

UMECRA Annual Meeting Minutes

Grand River Conference Center Dubuque, Iowa

January 21, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Sarah Mowrer at 1:20pm

Roll call. Quorum was achieved.

2022 annual meeting minutes were approved with unanimous consent.

Secretary Report

Janet Sarver presented the approval for a trail grant request to the Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Association. Ride managers were encouraged to apply for this year.

Treasurer Report

Deb Moe reviewed the annual treasurer's report. Motion made by Linda Mowrer, seconded by Tony Troyer. Approved. The audit was done on Friday night and passed. Sanctioning fees are due Feb 1st and the insurance policy will be reviewed and invoiced to ride managers. Deb Moe requested that all ride results be sent to her, Nicole Mauser-Storer and Robin Schadt. Results are due 15 days from the last day of the event.

Presidents Report

Sarah Mowrer reported that memberships went down this year by three. The number of riders at rides were also down. Elinore Tonsor asked what UMECRA is doing about this issue. Sarah Mowrer stated that UMECRA helps with insurance and gave 107 free memberships at clinics. Jon Wagner suggested that follow up could be done with the free memberships. Peggy Pasillas stated that it can take a new person coming to a clinic three times before they come to a ride. Discussion of ideas such as using social media, ride managers being helpful to new riders, first ride tshirts, put out booths at horse fairs. Sarah Flim offered to help ride managers with social media.

Sarah Mowrer reported that the scholarship fund report has a balance of approximately \$98,000. There was \$7500 available and there were two applicants. Applicants need to have done 25 rides and follow the scholarship form on the UMECRA website. The company that manages the scholarship does the selection process and split the funds between people who applied. Funding is through the silent auction or donations.

Committee Reports

- Veterinary Committee. Dr. Jennifer Lorenz reported that the veterinarian handbook is almost completed. The handbook was created with new guidelines so that the vet process can be standardized.

- Rules. Theresa Meyer stated that the new rules are in the packets given to each ride manager.
- The International Competition Fund was reviewed.

New Business

Sanctioning Coordinators Report – the 2022 ride schedule was presented by Theresa Meyer. There were some changes in names, dates, and ride distances offered. Ride flyers are due February 1. Theresa Meyer motioned to approve the schedule. Sarah Flim seconded. Approved. Tony Troyer brought up a concern about the large number of rides in UMECRA compared to the rest of AERC. Nicole Mauser-Storer will start a committee to look into this topic. Elinore Tonsor stated that she would like a moratorium on new rides. Discussion.

Rule Changes

Proposal to update COMPETITIVE RIDES. 3. Rider Requirements B.

COMPETITIVE RIDES 3. Rider Requirements B. Devices which serve strictly as leg protection shall be penalized two points per leg per day. Examples include, but are not limited to bell boots, splint boots, wraps, sleeves or any device that was not manufactured specifically for a hoof boot system. All types of hoof protection are permissible, including hoof boots with the manufacturer's associated parts. Boots and parts shall NOT extend above the pastern, or the boot will be subject to the two points per day per leg penalty. The judge may request to observe the area covered by the boot and/or the area under any leg protection at any time. If leg protection is not declared, see (H).

Motion made by Theresa Meyer to adopt new language about hoof protection. Seconded by Linda Mowrer. Discussion. Motion by Dana Gasner suggested a wording change in the new proposal to “any device that was not manufactured specifically for a hoof boot system”. Seconded Kim Fosler. Approved. New language was reviewed before the vote. Dr. Wes Elford asked about bell boots. The rule on bell boots will remain the same as they are not hoof protection. Deb Juettner asked about Scoot Boot attachments. As long as they do not extend above the pastern and are manufacturer's parts they are permitted. Approved.

Proposed Rule change Endurance Rule 7

ENDURANCE RULE

7. There must be a minimum of two **midride** vet checks on a 50-mile ride and a minimum of ~~three~~ **four midride** checks on a 100-mile ride.

Motion by Theresa Meyer to approve. Seconded by Tony Troyer. Discussion. Clarification that this could be a gate and go. Approved.

Sanctioning Requirement UMECRA Rule 2. O.

SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS

2. UMECRA RULES

O. All sanctioning fees ~~must be paid~~ **are due** by Feb. 1st. If not paid by this date, the ride loses sanctioning for the year. Sanctioning Coordinator will send an email to the ride manager (call or letter sent by confirmation delivery) and document that contact has been made requesting the funds. **Late payments will be considered a re-sanctioning request and must be approved by the Board of Directors. Penalties for late payments may include: delay in the posting of the ride flyer online, exclusion of the flyer from the ride book, and loss of ride sanctioning.** It is the ride manager's duty to contact the Sanctioning Coordinator and Treasurer if their contact information has been changed from the previous year.

Motion made by Theresa Meyer to accept changes. Seconded by Deb Moe. Explanation for the reason for the change. Discussion. Approved.

Insurance coverage increase. Deb Moe explained that there is a need for an increase in liability coverage. An excess liability plan will be purchased which costs more money. Jon Wagner stated that the board agreed to purchase this additional insurance and the cost needs to go to ride managers or to UMECRA. The increase to ride managers would be \$5 day. Motion made by Tony Troyer that UMECRA absorbs this cost for this year then revise in 2024 who pays the coverage. Seconded by Kristine Jubeck. Discussion. Voting is 41 yes and 13 no. Motion passes. Board will discuss this in March.

Changing distribution of silent auction. Will be moved to board discussion in March.

AERC Ride Donation - Motion made by Jon Wagner made that UMECRA donate a ride entry for a 50 or 55 mile endurance ride to the AERC fundraiser at National Convention. Seconded by Roberta Harms. Janet Cram made a motion to amend the main motion to two ride entries to this event. Amendment and amended main motion passed. Seconded. Approved.

Announcements

- The AHA Distance Horse National Championship will be at Huntersville 100 this year. Sarah Maass presented information on this event.
- 2024 Convention is in Terrance Bay Hotel, Gladstone, Michigan
- Shining Light Award will be supported by an anonymous donor for the next 10 years. Applications will be taken this year for the award.
- Rider etiquette. Sarah Mowrer asked that ride managers be aware of alcohol use and language at rides.
- UMECRA Photo Storage website. Deb will set up a new website Umecraphoto.com where members can submit ride photos to share.

Elections

Vice President – Sarah Flim nominated Peggy Pasillas, accepted. Peggy Pasillas elected as vice president.

Treasurer - Deb Moe nominated, accepted. Deb Moe elected as treasurer.

Michigan Regional Director – Karen Jarvie nominated, accepted. Karen Jarvie elected as Michigan Director.

Director at Large - Karrie Halberg nominated, accepted; Robin Schadt nominated, accepted; Shannon Ployhart nominated, accepted; Alice Hubert nominated, accepted; Theresa Meyer nominated, accepted. Theresa Meyer elected as Director at Large.

Director at Large – Karrie Halberg nominated, accepted. Shannon Ployhart nominated, accepted, Alice Hubert nominated, accepted; Robin Schadt nominated, accepted. Robin Schadt is elected as Director at Large

Jon Wagner moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Seconded by Deb Moe.

Meeting is adjourned at 3:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Sarver

UMECRA Secretary