



## USHJA Board of Directors Special Meeting

Meeting Minutes  
 April 16, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. ET

**Board Members Present:** Mary Babick, John Bahret, Debbie Bass, Katie Benson, Tom Brennan, Shelley Campf, Diane Carney, David Distler, Joe Dotoli, Margie Engle, Dianne Johnson, Larry Langer, Britt McCormick, Tobey McWilliams, Betty Oare, Cheryl Rubenstein, Charlotte Skinner-Robson, Jimmy Torano, Sissy Wickes.

**Board Members Not Present:** Rick Cram, Anne Kursinski

**Guests Present:** Colleen McQuay, Ron Danta

**Staff Present:** Marianne Kutner, Kevin Price, Leslie Mangan

I. Welcome

Mary Babick welcomed the Board and the guests on the call, International Hunter Derby/Green Incentive Task Force Chair Ron Danta and Vice-Chair Colleen McQuay. The meeting commenced at 6:00 p.m. EDT.

II. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted and it was established that there was a quorum present.

III. Approval of Agenda

*Charlotte Skinner Robson made a motion to adopt the agenda. Larry Langer seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.*

IV. Sport Program Requests

*John Bahret made a motion to place both program requests on the floor for discussion; Mr. Langer seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.*

Ms. Babick informed the group that discussion would take place on both agenda items, but that Mr. Danta and Ms. McQuay would be excused from the call prior to Board vote.

- **Reconsideration of 2018 Green Hunter Incentive Championship Specifications**  
*(tabled from 3/12/18)*  
 Mr. Danta addressed the request made by the Board during their March 12, 2018 meeting which called for the addition of some form of soundness verification and specifically recommended implementing an official jog prior to the start of the competition. He indicated that due to the mechanics and scheduling associated with both the competition immediately preceding and the Championship week itself, conducting a jog of such a large number of horses on the day prior to the start of the Championship would be prove impractical if not impossible.

The task force is in favor of considering the possibility for implementing some method for soundness verification in the future, but not in 2018. Both task force representatives feel that jogging is an industry-wide issue and suggested that a separate in-depth conversation take place at a later time that addresses the philosophy of jogging not only for the Hunter division, but also considering a soundness verification system that addresses equitation and non-FEI jumpers.

The teleconference service provider experienced an outage and the call was disconnected. After several minutes, the meeting resumed utilizing an alternate teleconference provider. All original call participants rejoined the meeting with the exception of Katie Benson, Margie Engle, Larry Langer, and Tobey McWilliams

- **2018 International Hunter Derby Championship Testing Protocol**

An updated version of the testing proposal (originally reviewed by the Board on March 12) was presented for consideration. The updated protocol calls for the top 12 horses going into the final round to be drug tested, as well as be monitored 6-8 hours prior to competing in the final round. Both the International Hunter Derby/Green Incentive Task Force and the Hunter Working Group have approved the enhanced monitoring and testing protocol, in concept. If approved, this protocol will be utilized in lieu of secured stabling at an estimated cost to the Association of between \$6,000 and \$8,000.

Mr. Danta spoke to the Board indicating the task force felt the similar protocol model used in 2016 worked well and that it was favorably received by exhibitors. Both Mr. Danta and Ms. McQuay commented that secure stabling adds cost and inconvenience to the exhibitors and there is concern that if utilized again, participation in the Championship will decrease.

At the conclusion of discussion, Mr. Danta and Ms. McQuay were excused from the meeting and left the call.

*On the matter of the 2018 Green Hunter Incentive Championships, Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the specifications, as presented (for both the 3'3" and 3'6"/3'9" events) which do not include provisions for a soundness jog. Jimmy Torano seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.*

On the matter of the International Hunter Derby Championship testing and monitoring protocol, Ms. Babick reminded the Board that if it was prepared to vote in favor of the proposal, the Board would first have to repeal the Executive Committee's April 3, 2017 decision to mandate secure stabling at the 2018 International Hunter Derby Championship.

*Ms. Carney made a motion to repeal the April 3, 2017 Executive Committee mandate for secure stabling at the 2018 International Hunter Derby Championship. Sissy Wickes seconded, and the motion as unanimously approved by those present.*

*Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the 2018 International Hunter Derby Championship Monitor/Testing Protocol, as presented. Tom Brennan seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by those present.*

V. Old Business  
None

VI. New Business  
None

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Langer, Secretary