

**USHJA ZONE 7 HUNTER AND JUMPER COMMITTEES**  
**COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**March 5, 2007**

**Committee Members Present:** Mike Christian, Chair, Matt Cyphert, Chair, Susan Baginski, Janet Christie, Mary Ann Funk, Sue Halpern, Nancy Jones, Lauren McKenzie, Misty Morgan, Kathy O'Connor, Brody Robertson and Bill Whisenant. (12)

**Committee Members Not Present:** Pauline Cook, Micaela Kennedy, Thomas Le Blanc and Patrick Rodes. (4). (excused: Cook, LeBlanc, Rodes-notice prior)

**Also Present:** Melanie Fransen Director of Programs and Education USHJA and Melissa Pylant Zone Coordinator USHJA.

A quorum was met with 12 members present.

**I. Welcome and Roll Call**

Mike Christian opened the meeting and Melanie Fransen performed the roll call.

**II. Committee Responsibilities**

Zone 7 will hold a minimum of four joint hunter/jumper committee meetings a year with committee members asked to keep attendance at or above 50%. Committee members need to inform the Chair if they are unable to attend a committee meeting.

**III Forums/Clinic**

Holding a clinic between the GO preview and the GO show in July was discussed. A judge from the preview could stay over and hold an Ask the Judge clinic. Holding a clinic at the zone finals was also discussed as a means of improving attendance and increasing interest in equitation. USHJA informed the committee that the USHJA education fund can be used for zone clinics. Anyone with ideas is urged to contact Mike Christian.

**IV. Zone Finals**

Zone Finals will be held at Lauren McKenzie's fall horse show the week after Thanksgiving. A proposal was made to change the zone invitation process by allowing USHJA to help with the mailings for the invitations. USHJA agreed and will also attempt to speed up the point posting. Bill Whisenant is going to put together the guidelines for the new invitation process. A motion was made by Misty Morgan to change the zone finals point start date to December 1<sup>st</sup> and the cut off date to 60 days prior to the zone finals which will be October 1<sup>st</sup> this year. Motion passed.

The addition of Pre Green and Regular Working hunter classes was discussed as well as splitting the Junior Hunter and Childrens/Adult Jumper classes. A motion was made by Lauren McKenzie to offer Pre Green and Regular Working hunter

classes if enough entries received. Also, if there are 8 or more entries, Junior Hunter will be split into large and small divisions and Childrens/Adult Jumper will also be split.

A motion was also made that riders must choose to either compete in Junior or Childrens Hunter not both. Motion passed. The committee agreed to discuss the addition of confirmation classes at a later meeting.

**V. In Stride Magazine**

Nancy Jones will be collecting and sending in all zone 7 information for In Stride Magazine. Committee members are asked to have their information to her several days before USHJA closing date.

**VI. Zone Awards**

Committee would like to find a more efficient way of controlling award distribution for zone banquets. All members missing their awards should receive them in March.

**VII. Amateur Hunter Specs**

A motion was made to remove the 2'9" from the Amateur Hunter division specs and make it 3'. Motion passed. Childrens will also be changed to 3'. Adding a new low amateur owner 3' division that would also allow those riders to compete in the 3'6" class was discussed but it was not thought that zone 7 needed to add another 3' class.

**VIII. Old Business**

Based on the small number of shows in Oklahoma the committee would like to submit a proposal to have the total number of points required to qualify for the Hunter Seat Medal reduced to 12. The committee is looking for ways to increase equitation interest. Holding an equitation clinic at the zone finals, holding a forum at the zone finals, creating equitation awards and promoting the availability of equitation scholarships to parents, were several of the ways discussed. NCAA's rules pertaining to prize money were also discussed relative to college teams.

**IX. New Business**

The committee agreed to hold another joint meeting May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm central time.

**VI. Adjourn**

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Pylant

Zone Coordinator