Committee: USHJA Joint Equitation Task Force
Meeting Date: Monday, April 6, 2020
Meeting Time: 2:00 pm (EST)/ 11:00pm (PST)
Call In Number: 800-944-8766 or 888-392-4560
Code: 63350#

Members Present: Robin Rost Brown, chair; Ann Dotoli, Missy Clark, James Hagman, Karen Healey, Frank Madden, Elizabeth Pandich, Stacie Ryan, Nora Thomas, Caitlin Venezia, Cynthia Williams (11)

Members Not Present: Susan Baginski (excused) (1)

Also Present: Melanie Mader, USHJA Sport Program Coordinator; Oliver Kennedy, THIS Medal; Geoff Teall, Maclay Medal, Lizzy Chesson, USEF Managing Director Show Jumping; Erin Keating, USEF Director Jumping Development Programs; David Distler, Devon/Talent Search

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and roll call
Mrs. Brown Called the meeting to order; Ms. Mader took roll. With 11 members present a quorum was met.

II. Adoption of Agenda
Ms. Clark made a motion to adopt the Agenda; Ms. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

III. Approval of meeting minutes from February 24, 2020
Ms. Dotoli made a motion to approve the Minutes as written; Ms. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Discussion: USHJA Equitation Finals Qualifying periods/criteria
Mrs. Brown asked the show managers on the call to speak about their programs and plans for qualifying criteria, Regionals, and Finals. Mr. Teall spoke regarding the Maclay stating Ms. Campf will help in calculating a percentage of shows affected by
Mr. Distler spoke regarding Devon and WIHS. WISH is based on a taking the top 30 from the East and 10 from the West so qualifying criteria will not be affected. He was also open to expanding Devon next year to accommodate allowing Juniors who missed their last year this year.

Ms. Chesson and Ms. Keating spoke regarding USEF and Talent Search. They will be meeting to discuss their standings and qualifying lists. Ms. Chesson reiterated that it was in the USEF language that competitions would not continue until all locations were released from any shelter in place restrictions.

Mr. Kennedy spoke regarding THIS/Ariat Medals and Capital Challenge. He was in favor of a reduction in the number of qualifying points needed for Jumping Seat Medal. Since THIS & Ariat Medals are based off top 40, their numbers won’t change due to the COVID-19 suspension.

Ms. Healey made a recommendation to amend the Gladstone Cup qualifying criteria to include riders who have placed first or second in the qualifying classes listed in the Specifications. The Task Force supported this recommendation unanimously. Ms. Mader will have the data for the amended qualifying list prepared for the Task Force to review on their next call. The Task Force will review and make any further recommendations so that Hosts will not be overtaxed. Mr. Teall stated that Brandywine had applied for an extra day with USEF in the event of larger than usual numbers for Gladstone or Junior Hunter Finals. Gladstone is already on it’s own day on the West Coast.

The Task Force reviewed the criteria for 3’3” Hunter Seat Medal. They recommended unanimously amending the criteria to allow any rider who had competed in a Hunter Seat Medal class to participate in the 2020 Finals. Ms. Mader will consult with 2020 Hosts to confirm available space at the venues. (Update: TJ Campbell stated WEC could host 150 riders comfortably, as HSM has it’s own day in the show schedule)

The Task Force reviewed the 3’3” Jumping Seat Medal criteria. They recommended unanimously to lower the number of points to qualify from 15 back to 10. Mr. Kennedy related that Capital Challenge could accommodate approx. 130 riders.

The Task Force also discussed Junior Riders in their last year of showing. At this time the Task Force is not in favor of reinstating a riders last Junior year in 2021. They will continue to monitor the 2020 show season and readdress the subject if needed.

V. Old business
There was no Old Business to discuss

VI. New business
Mrs. Brown posed the topic regarding having the 2021/22 HSM and JSM hosted in the same competition. Blenheim has indicated there was space at International Jumping Festival for both Finals. The Task Force felt the East and West Coasts were different.
West Coast was open to the idea, East Coast felt that separate competitions would allow for each Final to be special in its own right. This matter will be discussed further as applications are received.

VII. Adjournment

Mrs. Brown indicated that the Task Force wished to meet every 2 weeks to stay abreast of current events and changes within the industry as we navigate the COVID-19 restrictions.

*Mr. Hagman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Williams seconded the motion; Meeting adjourned 2:46pm ET*

Committee actions resulting in a recommendation for program changes are subject to additional review in accordance with Board of Directors approved policy.