



USHJA JWG Emerging Jumper Rider Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 12, 2019 – 4:00pm ET/1:00pm PT via Teleconference

Emerging Jumper Rider Task Force Members Participating: Larry Langer (Chair), Jeff Campf, Diane Carney, David Distler, Kim Land, Marnye Langer, Sandra Ruiz (7)

Emerging Jumper Rider Task Force Members Not Participating: Matt Cyphert (1)

Also Present: Jennifer Osterman (USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Sport Programs), Chris Mitchell (USHJA Manager of Jumper Programs), DiAnn Langer (Non-voting Advisor), Charlotte Skinner-Robson (Non-voting Advisor) (4)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Langer welcomed the committee; Ms. Osterman performed the roll call with seven (7) members presents a quorum was met.

II. Approval of meeting minutes from July 29 and August 5, 2019.

Ms. Carney made a motion to approve of the minutes from July 29 and August 5, 2019; Ms. Marnye Langer seconded and the motion was passed without further discussion.

III. Discussion of Championships Specifications

Mr. Langer confirmed that the 2020 championship specifications been finalized, but he questioned if the Task Force could make any changes to the specifications that did not involve qualifying. Ms. Osterman explained that the specifications for the Platinum Jumper Championships could have some revisions because this was the program's first year. There cannot be any changes to qualifying criteria or qualifying period. The Zone Jumper Team Championships are not able to have any changes.

Ms. DiAnn Langer started the conversation for changes we could make for 2021 with the distribution of prize money on team day. In 2020, there will be prize money for individuals as well as the overall team placing. However, the tie breaking procedure currently uses the time from the first round of team competition. She feels that how it is currently written, that riders will use the first round of team day as a speed class. Therefore, she suggested that the speed class time from the first day will break all ties.

Ms. Ruiz made a motion that ties for the team day's individual classification for prize money will be broken by the time from the first day's speed round; Mr. Campf seconded. The motion was passed without further discussion.

Ms. DiAnn Langer moved on to discuss that the championships could accept fewer teams.

Ms. Ruiz spoke up that she feels that the championships should be the very best riders in each section. She suggested that there be maximum of three teams per zone per section, top 12 riders per zone and 24 total riders per section. Mr. Langer questioned if we would be limiting a zone who cannot fill three teams, that the other zone could not fill the extra spots. Ms. Land suggested that the reducing the number might make the championships more special and incentive being accepted. Ms. Ruiz also feels that reducing the numbers will help the competition in general because of reducing the time it takes to run the classes. Ms. DiAnn Langer suggested that which top three teams come forward into the team competition are determined by the results from the first day. The riders who do not make in on a team would still be able to ride as individuals, but this would still amount to the same number of rides on the second day. Ms. Ruiz suggested that the teams would be determined after the results from the first day. Mr. Langer advised that this should be discussed further in person at Annual Meeting and for future events.

Ms. DiAnn Langer mentioned that we have changed the procedure for riders to declare and accept their invitation to compete in the championships in writing and will no longer accept phone or voicemail confirmations.

Ms. DiAnn Langer brought forward the idea of reducing the number of individuals who move forward into the Individual Final from the top 20 to the top 15 beginning in 2021. *Ms. Marnye Langer made a motion to reduce the number of riders in the Individual Final to the top 15; Ms. Ruiz seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.*

Ms. DiAnn Langer also mentioned that the awards procedures should be flexible based on weather. There were multiple championships were it was too hot to hold horses at the ring, so she suggested that we only ride the top five horses for ribbons except in extreme weather and can only present to the winning rider.

Ms. Land made a motion to reduce the number of horses for awards to the top five; Ms. Marnye Langer seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. DiAnn Langer discussed reducing the number of required officials at the jog due to hardship on competition management and scheduling. She suggests one vet and one licensed official, being the steward or the judge. Mr. Langer feels that there must be the vet, the Technical Delegate (TD), and one judge. Ms. Skinner Robson suggests that with the vet and the TD present the judge does not have to be present, but will require people to organize the jog, such as the USHJA representative.

Ms. Marnye Langer made a motion that for the jog a vet, TD, and USHJA representative must be present as a minimum; Ms. Ruiz seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. DiAnn Langer moved on to discuss if a rider can declare two different heights and then decide which height after invitations are sent out. Ms. Osterman spoke up that currently the online application only allows a rider to select one height with up to three horses. Therefore, if a rider has two horses but one competes at a different height, then those riders typically contact the USHJA office and is made a note that they have to decide before acceptance letters go out. Ms. Osterman mentioned that it becomes an issue with the larger championships because the lower height sections are reaching maximum number of riders.

Ms. DiAnn Langer suggests that the riders with multiple horses are each height receive separate acceptance letters per horse and height. She then brought up the question if we should allow the rider to be able to compete at both heights on different horses. Mr. Langer suggested that this should also be discussed in person at Annual Meeting for 2021. There was short discussion regarding riders competing in the 1.30/1.35m Zone Jumper Team and the 1.40/1.45m Platinum championships on different horses. There is currently nothing against a rider from doing both.

Ms. DiAnn Langer presented a new system for team selections. She explained that the highest ranking rider in each section, regardless of zone, will be the designated point rider for that section. The designated point rider's score will count for their home team as well as all other teams of three to ensure all teams have a drop score. The point rider will only receive awards from their home team's overall placing. Mr. Langer suggests that this procedure is put into writing and if the Task Force approves it can be used in 2020.

Ms. Carney made a motion to implement the new system for team selections; Ms. Ruiz seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. DiAnn Langer and Mr. Langer brought forward the use of a second ring at the championships. There is something in the current rules that we can do so, but it is suggested that the language be reviewed.

Lastly, Ms. DiAnn Langer recommended that we remove the rule that riders must check in 24 hours before the jog. This has been a hardship on Amateurs and Juniors who have to take off of school or work. She suggests that the riders should only be required to have checked into the show office and be present at the jog.

Ms. Carney made a motion to remove the 24 hour rule; Ms. Ruiz seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

IV. **Old business**

No old business was discussed.

V. **New Business**

No new business was discussed.

VI. **Adjournment**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm 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.