



**USHJA Pony Task Force Meeting Minutes**

May 20, 2019 – 4 p.m. ET via Teleconference

**Committee Members Participating:** Robin Greenwood (Chair), Linda Andrisani, Beverly Bedard, Katie Francella, Jill Hamilton, Clare Warren, Patricia Roberts, Stacey Weiss (9)

**Committee Members Not Present:** Denice De Risio-Perry (excused), Robert Jacobs, Kathleen Rice, Richard Taylor (4)

**Also Present:** Danae Fryman, Eva Van Heeke, USHJA Sport Programs Coordinators (2)

**I. Welcome and Roll Call**

Ms. Van Heeke performed the roll call; with 9 members present, a quorum was met.

**II. Approve Minutes from April 1, 2019**

*Ms. Roberts made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 1, 2019; Ms. Francella seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

**III. Rule Changes**

**A. Final Review of RCP HU139**

*Ms. Weiss made a motion to approve the HU139 Rule Change Proposal; Ms. Bedard seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

**B. Rule Change Proposal Referral from HWG re: Combing Classics**

The Task Force discussed how some competitions have been combining Classics and Green sections. The Hunter Working Group asked for their input on potentially submitting a rule change proposal pertaining to this issue. The Task Force felt strongly that these sections should not be permitted to combine, and agreed to send forward a memo to the Hunter Working Group expressing their feelings on the matter. *Ms. Andrisani made a motion to approve the Memo; Ms. Bedard seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

#### **IV. Pony Hunter Derby Memo Discussion**

##### **A. Moving the jog prior to the First Round.**

It had been brought to the attention of a few Task Force members by show managers that having the jog between the first and second round was not very time conscious, in some cases was becoming quite laborious on the ponies and grooms. In the interest of the giving of the junior riders a more realistic derby experience, and time efficiency the task force felt it would be beneficial and logical to move the jog prior to the first round, and agreed to put forward a memo to the Hunter Working Group. *Ms. Andrisani made a motion to approve the Memo; Ms. Francella seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

##### **B. Additional verbiage to Competition or Course Requirements.**

Further discussion was had surrounding the current Pony Hunter Derbies, specifically how some competitions had been running them in a way that was not overly conscious of pony welfare, or of the stature of the class. The task force discussed ways to maintain the prestige of a Derby, and came up with some suggested verbiage that could be inserted into the program specifications to help avoid this situation in the future. The task force agreed to forward this suggestion in the aforementioned memo that would be forwarded to the Hunter Working Group. *Ms. Andrisani made a motion to approve the Memo; Ms. Francella seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

#### **V. Old Business**

The Task Force touched on the standard measurement age, and referred back to the proposal they had written in 2018, that was not submitted. Ms. Andrisani expressed concern toward the native pony hunter breeder being negatively affected by the increase of the standard measurement age to age eight. Ms. Bedard spoke of her experiences measuring ponies, and noted that she has seen changes between the age of six and eight, and felt that the increased age was appropriate. The task force continued their discussion and agreed to edit their 2018 proposal for submission upon approval through an email vote. Ms. Van Heeke agreed to edit the current RCP document and send the vote out to the Task Force. *Ms. Weiss made a motion to approve the edits and email vote pertaining to RCP HJ137; Ms. Andrisani seconded, with the disapproval of Ms. Bedard, the remainder of the Task Force approved unanimously.*

**VI. New Business**

No New Business was discussed.

**VII. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. ET.

*Ms. Weiss made the motion to adjourn; Ms. Hamilton seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Eva Van Heeke, USHJA Sport Programs Coordinator and Task Force Liaison