



USHJA Zone 1 Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 8, 2020 - 5:00 p.m. ET

Zone Members Participating: Fran Dotoli (Chair), Jay Mullen (Vice Chair), John Bahret, Meg Black, Cynsie Broda, Amy Eidson, Lisa Foster, Felicia Knowles, C. J. Law, Frederick Schauder, Carla Sharp, Kristi Smith, David Wilbur, Anne Dotoli (NV Advisor) and Monica Hunt (NV Advisor). (15)

Zone Members Not Present: Sally Hinkle Russell, Charles Jacobs and Sheila Murphy (NV Advisor). (3)

Also Present: Morgan Thibodeaux (Sports Program Coordinator), Kristin Rover (Regional Communications Coordinator) and Lynn Johnson (Sports Program Office Aide). (3)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Dotoli called the meeting to order and Morgan Thibodeaux called roll. A quorum was met with fifteen committee members present.

II. Approve the minutes

Mr. Bahret motioned to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting; Ms. Eidson seconded and the minutes were approved with Mr. Bahret abstaining.

III. 2021 Zone 1 Specifications

Ms. Dotoli opened the 2021 Zone 1 Specifications up for discussion. The Committee discussed current specifications and had no changes to suggest. The Specifications will be posted for a member comment period. After that, the Committee can edit the specifications if desired before they are forwarded to the working group.

IV. NEEC Sponsorship

The Committee agreed to table this sponsorship due to the current pandemic situation. This will be revisited at a later meeting.

V. Handy Hunter Challenge

Ms. Dotoli stated she and Mr. Mullen had been looking at adding the Handy Hunter Challenge program to Zone 1 for 2021. The Committee received the Handy Hunter Challenge specifications that are used in Zone 4 to read through and use as a guide when formulating this for Zone 1. Zone 1 can change and/or add any specifications they agree on for their program.

Mr. Mullen stated this would be a class held at various shows within Zone 1. The Final would be held at Eastern States Championships as part of the Zone 1 HOTY Championships. Ms. Dotoli stated she had talked to Zone 4 and they had advised to keep it to Childrens and Adult Amateur Hunter riders at three foot. They had tried to grow the program by dividing it up into more divisions but that was not successful. A rider qualifies for the Finals by going in one of these classes at a show.

The class is one round with a numerical score and would only be open to Zone 1 riders as a Zone 1 program. Ms. Thibodeaux stated Zone 4 pays for awards and prize money out of their zone budget. Zone 4 offers scrimps, ribbons and prize money (\$1,000 at each Challenge for each Childrens and Adult division; \$500 for Childrens Pony division). Each amount of prize money is doubled for the Finals. The Zone 1 Committee would decide what awards they would want to have and how much they would budget for this. A proposal would be submitted for approval by the Committee. Ms. Dotoli asked everyone to think about this and it will be addressed at a later meeting. Ms. Thibodeaux stated she would get amounts from Zone 4 as to expenses and forward them to the Committee.

VI. Budget

Ms. Thibodeaux presented the draft budget to the Committee. This includes amounts for the addition of the Pre-Jrs. and Childrens divisions in the NAYC. There is approximately \$5,300 in excess funds that has not yet been allocated. The Committee can reallocate whatever they would like. Ms. Eidson mentioned there has been money left over from the Teams allocated amount several years. She stated they had talked about trying to allocate some funds to benefit more members, such as funding for attending the USHJA Annual Meeting. Ms. Thibodeaux stated Travel has been increased from \$1,500 to \$3,000. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the Team Funding for NAYC (\$600/rider), Zone (\$200/rider), Pony Jumper (\$250/rider) and Prix des States (\$500/rider) are required amounts. If there are left over funds in those line items, the funds can be reallocated to other line items such as education and giving back to the members. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the Zone budgets are very fluid and can be reallocated throughout the year.

Mr. Bahret advised the line item Zone Championships (Revenue) does include sponsorships. Due to the current pandemic situation, many sponsorships may not be available and funds may have to be reallocated to the Championships, if they are held. Ms. Dotoli stated she is not comfortable having the Zone asking for sponsorships this year. The Committee agreed. Ms. Sharp asked about prizes for the Zone Championships and what the Committee would like to do. The jackets could be ordered one in each size as samples and then ordered as needed after the event. Mr. Mullen stated Eastern States would make a decision by August 1, 2020 as to viability. Ms. Sharp will call vendors to see if they will wait until August 1, 2020 for order. Mr. Schauder asked about offering free stalls to exhibitors at Zone Championships if there is excess funds not used. Mr. Bahret stated Zone 1 does not pay to have the Zone Championships

at Eastern States so this would be difficult. Ms. Eidson stated she would like to see \$1500 allocated to the NEEC since sponsorships have been tabled.

VII. Old Business

No Old Business to discuss.

VIII. New Business

Ms. Dotoli advised the Committee she was on a call with Mary Babick and Zone 1 competition managers. The group is trying to work together on a plan but right now nothing has been decided. It is a wait and see situation. Ms. Eidson stated NEEC was in the same situation. Ms. Dotoli stated Mary Babick will be having Town Hall meetings with the membership. Ms. Thibodeaux stated she would update the Committee as soon as she hears any official updates. Ms. Sharp asked Ms. Thibodeaux to advise as to the closing date for ordering Zone awards. Ms. Thibodeaux will contact awards department and let Ms. Sharp know.

IX. Adjourn

Mr. Bahret made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Eidson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:54p.m. ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Johnson
USHJA Sports Program Office Aide