



USHJA Recognized Riding Academy

Tuesday, December 10th, 2019 2:30-3:50pm MT
USHJA Annual Meeting Denver, Colorado

Members Present: Jill McGrady (Chair) and Roxane Durant (2)

Members Not Present: Leighanne Brocki, Suzanne Flaig, Colleen Seely, Chrissy Hannon, Ruthanna Bridges, and Stephanie Cook (6)

Also Present: Whitney Barnard (Committee Liaison)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

- Ms. McGrady called the meeting to order at 2:35pm MT and Whitney Barnard performed roll call. A quorum was not met with only two voting members present
- Ms. McGrady decided to review the agenda items though no actions were taken

II. Approval of the minutes

- Because a quorum was not met, no minutes were approved

III. New for 2020

Ms. McGrady invited the audience to actively participate in the discussion as the purpose of the meeting was for the committee to consider feedback for improvements. Ms. Barnard updated the room on new projects for 2020:

- A marketing tool kit is being developed for current RRAs to have access to a one-click resource to help marketing their program. It will include customizable pamphlets and flyers, links to available discounts, and access to logo wear
- A private Facebook group has been created to invite two members of each RRA to communicate, network, and have access to RRA-specific education
- The committee will be offering 30-second educational videos to share recommended teaching techniques

IV. Goals for 2020

Based on feedback from a recent survey, the RRA Committee is hoping to work toward the following goals:

- The committee would like to offer RRA-specific clinics and webinars to help educate trainers and students on various topics of interest

- An “Outreach 101” guide is in development to help encourage RRAs to get more involved with the Outreach program. This will help introduce RRA riders to competition and benefits and programs offered by USHJA
- New changes will be coming to the application process to further validate and grow the integrity of the program. Ideas are welcome but initial thoughts include letters of recommendation, onsite visits, and phone interviews

Mr. Hagman recommended that all RRA trainers be certified in the TCP program. He recommends an “RRA level” of certification as trainers at the grass roots level often have differing teaching skills than trainers at higher levels; these skills are special, necessary, and should be developed further.

Ms. Murphy introduced EMES (Equine Master Education System). It is a level-based educational tool that allows participants to study and test their horsemanship skills at various levels. They are interested in working with the USHJA and the RRA Committee to offer this program to RRAs, trainers, etc.

V. Old Business

- There was no old business to discuss

VII. New Business

- Ms. McGrady asked the audience how the RRA Committee can give back. Suggestions included:
 - Offer USHJA certificates to recognize RRA riders for their achievements
 - Spotlight RRAs each month
 - List RRAs at the top of each Zone webpage or in the Zone eNews
 - “Nominate a School Horse” sponsored by RRA
 - Integrate more with Zones and Affiliates
 - Develop education tools for parents (Horses 101 for example)
 - Create a press release or newsletter template for the marketing tool kit
 - Offer an RRA mentorship that pairs existing RRAs with new RRAs

IX. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 4pm MT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Barnard

USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Education/Committee Liaison