

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION



Letter from the Prez....

I would like to thank all the folks that made the January convention a success. Thanks to Dianne Schmidt for organizing the convention, it takes a lot of work. More than we know. Much appreciation goes to AHDRA for the get together and games on Friday night. I would like to acknowledge MnDRA for the monetary donation to the convention that helped with various hotel fees. Thanks to Peggy Pasillas for stepping up and taking care of the silent auction, and to Nancy Salizar and Mary Aschenbrener for coordinating the silent auction.

Thanks to those who donated and bid on things at the silent auction. We owe much gratitude to the prize committee - Max Bernsdorf, Linda Jacobson, Robin Schadt and Boots Wagner for getting and distributing great awards. And a heart felt congratulations to all of our well deserved recipients!

Our meeting had a jam-packed agenda. Kudos for staying with us so that we got through most of it. We'll have reports from the committees that didn't get to make comments because our time ran out.

Praise to our bylaw review folks! They put in a huge amount of time this past spring and summer presenting the bylaws in a clear manner. To Jon Wagner, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Linda Rudolphi and Martie Power - your work is much appreciated.

Chris Power, Tony Troyer and Joslyn Seedfelt deserve credit for sifting through meeting procedures and coming up with something that worked very well.

Boundless gratitude to our outgoing board members: Jill Feller, Wayne Gastfield and Sarah Mowrer. Jill and Wayne especially have dedicated an incredible amount of time to this organization. Jill is still Sanctioning Coordinator, so she's not quite off the hook yet. Thanks to

those of you who ran for positions on the board. We welcome Lisa Germann, Bruce Birr, and Peggy Pasillas to voting positions. Nicole and Robin agreed to stay on as webmaster and points keeper in November.

Lastly thank you to our comedian Mary the Magnificent for kicking off our awards with great belly laughs.

I apologize if I forgot anyone. We are truly blessed with so many wonderful worker bees in UMECRA.

Make sure your email address for UMECRA is correct. Every month, we get bounces from 20+ people whose email addresses are no longer valid. It is your responsibility to ensure your email address is correct. Not receiving email messages from UMECRAnews@gmail.com? Check your SPAM folder and mark us as "not SPAM".

Know someone who is interested in Distance Riding? There are several clinics being held this spring. Check them out – more information is available via Facebook or on the UMECRA.com website!

Looking for new places to ride in your area and beyond?
Check out <http://trailmeister.com/>
Lots of information there on trails and all things trails! Search by city, state, even zip codes! You can even add trails that you know about.

Sponsors of the UMECRA Top 10 Mileage Award

Attention all UMECRA members! Time to renew for 2017!

Thank you's!

On behalf of the Minnesota Trail Riders Association, I would like to thank you for your generous contribution of \$300 received on 4/26/16.

Your continued support helps to ensure horse trails and campgrounds are kept open in Minnesota.

For every \$1.00 donated, we, with the assistance of the Minnesota DNR, are able to obtain a match of \$3.00 thru the Federal Recreational Trail Program.

Once again, thank you for your support.
 Sincerely, Kris Patten, MTRA Treasurer

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Ride Schedule – Let the Planning Begin!

Dates	Ride	Location
Apr 22-23	Brighton Spring	Howell, MI
May 6-7	MnDRA1	Hinckley, MN
May 6-7	White River Spring	Hesperia, MI
May 6-7	Kettles & Bits	New Prospect, WI
May 12-14	Glacier Trails	Palmyra, WI
May 20-21	Border Battle Boogie	Cushing, WI
May 27-28	Grand Island	Rapid River, MI
Jun 2-4	AHDRAs Endure	Chanderville, IL
Jun 3-4	Maplewood West	Pelican Rapids, MN
Jun 10-11	ApDRA	Palmyra, WI

Jun 10-11	White River Summer	Hesperia, MI
Jun 17-18	SE Minnesota	Preston, MN
Jun 24-25	Grand Island North	Limestone, MI
Jun 24-25	Dead Dog Creek	Kinmundy, IL
Jul 1-2	Endless Valley	Arena, WI
Jul 15-16	Mosquito Run	Rogers, MN
Jul 22-23	AHDRAs My Backyard	Wyanet, IL
Jul 22-23	Pine Martin Run	Wetmore, MI
Jul 28-30	Bonecrusher	Palmyra, WI
Aug 5-11	Shore to Shore	L Huron to L Michigan, MI
Aug 12-13	Louise Riedel Memorial	Arkdale, WI
Aug 19-20	Rock River Charity Ride	Utica, IL
Aug 19-20	Run for the Cactus	Granite Falls, MN
Aug 26-27	Northern Highland	Conover, WI
Sep 2-4	White River Fall	Hesperia, MI
Sep 9-10	Charity Cup	Pillager, MN
Sep 9-10	Keweenaw	Marquette, MI
Sep 9-10	Lincoln Trail	Kinmundy, IL
Sep 16-17	Colorama	Greenbrush, WI
Sep 16-17	Tin Cup Springs	Luther, MI
Sep 23-24	Run for the Ridge	Fairfax, MN
Sep 23-24	Salamonie Stomp	Andrews, IN
Sep 30	Metro Park Express Ride	Milford, MI
Oct 6-8	DRAWarama	Palmyra, WI
Oct 14-15	Iron Oak	Arkdale, WI
Oct 14-15	Oak Leaf Run	Hamilton, MI
Oct 20-21	Point Chaser	Theilman, MN
Oct 28-29	AHDRAs Big River	Keithsburg, IL

Ride Managers – please check dates, ride names and locations - check for accuracy!

Trail Master Course - May 1 - 4 at Jubilee College State Park. Each day is half classroom and half outdoor work. The cost for AERC members is \$250 with AERC paying the other half. We will do maintenance on existing trail and build some new trails. To register people can call AERC to register or can talk to Nicole Mauser-Storer. We have 5 confirmed participants who have reserved their spot with AERC and need 7 total in order to hold the class. This link has the information on the course - <https://aerc.org/static/trailmaster.aspx>

BOD Meeting Minutes
Rochester MN
January 28, 2017

Call to order at 6:30 am by President Meyer.

Present: Theresa Meyer, Darlene Molitor, Bonnie Mielke, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Jan Sasnea, Maxine Bernsdorf, Jon Wagner, Tony Troyer, Bill Suskey, Wes Elford, Sarah Mowrer, Jill Feller

Guests: Bruce Birr, Carl Dousman

Secretary Report: Bill motioned to accept the minutes from the November meeting, seconded by Jon; passed.

Treasurer Report: Report included the balance sheet and P&L summary comparing 2015 to 2016 numbers was presented. Motion made by Wes and seconded by Jon to accept the financial reports as presented; passed.

- **ICF update**
 - The committee will be revisited in March. Ainsley was not awarded her approved money from 2016 because the Young Rider's event that it was to be used for was cancelled.
- **Financial audit results**
 - Wes reported that the financial audit was completed by himself, Linda Mowrer, Tony Troyer and no discrepancies were found. Motion made by Wes and seconded by Max to accept the audit results; passed.
- **Ride Insurance**
 - UMECRA insurance is with a new carrier and the certificates of insurance will be sent out after March 8th when our policy begins. The certs will be sent to the ride managers once they are available.
- **Ride Schedule**
 - There is a new ride proposed, Salamonie Stomp on Sept 23-24, put on by Maureen Fehrs in IN. Ride is over 600 miles from Run for the Ridge which is the only other ride scheduled on that weekend. Salamonie Stomp has been added to the ride schedule.
 - Tony motions to accept the ride calendar as presented with the Salamonie Stomp ride added, seconded by Bill; passed.
 - MI riders approached Theresa and Tony about sanctioning the AHAM ride for 2017; what would it take to get that ride put back on the UMECRA calendar? The riders were told if the ride is put under new management and a new name the ride could be sanctioned. GLDRA will be discussing this situation at their meeting in February.
- **National Championship**
 - Barry sent Theresa an email in the past week stating he was withdrawing his request for the NC ride.
 - Wes feels this is a lost opportunity to UMECRA.
- **Electronic Elections for Rider Rep**
 - Bill sent out a test sample to members last week to try this sort of voting. He received back 142 votes out of 357 sent; there were 33 rejected emails. This electronic process cost \$20. Members without an email address could either be sent a paper ballot or information on how to access the link/code to vote online through a computer.
 - Motion made by Wes to accept this method of voting for the rider reps, seconded by Max; passed.
 - More discussion will be done in March meeting with feedback from members
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)- board members**
 - Several samples of SOP's were created by Jon and Jill since November and shared with the BOD electronically. Theresa will get those samples sent out to the BOD members for review.
- **Ride Attendance Numbers**
 - Robin sent the ride attendance numbers to Theresa this past week. In 2016 there were 40 rides/4359 riders; 2015 there were 4502 riders; 2015 there were 4581 riders. The full table of ride numbers will be published in the NL for members to see.
- **Trail Grant Awards**
 - There were no grants requested.
- **Promotion/Publicity Report**

- There are no new initiatives; horse fairs and clinics are working well.
- **2018 Convention (Illinois)**
 - Will be held at the Garden Hilton in Rockford IL on January 27 & 28. Room rates will be \$99.
- **2019 Convention (Michigan)**
 - Carl and Bruce have the convention guidelines info and will be discussing a location at the GLDRA meeting in February.
- **Awards committee for 2018**
 - Jan Sasnea will be leading the awards committee; she will get more members to assist her. Robin will continue to assist with the committee.
 - Max, Boots and Linda were given a thank you for their past work over the years.
- **Competitive Score Sheet Review**
 - Wes led the discussion of the new form. The body score (BC 1-9) is on the form and pre/post ride trot out scores. Motion by Sarah, seconded by Nicole to separate fatigue and attitude scoring on the new form; passed.
- **Discussion of annual meeting** (Light beige paper)
 - Bonnie will be timer for discussions. Topic will be held with 2 minutes of discussion/person and each person gets 2 chances to speak per topic.
 - A discussion also ensued which covered the wording of the proposed by-law changes.
- **Article VIII membership**
 - Section 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors may by a majority of ~~a quorum~~ **the whole** of the Board vote to terminate the membership of any member who has been shown to have conducted himself or herself in a manner which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the organization. Thereafter such terminated member shall not be entitled to participate in any corporate functions or other corporate activities in any manner whatsoever.
 - Motion by Wes, seconded by Bill to change the wording to say 'whole' board; passed
- **From Yahoo email group:**
 - In 2016, the UMECRA BOD became aware that the AHAM ride was not using the UMECRA entry form for their ride. A call was made to the RM by Tony Troyer and the RM confirmed that the ride had created their own entry form. A written letter was sent to the AHAM RM stating that he was required to use the UMECRA entry form for all ride entries; he was also allowed to use his own form as long as the UMECRA form was also signed by riders. IF the UMECRA form was not used, the AHAM ride sanctioning with UMECRA would be in jeopardy in 2017. In fall of 2016, AHAM ride requested sanctioning for the ride for 2016. At that time, the BOD made calls to several riders who attended the AHAM ride and they confirmed that they did not sign the UMECRA entry form. The AHAM RM was contacted and he was required to send copies of his ride entry forms to the UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer by January 11th showing that he complied with the written request in summer. No entry forms were ever received from AHAM ride; therefore, the following action happened.
 - *January 13, 2017: Tony Troyer motions that AHAM sanctioning be taken off of the ride schedule for 2017. A letter of explanation is to be sent as to the rule(s) that have not been adhered to, along with the refund of their sanctioning fee. Seconded by Nicole Mauser-Storer. Motion passed.*

Respectively Submitted
 Jill Feller
 UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

**Annual Meeting Minutes
Rochester MN
January 28, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by President Theresa Meyer

Roll Call – Distribution of voting devices & packets

- 65 votes for the annual meeting; majority is 33; 2/3 vote is 43 votes
- **Secretary Report:** 2016 annual meeting minutes. Motion made by Peggy Pasillas, seconded by Tony Troyer to accept minutes as presented; passed.
- **Treasurer Report:** presented with balance sheet and Profit & Loss comparison of 2015 to 2016. Motion made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Bill Suskey to accept financial report as presented; passed
- **Ride Insurance**
 - There is a new ride insurance company as our past one is no longer covering any equine events. The premium for 2017 has been paid and the certificates of insurance should be sent sometime in March; they will be sent out to RM's after they have been received from the carrier.
- **2017 Ride schedule**
 - Proposed ride schedule for 2017 was reviewed. There is a new ride in IN at Sept 23-24 run by Maureen Fehr.
 - Motion made by Linda Jacobson, seconded by Alice Hubert to accept the 2017 ride schedule with a few minor updates on ride lengths. The ride schedule will be posted on the website in the next two weeks.
 - Ride managers were reminded to send their ride flyers by February 5th to Sanctioning Coordinator.
- **Tabled Bylaw Proposed Changes**
 - Motion made by Wes to take remaining bylaw changes off the table, seconded by Tony Troyer; passed.

Current Bylaw	Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed
<p>ARTICLE II PLACE AND TIME OF MEETINGS SECTION 2</p> <p>An Annual Meeting shall be held in January of each year commencing in 1986. Election of the Board of Directors and Officers and other general business shall be transacted at such meeting. The first election of Directors shall be at the Annual Meeting of the corporation in 1986, with the present Board of Directors, as provided in the Articles of Incorporation, serving until that time.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Maxine Bernsdorf to accept changes, seconded by Darlene Molitor; passed</i></p>	<p>SECTION 2. An Annual Meeting shall be held in January <u>or February</u> of each year commencing in 1986. Election of the Board of Directors and Officers and other general business shall be transacted at such meeting. The first election of Directors shall be at the Annual Meeting of the corporation in 1986, with the present</p>

Current Bylaw	Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed
<p>ARTICLE III NOTICE OF MEETINGS, QUORUMS & VOTING SECTION 1 ANNUAL MEETINGS</p> <p>Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be published in a report to the members at least five business days prior to the meeting. NOTE: the 2014 bylaws required a notice of five days as well; however when the "housekeeping" changes were approved at the 2016 Annual Meeting the word "business" was added to the language as a house keeping item.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Jon Wagner, seconded by Jan Sasnea to accept changes. Motion passed with amended wording</i></p>	<p>Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be published in a report to the members <u>postmarked via U.S. Mail or sent via membership email address at least five business days prior to the meeting or by posting the same on the UMECRA website <www.umecra.com></u></p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser-Storer, seconded by Elinore Tonsor to amend the wording to say: Amendment passed</i></p> <p>Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be published in a report to the members <u>postmarked via U.S. Mail or sent via membership email address at least five business days prior to the meeting or by posting the same on the UMECRA website <www.umecra.com></u> and published and posted on the UMECRA website <www.umecra.com></p>

<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE III NOTICE OF MEETINGS, QUORUMS & VOTING SECTION 2 SPECIAL MEETINGS Written notice of a Special Meeting of the Corporation stating the time, place and object thereof shall be published in a report to the members at least five business days before such meeting. Special meetings of the Corporation may be called at anytime upon the request of the President, Vice President, or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or upon written request to the President, Vice President and the Secretary by twenty (20) or more members. <i>Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to accept the first section of changes (underlined) as worded. Motion passed with both amendments.</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>SECTION 2. Written notice of a Special Meeting of the Corporation stating the time, place and object thereof shall be published in a report to the members <u>postmarked via U.S. Mail or sent via membership email address at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting or by posting the same on the UMECRA website <www.umecra.com></u></p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser -Storer, seconded by Tony Troyer to amend wording to: Amendment passed.</i></p> <p>Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be published in a report to the members <u>postmarked via U.S. Mail or sent via membership email address at least five business days prior to the meeting or by posting the same on the UMECRA website www.umecra.com and published and posted on the UMECRA website<www.umecra.com></u></p> <p>Special Meetings of the Corporation may be called at any time upon request of the President, Vice President, or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or upon written request <u>submitted via certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested to the President, Vice President and the Secretary and must be requested by half or more of the endurance/competitive trail rides sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season by its ride managers as listed on its original sanctioning application. The Executive Board will promptly decide in which city the meeting will be held.</u></p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser-Storer, seconded by Tony Troyer to amend wording by removing 'original'.</i></p>
<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE III SECTION 3. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETINGS The presence in person of twenty (20) or a majority, whichever is the lesser amount, of the delegates to a meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. After a Meeting is duly commenced, the absence of a quorum in the meeting room/hall at any meeting may result in adjournment from time to time at the discretion of the President or the Vice President. However, unless the meeting has been so adjourned, the delegates present at a duly called or held meeting may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. The President, or in their absence, the Vice President, or in their absence any other person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all Annual or Special Meetings. <i>Motion made by Peggy Pasillas, seconded by Jan Sasena to accept changes. Passed with both amendments.</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>SECTION 3. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETINGS <u>A quorum is determined based upon the presence in person at an Annual or Special Meeting of official voting delegates representing either twenty (20) of the immediately preceding year/season's sanctioned and held endurance/competitive trail ride events or twenty-five (25) of the eligible voting delegates, not including alternative voting delegates (see Section 5 below), nominated by any endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season as recorded by the Secretary, whichever is less, plus the President or Vice President, and at least one (1) Rider Representative. That number shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. After a Meeting is duly commenced, the absence of a quorum in the meeting room/hall at any meeting may result in adjournment from time to time at the discretion of the President or Vice President. However, unless the meeting has been so adjourned, the delegates present at a duly called or held meeting may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. The President, or in their absence, the Vice President, or in their absence any other person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors , shall preside at all Annual Or Special Meetings.</u></p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser-Storer, seconded by Tony Troyer to amend the wording by removing the word "held".</i> <i>Motion made by Elinore Tonsor, seconded by Ruth Casserly to amend the wording to the following:</i></p> <p>SECTION 3. QUORUM FOR ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETINGS <u>A quorum is determined based upon the presence in person at an Annual or Special</u></p>

	<p><u>Meeting of official voting delegates representing either twenty (20) of the immediately preceding year/season's sanctioned and held endurance/competitive trail ride events or twenty five (25) of the eligible voting delegates, not including alternative voting delegates (see Section 5 below), nominated by any endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season as recorded by the Secretary, whichever is less, plus the President or Vice President, and at least one (1) Rider Representative.</u></p>
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<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE III</p> <p>SECTION 4. Business transacted at all Special Meetings shall be confined and limited only to the purposes stated in the call to the Special Meeting. These limitations do not infringe upon the powers enumerated in Article V, herein.</p> <p><i>Motion by Wes Elford, seconded by Jon Wagner to accept the new wording; passed</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>SECTION 4. Business transacted at all <u>Annual Meetings</u> shall include all purposes allowed under these rules and as accepted by a <u>majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors from its previous fall meeting and at its morning meeting, or as raised and accepted by the President or other person presiding over the Annual Meeting during discussion of "new business" items.</u> Special Meetings shall be confined and limited only to the purposes stated in the call to the Special Meeting. These limitations do not infringe upon the powers enumerated in Article V, herein.</p>
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<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE III</p> <p>Section 5. DELEGATES Each endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season, by one of its ride managers as listed on its sanctioning form shall submit the names of its official voting delegates or its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) [also referred to as proxies] to be recorded by the Corporate Secretary prior to any meeting of members.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Darlene Molitor, seconded by Jan Sasnea to accept new wording. Failed- article to go back to committee for rewording.</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>ARTICLE III</p> <p>Section 5. Each endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned the immediately preceding year/season, by one of its ride managers as listed on its sanctioning form shall submit the names of its official voting delegates or its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) [also referred to as proxies] to be recorded by the Corporate Secretary prior to any meeting of members. <u>Official voting delegates must have actively participated in the management of the endurance/competitive trail ride and be listed on the sanctioning application. Ride managers of cancelled rides, who have paid their sanctioning fees before the ride has been cancelled and where the cancellation occurred for good cause shown, shall retain voting rights for the next Annual Meeting.</u></p> <p><i>Motion by Elinore Tonsor, seconded by Stacy Vanderwoude to amend wording by removing sentence above that has strikeout through it.</i></p> <p><i>After discussion of wording, motion made by Bob Egerer, seconded by Jon Wagner to 'commit' this article to go back to committee for rewording; passed</i></p>
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<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE III</p> <p>SECTION 6. VOTING PROCEDURES AT MEETINGS OF THE CORPOREATION. Delegates shall be chosen by each endurance/competitive ride sanctioned and held the previous season or year as follows, including:</p> <p>a. The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives of the Corporation shall serve and be accredited as voting delegates of the Corporation. However, Advisory Positions on the Board may not serve as voting delegates unless otherwise qualified herein.</p> <p>b. Each sanctioned and held endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned and held from the immediate preceding year/season shall be entitled to appoint a single voting delegate for each ride-day of their ride/event. For example, for a ride held over a Friday, Saturday and Sunday, that event shall be entitled to three (3) voting delegates,</p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>ARTICLE III</p> <p>SECTION 6. VOTING PROCEDURES AT MEETINGS OF THE CORPORATION. Delegates shall be chosen by each endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned and held the previous season or year as follows, including:</p> <p>a. The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives of the Corporation shall serve and be accredited as voting delegates of the Corporation. However, Advisory Positions on the Board may not serve as voting delegates unless otherwise qualified herein.</p> <p>b. Each sanctioned and held endurance/competitive trail ride sanctioned and held from the immediate preceding year/season shall be entitled to appoint a single voting delegate for each ride-day of their ride/event. For example, for a ride held over a Friday, Saturday and Sunday, that event shall be entitled to three (3) voting delegates, regardless of whether they have multiple divisions or</p>
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<p>regardless of whether they have multiple divisions or events on a particular ride day. Any eligible endurance/competitive trail ride event must have at least one sanctioned event or division on a day for it to qualify as a ride -day for purposes of assigning voting delegates. Additionally, the Board shall reserve the right to confirm appointment of voting delegate(s) to the spirit of this Section, in order to avoid dilution or the artificial increasing of voting delegates by an event organizer or its ride management (such as the splitting of days at the same ride location time and place in an effort to increase appointment of voting delegates).</p> <p>c. Although one person may serve in a combination of the above positions, s/he may exercise only one vote as a delegate. Said delegates shall elect the Officers and Directors of the Corporation and shall, by majority vote of the delegates present at any such meeting, approve rule changes proposed by the Board of Directors or decide whether to permanently adopt interim rules previously made by the Board of Directors, together with such other powers as may be authorized under these Bylaws.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Jan Sasnea, seconded by Darlene Molitor to accept new wording of bylaw. Passed with amended wording.</i></p>	<p>events on a particular ride day <u>up to a maximum of seven (7) delegates. Any endurance/competitive trail ride which schedules itself to exceed seven (7) days must apply for as a separate event for those additional days, and in the case of consecutively scheduled events shall be limited to seven (7) voting delegates.</u> Any eligible endurance/competitive trail ride event must have at least one sanctioned event or division on a day for it to qualify as a ride-day for purposes of assigning voting delegates.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser-Storer, seconded by Tony Troyer to amend wording by removing "and held".</i></p>
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<p>Current Bylaw NONE</p> <p><i>Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to added Article V, Section 2 to bylaws. Passed with amended wording.</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>ARTICLE V</p> <p><u>SECTION 2. CODE OF CONDUCT. Upon election or appointment, the Board of Directors and appointees (see Article VI, Section 5) shall sign and abide by the UMECRA Board of Directors Code of Conduct, (see Appendix A) as adopted by the Board from time to time. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action, and may lead to removal from the Board by the affirmative vote of a majority of the attending quorum of the whole Board of Directors.</u></p> <p><i>Motion made by Nicole Mauser-Storer, seconded by Elinore Tonsor to amend the wording above "attending quorum = whole".</i></p>
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<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE VI OFFICERS</p> <p>SECTION 3. OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER OFFICERS. The outgoing President shall remain on the Board of Directors as an additional director-at-large. Any Officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole Board of Directors, with cause.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to accept new wording; passed.</i></p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>ARTICLE VI OFFICERS</p> <p>SECTION 3. OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER OFFICERS. The outgoing President shall remain on the Board of Directors as an additional director-at-large. Any Officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole Board of Directors, with cause pursuant to Article V-Section 2, above, or for cause arising from acts or failures to act in a manner or intent contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport or to the effective conduct of the business of the Corporation.</p>
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<p>Current Bylaw</p> <p>ARTICLE VII BOOKEEPING AND BYLAWS</p> <p>SECTION 1. INSPECTION OF THE BOOKS. Members shall be permitted to inspect the books of the Corporation at all reasonable times.</p>	<p>Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed</p> <p>ARTICLE VII BOOKEEPING AN BYLAWS</p> <p>SECTION 1. INSPECTION OF THE BOOKS. By written request by certified mail with return receipt to the President and Vice President and with appropriate notice, members shall be permitted to inspect the books of the Corporation at all reasonable times at a</p>
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<i>Motion made by Jan Sasnea, seconded by Darlene Molitor to accept new wording; passed.</i>	time and place set by the Executive Committee.
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Current Bylaw	Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed
<p>ARTICLE VIII SECTION 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors may by a majority of a quorum of the Board present vote to terminate the membership of any member who has been shown to have conducted himself or herself in a manner which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the organization. Thereafter such terminated member shall not be entitled to participate in any corporate functions or other corporate activities in any manner whatsoever.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to accept new wording; passed with amendment.</i></p>	<p>ARTICLE VIII SECTION 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors may by a majority of a quorum of the entire whole board vote to terminate the membership of any member who has been shown to have conducted himself or herself in a manner which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the organization. Thereafter such terminated member shall not be entitled to participate in any corporate functions or other corporate activities in any manner whatsoever.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to amend wording by replacing ‘of a quorum with whole’,</i></p>

Current Bylaw	Bylaw Changes/ Changes underlined (added) and removed
<p>ARTICLE IX STANDING COMMITTEES (1/10) SECTION 4. AUDIT COMMITTEE. The President may, upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors, designate two or more persons from the membership of the Corporation to constitute an Audit Committee, which, to the extent determined by the President, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the auditing of the accounts of the Corporation and shall have full access to all books of the Corporation in the possession of any Officer of the Corporation. The Secretary/Treasurer shall submit her/his accounts to the auditing committee and any time at their request.</p> <p><i>Motion made by Jan Sasnea, seconded by Peggy Pasillas to accept new wording; passed</i></p>	<p>ARTICLE IX STANDING COMMITTEES (1/10) SECTION 4. AUDIT COMMITTEE The President may, upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors, designate two or more persons from the membership of the Corporation to constitute an Audit Committee, which, to the extent determined by the President, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the auditing of the accounts of the Corporation and shall have full access to all books of the Corporation in the possession of any Officer of the Corporation. The Secretary/Treasurer shall submit her/his accounts to the Audit Committee at any time within ten (10) business days with their reasonable request.</p>

New Business

- **Code of Conduct violation process**
 - A Corrective Action and Suspension process for Code of Conduct violations was created by the BOD and presented to the membership.
- **Bylaw change wording from November (p. 16-31)**
 - Article VIII Membership
 - Section 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors may by a majority ~~of a quorum~~ **whole** of the Board vote to terminate the membership of any member who has been shown to have conducted himself or herself in a manner which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the organization. Thereafter such terminated member shall not be entitled to participate in any corporate functions or other corporate activities in any manner whatsoever. Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer; passed.
 - Article III, Section 7 (all new- adding to bylaws)**
 - *Meetings of UMECRA shall be conducted to provide for fair discussion and deliberation in providing for constructive and democratic meetings, to help, not hinder, the business of the Corporation. While decisions shall be taken by the will of the majority, the rights of a minority to be fairly heard shall be provided. For that purpose, Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised, may be consulted to provide for an orderly process.*

- Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer; passed.
- **Article VI- Officers- Section 1. ELECTION**
 - When a quorum of the delegates is present at the annual meeting, ~~a simple majority~~ the person receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected a president, a vice president ~~and~~ or a secretary/treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the Board. Commencing at the January 2008 convention, the President will be elected to a two-year term. Commencing at the January 2007 convention the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer will be elected to a two-year term. Said officers shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.
 - Motion made by Wes Elford, seconded by Tony Troyer to accept the changed wording above. In this scenario, the person getting the highest number of votes would be elected. Failed.
 - Tony amends it to say 'a majority of the votes' seconded by Wes Elford. Person would need to get 51% of the vote in this scenario in order to be elected; there could be more than one vote taken until someone gets 51% of the vote. Failed- 23 votes
 - Motion made by Jen Moore, seconded by Tony Troyer: a majority of votes with successive votes will be held removing the individual who received the least amount of votes until a majority is held by a candidate; failed.
 - Wording will remain as "Simple majority".
- **Rule Change Proposals: addition in italic underline, ~~deletion strikethrough~~**

Sanctioning requirements:

UMECRA Rules:

 - C. For rides previously on the schedule the Sanctioning Coordinator shall contact ride managers in October or November with the following:
 - The proposed ride schedule for the next ride season
 - Ride insurance forms
 - Request for number of printed ride forms needed for ride
 - Confirmation of ride manager contact information
 - Sanctioning fee information
 - A timeline for creation of the upcoming year Ride Book
 - Motion made by Linda Mowrer, seconded by Sarah Maass to accept the new wording as underlined; passed.
 - D. Ride managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator at least seven (7) days before the annual meeting otherwise they will receive the same mileage as the previous year. ~~Changes at the annual meeting may not be approved.~~ Corrections and/or adjustments can be made during the annual meeting before voting to approve the schedule.
 - Motion made by Bill, seconded Linda Mowrer to accept the new wording as underlined; passed
 - E. The names of official delegates to the annual meeting must be submitted in writing or orally to the UMECRA Secretary prior to the meeting (cut-off date to be announced).
 - Motion made by Peggy Pasillas, seconded by Sarah Mowrer to accept the new wording as underlined; passed
- S. Any event sanctioned by UMECRA is required to use the UMECRA entry form.
Failure to do so may result with UMECRA withholding sanctioning on the following year.
 - Motion made by Tony, seconded by Bill to accept the new rule.
 - Ruth Casserly motions to change this wording to: Any competitor who enters a UMECRA sanctioned ride, is required to use the UMECRA entry form; seconded by Elinore Tonsor. Amendment is withdrawn and moved to wording below.
 - Ruth motions to change wording to below verbiage, Tony seconded; amendment passed. Rule passes as amended.
 - S. Any event sanctioned by UMECRA is will required to the use of the UMECRA ride entry form.

Failure to do so may result with UMECRA withholding sanctioning on the following year.

- General Rules
 - **Protests CURRENT WORDING**
 - A. A protest must concern an infraction of the rules, must be received in writing within 7 days of the ride, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$25. The Board may also investigate and confront management, veterinarians, and participants of attendees whose acts of failure to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests). If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the complainant. The protest will be sent to the UMECRA president and will be adjudicated at the next board meeting. The president will notify all concerned parties and the Board members within 14 days of receiving the protest. Concerned parties will be given 14 days to submit their opinions.

In the case of a protest which is disallowed the board members shall state their reasons and the protestor so informed, without specifying board member's names.

Redline of changes (see below for changes without redline):

A. A protest must concern an infraction of the rules, must be received in writing within 7 days of the completion of the ride, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$25. ~~The Board may also investigate and confront management, veterinarians, and participants of attendees whose acts of failure to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests). If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the complainant. The protest will be sent to the UMECRA president and will be adjudicated at the next board meeting. The president will notify all concerned parties and the Board members within 14 days of receiving the protest.~~ The protest will be sent to the UMECRA president and will be adjudicated within 30 days, unless extended for just cause as determined by the BOD. The president will notify all the Board members within 48 hours of receiving the protest. The Vice President or designated investigator appointed by the President will contact the complainant within 3 days of receiving the protest. Concerned parties will be given 14 days to state their ~~responses opinions~~ responses in writing. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the protestor. Please refer to the UMECRA Protest Procedure on the UMECRA website for details. In the case of a protest that is disallowed, the board members shall state their reasons and the protestor will be informed, without specifying board member's names.

B. The Board will also investigate and confront management, veterinarians, participants or attendees whose acts or failure to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests).

((Moved from original Section A above to clarify that there are some acts that fail to rise to protest level, but should be dealt with in an official manner.))

New wording to be approved:

- A protest must concern an infraction of the rules, must be received in writing within 7 days of the completion of the ride, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$25. The protest will be sent to the UMECRA president and will be adjudicated within 30 days, unless extended for just cause as determined by the BOD. The president will notify all the Board members within 48 hours of receiving the protest. The Vice President or designated investigator appointed by the President will contact the complainant within 3 days of receiving the protest. Concerned parties will be given 14 days to state their responses in writing. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the protestor. Please refer to the UMECRA Protest Procedure on the UMECRA website for details. In the case of a protest that is disallowed, the board members shall state their reasons and the protestor will be informed, without specifying board member's names.
 - B. The Board will also investigate and confront management, veterinarians, participants or attendees whose acts or failure to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests)
 - Motion made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Bonnie Mielke to accept new wording of rule; passed.
- **ENDURANCE RULES**

12. Ties: In the case of ties, the points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of people who tied.

- Delete Current UMECRA Endurance tie rule. Endurance (like every other division in UMECRA) will use GENERAL rule 5c: Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1st, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc.)
 - Motion made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Sarah Mowrer to accept removal of rule 12; failed to pass. Rule will remain as is.
- COMPETITIVE RULES
 1. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS
 - C.2. Juniors under the age of 18 as of the beginning of the UMECRA ride season shall be accompanied by a sponsor. EXCEPTION: if they are between ~~13~~ 14 and 18 and it can be validated by the UMECRA points keeper that they have completed at least 500 miles in competitive, limited distance and/or endurance. They must have the approval of a parent.
 1. Motion made by Sarah Mowrer, seconded by Tony Troye to change age from 13 to 14; passed.
 2. RIDER REQUIREMENTS – ***did not have time to discuss at meeting***
 - E. Natural water only is allowed on the trail. Drinking water only is allowed at rest stops. A horse shall not be denied drinking water from a bucket and/or other approved source at a scheduled vet check. Horses may be sponged after the final vet check. *Depending on ambient conditions, veterinary judges may allow sponging at vet checks.*
- **AERC Championship Ride possibilities-** request for NC ride was removed from agenda before meeting started
- **Promotion/Publicity Report-** ***did not have time to discuss at meeting***
- **ICF report (during treasurer's report)-** ***did not have time to discuss at meeting***
- **Ride Numbers summary-** ***did not have time to discuss at meeting***
- **Revised Comp sheet-** discussion was held during elections. New form will not be seen until 2019 season.
- **Election of Officers**
 - Vice President: **Tony Troyer** (Pam nominates, Ruth C seconds)
 - Secretary/Treasurer: **Bruce Birr** (Dianne nominates, Linda H seconds)
 - Illinois Regional Director: **Nicole Mauser-Storer** (Sarah nominates, Roberta seconds)
 - Michigan Regional Director: **Lisa Germann** (Diane M nominates, Linda H seconds)
 - Director at Large: *Ruth Casserly (Jen M nominates, Wes seconds)- turns down nomination*
 - **Peggy Pasillias** (Lynda Z nominates, seconded Jen M)
 - *Linda Jacobson (Jon- turns down nomination)*
 - Roberta Harms (Nicole nominates, seconded Sarah M)
 - *Sarah Maass (Dianne nominates, seconded Holly) turned down nomination*
 - Bill Suskey (Bonnie nominates, seconded Darlene)
 - Director at Large:
 - **Bill Suskey** (Jen M nominated, seconded Ruth)
 - Roberta Harms (Marge nominated, seconded Stacy)
 - Motion made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Wes Elford to separate fatigue and attitude for competitive rides as the new competitive form states. Motion failed as there was not enough time for a discussion of the topic with the attendees of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP FORM Membership year: _____



CIRCLE ONE:

Single \$35 or Family* \$45 - hard copy newsletter and/or ride book

Single \$ 25 Family* \$35- electronic newsletter and CD for ride book

Junior Single Member \$10 – electronic newsletter only

If you do NOT want ANY newsletter sent to you- please check this box:

If you do NOT want a CD or Ridebook sent to you- please check this box:

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

NOTE: to receive the reduced rate, you MUST receive the newsletter electronically AND receive a CD for the ride book. If you have either the newsletter or ride book delivered via USPS you MUST pay the higher membership fees.

Check one: RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBERSHP _____

*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. PRINT CLEARLY

Date: _____

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: _____

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

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1633N West Kendall Rd;
Manistique, MI 49854

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5th of each month
Send news to:
UMECRAnews@gmail.com



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