

USHJA Zone 9 Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday December 4, 2021 - 2:00 p.m. PT/ 5:00 p.m. ET

Committee Members Present: Quinn Partridge (Vice Chair), Kathy Hall, Debbie Long, Rachel Long, Lisa Pleasance, Gayl Russell, Nora Thomas, Mary Von Zimmerman and Clare Warren. (9)

Committee Members Not Present: Max von Zimmermann (Chair) - EXC, Nicole Bourgeois - EXC and Tara Niculescu (3)

Also Present: David Warner (Sports Program Coordinator) and Kristin Rover (Regional Communications Coordinator), (2)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Partridge called the meeting to order and Mr. Warner called roll. A quorum was met with ten committee members present. The Committee members introduced themselves.

II. 2021 Zone Communications

Ms. Rover presented the 2021 Zone 9 Communications Report to the Committee. Ms. Rover is responsible for all Zone Communications for USHJA. They are using a new email contact list which should improve communications. If any Committee members have any questions or suggestions, please contact Ms. Rover. An infographic was shared that relates to open and click rates for Zone communications. The rates were well above the industry standards for non-profits. The Committee asked Ms. Rover what the 2022 goals were for Zone communications regarding social media usage. Ms. Rover stated they are using a new social media platform (Sprout) which will allow more frequent and scheduled postings. It also allows the to see what postings have the most engagement as well as what types of posts work well and why they do.

III. 2021 Zone Programs Review

Ms. Partridge and Ms. Von Zimmerman gave an overview of the 2021 Zone Jumper Team Championships (ZJTC) for Zone 9. They were held in Thermal, CA this year with Zone 10. There were approximately 33 entries and 1 or 2 Platinum entries. Approximately 33% of the entries place on the podium. Two Teams won Gold Medals and one individual won a Gold Medal. Ms. Charlotte Skinner Robson and Ms. DiAnne Langer provided updates to the ZJTC program. In 2022, the 1.3m height will be open to professionals to allow them to experience the Team competition and allow more participation. This will be in the Platinum competition. Also for 2022, Zone 8 will be joining Zones 9 & 10 at their ZJTC due to a lack of venue. Horse substitutions will be allowed up to 24 hours prior to the jog if the horse is eligible and has the required number of points. If space is available, qualified and eligible added riders can be allowed up to 24 hours prior to the jog and must complete the application process through their Zone Representative present at the ZJTC.

For 2023, a 1m class will be added to ZJTC which will open a pathway to allow more riders to compete. The EJR Task Force, Jumpier Working Group as well as USEF/USHJA Jumper groups will be meeting on Tuesday during the Annual Meeting and all are encouraged to attend those sessions.

Ms. Langer discussed the Young Jumper Championships program. There 171 enrolled for 2021 and \$108,000 in prize money given out. The Championships were held in August at Traverse City, MI and will be there also for 2022. Ms. Langer encouraged all to remind show managers that they must apply to host a Young Jumper Qualifying class at their competitions. For 2021, many missed indicating this on their Host Application. It is just checking another box on the program page on the Host Application before submitting. Ms. Langer and Ms. Skinner Robson stated they are available to help the Committee in any way to promote and help with getting the word out to members on these programs.

Ms. Partridge discussed the 2021 Zone 9 Equitation Championships held at the end of the summer in Wilsonville, OR. Entries have continued to increase each year but there is always room to increase entries more. This event will remain in Wilsonville for 2022 and Host Applications for 2023-2024 will open around April 2022. Changes for 2022 include the current requirement that only the exhibitor can school the horse during the 24 hours prior to the class. That is changed to the day of the competition only the rider is allowed to school the horse. For 2023, qualifying will be opened up. Any points earned for certain placings in a 3'6" equitation class will be accumulated to determine qualification. This includes Maclay.

Ms. Mary Knowlton gave a brief presentation on the new USEF two channel system for competitions. This will take effect in 2023. There will no longer be "rated" competitions – there will be Regional and National. All sections at either Regional or National will be "rated" Regional or National. USHJA is responsible for the "build out" of all Championships at Regional and National shows. This will depend on what works for each Zone. In theory, there could be two Championships (Zone Finals) for each Zone; one based on Regional and one based on National. For example, USHJA Hunter sections will be rated National at National shows and Regional at Regional shows. Points will track separately. Ms. Knowlton would like feedback from the Zones as to how this two channel system will affect their Zone. Ms. Knowlton encouraged Committee members to attend the Zone Council, State of Association or Rule Change Forum sessions during the Annual Meeting to learn more about this new system. (Ms. Knowlton posted a link to information regarding the two channel system.)

IV. 2021 Zone Planning

There were no specific item discussed here.

V. Q & A with Attendees

There were no Q & As to address.

VI. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:41pm ET.

Respectfully Submitted, Lynn Johnson Sports Program Assistant