USHJA National Hunter Derby Task Force Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2019 – 10.30 a.m. MT at Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

Committee Members Participating: Louise Serio (Chair), Debbie Sands, Kalea Maxwell, Kimberly Brunson (4)

Committee Members Not Present: Kara Austin, Jenny Karazissis, Christopher Gilman, Heather Irvine, Jane Ehrhart, Traci Barmen Brooks (6)

Also Present: Eva Van Heeke, USHJA Sport Programs Coordinator (1)

I. Welcome and Roll Call
Ms. Van Heeke performed the roll call; with 9 members present, a quorum was met.

II. Approve Minutes from November 5, 2019
Ms. Sands made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 18, 2019; Ms. Maxwell seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. 2021 Regional Championships Program Proposal
Ms. Serio worked through the 2021 Regional Championship Proposal with those present in the audience. Special attention was brought to how popular the National Hunter Derby Classes are by addressing the entry numbers in the proposal, and why this is the reasoning behind keeping the stand alone format in the proposal. Additionally, the language pertaining to splitting the class was highlighted to the audience, with an explanation as to why the mandatory splitting number was increased to sixty (60) entries or above. Furthermore, the add back fees intended to help supplement the prize money was brought to the audience’s attention. The proposal was well received by the audience, there was some discussion and feedback from those in the audience regarding the typical numbers seen in the National Hunter Derbies they have competed in over the last year.

IV. Old Business
No old business was discussed.
V. **New Business**
Discussion moved onto general Q&A with the audience, topics discussed included; enforcing split Jr/Am and Open sections at in all regular national hunter Derbies, it was noted that this needed further discussion as it could prove difficult for some organizations and Competition management in regards to doubling the prize money. This moved the conversation towards looking into add back fees for the regular National Hunter Derby classes. Additionally members in the audience noted that they would like to see some consistency between the International Hunter Derby and National Hunter Derby programs.

VI. **Adjourn**
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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