

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



A Letter from your President!

Another UMECRA Annual meeting and convention is in the books. From my first novice ride in 2007 (with stops in between as ride volunteer, mentor, ride manager, points keeper, director position on the board, to the role of President of UMECRA. Wow! Now that is a journey!

Never in my wildest dreams, as I sat at that memorable ride meeting preparing for my first 50 (2010), did I foresee myself participating on the board, let alone serving as President.

I did the unthinkable at that meeting. Quickly I raised my hand and proudly asked the oh so dreadful question: “do we take the tack off”. What was I thinking? Promptly, not one, but two of the “elders (hall of fame members)” jumped all over me for having the audacity to ask if we take the tack off. I refused to allow the tears to flow. I sat quietly waiting for the meeting to come to an end. The next day I encountered one of the ladies on the trail and posed my question again. Yes, I poked the bear! I had all night to think about the thrashing and still didn’t understand why it mattered if tack was on or off at the checks. Oh my, she couldn’t believe that some (*&%\$* asked about the tack. I said, I was that (*&%\$* and I can’t learn if you scold me and don’t answer the question! It’s my first 50! She then gained her composure and provided the elusive answer. She also advised me to tuck my tights in my socks so they wouldn’t ride up my legs. Yes, as my good friend says, I was a cluster! That lady, along with her family/crew have been very helpful as I traveled down the endurance rabbit hole. To this day, I smile and wish her well every ride morning as I pull my socks up over my tights. I’ve learned a lot from

that person for which I am grateful. These awkward moments have developed into many treasured moments and friendships and have contributed to my passion and dedication to our sport.

I would like to thank GLDRA for hosting the 2024 Convention! The venue was comfortable and inviting. The food together with the service was above and beyond. It is no easy task to pull off a successful event without the help of a small army. The convention gives us an opportunity to spend time with riders from the regions within UMECRA that we may not see during the ride season. It was exciting to see so many new faces of UMECRA. Sharing the excitement as we celebrated and honored our fellow members is always the highlight of the weekend for me. Again, thank you to the GLDRA family for bringing us together to celebrate us!

I would like to thank Sarah Mowrer for serving as our president the past two years. Sarah will remain on the board as Immediate Past President for which I am grateful as I make the transition from Director at Large to President.

I would like to thank our outgoing board members for their valuable commitment and service to our UMECRA family.

Jon Wagner- Past President
Dr. Jen Lorenz – Veterinary Rep
Dr. Wes Elford – Rider Rep
Tracy Johnson – Rider Rep

I am excited to welcome our new board members:

Dr. Alana McNutt representing our veterinarians.
Emily Schupp as Director at Large
Sarah Maass continuing as MN rep
Barb Gardner continuing as WI rep
Sherry Aune as Rider Representative
Crystal Esqueda as Rider Representative
Debby Wiesbecker as Rider Representative
Kim Fosler Continuing as Rider Representative

Our equines bring us together. Endurance and competitive riding embrace all levels of competition. Taking in the trail and making memories with our beloved equines is something we all share. Our membership encompasses multiple generations, professions, and personalities. Once we roll into ride camp, we're working to achieve one common goal of finishing our ride with a sound happy horse. Let's have fun and ride!!

Let the countdown to ride season begin!

Your President,
Robin Schadt

Minutes from the November Board of Directors meeting are available on the UMECRA website: click here to find them: [UMECRA](#)

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******Notice******

The spring UMECRA Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 6th, in Lodi WI.
Quality Inn & Suites, W9250
Prospect Dr, Lodi, WI 53555

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TREASURER'S NOTICE: NEW in 2024 – RIDE MANAGER RESOURCES

The UMECRA Treasurer will not be sending ride fee invoices or ride certificates to ride managers. Instead, all information will be on payumecra.com/ridemanagers website. The Insurance Certificates and Insurance Fees will be provided on this website.

Ride Insurance – Download Certificates

- Click on Download Certificates to activate the toggle form. Enter the first part of your ride name and wait for the files to appear. If no results are present and you require the certificate asap, contact the Treasurer. Not all ride certificates are received at the start of the season from the insurance agent.

- If a file is present, hover the mouse over the file name to display the view and download options. Save the file as needed.

Ride Insurance – Find Insurance Fees per Ride

- Click on Lookup Insurance Fees to activate the toggle form. Select the ride(s) and view the insurance totals in the table that loads.

- Submit the insurance fees PLUS ride fees (\$2.50 per starting rider) along with ride results within 15 calendar days of the event to the Treasurer, Points Keeper, and Webmaster.

UMECRA Convention

January 20, 2024

General Meeting Summary

- The club continues to grow with an addition of 30 new members for a total 311. This makes us one of the few regional clubs that continues to grow. Keep inviting those new riders and supporting existing riders to keep competing!

- There is a new online resource to help ride managers keep their information organized. This can be found at the Ride Manager Resource page on Payumecra.com

- The Awards Committee looked at ride data since 2009 and found a significant decrease in entries as people are entering fewer rides. UMECRA year end points were weighted more

towards placings and no points are given for completing miles. This is different from many other regions and AERC. A motion was passed to change the point structure of UMECRA by giving one point per mile completed in addition to any points for placings. This will take effect for the 2024 season.

Rule Changes

1. General Rules 1. Eligibility – changed wording from “horse” to “equine” and allows equines 60 months of age at the time of the ride to be entered in distances of 40 miles or more instead of 50 miles or more.

2. Management Requirements I. This rule was changed to include veterinarians, rider(s), volunteer(s), or family who feel that any person(s) have been abused or harassed by a member and that they have the right to notify the UMECRA Board. The Board will then proceed to investigate the event. The process that the Board takes is then explained in the rule.

3. Endurance Rule 14.F, 14.G, 14.H

a. 14.F Changed to more clearly explain what happens when the sponsor of a Junior rider is unable to continue. If there is no other entered adult rider sponsors available, the Junior can be sponsored by an un-entered adult rider or by an adult on foot with approval of ride management. This adult must be a current or day member of AERC. The Junior will receive last place points among Junior riders who completed.

b. 14.G - NEW States that any equine ridden by an unentered sponsor shall be examined by the control judge and can be disqualified by the control judge. This equine must also get a veterinary safety check at the finish.

c. 14.H - NEW States that an equine ridden by a junior is eligible for best condition.

4. UMECRA General Rules 4. Rider Requirements Addition to this rule allows juniors who have lost their sponsor due to emergency or inability to continue to be accompanied by an ad hoc sponsor until a qualified sponsor can be found.

5. UMECRA LD Rule 13 (NEW) States that an equine must meet pulse criteria within 30

minutes of arrival at all control points and stand for a post ride evaluation anytime within one hour of reaching the timer. An equine that does not meet the completion criteria within the hour of reaching the timer shall be disqualified. Once the equine passes the final exam, it cannot be removed from completion. No equine will be certified for UMECRA completion if it needs or receives treatment for metabolic reasons within one hour of reaching the timer, regardless of whether or not it has passed the final exam. Such an equine may still receive AERC points and mileage credit.

6. Article VIII Membership - clarifies that in the voting for rider representatives, family memberships shall receive up to two votes.

Elections

There are 3 new Rider Representatives – Sherry Aune, Debbie Wiesbecker, Crystal Esqueda. Kim Fosler was re-elected. All will serve a 2year term.

President - Robin Schadt

Secretary – Janet Sarver

MN Director at Large - Sarah Maass

WI Director at Large - Barb Gardiner

Veterinary Representative – Alanna McNutt

Director at Large - Emily Schupp.

Points Keeper – there is a current vacancy.

Convention – will be in Wisconsin. More details will be forthcoming. Kim Fosler is looking for volunteers to help her with the event. She has confirmed Dr. Melissa Ribley, will be coming from Florida to speak in addition to a certified yoga instructor that teaches yoga for equestrians.

**Don't forget to
renew your
UMECRA
membership for
2024!**

Ride Choice Nomination: Psyche on Fire

Owned by Candy Barbo

Nomination by Theresa Meyer

One of the qualifications for rider choice nominations: Would you like this horse in your barn? Well, definitely not at first, but Psyche on Fire (better known as "Fire") has filled that bill for many years. He's definitely Mr. Reliable, Mr. First Place and Mr. High Point.

Returning from a trip, Candy and Ed stopped by Cedar Ridge Arabians in the Twin Cities on the way back home to Duluth. They are known for producing good riding and show horses. Candy hit the jackpot a couple years before getting CR Windsor there. They were shown three geldings, but Candy wasn't impressed by any of them. A day or two later, Ed asked Candy what she'd offer for one of those horses. She mulled it over briefly and said \$1,000. Well, Ed went back and offered \$800 for Fire, and they took it. For a broke horse. What does that tell you? Ed said, "Happy Birthday, Candy! Fire is yours."

It was not a match made in heaven...at first. They had great difficulties catching Fire the first year they had him. Fire was pretty rank, and likely on the way to auction if Ed hadn't picked him out.

At Fire's first competition, Candy was riding Windsor, her wonderful grey, and she'd given her sister Anita the young, naughty Fire to ride and manage. They were riding comp at SE MN, and I was doing P&Rs that day. Despite it being super-hot and humid, Fire would not stand still. Despite being with all his buddies, resting in the shade with him, he was very antsy.

But it didn't really take that long for Fire to settle in. He continued to be ridden by Candy's sister the first few years in endurance and comp in the Upper Midwest and Florida. Then Ed who chose Fire, rode him for several years earning heavyweight competitive top 10s in 2011 and 2012. Ed and Fire earned UMECRA Reserve Champions in HW Comp in 2013 and

2014. Fire was also AHA Competitive Trail Reserve Champion in 2013. In 16 competitions that year Fire was nearly unbeatable, only getting second place at Point Chaser.

In endurance this horse has 4,100 endurance miles, with a 94% completion rate and 18 BCs including a perfect BC score at Far Out Forest in 2015; and a first place and BC at the Big Horn 75 that same year.

2018 was another stellar year for Fire. Candy was in the saddle this season. He was MnDRA competitive lightweight champion and first place and high point at every UMECRA comp ride he was entered in. They took 3rd place purebred Arabian at the very tough AHA National Competitive Trail Ride. In 2019 Fire continued to impress because at 20 years old he beat an impressive field at AHA Distance Nationals – again earning a Purebred Competitive Trail Championship on a wet course. In 2021 Fire battled Lyme's Disease and by the end of the season was placing 1st and 2nd again. 2023 Fire completed several rides, most noticeably being the AHA National CTR again where he received another 3rd place!

Fire is just short of 6,000 UMECRA miles, and he has over 2,000 miles in non-UMECRA distance rides. That's 8,000 miles carrying Candy, Ed, Anita, and several others that need a reliable, steady horse on 100s to 25s. And not only is Fire a most wonderful competitive and endurance horse, but that antsy mount is a distant memory.

Psyche on Fire is a durable, dependable, and trustworthy distance horse that I'd welcome in my pasture. Candy says this has been Fire's last competition year, so I urge you to vote Psyche on Fire for Rider Choice.

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Linda Jacobson – Hall of Fame 2024

When considering Hall of Fame nominations, one needs to consider far more than how many rides a person has won. As a wise woman once told me, ANYONE can get on a good horse and

win a race. It is the preparation, the ability to deal with setbacks, the perseverance that count. One must also consider what that person has given back to UMECRA, how they treat other competitors, and – in my opinion most important – how they nurture and treat their partners, their horses. The person I am nominating for Hall of Fame has been in this sport since 1992. She has accumulated over 23,000 miles, not counting this season’s or out of area AERC rides. She has been a Ride Manager for years. And she is, without question, the best trail maker in the sport. Her trails are as OCD as she, and nothing takes away her dedication to making them perfect, not even an ATV accident and a broken leg. Even as she laid in pain, she could think of nothing except how could the riders find trail if she didn’t complete her mission. She is always willing to help other riders and offer encouragement. However, I do remember one incident when she led some newbie comp riders a little astray. She and I were helping the rookies out when our two elderly steeds who had raced each other for more than a decade decided it was time for a run-off on a nice half mile of trail. As we flew down the lane, I remember us screaming, “This is NOT how you ride competitive.” But surely the most important achievement this woman has accomplished is the health, records, and longevity of her horses. Horses, I might add, that are not your typical Best Endurance Breed. 9,600, 6,000 and 5,000 miles. More importantly, those horses competed well into their 20’s and raced for 18, 20, and 21 seasons. But retiring those masters of the sport has not stopped her from pursuing future goals. She has started two young mounts to add to her records. When you ride with this woman it is an experience in itself. You never know if she is talking to you, her horse, or herself. And if it is herself, what personality is she communicating with. I am sure by now you are all familiar with this wonderful, quirky, accomplished, and unforgettable woman.

Written by Lori Windows

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Shining Light Award – Sarah Maass

It is my sincere pleasure to announce that Sarah Maass has been awarded the Shining Light Award. Sarah has been a ride manager since 2006 when she started as a co-manager for Run for the Ridge and has managed a ride every year for the past 17 years. She even managed two rides a few months apart for a few years, which is a daunting task! Sarah currently manages Huntersville 100 which she has run since 2020.

I have been fortunate to count Sarah as my mentor in my own journey both as a rider and as a ride manager for the past 14 years. Throughout those years I have been impressed by her ability to organize and manage all the details of a ride, handle horse and rider emergencies, and have endless patience to answer questions. One of the things that makes Sarah’s rides successful is her ability to reach out to private landowners to add to existing park trails so that riders have as much space and variety as possible. She has put in countless hours of hard work maintaining trails and has tried to build connections with the local community to create goodwill for our sport.

In 2023 Sarah put on a huge effort to bring a national championship ride to this region for the first time in many years. She worked tirelessly with a variety of agencies such as AHA, multiple breed organizations, local state officials, private landowners, and the ATV/motorcycle clubs that use the Huntersville State Forest trails. In addition, she also organized volunteers to improve the trails to make the best ride conditions possible. The ride had a large turnout with competitors from many different states and received many positive comments over the course of the four-day event.

Sarah's passion for distance riding shows in her years of introducing new riders to this sport, especially junior riders. One of my earliest memories is of Sarah bringing 4-5 juniors to ride camp and how hard they worked yet also had fun. Over the years, Sarah has not only helped pay for the juniors to attend rides, educated, mentored, helped them fundraise for costs, and supported them through their ups and

downs. She developed many of them into excellent riders and athletes, taking two juniors to Tevis in 2016 and a former junior to Tevis in 2022.

Sarah is also an accomplished endurance rider with 5360 miles. She has completed nine 100 mile rides including three Tevis finishes in 2012, 2016 and 2022. She takes excellent care of her horses and has earned 12 best condition awards. Sarah has come back from at least one serious injury to keep riding. Her spirit and grit show true perseverance to endurance riding no matter what the obstacles.

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Clinics – Are you holding a clinic or mock ride to share our sport with others? Let us know and we will post it here!

April 27th – MN Distance Clinic & Mock Ride. Go to MNDRA.com for details!

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**UMECRA Board of Director Meeting
JANUARY 20, 2024**

Present: Deb Moe, Robin Schadt, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Sarah Mowrer, Dr. Wes Elford, Sarah Maass, Peggy Pasillas, Kim Fosler, Karen Jarvi, Theresa Meyer, Barb Gardner, Janet Sarver

Absent: Dr. Jen Lorenz, Tracy Johnson, Linda Jacobsen

Meeting officially called to order by Sarah Mower at 7:02am
Minutes from the board meeting November 11, 2023, reviewed. Deb motioned to approve. Dr. Wes seconded. Approved.

Treasurer’s report

Deb reviewed the 2023 financial report and stated that the awards and convention expenses will be calculated when received. She also reviewed the current insurance coverage.

Memberships increased by 30 for a total of 311 members of which 45 are new members – these are paid memberships. There were 91 complementary memberships given out in 2023. The same memberships given out in 2022 converted to 8 paid members. Deb described the online page that she is creating for ride managers to track information. Robin motioned to approve the report. Seconded and approved.

Committee reports

Awards committee - Sarah Maass reviewed the AERC year-end statistics by region and in the US that showed the number of starters per region has decreased by half. Discussed that the point calculations in UMECRA are set up for placings, not miles. Sarah stated that AERC and all other regions that she researched give points for miles and placings. She presented a chart with placings of UMECRA riders from 2021-2023 and the effect on standings when adding in points for miles. Kim made the motion to add in points plus miles in UMECRA point calculations. Robin seconded. Approved to bring this to the membership at the general meeting. Sarah Maass stated that she also looked at ideas for other awards that could be given to riders. This will be developed and presented in more detail in the March meeting. Sanctioning – Theresa presented the 2024 year schedule. Approved.

International committee - Peggy will head the international committee with Dr. Wes Elford. They will look for new members. She will evaluate the current situation of international rides with USEF.

Old business

Insurance coverage – Deb stated that the main policy did not change. A one-million-dollar extra liability was purchased for a total of 2 million per event. UMECRA subsidy for ride manager cost is paid for 2024 and will be evaluated year by year. Dr. Wes stated that Michigan rides have their own insurance and that they do not get assistance from UMECRA. Karen Jarvi will reach out to her rider managers in Michigan and see what they would like to do and report at the March meeting.

Huntersville AHA championship – Sarah Maass stated that this was a well-attended ride and that AHA gave a lot of good support and advertising.

Rule committee – Theresa reviewed the rules and bylaws that will be presented to the general meeting. These were all passed by the board either at the November meeting or through the IO account. Dr. Wes reviewed his concern with LD Rule 13 as proposed. Agreed that this rule will be presented as written to the general membership. On UMECRA General Rules 2. Management Requirements I. Peggy motioned that we add veterinarians to UMECRA General Rules 2. Management Requirements 1. Barb seconded. Approved.

2025 Convention – Wisconsin will host. Kim stated she is working on a hotel and speaker. A request for assistance in planning this will be announced at the general meeting.

Discussion of timing of convention, final results and awards. These topics will be discussed more in detail at the March meeting.

Discussion of general meeting schedule.

Peggy motioned for the meeting to adjourn;

Kim seconded.

Meeting adjourned 8:40am.

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Open Board Positions:

Treasurer – Due to work and personal issues, Deb Moe has decided to step down as UMECRA's Treasurer. Due to this, we are looking to find a qualified, interested person to replace her. The board would like to appoint an interim treasurer at the April, 2024 board of director's meeting. Deb will provide mentoring and a transition plan for the remainder of her term, which concludes in January 2025. At that time, the interim Treasurer would be on the ballot for the official Treasurer.

Qualifications to be elected treasurer in 2025 are to be a current ride manager for a 2024 ride or 3 years of prior ride management experience. UMECRA uses QuickBooks Desktop for recordkeeping.

If you are interested in the position, please submit an email with your qualifications to

UMECRA Secretary, Janet Sarver, at jsarver662@gmail.com.

Position Description from Article IV Section 8 of the By-laws: TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall attend all sessions of the Board of Directors and of all meetings of the members. S/he shall have the custody and maintenance of the corporate funds and securities and shall keep full and accurate account of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the corporation and shall deposit all monies, and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the corporation, in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors. S/he shall only disburse the funds of the corporation as may be ordered by the Board, taking the proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the President and Directors, at the regular meetings of the board, or whenever they may require it, an account of all her/his transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. S/he shall provide an annual report for the membership and provide interim reports at the request of the President or Executive Committee. S/he shall give the corporation a bond at the corporations expense if required by a majority of the Board of Directors, in such amount as they may determine, and with one or more sureties satisfactory to the Board, for the faithful performance of the duties of her/his office, and for the restoration to the corporation in case of her/his death, resignation, retirement, or removal from office, of all books, papers, vouchers, money, and other property, of whatever kind in her/his possession or under her/his control belonging to the corporation. Due to its requirements and nature, the position of Treasurer may be filled by either a current Delegate or a current UMECRA Member with a minimum of three (3) years as a UMECRA Ride Manager. (1/15/11)
(1/18/20)

Points Keeper – Currently filled by Robin Schadt, requesting a new points keeper to allow Robin to focus on her responsibilities of UMECRA President.

Position Description from Article VI Section 5 b of the By-laws.

The Points-Keeper will keep track of season rider points and division standings and provide them to the Webmaster and Newsletter Editor(s) for publication. Points Keeper will also keep track of horse and rider mileages seasonally and for lifetime records. The Points-Keeper shall be responsible for record-keeping related to awards at season end, as approved by the Board. (2022)

If you are interested in applying for either of these positions, please reach out to UMECRA President, Robin Schadt at 708.280.8241, email robinschadt@aol.com and Secretary Janet Sarver at 651.270.0961 or email jsarver662@gmail.com

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**UMECRA General Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2024**

Terrace Bay Hotel, Gladstone MI

Call to Order 1:15pm by Sarah Mowrer
Secretary Roll Call of Delegates - The number for quorum is 45 and the number of delegates after roll call is 65. A quorum has been reached.
Minutes of Last year General meeting - approved
Treasurer Report – Deb Moe reviewed the year-end report. UMECRA will continue cover the additional cost to ride managers for 2024.
Memberships increased by 30 for a total of 311 members of which 45 are new members. Deb stated that final budget numbers will be available after awards and convention costs are finalized. Tony Troyer motioned to approve the report, Donnie Hamrick seconded. Passed.

Deb reviewed the new ride manager resource page on UMECRA Payments Online site. This site will allow ride managers to download their insurance and look up their ride insurance payment. Elinore Tonsor asked for details on what the liability insurance covered. Deb offered to send a copy of the policy to anyone who asks.

Committee Reports

Award Committee - Sarah Maass reviewed the AERC Year End Statistics of number of starters by region and there are significant decrease since 2009 across all regions. Sarah talked about the point structure of UMECRA and what points are awarded to riders. Sarah stated that every other region she looked at gives riders points per mile. UMECRA

currently gives placings so much weight that it doesn't encourage people to just complete more rides. Discussion. Robin motioned to change the point structure to include one point per mile starting in 2024. Alana McNutt seconded. Discussion. Sarah Mowrer called the question. Motion passed. Sanctioning Coordinator Report – 2024 Ride Schedule - Theresa reviewed the schedule for 2024 ride year. Theresa motioned to approve the schedule. Peggy seconded approval. Motion passed.

Veterinary Committee – no report
International Fund – Peggy stated that they are waiting for USEF to move forward with details on international rides. Peggy called for an additional person to serve on this committee. This person does not need to be a ride manager.

Old Business

Scholarship Fund update – Sarah Mowrer reported on the scholarship fund balance. Dr. Wes gave more details on how the fund creates the interest that funds scholarships. The silent auction proceeds will continue to put into this fund.

Insurance – already covered

Report on 2023 AHA Nationals - Sarah Maass reported on this ride and stated that the funding from UMECRA helped with completion awards. A commemorative book was made for this ride by photographer Henry Gruber that is for sale. AHA provided additional social media and video coverage.

New Business

Ride Manager Requirements / Safe Sport – Sarah Mowrer reviewed that Safe Sport Representative cannot be riding when the ride is occurring. She emphasized that we are all here for fun, no matter what happens at a ride.

Rules Committee – Proposed Rule Changes
GENERAL RULES – (Apply to both endurance and competitive rides)

1. Eligibility

A. Each ride must be open to all breeds. On a ride of 35 miles or less the horse equine must be at least 48 months old. The equines entered in distances of 50 40 or more miles must be at least 60 months of age at the time of the ride with the exception of those entered in single day 100-mile rides. Equines entered in single day 100-mile distances must be at least 72 months of age at the time of the ride. (2015)

• Tony motioned to accept this change. Peggy seconded. Discussion. Motion made to change the term horse to equine and the mileage from 50 to 40.. Elinore seconded. Passed.

2. Management Requirements

I. If ride management, veterinarians, rider(s), crew, volunteer(s), or family feels that any personnel person(s) have been abused or harassed by a member, they (management) have the right to notify the Board who will respond in the following order: Upon review, the Board will ask for comment from the alleged offending member and other people who might have witnessed the event. Then

- If deemed warranted, the Board will privately warn that member; part of the warning being that if the offense continues, the member will be publicly warned.

- If the conduct continues, the Board can take whatever further action it deems appropriate, including prohibiting the member from entering the offended or attending a ride or from managing any other UMECRA event in the future.

- Theresa motioned to approve. Deb Moe seconded. Discussion. Passed.

ENDURANCE RULE 14.F, 14.G, 14.H Previous Rule 14.F

F. In the event of an emergency and in order to remain in competition, the junior who is in last place and whose preregistered sponsor is pulled, and there are no other qualified sponsors to follow, the Junior may be sponsored by an un-entered qualified rider through the completion of the ride, with ride management and ride veterinarian approval. He would receive last place junior points. This emergency sponsor will receive no credit for mileage or points. The junior may also be sponsored by an adult on foot from the last veterinary check with the approval of ride management.

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NEW F.

F. In the event that the pre-registered sponsor of the Junior is unable to continue, and if no other willing entered adult sponsors in any distance and on the same loop of trail are available, the Junior may be sponsored by un-entered adult rider(s) through the completion of the ride with ride management and control judge approval. The Junior would receive last place points among those Junior riders that completed that ride. The un-entered sponsor will receive no points or credit for mileage. The Junior may also be sponsored by an adult on foot with the approval of ride management. Any un-entered sponsor must be either a current member or a Single Event Member of AERC. (also commonly known as “day member”).

- Sarah Maass motioned to approve. Robin seconded. Discussion. Passed.

New G.

G. In order to ensure equine welfare and in accordance with the provisions of Rule F, any equine being ridden by an un-entered sponsor shall receive a substantive physical examination by the control judge of metabolic and mechanical parameters at all control checks and, if practical, before the equine is ridden by the un-entered sponsor. Any equine being ridden by an un-entered sponsor may be disqualified from participation during the ride by the control judge. Any equine being ridden by an un-entered sponsor must also receive a veterinary safety check at the finish.

New H. An equine ridden by a junior is eligible for best condition.

- Theresa explained the proposed changes. Sarah Maass motioned and Theresa seconded. Approved.

UMECRA General Rules

4. Rider Requirements

H. Official competitors may not be accompanied by horses equines, on trail or at checks, that have not entered or have been pulled from the ride. Exception: A junior rider who loses their original sponsor due to an emergency, or the sponsor is unable to continue in the competition. In emergency situations an ad hoc sponsor can be secured on the trail until a qualified, ride-documented sponsor can be secured.

- Theresa motioned for approval. Peggy seconded. Discussion. Change horse to equine. Approved.

UMECRA LD Rule - Previous Rule 13

13. All equines must stand a mandatory post ride evaluation within one half hour of finishing the course. Riders may present their equines for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the one-half hour period. An equine that does not meet the established criteria within one half hour of arrival time shall be disqualified. Once a completed horse has passed the post ride examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons. (AERC only). No horse will be certified for UMECRA completion if it needs or receives treatment for metabolic reasons within 1 hour of finishing regardless of whether it has passed its final check. Such horse/rider combination may still receive AERC points and mileage credit.

NEW UMECRA LD Rule 13

13. The equine must meet an established pulse rate criterion within 30 minutes of arrival at all control points. All equines must stand for a mandatory post-ride evaluation within one hour of finishing the course (reaching the timer). Riders may present their equines for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the one-hour period. An equine that does not meet the established completion criteria within one hour of arrival time reaching the timer shall be disqualified.

Once a completed equine has passed the postride final examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons. (AERC only).

No equine horse will be certified for UMECRA completion if it needs or receives treatment for metabolic reasons within 1 hour of reaching the timer finishing, regardless of whether it has passed its final check examination. Such horse equine /rider combination may still receive AERC points and mileage credit.

• Theresa moved to accept. Peggy seconded. Discussion. Theresa stated that this is an attempt to clarify the AERC rule that already exists. Discussion. Sarah Mowrer called the question about the change in the second sentence of finishing the course (reaching the timer). Sarah Maass seconded. Passed. Theresa read the LD Rule 13 text as changed. Passed.

Article VIII Membership
ARTICLE VIII
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY. Membership in this organization shall be limited to active members only. Such active memberships shall be granted to individuals, to families and to endurance and/or competitive trail rides.

- (a) All persons shall be eligible for an individual membership.
- (b) Family memberships shall consist of one or more related, or coupled as significant other, adults and/or children of such adults who are less than 18 years of age, all of whom reside in the same household.
- (c) Endurance and/or competitive rides shall be granted a membership on proper application approved by the Board of Directors.
- (d) Each member shall abide by the rules and regulations established by the corporation.

Section 2. DUES. No endurance or competitive trail ride, individual, or family shall become an active member of this organization unless or until it/s/he shall first pay to the corporation the annual dues which shall be set by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 3. RIDER REPRESENTATIVES. Individual members and family memberships of the corporation shall be entitled to vote for the four Rider Representatives who shall serve as delegates to the annual or special meetings of the corporation. Ride managers are not eligible to be elected as Rider Representatives. Family memberships shall be entitled to as many votes, up to a maximum of two votes per family membership as there are adults within the family unit.

• Robin moved to accept. Peggy seconded. Discussion. Passed.
New Business – Elinore Tonsor made a motion that any money donated to a UMECRA ride must be matched and donated to the rides preceding the ride and also the ride afterwards. Tony seconded. Discussion. Linda Mowrer motioned and Donnie seconded that this issue go to the March board meeting. Topic is tabled.

Results of Rider Representative Voting - Sherry Aune, Debbie Weisbecker, Crystal Esqueda and Kim Fosler will serve a two year term as the rider representatives.

2025 Convention – Convention will be in Wisconsin. Kim Fosler stated she is looking at venues and has a speaker confirmed with Dr. Melissa Ribley coming in from Florida. There will also be a certified yoga session for equestrians. Kim stated she would appreciate help with the convention.

Elections
President - Robin Schadt nominated, Linda Mowrer seconded. Passed.
Secretary – Janet Sarver nominated; Linda Mowrer seconded. Passed.
MN Director at Large - Sarah Maass nominated, seconded. Passed.
WI Director at Large - Barb Gardiner nominated, seconded. Passed.
Veterinary Representative – Alana McNutt nominated by Peggy, seconded. Passed.
Director at Large (to replace Robin Schadt for the last year of her term). Jim Andriakos nominated Emily Schupp, seconded. Passed.
Points Keeper – there is a current vacancy.

Barb Gardner motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting ended at 3:55pm

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For Office Use Only:

Date Rec'd _____

Chk # or Cash (\$) _____

Amount \$ _____

DB entered? _____

Date deposited _____

UMECRA



PERSEVERE

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership year: _____

SELECT ONE:

RENEWAL

NEW MEMBERSHIP

SELECT MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

Family \$45

Single \$35

Junior \$10

SELECT MEDIA PREFERENCE:

Electronic Newsletter - \$0

Mailed Newsletter - \$10

Electronic Ride Book - \$0

Mailed Ride Book - \$10

Ride Book is available for free by downloading the PDF file at www.umecra.com on the schedule page

*Family memberships shall consist of one or more related, or coupled as significant other, adults, and/or children of such adults who are less than 18 years of age, all of whom reside in the same household. Please include all names of eligible family members below.

Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and LEGIBLY!

AERC MEMBER NUMBER(s) (if applicable): _____

AERC HORSE NUMBER(s) (if applicable): _____

UMECRA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER(S): _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (s): _____

Email: _____

If you do NOT want your name and contact info in the membership book, check this box:

Please mail completed form along with check made out to UMECRA to:

Deb Moe – Treasurer
2632 County Road G
Emerald, WI 54013

UMECRA Newsletter
 c/o Peggy Pasillas
 9928 Rich Valley Blvd
 Inver Grove Hgts, MN 55077
www.UMECRA.com

Deadline for Next Newsletter:
 10th of each month
 Send news to:
UMECRAnews@gmail.com



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