and inventory the Committee's merchandise and update the AERC-I Store. If anyone has any AERC-I merchandise to provide it to Ms. Giles prior to the Convention.

Consideration should be given to hosting a reception at the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge/WEG test event this October in Lexington,

Kentucky. **Action Item:** Ms. Ulyate will inquire to Emmett Ross about the prospect of hosting such a reception.

F. Announcements/Other

The 4th Annual USEF Youth Sportsman's Award has a deadline of October 31, 2009, to be processed through the AERC-I Committee, and approved by the AERC board of Directors. Ms. Kimbler explained that we have a deadline prior to our October meeting which gives us time to get any nominees through the process. Ms. Kimbler also indicated that there may be a few applicants that she spoke to at NAYRC ride last month. Mr. Hall indicated that both AERC Endurance News, and USEF and AERC web pages have announcements, a description of the nomination process, and contact information. To-date, there have been no nominations received. **Action Item:** This matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

VI. Vice Chair Report

Ms. Kenelly reported that she will seek assistance in developing plans for the AERC Convention. Ms. Hock suggested that we coordinate with youth groups to host the booth as we have done in the past. Ms. Rojek asked if we pay for the booth and it was believed that we do. **Action Item:** Mr. Hall will inquire to the AERC Office to determine if the trade show booth is complementary or if a vendor payment is required.

VII. Committee Advisor Report

Ms. Giles was not in attendance and no report was given.

VIII. Zone Representative Reports

A. Central Zone Representatives

Ms. Ramsey and Mr. Olson reported that efforts continue to ready the Central Zone squad for the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge.

Mr. Olson reported that a USEF Training Session was held a few weeks ago.

B. East Zone Representatives

Both Ms. Reis and Ms. Rojek reported efforts continue to ready the East Zone squad for the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge.

C. Mountain Zone Representatives

Ms. Ulyate indicated that efforts continue to ready the Mountain Zone squad for the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge.

Ms. McMurray was not in attendance and no report was given.

D. Pacific North Zone Representative

Dr. Roush reported that efforts continue to ready the Pacific North Zone squad for the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge.

E. Pacific South Zone Representatives

Both Ms. Hock and Ms. Cross reported that efforts continue to ready the Pacific South Zone squad for the upcoming North American Endurance Team Challenge.

IX. USEF Advisor Updates

A. Technical Committee – Dr. Tomlinson, USEF Technical Committee Chair, was not in attendance and no report was provided. Mr. Hall indicated that Dr. Tomlinson was in route to Kentucky and was not likely to attend the meeting.

B. International High Performance – Mr. Mattingly, USEF International High Performance Committee Chair, reported upon the following:

1. The IHP Committee has not met recently but efforts are being made regarding general marketing with other organizations such as Arabian Horse Association.
2. The 2010 FEI USA Ride Schedule has been approved by the Technical Committee but has not been approved by USEF. It may be necessary to revisit the schedule given a recent debate over the scheduling of the Texas Blue Bonnet and Biltmore rides.
3. The 2010 Selection Procedures for the next year's WEG have been drafted and are being reviewed by USEF's Sports and Legal departments. It may be another 30 days before the procedures are adopted. The selection process includes Selection Trials to be held in locations yet to be name in the east, west and central United States. The Final Selection Trial is likely to be held in Danville, Illinois.
4. USEF committees are working on a blanket waiver for riders wishing to compete in more than one out-of-country competition per year.
5. USEF Endurance members are likely to pay a flat IHP fee and probably will not change. However, there may be a reduced fee for CEI 1* and 2* competitions.

C. Endurance Director's Report – Ms. Bowers, USEF Endurance Director, reported upon the following:

1. A Young Rider Subcommittee has been formed that will have the initial meeting soon to address several planning matters including seeking a qualification waiver from the FEI.
2. Much time and effort have gone into planning for the North American Endurance Team Challenge (NAETC)/WEG Pre-ride event this October in Lexington, Kentucky. A revised Definite Entries document that includes a new maximum completion time mailed today. A Zone Chef meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time to discuss organizational and procedural matters for the upcoming NAETC.
3. A joint meeting of the High Performance, Athletes, and Technical Committees is scheduled for September 15, 2009.
4. Mr. Mattingly announced that new and improved USEF website has contact information for USEF endurance committee members.

D. USEF Youth Council Representative Report – Ms. Kimbler report upon the following:

1. Planning has begun on next year's USEF's North American Young Riders Championship (NAJYRC) as part of North American Youth Equestrian Games. Plans include trying to make it easier for young riders to team up on seasoned horses and to qualify for the event in years to come. To have such a competition will require a qualifications waiver from FEI which would likely increase the pool of riders. Funding is also a significant issue to resolve. A survey was sent out to everyone who has competed in the past and 20 responses have been received so far.

X. AERC Liaison Update

- A. AERC President – Ms. Connie Caudill was not in attendance and no report was provided.
- B. AERC Executive Director – Ms. Kathleen Henkel was not in attendance and no report was provided.
- C. Competitions Committee Liaison – Dr. Roush reported that the AERC Competitions Committee presented the following three motions to the Board, all of which were approved:
 - For the 100-mile horse recognition program, there will be recognition of horses that complete the first 100 miler, a Bronze level for three 100 mile completions, a Silver level for seven completions, a Gold level for ten completions, and a Platinum level for 15+ completions.
 - To increase point value of 75-99 mile rides from 1.0 point per mile to 1.25 points per mile.
 - To increase point value of 100 mile rides from 1.5 points per mile to 2.0 points per mile.
- D. AERC-I Young Rider Sub-Committee – Ms. Jan Stevens was not in attendance and no report was given.
- E. Junior Rider Representative to AERC – Ms. Kelly Kimbler was not in attendance and no report was provided.
- F. Education Committee – Ms. Susan Kasemeyer was not in attendance and no report was provided.

XI. Adjournment

There was no other business brought before the Committee and upon **MOTION** duly made by Dr. Roush, seconded by Ms. Ramsey, and carried, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:13 p.m., PST. The next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Hal V. Hall, Chair
AERC-I Committee