Committee: USHJA Joint Equitation Task Force
Meeting Date: Monday, February 24, 2020
Meeting Time: 3:00 pm (EST)/ 12:00pm (PST)
Call In Number: 800-944-8766 or 888-392-4560
Code: 63350#

Members Present: Robin Rost Brown, chair; Ann Dotoli, Susan Baginski, Missy Clark, James Hagman, Karen Healey, Frank Madden, Elizabeth Pandich, Stacie Ryan, Nora Thomas, Caitlin Venezia, Cynthia Williams (12)

Members Not Present: (0)

Also Present: Melanie Mader, USHJA Sport Program Coordinator

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and roll call
Mrs. Brown called the meeting to order; Ms. Mader took roll. With all members present a quorum was met. Mrs. Brown welcomed the new members, Mr. Frank Madden, Ms. Cynthia Williams, and Ms. Nora Thomas, to the Task Force

II. Adoption of Agenda
Mr. Hagman made a motion to adopt the agenda; Mr. Madden seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of meeting minutes from January 20, 2020
Ms. Dotoli made a motion to accept the minutes from January 20; Ms. Pandich seconded the motion; Motion carried. Mr. Madden, Ms. Williams, and Ms. Thomas abstained as they were not seated at the time of the January Meeting.

IV. Hunter Seat Medal Finals Specs
   a) Outline criteria & scoring Round II
The Task Force discussed the criteria for Round II of the Hunter Seat Medal Finals. They wanted to utilize the spirit and intent of the USEF Medal spec wording as the 3’3” HSM is a mini version of the USEF HSM. To clarify Round II they Task Force voted that each round shall be weighted equally, Riders will
return in reverse order of Round I, and scores will not be announced. The top 4 competitors based on total score from Round I & Round II will then be tested. These riders will start with a clean slate and the top 4 will be pinned as a result of their score from the Testing.  Mrs. Ryan made a motion to accepted the changes as presented; Ms. Baginski seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

V.  Gladstone Specs

a) Clarifications requested by HWG

The Task Force discussed the clarifications requested by the Executive Committee regarding defining course intent and elements. Suggested edits were to remove the previously added suggested language (similar to USEF Medal spec language), Designate Round I as a Classic Hunter Style Round to be consistent with the second Handy Round.

Course element suggestions: Round I will still be over at least 10 obstacles (2 with no ground lines) and must have at least 1 each of: a long approach to a single fence, bending line, unrelated distance, narrow fence (5’6”-8’), in & out.

Suggestions Round 2: Inclusion of intent to simulate riding over hunt county with options such as tight turns, different tracks, clever approaches to jumps, trot fence, hand gallop to a fence, pen type obstacles

Mrs. Ryan made a motion to accept the proposed clarifications and edits to the 2021 Gladstone specifications; Mrs. Healey seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

VI.  Old business

The Equitation Task force further discussed and feels strongly about the numbering of fences in Equitation Finals and Championships due to the added pressure placed upon riders competing at a National Final.

VII.  New business

The Task Force discussed the testing phase of the NCEA Equitation Classic. Ideas were discussed regarding proper execution of the testing movements and encouraging judges to provide feedback to the riders.

The Task Force discussed the Maclay qualifying classes and the inconsistency between regions – availability of one day vs. multi day shows. Also the rule regarding riders going off course and it counting as 1 of their 14 qualifying shows, but did not count against them in the class. They would like to open a dialog with Mr. Teall regarding the qualifying criteria for Maclay regionals/finals and how to make it more consistent throughout the US, taking into account the different types of shows in various regions of the country.

The Task Force discussed the strong need for competitions to hire Equitation-relevant judges for National Finals.

VIII.  Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm ET.
Committee actions resulting in a recommendation for program changes are subject to additional review in accordance with Board of Directors approved policy.