



USHJA Horse and Rider Advocates Committee
Monday, March 3, 2020 **11:30pm ET**
Teleconference: 888-392-4560 **Access Code: 39235**

Members Present: Dr. Sarah Cohen, Dayle Eldredge, Dr. Richard Mitchell, Sheila Murphy, Jo-Ann Schaudies, Eric Straus, Leslie Terry and Katie Young (Chair) (8)

Members Not Present: Dr. Mark Baus, Maria Biancone, Arly Golombek (Vice), Susan Lyman, Dr. Stephen Soule, and Gay Talmey (6)

Also Present: Whitney Barnard (Committee Liaison), Cynthia Williams

I. Welcome and Roll Call

- Katie Young called the meeting to order at 11:30am ET. Whitney Barnard performed roll call and a quorum was met with 8 voting members present.

II. Approval of the meeting minutes from 12/11/19

- *Ms. Schaudies moved to approve the minutes from December 11, 2019. Mr. Straus seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

III. Rollkur

Ms. Williams was invited to join the call as she had a request for the committee to consider action against the practice of rollkur, or hyper flexion, most often created by force. It is a cruel practice that has damaging affects for the horse and was addressed in the dressage discipline a number of years ago. However, many HJ trainers are not familiar with rollkur nor do they realize that incorrect use of draw reins can create hyper flexion and therefore damage to the muscles and ligaments in the neck. Many committee members were not familiar with the practice. There is a lot of anecdotal information available online so Ms. Young asked the committee to do some research into the topic for consideration of further discussion. Dr. Mitchell offered to research in various veterinary articles. A suggestion was made to first to expose the practice, identify how it is detrimental, educate the membership on how to correctly use draw reins, and then consider regulation. The committee appreciated Ms. William's participation on the call.

IV. 2019 RCP Update

Ms. Barnard updated the committee on the status of their 2019 RCPs. The privacy screens rule was approved by the UHSJA Board and will go to USEF vote in April. The jogging rule was approved by the HWG but tabled by the USHJA Board to allow for further discussion regarding the combining of sections. The BOD wanted to inquire further with the membership via town halls, etc.

Ms. Barnard reminded the group that the new schedule for submission of RCPs requires GR rules to be submitted earlier than the others. Ms. Barnard offered to give an update on the timeline as soon as she has it so start considering potential proposals in the coming months.

V. Factoids

Ms. Young asked the committee for volunteers to submit some one-line facts to Ms. Barnard to include in upcoming eNewsletters. These can address any topic but be sure that the information can be supported by valid data.

VI. Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss

VII. New Business

- Ms. Young shared a few topics available topics for consideration over the next few meetings:
 - Concerns surrounding longeing areas: too small and dangerous
 - Submission of a rule proposal to limit the number of jumping sections in a day. This could follow the current rule for A rated sections and help limit the number of fences horses are jumping at competition

VIII. Adjourn

- The subcommittee remained on the call to discuss the Equine Retirement Facility listing
- *Ms. Schaudies motioned to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 12:16pm ET.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Barnard
 USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Education/Committee Liaison