



USHJA Recognized Riding Academy

Wednesday, April 14th, 2021 12pm ET

Teleconference: 888-392-4560 Access Code: 85520225

Members Present: Jill McGrady (Chair), Roxane Durant, Leighanne Brocki, Suzanne Flaig, Sondra Makowski, Leslie Terry, and Kay Altheuser (7)

Members Not Present: Stephanie Cook and Allie Zorn (2)

Also Present: Whitney Barnard (Committee Liaison), Kristin Rosenberg (USHJA)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

- Ms. McGrady called the meeting to order at 12:07pm ET and Ms. Barnard performed roll call. A quorum was met with seven voting members present.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- *Ms. Durant motioned to approve the minutes from February 10, 2021. Ms. Altheuser seconded and the motion passed.*

III. Updates

Ms. Rosenberg joined the call to talk a bit about the RRA Aid Box. She works in the Award Department and they discovered an abundance of extra merchandise available to rehome. The RRA Aid Box was created as a giveaway benefit for RRAs on a limited basis. RRAs would be permitted to sign up for the box on a first come, first serve basis and it would include random merchandise items that vary by size (shirts, vests, notebooks, water bottles, etc.). RRAs could use these items to pass out to their riders or volunteers or give them away as prizes at an in-house competition. These Aid Boxes will be available within the coming weeks and information will be shared with RRAs via email and on the Facebook page.

IV. Lesson Horse of the Year Award

This committee recently submitted a proposal to the Awards Committee outlining the Lesson Horse of the Year award and asking for permission to give this award during Annual Meeting's Evening of Equestrians in December. The Awards Committee reviewed the proposal and sent a memo in reply. Ms. Rosenberg joined the discussion to clarify some questions surrounding the recommendations. Essentially, the Awards Committee did not approve the proposal as-written for a standalone award at Annual Meeting; they worry that it will simply become a popularity contest and suggested creating a rubric to help guide and define what a superb lesson horse would be. They also recommended creating an online Honor Roll instead to recognize more

than one great lesson horse annually. Ultimately, the committee chose to modify their current proposal to some extent but did not take action on all the recommendations, even if it means the award will not be given away at Annual Meeting EOE. Modifications include:

- Move forward with the current proposal
- Create a rubric for the committee to follow when choosing the “top 10” of the nominees for membership vote; list these requirements online for the RRAs to follow when nominating their lesson horses
- Create an online “Honor Roll” for the top 10 horses and allow the membership to choose their top horse(s)
- The winner will receive all the awards listed in the proposal with the exception of receiving the honor at Annual Meeting EOE; instead, would like to see a different honor at Annual Meeting such as a sponsoring a meal or education session

Ms. Altheuser motioned to approve the above listed changes to the Lesson Horse of the Year award proposal. Ms. Durant seconded and the motion passed. The committee is open to modifying this award and/or process in the future pending the feedback from 2021. Ms. Barnard will follow up with next steps once the proposal has gone through all the necessary approvals for development.

V. RRA Application

The committee opted to table this topic till May so there was ample time for a deeper dive into potential changes.

VI. Old Business

- Please email Ms. Barnard with your completed videos and/or topic requests. Ms. Barnard only has one video in the queue for use in April.
- Ms. Barnard agreed to follow up on the need for a video release/waiver for youth interested in being involved with the video.

VI. New Business

- There was no new business to discuss.

VII. Adjourn

- Ms. Roxane motioned to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 12:54pm ET.

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Barnard

USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Education/Committee Liaison