



USHJA TCP Committee Meeting

Monday, January 28th, 2019 1:00pm ET
Teleconference: 888-392-4560 Access Code: 10646

Members Present: Shelley Campf, Connie Hunt, Karen Healey, Bernie Traurig and Kip Rosenthal (5)

Members Not Present: Colleen Brombach, Claudia Cojocar, Jay Duke, and Troy Hendricks (4)

Also Present: Whitney Barnard (Committee Liaison) and Anna-Marie Abell (Equestrian Coach)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

- Shelley Campf called the meeting to order at 1:02pm ET and Whitney Barnard performed roll call. A quorum was met with 4 voting members present.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 12/11/18

- *Ms. Hunt moved to approve the minutes from December 11, 2018. Ms. Campf seconded and the motion passed.*

III. Annual Meeting Review

Ms. Campf opened the meeting with a summary of the discussions held during Annual Meeting. She expressed her frustration with the program not being able to move forward due to fluctuating opinions on which direction it should go.

Opinions on the future of TCP varied at Annual Meeting. Some people felt that if the program offered various Levels, they should not be assigned by results as some excellent trainers do not take clients to a lot of shows. However, others felt that trainers who produce winning horses and riders should be rewarded for those accolades. If education is the only route for movement up the Levels, Grandfathering should be allowed so that trainers with distinctive accolades could skip the continuing education as they have proven to be at the top of the sport. Still others disagreed and felt that Grandfathering was not fair or necessary.

Surprisingly, the audience was very supportive of making TCP mandatory, which was different than in years past. Ms. Babick indicated that she was in support of making the certification mandatory for trainers to sign an entry blank, but felt that if the program goes this route, Grandfathering should not be allowed.

During the call, Ms. Campf pointed out that the small pool of members who attend Annual Meeting are not an accurate representation of the opinion of the whole. Ms. Healey agreed that without the Levels, the certification loses its integrity because the average lesson trainer would have the same credentials as a trainer who has coached riders to the Olympics, for example. The Grandfathering process is necessary for people like them

The committee discussed possible options for the future of TCP:

1. Close the program and sell the manual as an education resource. The Live Testing can still be developed but offered as a training and educational tool for the general membership.
2. Make certification mandatory without Levels or Grandfathering for anyone who signs an entry blank as a trainer. Everyone must complete an online training using the manual, completing the Equestrian Coach videos, and passing an exam.
 - Trainers may cheat the system by paying someone else to complete the program
 - The average lesson trainer would hold the same credentials as an Olympian
3. Offer TCP with Level advancement through education only (no Grandfathering or Levels by results), not mandatory
 - Trainers who consistently produce winning horses and riders should be rewarded for those successes
 - Winning trainers will unlikely want to participate if TCP is not mandatory. If their results don't count towards level advancement, these trainers may not find a need to participate because their winning record/reputation speaks for itself
 - It is completely impractical to Live Test every single USHJA member
4. Require certification and allow trainers to vote if they want their results to count towards Level advancement or if they would like to advance via Live Testing.
 - This would give accurate data of the trainers' preferences
 - Results-based advancement would become more popular if TCP was a required certification

In the end, the committee agreed to send Mary Babick and Kevin Price a summary of this discussion and share with them that the committee only sees two routes: fold the program or make TCP mandatory with Grandfathering. Without their direction or support, the future of TCP will continue to tread water every year. Ms. Campf will let the committee know of their response.

The discussion moved on to the remaining agenda items:

- Policy for US trainers living internationally
 - Ms. Campf asked the committee how they felt about allowing American nationals to participate in the TCP program. The committee agreed that this would help expand the program as well as provide opportunities to Americans who grew up in the States but are currently living abroad
- Equestrian Coach videos- solutions to ensure trainers are watching
 - Ms. Abell spoke to concerns regarding applicants who complete the online trainings in just a few hours. This indicates that they are not watching all the videos required and simply answering the questions until they get them correct. She suggested adding more questions so that each quiz can draw from a pool of random questions. This will force them to watch the video and know the answers in order to pass.
 - The committee approved this to move forward and asked that questions be submitted for the committee's review before going live. They also requested that a timer be added to the videos that would require viewers to run the video in its entirety before the questions can be answered.

- New pricing
 - Ms. Campf updated the committee on plans to change the pricing for 2020 and require an annual payment of \$25. This would reduce the need for a \$75 renewal fee every five years. This is still awaiting final approval.
- TCP Clinicians
 - Fran Dotoli and Zone 1 are hosting another TCP clinic in November and they would like for this committee to consider adding TCP clinicians to the current list. Ms. Campf requested that Ms. Dotoli submit a list of names and the committee will review their request for approval.

IV. Review of TCP Applications- January 15th deadline

The committee reviewed and commented on the TCP applicants who submitted applications for the January deadline. Ms. Campf indicated that this was one of the most qualified groups in a while.

- Twelve applicants were approved for Certified status
- One Provisional applicant was approved for Certified status
- One Provisional applicant was asked to submit one additional letter of recommendation as one of the references did not indicate that she knew the applicant longer than three years. The committee will review the application again once three valid references have been submitted.

Ms. Hunt motioned to approve the applicants as listed above. Ms. Campf seconded and the motion passed

V. Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss

VI. New Business

- After hearing discussions at Annual Meeting that all recommendations for Licensed Officials are no longer anonymous, Ms. Hunt asked that this committee maintain the confidentiality of the applicant review. Ms. Campf and the committee agree.

VI. Adjourn

- *There was a motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 1:53pm ET.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Barnard
 USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Education/Committee Liaison