



**USHJA Horse and Rider Advocates Committee**

**Monday, July 19, 2021**

**3pm ET**

**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87543609710?pwd=MzI5eHI0dnBSOUZ5cFJrbk5RWFG2UT09>

**Members Present:** Ali Barros, Jean Bonsall, Dayle Eldredge, Susan Lyman, Dr. Richard Mitchell, Dr. Sheila Murphy, Jo-Ann Schaudies, and Eric Straus (8)

**Members Not Present:** Dr. Sarah Cohen and Gay Talmey (2)

**Also Present:** Whitney Barnard (Committee Liaison)

**I. Welcome and Roll Call**

- Sue Lyman called the Zoom meeting to order at 3:03pm ET. Whitney Barnard performed roll call and a quorum was met with 8 voting members present.

**II. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- *Mr. Straus moved to approve the minutes from April 26, 2021. Ms. Schaudies seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

**III. Educational Topics Update**

Ms. Barnard updated the committee regarding their education related ideas from the last call. The Education Department is considering the committee's webinar ideas, and though they feel the topics are relevant, they are concerned that a webinar about rollkur, shoe pulling, over showing, etc. might be too heavy for the general membership. The Education Department is considering other ways of presenting the material to get the information out. The committees' recommendations for "Did You Know" education was submitted to the Communications Department, has been approved, and is in the queue for upcoming all-member newsletters. The most recent was the June "[Did You Know](#)" about shoe pulling. These are popular ways to share information because they are short, to the point, and link out to more in-depth education for those members who are interested. Submitted topics included over showing, proper use of training equipment, proper longeing technique, and "distracted riding".

**IV. Rule Proposals**

The committee reviewed rule change proposal language submitted by Dr. Murphy regarding measurement and microchips:

## HJ129.1a

It must include the name and date of the competition, the height of the animal, name, **microchip number**, color and markings or absence thereof, sex, year foaled which must be verified by the official competition veterinarian at time of measurement. **If the animal has a previous measurement form on file (this is not a first measurement), drawing of the markings is not required if the microchip number submitted on the measurement form matches the number of the microchip scanned by the veterinarian at the time of measurement. If the microchip scanner is unavailable, the markings, or absence thereof, must then be noted by the steward on the measurement form.**

*Mr. Straus motioned to approve the language. There was a second and the motion passed.*

A memo was sent to the Hunter Working Group requesting they consider proposing a rule that would disallow pulling shoes for the hack. The committee feels that any related rule will not be approved without the support of the HWG. The HWG will review and reply to the HRA committee after their August meeting. The HRA committee would then consider whether to put forward a rule if the HWG chooses not to.

Dr. Mitchell suggested sending out a survey to the membership to get a better idea of how the members feel about the practice. If the membership shows opposition to the practice, it would certainly help a rule get passed. Ms. Barnard indicated that the timing was tight but she would contact the Communications Department for permission and to see if any responses could be collected before the HWG meeting date.

**V. Old Business**

- There was no old business to discuss

**VI. New Business**

- There was no new business to discuss

**VII. Adjourn**

- *Dr. Murphy motioned to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned at 3:46pm ET.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Whitney Barnard

USHJA Assistant Managing Director of Education/Committee Liaison