



USHJA Zone 1 Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday April 4, 2022 - 5:00 p.m. ET

Zone Members Participating: Amy Eidson (Chair), Jay Mullen (Vice Chair), Melissa Barden, Cynsie Broda, Leigh Gallagher, Felicia Knowles, Ryan Petronelli, April Renzella, Kristi Smith, and Sheila Murphy (NV Member). (10)

Zone Members Not Present: Ann Dotoli-EXC, Sally Hinkle Russell, Monica Hunt, C. J. Law and Carla Sharp (NV Member). (5)

Also Present: Morgan Pearson (Sport Program Coordinator-Zones) Kristin Rover (Regional Communications Coordinator), Britt McCormick (USHJA Planning Committee) and Lynn Johnson (Sport Program Assistant). (4)

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Eidson called the meeting to order and Ms. Pearson called roll. A quorum was met with ten committee members present.

II. Approve the Minutes

Ms. Knowles made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2022 meeting. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with Ms. Barden and Ms. Renzella abstaining.

III. USEF Channel System

Ms. Pearson introduced Mr. McCormick to discuss the 2023 USEF Channel System with the Committee. Mr. McCormick gave a brief explanation of the 2023 USEF Channel System. There will be Channel 1 and Channel 2. Channel 1 shows are currently known as Premier and National rated shows. Channel 2 are currently known as Regional or B and C rated shows. As a Notional show, they can offer between \$25,000 and \$74,999 in prize money. A premier show must offer a minimum of \$75,000 in prize money. Channel 1 Jumpers remain the same. Sections offered in any Channel 1 show will be A rated, making it easier for competition managers. Points scale for both Channels will go back to the system based on number of entries in the class. Points earned in Channel 1 shows will remain as Channel 1 for National and Zone HOTY. Channel 2 shows can offer prize money from \$0 to \$24,999 and Jumpers will be at Levels 1-3. Channel 2 will have their own set of HOTY awards and Championships as the points earned at Channel 2 shows will stay with Channel 2. Mileage between Channel 2 shows will be 50 miles; between Channel 1 and Channel 2 there is no mileage restriction. Mileage

restrictions between Channel 1 and Channel 1 remain as they currently are. Channel 1 and Channel 2 shows cannot be held at the same show as they are different HOTY structures. The purpose of the Channel System is to open up the calendar and allow more innovation for managers as to what they offer for their audience, basically more flexibility for what the show offers. Mr. McCormick stated the Planning Committee would like feedback from the Zones. Mr. McCormick opened the floor for questions. How does Equitation fit in? Is it Channel 1 or 2? Equitation and Hunter Breeding operate in both Channels. Each owner of that property decides how qualifying will work. USEF will use both Channels to qualify for their medals. Washington has not yet decided. Was this change based on surveys or member feedback? USEF Task Force did a lot of research to determine attendance at horse shows and how much popularity. Combining rules in some areas have been relaxed to allow more flexibility for what works for your area. If both Channels are present in your area, can have Channel 1 and Channel 2 Zone Finals. Some may not have enough in one Channel and therefore could do a hybrid version. The Planning Committee would like to see the Channel System create and add opportunities for each Channel at the end of the year. Mr. McCormick stated he is always open to feedback, especially as you start showing in it next year. Ms. Pearson stated quarterly chats can be set up with Mr. McCormick. How are the Zones supposed to know what numbers are going to be in 2023, since this is all new? How are we supposed to decide what kind of Zone Finals to have? Zone 1 is pretty open with no qualifying so all Zone 1 riders could come. Really don't have to change it from what it is now. Planning Committee would like feedback on what each Zone is doing to structure Zone Finals the first year. Qualifying for Pony Finals or Jr. Hunter Finals? Pony Finals needs Channel 1 qualifying, Jr. Hunter Finals can be Channel 1 or 2. Ms. Pearson will verify that. Hunter Breeding & Equitation are across both channels because there may not have been enough horses to populate each Channel separately. Does create a disincentive to go to Channel 1 show when you can go to a channel 2 show for Hunter Breeding for much less. May "lighten" entries at Channel 1 shows in Hunter Breeding.

IV. Old Business

Ms. Eidson brought up the 2022 Zone 1 Budget which needs to be approved. Ms. Eidson mentioned the additional Funding to add to line item Zone Finals is not included. This is for the addition of the sections Low Childrens Hunter and Low Adult Hunter. Ms. Pearson will add that in to the budget. Ms. Eidson brought up the area of Team Funding. Ms. Eidson stated the New England Equitation Championships awarded \$1500 to Zone 1 for the educational forums. Ms. Pearson stated if for some reason the Committee needs to request additional funding, they can. *Ms. Broda made a motion to approve the 2022 Zone 1 Budget as amended with the addition of \$500 to the line item Zone Finals. Ms. Knowles seconded the motion. The motion passed.*

V. New Business

Ms. Eidson asked about the USHJA Program Booklets that were sent out digitally and some got hard copies to see if the Committee members received a copy.

Ms. Eidson asked for a motion as to what type of Zone Finals Zone 1 would like to have under the Channel System. *Ms. Knowles made a motion that for 2023, Zone 1 would choose to have a combined Channel 1 and Channel 2 Zone Finals. Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion passed.* Ms. Pearson will check to see if Zone 1 needs to vote on the HOTY Year End Awards system for 2023 also.

VI. Adjourn

Ms. Broda made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Knowles seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:57pm ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Johnson
USHJA Sport Program Assistant