



USHJA Zone 7 Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 1, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. CT/ 11:00 p.m. ET

Zone 7 Committee Members Participating: Nancy Jones (Chair), Carl Hansen (Vice Chair), Joey Brumbaugh (Treasurer), Janis Collette, Laura Connaway, Valerie Garza, Genie Harper, Fred Kahn, Kalea Maxwell, Kelly McCabe-Cyphert, John McQueen, Patricia Roberts, Sandra Tabio and Bill Whisenant. (14)

Zone 7 Committee Members Not Present: Matt Cyphert. (1)

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

I. Welcome and Roll Call

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

II. Approve the minutes

Mr. Brumbaugh made a motion to approve the minutes from April 5, 2020 with the correction to remove "Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. McQueen and Mr. Cyphert were suggested as managers to interview" under Old Business. Mr. Whisenant seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.

III. 2021 Zone 7 Specifications

Ms. Thibodeaux stated there were no member comments received regarding the Zone 7 2021 Specifications. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the Hunter Working Group has requested all Zones add the Low Childrens and Low Adult Amateur Hunter Sections from the Stirrup Cup Program to their Zone Specifications for Zone HOTY. The Stirrup Cup Program is ending after the 2020 competition year and these sections have consistently been very strong in that program. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the Committee can use the current Stirrup Cup Specifications as written or they can change them to better fit their membership. These sections will be added to Zone HOTY as C-rated sections and points will be tracked for Zone HOTY yearend awards beginning with the 2021 competition year. The Committee has been provided with a copy of the current Stirrup Cup specifications for reference. The Committee asked if they were required to add this and what the other Zones were doing. Ms. Thibodeaux stated the other Zones have generally accepted the current Stirrup Cup specifications, with a few Zones making minor edits.

Ms. Thibodeaux stated if the Committee did not want to add these, she would go back to the HWG liaison and let them know the Committee's decision and find out what the procedure would be. The Committee discussed tabling this until the USHJA Annual Meeting in December 2020 so the Committee could research what specifications would work for their Zone. Ms. Roberts mentioned that the Annual Meeting is after the 2021 competition year starts. If the Committee does not want to offer this for Zone HOTY points then it is basically penalizing the Zone 7 riders when all the other Zones have it included for HOTY points. Ms. Thibodeaux stated that if Zone 7 does not add it, a Zone 7 rider would get no points if they competed in these sections at a show in Zone 8, for example. More discussion was held. The Committee decided to add these sections with the restriction of a horse/rider combination. *Mr. McQueen made a motion that the current Stirrup Cup specifications for these sections be adopted as written with the Cross Entry Restriction changed from "Rider" to "Horse/Rider Combination" may not cross enter into any/section where fences exceed 2'9" at the same competition for both the Low Childrens and Low Adult Amateur sections. Mr. Brumbaugh seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

Ms. Roberts stated the current Zone 7 specifications for Children's Hunter Pony allow a pony entered in the Children's Hunter Pony Section to be shown by another more accomplished rider in the Regular Pony sections, which usually shows before the Childrens Pony. This allows the pony to have schooling rides with a more accomplished rider on the same courses. The Childrens Pony section is supposed to be a protected section in the eyes of the Pony Committee. Discussion was held. *Ms. Roberts made a motion to change the Childrens Hunter Pony specifications under Cross Entry: Horse/Pony to "Ponies exhibiting in the Childrens Pony Hunter may NOT cross enter into the Regular Pony Hunter Section. Pony may enter into any Equitation classes". Mr. McQueen seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

Ms. Thibodeaux stated there had been an issue arise due to Zone 7 being the only Zone that has Children's Equitation in the Zone Specifications. Other Zones have age group equitation classes. When a rider competed in a contiguous states, their Equitation points for Zone 7 did not count because the other Zone did not have Children's Equitation. Ms. Thibodeaux asked if the Zone wanted to consider changing this so contiguous states (cross zone) points could count. Mr. McQueen stated his shows do not even offer Children's Equitation, they have age group. The Committee discussed this. Ms. Thibodeaux added that Zone 8 has 11 and under, 12-14 and 15-17. *Mr. Hansen made a motion to delete Children's Equitation from the current Zone 7 specifications. Ms. Maxwell seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

Mr. Whisenant asked about the Handy Hunter Challenge specifications. Ms. Thibodeaux included these in case the Committee wanted to change any of this. Mr. Whisenant stated the current specifications only allow a rider to show one horse. He mentioned that at smaller shows some of these are hard to fill. He suggested changing the specs to allow a rider to show more than one horse provided there is at least one other rider entered. Ms. Jones mentioned that shows can now add additional prize

money. *Mr. Whisenant made a motion to change the Zone 7 Handy Hunter Challenge Specifications in both height section, under III Restrictions 1.to “Riders may compete more than one horse or pony per Handy Hunter Challenge as long as there are more than two riders in the class”. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. The motion passed with no abstentions.*

IV. Letter from Sissy Wickes

Ms. Thibodeaux stated the letter was set to the Zone Council by a sub group, who asked that it be distributed to all Zone Committees to review and discuss how the committees could possibly use this and/ or distribute it. Ms. Thibodeaux stated this letter is also being distributed to all affiliates. Ms. Jones asked the Committee to distribute this as the opportunity presents itself.

V. Old Business

Ms. Jones asked for the status of the hiring of Johanna Jemsen to help the Zone with communications. Ms. Jones believed Ms. Jemsen was allowed to make submissions. Ms. Thibodeaux stated USHJA was going forward with this, just in the process of finalizing the job description. USHJA Communications will reach out to her with some content for some submissions to make sure writing style is in line with USHJA guidelines. They will be setting up a meeting with her to work out the details. Ms. Thibodeaux will advise Ms. Jones when that has taken place.

VI. New Business

There was no New Business to discuss.

VII. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:06p.m. ET.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Johnson
Sports Program Assistant