I. Roll Call
Roll call was conducted and a quorum was met.

II. Adoption of Amended Agenda
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the amended agenda. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2018 Executive Committee meeting, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

V. Consideration of Mileage Exemption Requests
The following three mileage exemption requests were considered collectively:

World Equestrian Winter Classic – WK 16 (“Applicant Competition”) vs. Brave Horse Spring II (“Priority Competition”)
World Equestrian Winter Classic – WK 17 (“Applicant Competition”) vs. Brave Horse Spring III (“Priority Competition”)

No conflicts of interest on the part of any of the Executive Committee members in attendance were identified with respect to this request.

The Committee considered the following it its review:

• The committee noted the radial mileage between the Applicant and the Priority Competitions is 76.14 miles with a mileage boundary of 250 miles.
• The committee feels it is generally not in the best interest of the sport to approve an Applicant Premier-rated competition that would be held over the same dates as existing Priority National-rated and/or Regional-rated competitions, especially when the Priority Competitions are so new to the environment.
• The committee noted from analyzing the horse entry numbers provided that the Applicant competitions ran successfully in their initial year at the Regional II/Level 4...
ratings and the committee’s opinion is there is no evidence to support that a rating upgrade is warranted at this this point in time.

- The committee questions whether approving this request for an upgrade in rating might inadvertently contribute to the creation of a unilateral competition effect. The committee feels it is not in the best interest of the sport to grant approval for this mileage exemption request.
- The committee noted from the provided materials that the Applicant Competitions can run without conflict at a Regional II Hunter and Jumper Level 4 rating, as they did in 2018, and recommends the Applicant pursue that option.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend disapproval of the Applicant’s request to conduct its 2019 competitions WEC Winter Classic – WK 16 (April 10-14, 2019) and WEC Winter Classic – WK 17(April 17-21, 2019) at the Premier Hunter and Jumper Level 4 ratings. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Verdugo Hills April (“Applicant Competition”) vs. Blenheim Spring Classic IV (“Priority Competition”)

Larry Langer identified a conflict of interest with respect to the next three exemption requests, recused himself, and left the meeting prior to discussion and vote

The Committee considered the following it its review:

- The committee noted the radial mileage between the Applicant and the Priority Competitions is 67.56 miles with a mileage boundary of 100 miles.
- The committee noted from the provided materials that the Priority Competition has historically granted the Applicant permission to run and the two competitions have successfully co-existed for many years.
- The committee noted from the provided materials that the Priority Competition provided no response of any kind.
- The committee’s opinion is that the Applicant competition does not cause a negative effect on the Priority competition, and in fact, offers alternative competitive opportunities to exhibitors in this geographic area at this time of year.
- Given the fact that the Priority Competition has historically provided permission, but did not provide any form of response to this request, the committee sees no reason why the Applicant’s request for mileage exemption would not be granted.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the Applicant’s request to conduct its 2019 competition (April 12-13, 2019) at the Regional I Hunter and Level 1 Jumper ratings. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Ocala Winter Celebration (“Applicant Competition”) vs. WEF 10 & WEC Ocala Winter XI (“Priority Competitions”)
Ocala Championship (“Applicant Competition”) vs. WEF 11 & WEC Ocala Winter XII (“Priority Competitions”)

These two mileage exemption requests were considered collectively.
The Committee considered the following in its review:

- The Committee noted the radial mileage between the Applicant and the Priority Competitions (WEF 10 & WEF 11) is 223.29, which is 1.71 miles within a mileage boundary of 225 miles. The radial mileage between the Applicant and the Priority Competitions (WEC Ocala Winter XI & XII) is 8.88 miles within a boundary mileage of 200 miles.
- The committee noted that historically, both the Applicant and the Priority Competitions (WEF 10 & WEF 11) have successfully co-existed by meeting the needs of different sets of constituents and competitors.
- The committee noted from the materials provided that the Priority Competition (WEF 10), despite raising concerns about the state of the current competition environment in that geographic area, did grant the Applicant (Ocala Winter Celebration) permission to run in 2019; however the Priority Competition (WEF 11) denied the Applicant Competition’s (Ocala Championship) request for mileage exemption.
- The committee noted from the materials provided that the Priority Competitions (WEC Ocala Winter XI & XII) did not submit a response within the requisite period of time, but when the response was received, it did communicate approval for the Applicant’s request.
- The committee’s opinion is that there exists a high density and competitive level of competitors in this geographic area at this time of year, and that granting permission to the Applicant Competitions may alleviate overcrowding of horses and/or competitors and provide alternate competitive opportunities in this area and at this time of year.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the Applicant’s request to conduct its 2019 competitions - Ocala Winter Celebration (March 12-17) and Ocala Championship (March 19-24) - at the Hunter Premier (AA) rating and Jumper Level 6 rating. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

Larry Langer rejoined the meeting.

VI. Consideration of USEF Heritage Competition Status Request

A motion was made and seconded to place the Heritage Competition Status request on the floor for discussion and vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

The committee reviewed the Heritage Competition Status request received from the Federation for the Capital Challenge Horse Show. No questions were asked.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of Capital Challenge Horse Show’s request for USEF Heritage Competition status. The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

VII. Consideration of Zone & Sport Program Requests

A motion was made and seconded to place all Zone & Sport Program requests on the floor for discussion and vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 2019 USHJA Jumping Seat Medal Class & Finals Specifications
The Committee reviewed the proposed specifications as amended and approved by the Jumper Working Group. The Equitation Task Force had received the Jumper Working Group’s recommended edits and approved those amendments by email vote. No discussion occurred.

_A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2019 USHJA Jumping Seat Medal Class and Finals Specifications, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by those present._

- **2019 Zone 10 NAYC Selection Procedures**
  The Committee reviewed the procedures that were approved by both Zone 10 and the Jumper Working Group. No discussion occurred.

  _A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2019 Zone 10 NAYC Selection Procedures, as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by those present._

- **2019 Zone Specifications**
  The Committee reviewed the proposed 2019 specifications for Zones 1 through 12. No questions were asked.

  _Hearing no discussion, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the 2019 Zone Specifications (Zones 1 – 12), as presented._

- **2019 Pony Hunter Derby Championship – West Date Change Request**
  The Committee reviewed the request received from Stephanie Wheeler proposing the move the 2019 Pony Hunter Derby Championship – West from the originally approved host competition Showpark Summer Classic (August 21-25) to the Blenheim Fall Tournament (September 13-15) citing less potential conflict with Pony Finals. No questions were asked.

  _Hearing no discussion, the Executive Committee approved the Blenheim Fall Tournament (September 13-15) as the host venue for the 2019 Pony Hunter Derby Championship – West, by majority vote with one abstention recorded due to disclosure of a conflict of interest._

VIII. **Old Business**
None

IX. **New Business**
Ms. Rubenstein reminded the committee members about the nomination deadline of July 31, 2018 for the USHJA Year-End awards and encouraged committee members to submit nominations.

X. **Adjournment**
There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. EDT.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Larry Langer, Secretary

_USHJA Executive Committee Meeting – July 2, 2018_