



### **USHJA Zone 7 Committee Meeting Minutes**

Monday, April 6, 2020 – 9:00 a.m. CT/ 12:00 p.m. ET

**Zone 7 Committee Members Participating:** Nancy Jones (Chair), Joey Brumbaugh (Treasurer), Janis Collette, Laura Connaway, Matt Cyphert, Valerie Garza, Genie Harper, Fred Kahn, Kalea Maxwell, Kelly McCabe-Cyphert, John McQueen, Sandra Tabio and Bill Whisenant. (13)

**Zone 7 Committee Members Not Present:** Carl Hansen (Vice Chair). (1)

**Also Present:** Morgan Thibodeaux (Sports Program Coordinator), Kristin Rover (Regional Communications Coordinator) and Lynn Johnson (Sports Program Office Aide). (3)

#### **I. Welcome and Roll Call**

Ms. Jones called the meeting to order. Ms. Thibodeaux called roll, with thirteen committee members present, a quorum was met.

#### **II. Approve the minutes**

*Mr. McQueen made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2020. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

#### **III. 2021 Zone 7 Specifications**

Ms. Jones opened the floor for discussion regarding the 2021 Zone 7 Specifications. Discussion of the presented Zone Specifications took place. Ms. Jones noted the changes (in italics) they made last year which were in effect for this competition year. No feedback has been received on this change. The Committee agreed to not make any changes to the specifications at this time. *Mr. Whisenant made a motion to approve the Zone 7 Specifications as presented. Ms. Tabio seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

#### **IV. Old Business**

Ms. Jones asked about the status of the hiring of Johanna Jensen as the Zone 7 Social Media Coordinator. Ms. Jones advised Ms. Jensen had first been contacted about the position at the 2019 USHJA Annual Meeting and the Committee had voted on hiring her at the January 2020 Committee Meeting. Ms. Rover stated she has compiled a job overview for this position which includes what items she would be doing and submitting them to Ms. Rover. She is still working on the payment and contract issues. Ms. Rover

stated anyone who has any information for the Zone 7 E-News to send it to her along with any ideas for spotlight items. Ms. Jones mentioned readership of the Zone E-News is probably very high due to the current status of competitions. Ms. Jones also suggested a spotlight on competition managers to let the membership know what they are working through. Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. McQueen and Mr. Cyphert were suggested as managers to interview. Ms. Rover will send them questions to answer for this spotlight interview for the E-News.

## **V. New Business**

Ms. Thibodeaux advised the Committee as to the current status of the competition suspension. Committees are meeting regularly to discuss status items such as rescheduling championships, adjusting qualifying, rescheduling competitions etc. Meetings are also regularly being held with USEF. Horse welfare and rider safety are being taken into consideration in these discussions. Due to the different time frames of shutdowns across the country, decisions will have to take that into account also. Ms. Thibodeaux will update the Committee as soon as any official decisions and/or updates are received.

Ms. Jones stated she was on a call this past week, with Mary Babick and competition managers for Zone 7 regarding current status and the rescheduling of competitions for later in the fall. It was stated Murray Kessler had given Bill Moroney authority to modify class combining rules if there were light entries at competitions due to the rescheduling, shutdowns etc. Mr. McQueen and Ms. Jones had discussed the qualifying specifications for the 2020 Zone Equitation Finals. Mr. McQueen asked about the possibility of opening up the qualifying for the 2020 Zone 7 Equitation Finals. Currently, a rider has to win a first or second place in the USEF Medal class to qualify. Can the Zone Committee open the Finals up to the top 20 riders from the qualified list? Mr. Whisenant stated he was in favor of opening it up to the top 20 or 25 riders. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the Committee could pass a motion to allow this change and Ms. Thibodeaux would send that request to the BOD for their approval. If approved, an announcement would go out to membership advising of the change. *Mr. Kahn made a motion to change the 2020 Zone 7 Equitation Finals qualifying specifications to allow qualifying to consist of the top 25 point riders who have competed in the USEF Medal class for the 2020 competition year only. Ms. Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed with the abstention of Mr. McQueen.*

## **VI. Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. ET.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lynn Johnson  
Sports Program Office Aide