I. Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Langer welcomed the committee; Ms. Osterman performed the roll call with eight (8) members present, a quorum was met.

II. Approval of meeting minutes from March 11, 2019.

Ms. Marnye Langer made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 11, 2019; Mr. Campf seconded the motion. Mr. Distler abstained, and the motion was passed without further discussion.

III. 2020 Gold Star Clinic Host Locations

Mr. Langer moved this item of the agenda before the discussion of the championship host locations. The discussion of the Gold Star Clinics began with the East location at the Jim Brandon Equestrian Center in West Palm Beach, FL. Ms. Osterman explained to the Task Force that the current dates of December 26-29, 2019 are not favorable because of the Christmas holiday. The USHJA office is not open during that time, so there is no support from the office during that week. Additionally, the travel for staff will need to occur on Christmas day in order to arrive on time. The new proposed date for the East location is December 18 – 22, 2019. Ms. Carney assured that she spoke with the management at Jim Brandon that the proposed new dates are available. The Task Force was all in agreement for changing the date. Ms. Skinner-Robson asked the Task Force if there could be any alternative locations that would be less expensive, and Ms. DiAnn Langer assured that she is in discussion with a few other locations for the clinic and will meet with them in the next weeks. The Task Force decided to table the vote for this location until the meeting next week.
The Task Force briefly discussed the West location that is proposed to be at HITS Thermal in Thermal, CA on January 16-19, 2020. Ms. Carney has confirmed these dates with the management.

Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the West location for the 2020 Gold Star Clinic at HITS Thermal; Mr. Campf seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

The Task Force shifted to discuss the Central location. Ms. Osterman explained the two possible location and dates for the Central clinic: Great Southwest Equestrian Center in Katy, TX on January 29-February 2, 2020 and HIPICO Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM on July 25-29, 2020. Ms. DiAnn Langer raised the question if a Central location will be effective based on the participation numbers from the centrally located zones during the Zone Jumper Team Championships. She also explained the dates for HIPICO Santa Fe would fall the week before the proposed date for the 2020 Zone Jumper Team Championships. Mr. Cyphert endorsed the Great Southwest Equestrian Center over the Santa Fe location because the facility would be better suited for the clinic. The Task Force decided to table the vote for this location until the meeting next week.

IV. 2020/2021 Zone Jumper Team and Platinum Jumper Championships Host Applications
Mr. Langer began the discussion of the host applications with reiterating that the Zone Jumper Team Championships and Platinum Jumper Championships will be held together except under extraordinary circumstances. The Task Force began with the Zones 1 and 2 locations with the Zones 1 and 2 Committees having voted for Princeton Show Jumping. Mr. Langer noted that Princeton Show Jumping did not apply for the Platinum Championships. Therefore only one location applied with all sections of the championships as required in the specifications, pending any extraordinary circumstances. The Task Force agreed that the New York Horse & Pony Show was the only appropriate bid for the Zones 1 and 2 location.

Ms. Skinner-Robson made a motion to approve the New York Horse & Pony Show in Saugerties, NY for the Zones 1 and 2 2020/2021 ZJTC/PJC host location; Ms. Land seconded the motion. Mr. Langer and Ms. Marnye Langer abstained due to conflict of interest, and the motion was passed without further discussion.

The Task Force began the discussion for Zones 3 and 4 that the zone committees voted for Tryon Summer 5. Mr. Langer recused himself for conflict of interest. Ms. Osterman took over the discussion and noted that the zone committees spoke with Mr. Eric Straus of Tryon International Equestrian Center about moving the championship dates from week five to week six. Ms. DiAnn Langer brought up the question that those dates might conflict with another week of the proposed championships. Ms. Osterman confirmed that moving Tryon to week six would overlap the proposed date for the Zones 5 and 6 championships on July 15-19, 2020. Ms. Thibodeaux explained to the Task Force the reason for a change in dates is due to a conflict with another major horse show for those zones at a different location during the same week. Ms. Carney suggested that the Task Force discuss the locations for Zones 5 and 6 before making a motion on the dates for Zones 3 and 4.

Ms. DiAnn Langer described the Zones 5 and 6 championship this year at HITS Balmoral
was well run and accommodated by show management, but there has not been any growth with participating riders. She mentioned that there were not enough riders to hold a 1.20/1.25m or 1.30/1.35m section, but that the Platinum section filled and was very competitive. Ms. Carney provided input that the conversation with the Zones 5 and 6 Committees did not discuss the details of the host applications. Ms. Thibodeaux confirmed that the details were not discussed on the zone committee call, but the committee members were provided will all application details. Ms. Carney supported the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival’s horse show and the quality of the event. There was further discussion about the votes from the zone committees and possible conflict of interest. Ms. Marnye Langer proposed that the Zones 5 and 6 host location be tabled until the meeting next week so USHJA staff can provide more information about the conduct of the meeting and how conflict of interest was handled. The Task Force was in agreement.

The Task Force shifted back to the Zones 3 and 4 location vote, and Ms. Skinner-Robson proposed that the Task Force vote for the written date on Tryon’s application with the knowledge that the date can be moved if necessary.  

Ms. Carney made a motion to approve of Tryon Summer 5 in Mill Spring, NC for the Zones 3 and 4 2020/2021 ZJTC/PJC host location; Ms. Skinner-Robson seconded the motion; Ms. Ruiz opposed; Mr. Langer and Ms. Marnye Langer abstained due to conflict of interest, and the motion was passed by majority.

The Task Force moved the discussion to Zones 7 and 8 host location with the zone committee’s vote for HIPICO Santa Fe Sonrisa Week. Ms. Skinner-Robson suggested that the application from HIPICO was complete and agrees with the zone committees. Ms. DiAnn Langer brought forward that the HIPICO show management would also like to move their dates to the following week for August 5 – 9, 2020, but there is nothing in writing. Therefore, the Task Force will need to vote on the dates provided on the application.

Ms. Marnye Langer made a motion to approve of HIPICO Santa Fe Sonrisa Week in Santa Fe, NM for the Zones 7 and 8 2020/2021 ZJTC/PJC host location; Ms. Carney seconded the motion.

Mr. Langer suggested that the Task Force also vote for the changed date as there are no other championship date conflicts. Ms. Thibodeaux explained that the Zone Committees approved of the date changes for the championships to be held the following week. The Task Force also noted that in the future applications need to be complete and the dates being applied for are the only dates that can be considered.

Ms. Marnye Langer amended her motion to approve of the date change; Ms. Carney amended her second. Mr. Langer abstained due to conflict of interest, and the motion was passed without further discussion.

Ms. Osterman referred to Ms. Thibodeaux regarding the Zones 9 and 10 Committee decision for the host locations on their call that took place one hour prior to the Task Force meeting. Ms. Thibodeaux informed the Task Force that the zone committees voted and approved for the International Jumping Festival. Ms. Marnye Langer noted she had a conflict of interest but asked the Task Force if she could make a comment. The Task Force agreed, and Ms. Marnye Langer commented that this location is also hosting the NAL West Coast Finals for the same group of riders competing from 1.10m up to 1.30m. Ms. Skinner-
Robson confirmed that there are various other major finals held the same week, and this would be against the specifications that state the championships must be the featured event. Ms. DiAnn Langer added that riders cannot compete their championship horses outside the championships; therefore, those riders would not be able to compete their horses in any other finals. Therefore, these two reasons are considered extraordinary circumstances. Ms. Carney made a motion to approve of the National Sunshine Series II in Thermal, CA for the Zones 9 and 10 2020/2021 ZJTC/PJC host locations; Ms. Land seconded the motion. Mr. Langer, Ms. Marnye Langer, and Ms. Skinner-Robson abstained due to conflict of interest, and the motion was passed without further discussion.

V. Old business
No old business was discussed.

VI. New Business
No new business was discussed.

VII. Adjournment
With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Osterman
USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Sport Programs

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