



USHJA Zone 6 Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 13, 2020 - 11:00 p.m. CT / 12:00 p.m. ET

Committee Members Participating: Mark Aplin (Chair), Dan Urban (Vice Chair), Amy Aplin, Rae Doerring, Kendra Gohr, Courtney Hayden-Fromm, Betsy Kieffer, Greg Novak, Sue Novak, Stacey Opperman, Heather Parrish, Danielle Urban and Patrice Urban (13).

Committee Members Not Present: 0

Also Present: Morgan Thibodeaux (Sports Program Coordinator), Kristin Rover (Regional Communications Coordinator) and Lynn Johnson (Sports Program Office Aide) (3).

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Aplin called the meeting to order and Ms. Thibodeaux called roll. A quorum was met with thirteen committee members present.

II. Approve the minutes

Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the March 9, 2020 minutes. Mr. Novak seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.

III. 2021 Zone 6 Specifications

Ms. Thibodeaux presented a copy of the 2020 Zone 6 Specifications to the committee. Mr. Aplin opened them up for discussion. The committee reviewed the current specifications and agreed to accept them as 2021 Zone 6 specifications. *Ms. Kieffer made a motion to approve the 2020 Zone 6 Specifications as the 2021 Zone 6 Specifications. Ms. Patrice Urban seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

Zandra Powers:

Ms. Kieffer suggested changing this to have more of a non-riding component. There are many medal type classes already. Last year, more people took the test that did not ride in the class. Mr. Aplin suggested a hands on component with agreement from Ms. Kieffer. Ms. Thibodeaux stated they did not have to have this finalized this week. They could finalize this at the May meeting. Mr. Aplin suggested a small subcommittee; Ms. Kieffer, Mr. Aplin and Mr. Urban volunteered to be on this subcommittee. They will work on this and present at the May 2020 meeting. Ms. Thibodeaux asked what the Committee wanted to do with this class for 2020 if the current suspension continues. The class is to be held in Mason City, IA in June. Ms. Kieffer mentioned states within Zone 6 all have different lock down statuses. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the committee could cancel it or reschedule it for later in the year, they are just

encouraged to have a “Plan B”. Mr. Urban stated there is a Mason City show in September and there are also several other Zone programs at that show. Mr. Aplin suggested postponing the class until the September 2020 show; if that does not happen then cancelling it. Ms. Parish stated the Zone is trying to get the HOTY Championships “off the ground” at that show. There have not been very many entries in that class. Ms. Parish stated she is in favor of cancelling it this year, revamping it and holding it in 2021. *Ms. Parish made a motion to cancel the Zandra Powers class for 2020 and bring it back in 2021. Ms. Patrice Urban seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Urban abstaining.*

Handy Hunter Challenge:

Ms. Kieffer stated she would like to see it be offered as either 2’9” and 3’ or 2’6” and 2’9”. This would help local shows be able to offer it and also B and C rated shows. If the Zone is trying to be more inclusive, this would help. If a local show applied, they would have to lower the prize money for them. Mr. Aplin stated this has been a very successful program and he is not in favor of lowering the heights and/or changing the specifications. Mr. Urban agreed with Mr. Aplin to leave this program as it is. Maybe the Zone could work with an affiliate to model this program at the lower heights. Ms. Thibodeaux stated they could receive help writing it or with awards. Ms. Opperman, Ms. Hayden-Fromm and Ms. Kieffer will work on contacting affiliates regarding this and report back to the committee. *Mr. Novak made a motion to leave the Zone 6 Handy Hunter Challenge specifications the same for 2021. Ms. Hayden-Fromm seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

Host Application:

This is a Host Application from Phoenix Equestrian Center to host the 2020 Stirrup Cup Championships. *Mr. Urban made a motion to approve the Host Application from the Phoenix Equestrian Center to host the 2020 Stirrup Cup Championships and Handy Hunter Challenge. Ms. Doerring seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

IV. Old Business

Mr. Urban advised the Omaha International Show has been cancelled for this year so the clinic that was scheduled will also be cancelled. Mr. Urban asked if the committee would be in support of this clinic for 2021. The committee agreed. Mr. Urban stated no funds had been drawn for this clinic. He would also check to make sure no other monetary commitments were pending.

V. New Business

Mr. Aplin and Mr. Urban had attended a Zone Council meeting. The Council is looking at whether the current national Zone boundaries need to be revised. This would possibly involve states being moved to other Zones. Mr. Aplin has talked briefly to Zone 5 and 7. Main thought is where do people go to horse shows? Zone 6 would pull MO and Kansas into Zone 6 (they show in Zone 6). Zone 6 would lose WI to Zone 5 as they show a lot in ILL. Mr. Aplin will email a sketch with ideas of new boundaries for feedback. This is very preliminary, with nothing actually decided. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the purpose is to possibly help riders competing out of their Zone (due to travel problems) and not getting points. New Zones could possibly be created due to geography. Committee members were encouraged to provide feedback.

VI. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m. ET

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Johnson
Sports Program Office Aide