

First	Last	Desig.	City	State	Status	Governance Exp.	Current Committee Member	2023 Attendance
Deborah	Long	Jumper	Eagle	ID	Professional	X	Y	82%
Rachel	Long	Jumper	Horseshoe Bend	ID	Professional	X	Y	91%
Gayl	Russell	Jumper	Wise River	MT	Amateur	X	Y	100%
Mary	Von Zimmermann	Jumper	Snohomish	WA	Professional	X	Y	91%

**USHJA Zone Nominee Biography Form**

Name: Deborah Long

City & State: Eagle, ID

USHJA Number: 163962

Zone: 9

Professional/Amateur Status:  Professional  Amateur

Primary Designation (select one):  Hunter  Jumper

How are you currently involved in the sport? Please list your equestrian experience.

I have a lifetime of involvement in the industry as a rider and professional trainer. I have demonstrated my strengths in planning, organization, teamwork, leadership and communication through my roles in the Zone Team Jumper Championships and USHJA Emerging Jumper Program since the inception of both of these programs.

Do you have prior governance experience on a Board, committee, or task force? If so, please list.

I am well-versed in the administrative side of the sport and serve as Vice President of Zone 9. A highlight of my career has been receiving the 2020 Walter B. Devereux Sportsmanship Award. You will find that I have an unmatched dedication to and passion for equine sports. It has given me countless joys and rewards and has shaped my life in ways I never imagined.

Do you have non-equestrian business experience? If so, please list.

In addition to equestrian sports, many members of my family are involved in the international sport of whitewater slalom racing with the US Canoe & Kayak Team. It has been a great benefit to see how other sports organizations and governing bodies, both in the US and abroad, approach the development and growth of their sports.

What is the biggest challenge the sport is facing in your opinion?

Keeping is affordable and accessible to passionate equestrians

How do you hope to contribute on the Zone Committee?

Listen, and contribute what I feel would progress the needs and desires of Zone 9. My familiarity with all aspects of the sport of Show Jumping as well as my depth of knowledge in the industry and passion for the sport make me a highly-qualified candidate for this position. It is this passion, as well as my commitment to sportsmanship, horsemanship, and personal integrity, that encourages me to pursue this position.

What is your favorite thing about the sport?

The teamwork between horse and rider  
I would love nothing more than to support the growth and development of our sport so that it can offer similar rewards to others, and build the USHJA programs and mission to promote the best of what the US has to offer.

**USHJA Zone Nominee Biography Form**

Name: RACHEL LONG

City & State: HORSESHOE BEND, ID

USHJA Number: 5132108

Zone: 9

Professional/Amateur Status:  Professional  Amateur

Primary Designation (select one):  Hunter  Jumper

How are you currently involved in the sport? Please list your equestrian experience.

I am currently a professional rider and trainer based in Idaho. I have developed several young horses from the young jumpers to the grand prix level, competed in NAYC, participated in the USEF Training session and represented team USA for the CSIO J in Langley and Tianjin, China. Over the past few years I have began working with more students, which I am thoroughly enjoying

Do you have prior governance experience on a Board, committee, or task force? If so, please list.

I have served on the Zone 9 committee from 2020-2024

Do you have non-equestrian business experience? If so, please list.

What is the biggest challenge the sport is facing in your opinion?

One of the biggest challenges that I think we will see more of over the next few years, is the lacking of development for young riders and horses in this country. I believe there to be a large gap in development opportunities, compared to the system in Europe

How do you hope to contribute on the Zone Committee?

I hope to bring the perspective of a young rider who has gone through both USHJA and USEF development/pathway programs, as well as the perspective of someone who just returned from a year working in Europe.

What is your favorite thing about the sport?

The horses will always be my favorite part of the sport. Of course, we like to show, compete and progress, but at the end of the day, its all about the horses.

USHJA Zone Nominee Biography Form

1001

Name: Gayl Russell

City & State: Wiscasset River, ME

USHJA Number: 4996968

Zone: 9

Professional/Amateur Status:  Professional  Amateur

Primary Designation (select one):  Hunter  Jumper

How are you currently involved in the sport? Please list your equestrian experience.

I have competed in the Jumper ring for many years. Currently I am finishing up my Stewards Cl "r" and Jumper Judge "r" licensing. I continue to train and show my "cow horses" both locally and in Zone 9.

Do you have prior governance experience on a Board, committee, or task force? If so, please list.

Zone 9 Committee, Affiliate National and Regional and Montana Hunter Jumper Association Board Member. American Paint Horse Association Board member and State Director

Do you have non-equestrian business experience? If so, please list.

Transportation Industry as an Owner/Operator in the trucking industry. Owned my own semi since 1991, as well as my own DOT/MC #'s and company.

What is the biggest challenge the sport is facing in your opinion?

Engaging our "grassroots" riders through opportunity and education. They are the future of our sport and the "pathway" is unknown to many of them.

How do you hope to contribute on the Zone Committee?

I would hope to help bridge the small, grassroots Associations and Clubs with the USHJA. It has been very helpful in the past as I'm able to reach out to them with new programs, grants, how to navigate the website and simply "NEWS"!

What is your favorite thing about the sport?

I like the fact that the H/J sport is always striving to put the "horse" first. Nothing is perfect and can always be better, which most everyone involved is working towards the end.

2023 Committee  
Attendance:  
91.1

**USHJA Zone Nominee Biography Form**

Name: Mary von Zimmermann

City & State: Snohomish, WA

USHJA Number: 58731

Zone: 9

Professional/Amateur Status:  Professional  Amateur

Primary Designation (select one):  Hunter  Jumper

How are you currently involved in the sport? Please list your equestrian experience.

Currently, you can see me at horse shows as an ingate/starter or Jumper Judge/Announcer. I have been involved in the Hunter/Jumper sport my whole life, as a rider and a trainer and still enjoy teaching clinics when not at the shows.

Do you have prior governance experience on a Board, committee, or task force? If so, please list.

I have been involved in USHJA since 2018. I have been part of the Zone 9 Committee and the Sport Integrity Task Force. On a local level, I was involved for several years with the Oregon Hunter Jumper Association in the late 1990s/early 2000s.

Do you have non-equestrian business experience? If so, please list.

What is the biggest challenge the sport is facing in your opinion?

In my opinion, the biggest challenge we currently are having is of optics. Social media plays more and more a role in our lives, both in and out of the sport.

How do you hope to contribute on the Zone Committee?

I hope to continue to contribute my positive energy by continuing to help people work towards their goals, whether it is through EAP or qualifying for the Zone Jumper Teams.

What is your favorite thing about the sport?

My favorite thing about our sport continues to be that horses bring people from all walks of life together for the love of the horse.