



**Morning BOD Meeting  
January 15, 2011  
6:00 am  
Rochester, MN**

Call meeting to order at 6:00 am by President Rick Nelson.

Present at the meeting: Nicole Mauser-Storer, Dianne Schmidt, Lynn Reichert, Max Bernsdorf, Robin Schadt, Julie Biegert- Jackson, Linda Mower, Bonnie Mielke, Jeanne Crispin, Theresa Meyer, Wayne Gastfield, Shelly Sentyrz, Peggy Garner, Marty Power, Wes Elford, Peggy Pasillas, Rick Nelson, Jill Feller.

Guests present: Elinore Tonsor, Tony Troyer, Mona Radtke, Dr. Robert Beecher and Chris Power

**Secretary's report:** correction needed on the Novice division section of the November BOD meeting.

- Membership form- what about a discounted first year membership? \$10 off Marty made a motion and Joslyn seconded the motion: Novice riders will receive a coupon to receive \$10 off on a UMECRA membership for 2011 in their ride packets when they register for a ride. Motion passed. Marty will print the coupons. *Correction: this should read: Riders, who rode Novice in 2010, will receive a coupon to receive \$10 off on a 2011 UMECRA membership. Novice riders in 2011 will not receive this coupon in their packets.*

Marty Power made motion to accept the minutes with the above correction, Maxine Bernsdorf seconded motion; motion passed.

**Treasurer's report:** The Treasurer's report was presented in the form of a balance sheet dated 12/31/10 and 1/8/11. Wayne Gastfield made a motion, Peggy Garner seconded to accept treasurers report as presented: motion passed.

**Old Business:**

**A. Brought forward from Fall BOD meeting:**

- A. UMECRA ride results, "per rider" reporting fees, and insurance fees must be sent to the secretary postmarked within 14 days, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty is not paid. If results, ride fees, and/or insurance payments are not received with 60 days of the ride date, loss of sanctioning for future rides, including rides in the same year will be forfeited.



This proposal was discussed in the November meeting and was tabled until January. Theresa made some changes and represented the proposal. After some discussion, some more changes were made. Wes Elford made motion; Linda Mowrer seconded; motion passed to take following proposal to the General meeting.

## 5. REPORTING

A. UMECRA ride results, “per rider” reporting fees, and insurance fees must be sent to the secretary postmarked within 14 days, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty is not paid. The UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer shall report to the UMECRA Board on rides with outstanding bills 21 days past the ride date. If results, ride fees, and/or insurance payments are not received within 30 days of the ride date, sanctioning for future rides, including rides in the same year may be forfeited, as determined by the UMECRA Board.

Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior)

## B. Bylaws

ARTICLE III (By-law changes need a 2/3 vote to be approved)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Section 7. SECRETARY/TREASURER.** The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all sessions of the Board of Directors and of all meetings of the members and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book kept for that purpose; and shall perform like duties for the standing committees when required. S/he shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or President, under whose supervision s/he shall be. S/he shall keep in safe custody the seal of the corporation, if any, and when authorized by the Board, affix the same to any instrument requiring it. S/he shall have the custody 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 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 Secretary/Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. S/he shall give the corporation a bond 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. Costs of such a bond shall be borne by the corporation. Due to its requirements and nature the position of Secretary-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.

Motion made by Wes Elford to accept this change: seconded by Marty Power; motion passed- will be presented at General meeting.

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS

Section 5. OTHER POSITIONS An Executive Committee of the Board will nominate (a) proposed volunteer Newsletter Editor(s) for a two-year term, commencing in 1997. The Executive Committee will also nominate a proposed volunteer Sanctioning Director and a separate Points-Keeper for a two-year term commencing in 2004. The executive committee will appoint a volunteer webmaster for a two year term commencing January 2006. Commencing in 2012, the Sanctioning Coordinator and the Newsletter editor will be appointed to a two year term, these appointments will be made on even numbered years. Commencing in 2013 the Points Keeper and the Webmaster will be appointed to a two year term made in odd numbered years. The above shall be subject to an approval vote by a majority of the Board. The Newsletter Editor(s), Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Director and Webmaster shall be invited to attend all Board or committee meetings. Duties of these positions are as follow, but are not limited to:



Motion was made by Theresa Meyer, seconded by Julie Biegert-Jackson to accept this bylaw change; motion passed. Motion will be presented at annual meeting.

### C. UMECRA & AERC- rules and changes

- A rider wrote the UMECRA rules committee expressing concern about the **inconsistency of rules being followed between states**. There is a rule that UMECRA has that addresses this. The RM would need to get BOD approval to change the rules. The rule change must be approved by the BOD and then posted by the ride secretary at the ride. Rule change must be posted at least 12-hours before the ride to all riders to see.

- ***Point of information from the rules committee:***

#### **GENERAL RULES – (Apply to both endurance and competitive rides)**

##### ***Management Requirements***

H. A ride committee may make variations to rules if changes are approved by the UMECRA Board of Directors. Any deviation from UMECRA Rules shall be advertised in an approved manner and posted at the ride secretary's area.

##### ***And from AERC – their change wording.....***

AERC - 6.2.1 The minimum criteria for the post-finish-line control check are as follows. The head control judge of any ride may adopt more stringent criteria, including the final pulse rate criteria, as part of the setting of the judging parameters under Rule 2.1.6.1.

Additionally, the ride manager may reduce the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion to not less than 30 minutes after an equine crosses the finish line. The ride manager shall preliminarily indicate the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion on the AERC ride sanction application. The ride manager may after consultation with the head control judge subsequently change the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion from the time indicated on the ride sanction application.

The AERC encourages each ride manager to set the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate criterion, whether 30 minutes or an hour or some time in between, which the ride manager and head control judge believe to best suit the particular circumstances of the ride and protect the equines entered.

Notice of any change in the maximum time to meet the final pulse rate



criterion and notice of any other more stringent criteria for the post-finish line control check must be provided to competitors by written notice posted in a conspicuous location at the ride camp at least 12 hours prior to the start of the ride and shall also be presented by the ride manager or head control judge at any pre-ride briefing or meeting.

- **6.2.1.1- AERC**- 60 minutes for post ride check. Riders may present their horse meeting criteria within the hour at their choosing. The inconsistency of this rule was communicated to AERC; AERC contacted the vet committee and Wes had to make some calls to investigate this issue. The RM needs to be sure that the vets at the ride follow the rules. A RM needs to approach the vet to discuss issues if the vet is not following the rules.
  - At a ride, a rider was prevented from presenting for completion because he/she was going to present for BC- the vet said he/she could not present until he/she was ready to present for BC. This is a violation of the AERC rule.
  - ***This is a point of education- no changes are needed.***
  - AERC allows you to change the 60-minute final vet check- this must be posted also. AERC would like to know if you are using the 30-minute rule.
  - Competitive rides- in MI- there are no cards being used. The timer keeps track of time in and out.
- **Rulebook clarifications** (there are presented to remind RM's they exist and are to be followed)

#### ***Competitive Rule***

4. Veterinary requirements – judging competitive horses

B.2.b) There will be a minimum of two pulse and respiration readings scored during the day's ride, except for novice rides and competitive drives of 15 miles or less which may have one.

***Addition to novice rules – point of clarification.***

- 2) Novice rides must use the “window system” as follows: A novice rider may come in from 5 minutes before or up to 5 minutes after the exact scheduled time without losing points. One point per minute is lost for coming in before or after these limits, up to 55 minutes (a total of 55 points) without being disqualified.

***Addition to competitive drive rules – point of clarification – general drive rules.***

Competitive drives must use the “window system “ as follows: A driver may come in from 5 minutes before or up to 5 minutes after the exact scheduled time



without losing points. One point per minute is lost for coming in before or after these limits, up to 55 minutes (a total of 55 points) without being disqualified.  
Notice to members – riders & ride managers

## **New Business:**

**A. Insurance update:** Jill has submitted the 2011 insurance application and information to our insurance company. There has been no price communicated at this time however UMECRA does not anticipate any cost increases. Jill Feller made a motion, Dianne Schmidt seconded motion to keep the insurance costs for UMECRA rides the same as in past years. UMECRA will pay ½ of the cost of each ride day's insurance and the rides are responsible for paying 100% of all additional insured costs. Motion passed.

## **B. ICF committee update**

The new ICF committee was established in Spring of 2010 with Peggy Garner as the chair person. Tony Troyer presented some guidelines for the new committee. These guidelines include qualifications of riders and criteria to receive funds. The following guidelines were presented:

### ***ICF Guide Lines***

- Guidelines will help to prevent favoritism when funds are asked for.
- Furnish a report to the BOD each year: with fund raising activity, money spent, etc.
- Must be a UMECRA member in good standing. What does good standing mean? Means- paid membership- will need to have ridden in UMECRA for the past 18-months.
- Must have a Pass Port on the horse.
- Request for funds are for 3\* and 4\* rides only.  
(3\* rides are 100 mile rides and 4\* rides are International rides...i.e. Pam American Games, World Games etc.)
- A Plan of Competition must be sent to the committee by Feb 1 of the year that funds are requested. Will there be a form sent to the requester with these questions?
- Plan must include what your intent is (which level or games) & your horse's current qualifications.
- Years riding in UMECRA and number of rides that you have attended in the past 18 months. Could this be a ride manager instead of a rider?
- There will be a min balance of \$1,500 in this account at all times.



- The Max pay out for any year will be \$2,500, with only \$500 granted to any one rider within that calendar year.
- For years in which more than 5 request are made from the ICF there will be a lottery held on a predetermined date at March BOD meeting. There will be 7 names drawn. The first 5 will be granted funds and the 6 & 7th names will be alternates. Could this create problems and/or hard feelings?
- If not qualified for 3\* or 4\* rides at the time of your request funds will not be granted until after said FEI qualifications are completed.
- If rider fails to be qualified within reasonable allotted time, the next rider chosen in the lottery will be granted the request.
- If the funds balance falls below the allocated amount of \$500 per request the amount of the money will be evenly divided to maintain the balance of the minimum of \$1,500. (example If the ICF has only a balance of \$1,875 in the account each of the five request would be allotted \$75) *[this is if I did my math correctly]*
- Those requesting fund will have to ride a min of one ride and a maximum of 5 rides to receive the full \$500  
( Payout's Per ride : 1 ride = \$100, 2 rides = \$200, 3 rides = \$300, 4 rides = \$400, and 5 rides = \$500 max per rider member)  
*[ this will require those that are outside the UMECRA area from only riding one ride and getting fully funded as in the past.. i.e. a rider member from TX or MO and only would ride one ride within UMECRA they can still receive funds, but not on the same level as one that is active within UMECRA rides.]*
- All the names of those that requested funds will be in a report to the BOD with the 5 names (plus 2 alternate names) that have won in the lottery. The BOD must approve and the checks will be mailed out from Sec/Treas.

### **The FUND RAISING:**

The auction will only bring in around \$125 for every \$1,000. This isn't much money... What I would like to do is sell 50/50 tickets on Fri & Sat nights of the convention. Maybe this could be one of the things our UMECRA FEI riders could help us out in doing? We could also get a basket of "stuff" and auction it off at the convention Sat evening...this could be a silent or a up front auction and covered or kept uncovered. Another auction item that would be good is a saddle bag auction...put items in a saddle bag (they get the saddle bags and its contents) no one can see what is inside the saddle bags...This has grown into a big fund raiser for a club down here; they put a bunch of cash and other small items in it like gift cert's.

- Discussion was held on what 'member in good standing', how lottery process will work and other general discussions. UMECRA does have a current member asking for funds from the ICF fund. How should this request be handled?



- These guidelines are a BOD decision. Marty Power: this makes good sense but needs some word changes. Guidelines will be cleaned up and sent out to the BOD for final approval. Once approved, the guidelines will be posted on the Website along with an application.
- Make the qualifications so a minimum of 5 UMECRA rides are needed.
- Peggy Garner made a motion to approve the conceptual idea of these guideline; Maxine Bernsdorf seconded the motion: motion passed.
- How will fund raising be handled?
- ICF committee needs to be revamped: Peggy Garner will be leaving us on the board as Past President and head of ICF committee. Need to form a committee to work together to get this finished.
  - Tony Troyer was appointed committee chair, Wes Elford, Julie Biegert-Jackson, and Lynn Reichert will remain on the committee. Tony will contact Julie Roe to see if she wants to stay on the committee also.

#### **C. 2011 Ride Schedule:**

- Shelly Sentyrz (Sanctioning Coordinator- SC) presented some changes to the 2011 ride schedule. Because of the way the calendar falls two rides fall on the same date that would normally fall on a different day.
  - MNDRA 1- want the first weekend in May: White River and Glacier Trails both fall this weekend also. Wayne has always had the first full weekend in May which is usually *not* Mother's Day; in 2011 the first weekend in May is Mother's Day. ***See Appendix A for more changes for 2011.***
  - The current sanctioning guidelines state that if a ride is 500+ miles away from another ride on the same weekend, the SC does not need to contact the RM of the established ride.
  - DRAWARAMA and Pine Marten- are too close but they were both on the same weekend before the updated guidelines were established.
    - Elinore presented some history for this situation as she was the SC at the time DRAWARMA was approved. DRAW had borrowed weekend from Mona; DRAW asked for the weekend for one year and since then they have said it was their weekend. The original ride opposite Pine Marten was at Prairie du Chien and the distance between rides was greater but when the ride moved to DRAW and the southern Kettles, the ride mileage moved closer.



- Dead Dog Creek is moving because the trail is no longer open to Linda in May.
- B. Shelly's idea to fix the ride schedule and prevent the doubling up of rides in future years: if we used the holidays, Memorial Day and Labor Day we will continue this issue. If we only use ONE of the holidays there will be years when weekends when a ride should be held that will not exist. (May of 2011 is a perfect example of this. Normally both White River Spring and MNDRA I fall on the first weekend in May; this year the first weekend in May is April 30 and May 1<sup>st</sup> which is not a full weekend in May. Both rides will move to the first weekend in May which is Mother's Day weekend and Glacier Trails). I propose we approve the schedule as is written for 2011, and then we take the calendar and apply the new rules with the oldest ride taking precedence for each weekend. If there are two or more rides on a weekend that are too close under the new rules; only the oldest existing ride would keep that weekend and other rides need to change dates or get permission from the existing RM to continue. Elinore stated that when she was SC she stated the calendar was out for 5-years- why didn't the RM's call each other in advance when they knew the May 2011 weekend would be an issue? MNDRA I, White River Spring and Glacier Trails RM's all had the opportunity to see this issue and discuss it before this meeting; none of the RM's called any of the others. Both MNDRA I and White River Spring RM's are fine with the three rides on this weekend in 2011: Glacier Trails RM is not.
- Shelly would like to take this proposal to the RM at the annual meeting. The motion: The ride calendar for 2011 should remain as it is scheduled and then the SC and the BOD will go through the ride calendar before the spring 2011 BOD meeting and apply the new rules of 500 miles for each weekend. The oldest ride will be grandfathered into that weekend and the other rides will be requested to move unless the existing RM gives permission for the other ride to exist. Wes Elford made a motion, Marty Power seconded. Motion passed.
  - Dianne Schmidt made a motion to accept the 2011 ride schedule as presented, seconded by Theresa Meyer; motion passed.

**D. Shelly results are compiled from the survey**

- 86 people replied to the survey
- Conclusions included:



- more time to visit with people
- meet newer people and not have so many cliques
- value of speakers
  - horse and people health are the most interesting
- more efficient meetings- avoid arguing and disagreements

#### **E. Eagle Library**

- The Eagle Library is putting on a community showcase and have approached Bonnie Mielke is she would like a booth to disseminate information on distance riding. The event is scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup>. Bonnie is unable to man the booth but Dawn Haas has volunteered to work in it. Bonnie is requesting \$30 to pay for the reservation of the booth for this event. Motion made by Maxine Bernsdorf, seconded in by Peggy Garner to pay for the booth; motion passed.

#### **F. MNDRA**

- Dianne Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Theresa Meyer to give \$250 for MNDRA to host a booth at the MN Horse Expo; motion passed.

#### **G. Past- President position**

- Peggy Gardner is leaving as Past President due to her move out of the area. Linda Mower will move into the Past-President position and a new IL Director will be elected at the meeting today.

#### **H. IL Horse Fair**

- Motion was made by Marty Power, seconded by Peggy Garner to pay \$250 for a demonstration at the IL Horse fair; motion passed. Mowers normally do the presentation but are unable to do it this year. Tony Troyer will be running the booth in 2011.

#### **I. Novice Division and Membership Committee updates**

- Update on Novice committee
  - Marty Power had asked for Novice rider information from 2010 rides. She has not gotten a good response.
  - Theresa Meyer communicated that she spoke to Art (UMECRA's legal counsel) about novice riders. His suggestion is to hold a clinic in each state in the spring and advertise it well. During the clinic the Novice rules and a thorough overview of distance riding should be explained. Wisconsin holds an annual clinic; DRAW and ApDRA alternate years



holding the clinic. Some of the other states do not hold an annual clinic.

- There will be handouts to all of the RM's to assist with the Novice riders; these handouts will be given in the ride manger's packets. These handouts were developed by the Novice and Membership committees.
- Update on Mentor program
  - This program is not used as well as it could be. Most riders may not know this is an option. Marty will put signup sheets out on each table during the annual meeting to see if more riders will sign up.
- UMECRA discount for Novice riders; If this is well received for the 2010 Novice riders, it may be expanded into future years.
- **CHANGES for NOVICE**
  - Discussion: Some riders pull in to camp and unload a horse that may not have any conditioning done and they may ride too fast for the horse's condition. A chart of ride times was presented by Theresa Meyer to be used for Novice rides. This chart of time would put the maximum speed of the Novice ride at 5.5 mph. Theresa made a motion to accept these times and have them added into the Novice rules; seconded by Peggy Garner. A discussion followed saying that riding too slow during a Novice ride could give a false sense of the sport to new riders. Max Bernsdorf state: I have taken out many Novice rides; you usually go the speed of your slowest rider. You need to be aware of the riders and take care of issues if they develop. UMECRA/Novice rides should follow the Competitive rules already established by UMECRA. Motion failed.
- Novice rides maximum at the end of the ride will be up to 55 minutes late before getting disqualified. The 25 minute disqualification rule developed by accident since the ride is ½ of a normal ride. Since the Novice rides follow the competitive rules the 55 minute rule needs to be followed. ***This is not a rule change but a clarification. This will be posted in both the Novice and the Driving rules.***



- Marty Power copied off the condensed Novice rules to be included in the RM's ride packets.

**J. Convention Corridor**

- Dianne gave a presentation at the fall meeting about the geographic area of UMECRA. The midpoint is WI Dells but if we include the Dakotas in the ride area, the midpoint moves to Lacrosse, WI. We wanted more information on this as he missed the fall meeting and the presentation. Dr. Beecher commented that we should consider holding the convention in July at a ride site; we would probably have a large attendance. No action was taken on this subject.

**K. Rider letter**

- Maxine Bernsdorf presented a letter from rider would like more awards for the LD riders. Since there is no weight division in LD, the rider would like to see some mileage awards given out for the next five riders under the award winner. A discussion followed. If you go down to riders under the top –ten, some of the miles are pretty insignificant to give awards to. No motion was give to this topic; no action was taken.

Motion made by Wayne Gastfield, seconded by Peggy Garner to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer



## Proposed Changes for 2011 UMECRA Ride Schedule 01/09/2011

Note: Several rides have dropped/added distances. See individual ride listings for changes.

**Note:** Several Ride Managers have expressed concern that their venues might be flooded this spring/summer. The Sanctioning Coordinator and Webmaster will work closely with Ride Managers to communicate site changes to membership.

- 1) MnDRA I has moved for one year to the first full weekend of May to avoid falling on the MN Horse Expo weekend. White River Spring is the first full weekend of May, this year May 7-8.
- 2) Iron Oak will be a Saturday-only ride this year, as Sunday is Easter.
- 3) AHDRA I – My Backyard – has moved to May 14-15 this year. It will find a more permanent home beginning next year, when it adopts the last weekend of April (YTBD).
- 4) Prairie Smoke and Dead Dog Creek have moved to the last week of June (25-26).
- 5) AHDRA I.5 - Zumbro Bottoms – has moved to the third week of July (23-24).
- 6) The Fort Mead Remount Pioneer ride in Sturgis, SD has been added the last weekend of July (29-31).
- 7) Oak Leaf Run has moved to the third week of October and changed to a 3-day ride (21-23).

### **Comments from Ride Managers regarding proposed schedule changes:**

- Mona Radtke objects to MnDRA I and White River Spring being held May 7-8, as Glacier Trails is historically this date – Mother's Day weekend – and is likely the second oldest ride on the schedule.
- Dennis Byard has requested Dead Dog Creek not be moved to the last week of June, the date of his Hopkins Creek ride.
- Kerry Greear requested her Fort Mead Remount Pioneer ride be newly sanctioned by UMECRA.
- Karen Bahrman has requested the DRAWarama ride be disallowed from the first weekend of October, the date of her Pine Marten Run ride.