

Minutes of the Meeting of  
**AMERICAN ENDURANCE RIDE CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE**  
Tuesday, August 3, 2010

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: August 3, 2010

- I.** The meeting was called to order by Michele Roush, Chair, at 6:02 PM Pacific time  
**II.** Roll Call was made and the following Committee Members were present at the meeting:

Michele Roush, Chair  
Teresa Cross, Pacific South Zone Representative  
Grace Ramsey, Central Zone Representative  
Bill Stevens, Mountain Zone Representative  
Sue Hedgecock, Mountain Zone Representative  
Barbara Thomas, Pacific South Zone Representative  
Jan Stevens, AERC-I Junior Committee  
Kathy Brunjes, USEF Active Athletes Committee  
Joe Mattingly, USEF High Performance  
Mike Tomlinson, USEF Technical Committee

The following Committee Members were absent:

Lynn Kenelly, Vice Chair (unexcused)  
Brad Green, Pacific North Zone Representative (excused)  
Mary Farris, East Zone Representative (unexcused)  
Jennifer Poling, East Zone Representative (unexcused)  
Jeremy Olson, Central Zone Representative (unexcused)  
Vonita Bowers, USEF Endurance director  
Kathleen Henkel, AERC Executive Director  
Connie Caudill, AERC President (excused)  
Kirsten Kimbler, USEF Youth Council Representative  
Hal V. Hall, Advisor & financial consultant (excused)

Dr Roush announced that a quorum of the Committee was present, eventually. She also served as the recording secretary.

**III. Agenda**

Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Cross, seconded by Ms Hedgecock, the agenda was **ACCEPTED** with one change: item number 16 being moved to spot number 5.

**IV. Minutes:**

Upon a **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Hedgecock, seconded by Mr Stevens the July 5, 2010 meeting minutes were unanimously **APPROVED** as previously mailed.

**V. AERC I Young Rider Sub-Committee – Jan Stevens**

- A. Ms Stevens reported that, despite a heat index of 103, the Young Riders Championship was successful. There were 14 starters and 10 finishers. East team took the gold, Central the silver, and Mountain West took the bronze. The East team went through 1114 pounds of ice for five horses.
- B. There is an active and ongoing process being looked into for making next year's Young Riders Event a true 4\* championship

**VI. Treasurer's Update**

Mr. Hall was not present on the call, but had forwarded the latest financial statement, and asked that anyone having questions contact him directly.

**VII. Chair Report**

Dr Roush reported upon the following:

- A. There has been some difficulties regarding submission of articles for the AERC I page of Endurance News. Some deadlines are not being met. In another case, the deadline was met, but the article was bumped from publication by one written by the US team chef d'equipe regarding the regional selection trials.
- B. All zone reps are strongly encouraged to update and revamp as necessary their zone websites. The websites can be a useful tool in the dissemination of information, especially as we head into 2011 and the NAETC. Zone websites are the property of the zones, and each should be managed and paid for by the individual zones.
- C. Likewise, all zone reps are encouraged to develop an email listing of the AERC I members in their respective zones, and to use these list to post timely emails regarding information that comes out of the committee meetings. If anyone needs help doing this, Dr Roush will be happy to assist or proof read postings before they are sent out.
- D. Nominations for AERC I chair and vice chair are due Sept 15, so zone reps are asked to think about nominees and name them at the next meeting.
- E. Jeremy Olsen has had more than two unexcused absences and is not responding to emails from the current chair. Dr Roush and Ms Ramsey will attempt to communicate with him at the upcoming Observation trial in Illinois, to determine if he is still interested in participating on the committee.
- F. At this time, there are no plans for any sort of welcome reception for the endurance riders coming to WEG from around the world. After much discussion, it was generally agreed that this is something AERC I would like to undertake to organize, provided it was known that AERC I was the responsible and represented party. It was also agreed upon that AERC should be represented, and that the 2011 and possibly 2012 US FEI ride schedule should be represented, as encouragement to foreign riders

to come and participate in US rides. A table could be set up with ride entries and information. A slide show could be shown, to encourage interest. Some of the WEG officials may be able to help, as long as the date was set early enough so as to represent no conflict of interest. Dr Roush will look into multiple aspects of this and report back to the committee via emails before the next committee call.

**VIII. WEG Banner**

Dr Roush reported that Connie Caudill got a price on a 3'x5' banner: \$65. It could be put up at the Haggin turn around on loop 2, but not put up within the Horse Park, itself. Ms Cross indicated that she may have access to the banner the US had from the original WEG (in Sweden?), and that it may be able to be reused. She will look for it and contact Dr Roush with the details. Dr Roush will communicate via email with the rest of the committee

**IX. WEG Festival discipline appreciation day**

Dr Roush reported that Connie Caudill spoke with Misha Green regarding splitting a booth with AHA. Misha Green is planning to show the movie, "Arabian Silk", and would be willing to hand out AERC/AERC I literature. The minimum cost would be \$650. It is possible this cost could be split with the AERC Membership Committee. Ms Cross moved and Ms Thomas seconded, that the committee spend no more than 50% of the \$650 in order to make this happen. Dr Roush will follow up with Ms Caudill.

**X. East Zone Split**

Neither East Zone representative was present on the call, so there was no report.

**XI. Ad hoc spending committee**

No activity

**XII. Youth Council Representative application process**

Ms Brunjes reported that there will be a shift in emphasis for the Youth Council, from the annual convention/get-together, to education. Previously, the Council was an autonomous body, but with current budget crunches, etc, it will now fall under the auspices of the Affiliates Working Group. This may influence any choice of candidate for the position. A viable process for application for the position still needs to be created.

**XIII. Vice Chair Report**

Ms Kenelly being absent from the call, there was no report

**XIV. Committee Advisor Report**

No report

**XV. Zone Representative Reports**

The following reports were given:

- A. Central: no report, other than that the WEG Observation Trial will occur next week. There are already riders from the West in the area.

- B. East: No report
- C. Mountain: Ms Hedgecock asked why the EN article highlighting the Ft Howes ride was not published in last month's magazine. Dr Roush informed her that it had been supplanted by an article detailing the regional selection trials, written by team chef d'equipe, Becky Hart. Ms Hedgecock was very gracious in her response. She also pointed out an error in the zone rep listings at the front of EN. Dr Roush will follow up with troy Smith to have the correction made.
- D. Pacific North: No report
- E. Pacific South: Ms. Cross and Tinker Hart continue work on an FEI series for California for 2011, in an attempt to encourage 1 and 2 star riders

## **XVI. USEF Advisor Updates**

- A. Technical Committee – Dr. Tomlinson would like to emphasize that, although the current FEI ride calendar may so indicate, the FEI world in the US will not, actually, end with this year's WEG. There will be life after Kentucky. Any potential ride managers should make sure their applications get in now, as deadlines are coming quickly. Checks for applications will not be cashed until after USEF approval of the ride (around October) so applications now are no-risk.
  - NAETC will likely be in September of 2011 (in California), and it is anticipated that 60-100 riders will participate. It will be a wonderful opportunity for many riders to gain championship-level FEI experience, and will not be limited to just five riders, as WEG will be. Riders need to start thinking now about getting horses qualified for this!
  - It is hoped that there will be officials' courses (TD/steward) held in conjunction with 2011 AERC convention.
  - The Tech committee is still working on getting endurance included in the NAJYRC.
  - the 2014 WEG course in Normandy will be point to point, ending at a castle.
- B. International High Performance (IHP) – Mr. Mattingly, USEF International High Performance Committee Chair, reported that:
  1. The selection procedures are being created for NAETC. It may be possible to include multiple teams per zone, rather than just one, as has been traditional. The ultimate goal of NAETC, for the IHP committee, is to qualify more horses for WEC/WEG in the future.
  2. There is lots coming up after this year's WEG: in 2011, PAC in Chile, will be 120 km, NAETC, in California, will be 160 km, and European championships (unknown date/location). In 2012, it is anticipated that WEC will be in England. In 2013, NAETC will likely be in Florida, and may include PAC, as well. In 2014, WEG will be in Normandy, France. There is some money in the budget to aid riders wishing to attend PAC and European Championships next year.
  3. There will be some USEF training sessions in 2011 (date/locations unknown)
- C. Endurance Director's Report – Ms. Bowers was not on the call
- D. Active Athletes Committee: Ms Brunjes reported that she, Dr Tomlinson, and Mr Mattingly, attended the USEF mid year meeting in Kentucky. The endurance budget has, if anything, increased very slightly, which is viewed as a very positive aspect. It will be sent to the board for final review in October.
- E. USEF Youth Council Representative Report – Ms. Kimbler was not on the call

**XVII. AERC Liaison Update**

- A. AERC President – Ms. Caudill was not on the call
- A. AERC Executive Director – Ms. Kathleen Henkel was absent
- B. Competitions Committee Liaison – Dr. Roush reported that she did not have anything to report.

**X. Adjournment**

There was no other business brought before the Committee and upon **MOTION** duly made by Ms. Hedgecock, seconded by Ms. Ramsey, and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m., PST. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept 6, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michele Roush  
AERC-I Committee Chair