

1977
The Board of Directors of UMECRA met in Dubuque on December 3. Present were Ralph Larson, Dr. Beecher, Lindsay Taliaferro and Louise Riedel, the above members constituting a quorum.

a.) The president asked for a motion to support the Arabian International Competitive Championship ride which will be held in Dubuque in August. Upper Midwest will be asked not to schedule another ride for that date and to lend assistance in the management of the ride. Motion carried.

Arrangements have been completed for the annual meeting to be held in Rockford on January 14.

b.) Lindsay listed some of the problem areas that have arisen in UMECRA, i.e. surprise checks, p/r procedures, trail marking, judging criteria, etc., and the resulting need to standardize procedures. The president asked the Board of Directors to propose to the annual meeting that UMECRA assign a steward to each member ride, this person to act as the official representative of UMECRA, assuring that the rules of the Association are observed, and assisting the ride in any way he can. The steward shall be remunerated at a rate set by the Board of Directors each year, funds to be paid by UMECRA, which shall assess each ride for the proper amount. No immediate member of the steward's family or horse owned by the steward may compete in any division of a ride for which said person is acting in an official capacity. Motion carried.

c. A petition signed by 39 riders, plus 8 mail responses, was presented as follows: "Whereas there are a growing number of riders interested in the direction of UMECRA, the following persons hereby petition that an amendment providing for individual voting membership be prepared and circulated so that it can be voted on at the 1978 annual meeting." As a result it was moved that the following amendment be made to Article IV of the Articles of Incorporation:

IV. Membership

Section 1: Membership in this organization shall be limited to active members only. Such active memberships shall be granted to individuals, to families, and to endurance or competitive ride corporations.

a.) Individual memberships shall be open to individuals eighteen years of age and over.

b.) Family memberships shall be open to one or more related adults residing together. Such membership shall include the children of such adults who are less than eighteen years of age. Each family membership shall be entitled to as many votes up to a maximum of two, as there are adults within the family unit.

c.) Endurance and Competitive rides. Memberships shall be granted to all endurance and competitive rides which on proper application are approved by the Board of Directors. Each member ride agrees to abide by the rules and regulations established by the Association. The Board of Directors may adjudicate any infraction of such rule and take such action as it deems necessary.

Section 2: No endurance or competitive ride corporation, individual, or family shall become an active member of this organization unless and until it shall first pay to the club the annual dues to be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Two delegates chosen by each ride from that organization shall be accredited voting members at any ^{general} meeting. Two delegates chosen at large by the individual and family members shall be accredited voting members at any meeting.

Also moved to amend the By-Laws as follows:

Article II, Section 2: TIME: An annual meeting of the members shall be held each year no more than 90 days after the last sanctioned ride. At this time the voting members as established in Article IV, Section 3 of the Articles of Incorporation, shall elect by a majority vote a Board of Directors from the list of voting members.

Article III, Section 1. Election of Directors: The property and business of this Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors, which shall be composed of voting members, and which shall not be less than three (3) in number and not more than seven (7). The Board shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, and two members elected at large. They shall be elected at the annual meeting by majority vote of the voting members, and each Director shall be elected to serve for one year or until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

Article IV. OFFICERS: Section 1. The voting members at the annual meeting shall by simple majority elect from the list of voting members: a President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer may be a combined office.

Motion to recommend the above amendments carried.

d.) It was moved and carried to recommend that annual dues be \$5.00 for an individual membership, \$7.00 for a family membership, and \$10.00 for a ride membership, except for the first year which will be \$20.00 per ride. A subscription to the Newsletter is to be received as part of the individual and family membership. + *ride membership.*

e.) The question as to whether or not to require membership in UMECRA as a prerequisite for eligibility to receive year-end awards and rider mileage awards will be presented at the annual meeting.

f.) The following changes in Upper Midwest Ride Rules are recommended.

I. GENERAL Delete Rule No. 8 which reads "No horse owned, part-owned or leased by a member or the judging committee or the ride manager shall be allowed to start the ride. No judge shall qualify for a ride in which a member of his or her own immediate family is participating. The ride manager or a member of his immediate family may not participate."

Rule #12 shall be changed to read "Horses must stand a pre-ride examination, all mandatory rest stop examinations, and must pass a vet check after the ride. Any horse can be stopped at any point for a veterinary exam. The decision of the judges is final.

Rule #16 (to be added). "If a rider fails to complete the ride in the allotted time, management, may, at their discretion, give the rider a completion award, but that rider will not be placed in the standings, nor will he receive credit toward his rider mileage award."

II. COMPETITIVE RIDES.

Rule #1. Shall be amended to read: " The ride must have a maximum and minimum time limit with $\frac{1}{2}$ hour differential recommended. The maximum riding time should average 6 - 8 miles per hour. The ride committee may alter this if trail and/ or weather conditions warrant it. However any changes must be made and announced prior to the ride.

Rule #7. Shall be amended to read: "During the competition all riders are required to care for their own mounts except ~~in the case of a sick horse or~~ having a horse held during a rest break. Other assistance in the care and grooming of mounts is prohibited unless the ride committee determines that due to age or physical problems, assistance is needed.

Rule #9. To be added: "Natural water only is allowed on the trail. Drinking water only is allowed at rest stops."

Rule #10. To be added: "If Upper Midwest sanctions and advertises novice classes at a ride, all fees and rules shall be observed. A novice is a rider who has not participated in more than two rides (either competitive or endurance). Novice riders are not eligible for year-end awards nor rider mileage.

Rule #11. To be added: Multiple Day Rides

a. Horses shall all be tied in a similar manner after 9 p.m. until the next morning's vet check, and then retied until the checking of all horses is completed.

b. Horses will be subject to veterinary examinations after 9 p.m.

c. The evening's examination should involve attitude, dehydration, filling, sore backs and stocking up. The morning evaluation should include all of the above plus an evaluation for locomotion.

Rule #12: To be added: Judging of Competitive Horses. Horses are evaluated on the following criteria: Soundness, condition and manners.

A. Soundness: To count 40%.

1. Lameness and Stiffness: The judges shall evaluate a horse's way of going during the ride to determine change in gait (lameness or stiffness) which is the result of an inability to adapt to the stresses placed on tendons, muscles, ligaments, bones and joints.

2. Heat and Swelling: In the area of joints and tendons are of particular importance, indicating inflammation. Stocking, and swelling associated with the subcutaneous tissues need not be considered detrimental when found

after an overnight layover and which regresses shortly after resuming activity. However, when stocking occurs during the course of the ride or does not regress after resuming activity, it should be considered significant.

3. Muscular Soreness: With particular reference to the muscles of the back.

4. Saddle and Cinch Sores: Those which develop during the course of the ride or those previously present which progress.

B. Condition: To count 45%

1. Evidence of fatigue and the inability to carry on. This should include an evaluation of depression, desire to eat and drink and diseases associated with exhaustion such as spasm, azoturia, colic and abnormal heart sounds.

2. Pulse and Respiration:

a. There will be a minimum of two pulse and respiration readings taken during each day's ride. Time held at "spot" checks will be included in the day's total riding time.

b. Not less than 10 minutes nor more than 15 minutes shall be allowed before the recovery pulse and respiration are taken. This information will be collected precisely and uniformly so as to aid the judges in making an evaluation of condition. P/ R's may be taken by any judge and/or others who in the opinion of the judges are qualified to do so.

c. Pulse and respiration checks shall be taken for a minimum of 15 seconds.

d. The normal criteria for advancement is a pulse of 70 and a respiration of 40.

e. A pre-ride pulse and respiration should be taken so that the judges can get acquainted with the horse. This recording would not be used as a reference point upon which to determine that a future reading is high or low.

f. Spot Checks. A 10-minute hold check shall be used. Riders may be advised of the approximate location. An assistant placed several hundred yards down the trail will tell the rider to trot from that point up to the judges. If the horses are badly bunched when they reach the assistant he will hold them and let them go at 30-45 second intervals. Horses shall be checked for pulse and respiration 10 minutes after arrival.

C. Manners: To count 15%. Consideration must be given to the manners of the horses on a ride. Poor manners decrease efficiency and ability to take the rider over the trail with a maximum of ease and safety. ~~Throwing the head, fighting the bit, kicking, standing quietly for mounting, response to command and general type of ride the horse offers his rider should be considered.~~ The horse should stand quietly for any examination that the judge deems necessary. Unruly horses such as those difficult to be examined or judged are subject to removal from competition.

1977

HEAVYWEIGHT ENDURANCE- TOP SIX

Ken Coffman - Cappie's Red, Champion
 Larry Engevold - Candy - Res.
 Theresa Nelson - Raffnetta
 John MacDonald - Cedardell Lalla
 Dr. C. M. Nance - Bey Chal
 Mary Norby - We Yamaha

LIGHTWEIGHT ENDURANCE- TOP SIX

Louise Riedel - Caprison, Champion
 Jan Worthington - Blanc Seurat, Res.
 Dede Vick - Kamia
 Susan Haenert - Fania
 Marian MacDonald - Flint
 Vi Bredl - Mirfaz

HEAVYWEIGHT COMPETITIVE - TOP TEN

Larry Hansen - Arena Tezar, Champion
 Guy Worthington - Garman, Reserve
 Bonnie Kaufman - Maxai
 Sandi Thomas - Birchwood's Firefly
 Sara Haenert - Chausette
 Joanne Gernant - J.J. Zantzer
 Isabelle French - Catlizer
 Henry George - Judy Gee
 Jo Ellen Rubach - Ibn Bint Zahr
 John MacDonald - Cedardell Lalla

LIGHTWEIGHT COMPETITIVE - TOP TEN

Louise Riedel - Sky Rissar, Champion
 Jan Worthington - Mikki, Reserve
 Diane Slone - Grey Cloud
 Jerry Bredl - Mirfaz
 Samantha Whitcomb - Fr. Jons
 Sue Haenert - Grand Pass
 Bonnie Zude - Fawni Lee
 Bonnie McFarland - Natchez King
 John Mielke - Al Kam Shazam
 Tie (Virginia Rice - Harraf
 (Marian MacDonald - Benina

4-H -
 WISCONSIN 4-H MEMBERS - Trophies donated by UM&CEA

Glenn Cooper - Senior Division Champion
 Michelle MacDonald - Junior Division Champion

AERC AWARDS - will be sent to the winners.

NATIONAL TOP TWENTY-FIVE

Ken Coffman - Reserve National Champion - Cappies Red
 Louise Riedel - Caprison - 8th
 Theresa Nelson - Raffnetta - 9th
 Larry Engevold - Candy - 10th
 Jan Worthington - Blanc Seurat - 13th

Ken will receive a trophy from the International Arabian Horse Association for placing with an Arab in the top 5.

Jan Worthington's Blanc Seurat set an AERC record for winning 6 best condition awards in a row.

AERC RIDER MILEAGE - 1977 - TOP TEN

Ken Coffman - 6th - 700 miles
 Louise Riedel - 10th - 665 miles

AERC MIDWEST REGION AWARDS

SENIOR TOP TEN

Ken Coffman	Carol Beckner
Louise Riedel	Susan Haenert
Theresa Nelson	John MacDonald
Larry Engevold	Pat Sager
Jan Worthington	Vi Bredl

JUNIOR TOP FIVE

Leslie Enevold - Don Sebastian
 Dixie Kolie - Faron's Zubahr
 Donald Brewer - Diamond's Dust
 Dixie Kolie - T.D.C.
 Ed Taliaferro - Geronimo

D. Examination Procedures: The judges should act together and discuss individual horses throughout the course of the ride. All judges will evaluate all horses on soundness, condition and manners. Final decision should be reached jointly. The standardized UMECRA scorecard shall be used at each ride.

III. ENDURANCE RIDES.

Rule #6: To be added. The normal criteria for advancement is a pulse of 70 and a respiration of 40.

Rule #2: To be amended: "There shall be an award for the best conditioned horse. Consideration shall be given to the time element in making this selection. The best conditioned horse should have been stressed comparably (as near as possible) to the winner, and still meet all criteria for soundness and condition.

Rule #3: To be amended: "There can be no minimum time limit. The maximum should be 12 hours total on a 50-mile ride and 24 hours total on a 100-mile ride.

g.) It was moved and carried to recommend establishing a junior division on all competitive rides, the age to be 15 and under as of January 1. There will be year end awards for this division.

h.) It was moved and carried to reimburse Harriet Haenert for the cost of the remaining T-shirts with the provision that she continue to sell them.

Respectfully submitted
L. Riedel, Secy.

1977 POINT STANDINGS

ENDURANCE HEAVYWEIGHT - TOP SIX	Kans.	Bad-ger	Conq-uis.	Wolf-Gr.	Ia.	Hoos-ier	S. Dak.	Mn. Wall.	S.E. Mn	Neil ls.	Un-der D.	Pal-	Pill.	Kans.	K.M.	Jub.	Hoof-beat	Quae-Cit	TOT
Ken Coffman - Cappie's Red, Champ.	8					7			7			7		7		7	6	7	56
Larry Engevold - Candy, Res.					6		7	5	5		6		6		10		4	6	55
Theresa Nelson - Raffnetta					5	6			6			6			16	7	7		53
John MacDonald - Cedardell Lalla								4		9.8	7				8		1		29.8
Dr. C. E. Nance - Bey Chal		6			7	4										5	5		27
Nary Norby - We Yamaha	6				2			6	4					6					24
ENDURANCE LIGHTWEIGHT - TOP SIX																			
Louise Riedel - Caprison, Champ.		1					3	7	3	7	4	7	5			6	4	5	52
Jan Worthington - Blanc Seurat, Res.		6			7	8				9.8	6	7		8					51.8
DeDe Vick - Kamia											2		3		14		3	8	30
Susan Maenert - Fania		1			7			5	1			4					3		21
Marian MacDonald - Flint															12		7		19
Vi Bredl - Mirfaz							4		4		7	3							18
COMPETITIVE HEAVYWEIGHT - TOP TEN																			
Larry Mansen - Arena Tezar, Champ.		4	11.2				5	2.4	7	5	7	6			2	6	1		56.6
Guy Worthington - Garman, Res.									1	6	1	7		7	14	4	7	7	54
Sandi Thomas - Birchwood's Firefly			6		1			8.4	1	1	1	1			6	1	4	5	35.4
Bonnie Kaufman - Maxsi					1			3.6	6	1	2	5			12		1	4	36.6
Sara Maenert - Chausette		1	7		5			1.2	5	1	1	4			6	1		1	33.2
Joanne Gernant - J.J. Zantar			8	5		5			3			1			7	1		2	32
Isabelle French - Catlzar					3		7	4.8	1	4			7		4				30.8
Henry George - Judy Gee			3	3	2	3		1.2	1	1	1	2			8	2	2	1	30.2
Jo Ellen Rubach		7			4					2	6				1		6	1	27
John MacDonald - Cedardell Lalla			4.8		7		2		2			1						1	17.8
COMPETITIVE LIGHTWEIGHT - TOP TEN																			
Louise Riedel - Sky Rissar, Champ.		3		6	7			1.2	7	7	7	7	7		12		5	5	74.2
Jan Worthington - Nikki, Res.		5	9.6		6						3	2		6	8	6	3	7	55.6
Diane Slone - Grey Cloud							3	1.2	6	4	6		5		14	5	4	6	54.2
Jerry Bredl - Mirfaz		6			5		1	1	1	5			4						23
Samantha Whitcomb - Fr. Jons							7	6	1				3						17
Sue Maenert - Grand Pass			5	3							1	1			6				16
Bonnie Zude - Tawni Lee			4						2	2		1			1	2		4	16
Bonnie McFarland - Natchez King		2	11.2																13.2
John Mielke - Al Kam Shazam		7	4.8						1										12.8
Virginia Rice - Karraf		1	1.6							1					10				12.6
Marian MacDonald - Benja							4												12

PLEASE CHECK -- If you find errors
contact Louise Riedel, 455 Moore Mts,
Dubuque, Ia 52001

have a better sign, and someone to point the way; Lindsay, you'll just have to open your eyes and follow directions.)

Another problem was poor selection and inaccessability of vet checks. In one instance, some riders, through no fault of their own, completely overran a check, while others were sent to the correct one where the head vet was, held 10 minutes, then sent to another impromptu point and held an additional 30 minutes. Riders that came in later were sent out ahead. All this on an Endurance Ride! A possible solution to this last problem might be to restrict any crews from going into the difficult places, and hence freeing the access to the PR crews. We should all be able enough horsemen to care for our own animals as infrequently as this would be required.

Another, and probably the most glaring of difficulties as I see it, is in the area of vet checks on Endurance Rides. Specifically..... WHAT CONSTITUTES ACCEPTABLE CONITION TO CONTINUE and THE LACK OF STANDARDIZATION FROM ONE RIDE TO THE NEXT. We ostensibly use the criteria of 70/40 then disregard it, elevate it due to climatic conditions, or falsify the readings, so on paper no one goes over the max. On only one of the early rides were these pulse and respiration parameters adhered to, with the elimination of many at the first check. This brings to mind a relevant discussion I heard on a Best Condition award. The first person felt it was unfair that the second should be considered as they weren't up with the front runners, but if the truth were known, and the 70/40 limits a hard and fast rule, none of the leaders would have left the third vet check.. Lo and behold...the second person is now one of the leaders. So one one hand, you play the game, know your horse, you just might have all the leaders pulled in front of you, while on the other, you most likely will end up an hour behind the pack.

The last area of consternation of an Endurance Ride has to be the most nebulous of all in the

The following is a letter from John and Marion MacDonald recapping the season:

As the long season draws to a close, I think it's time to look back and reflect on what we liked and disliked in Competitive and Endurance riding as conducted here in the Upper Midwest. From the viewpoint of a member of ride management as well as an occasional competitor, these comments are not wholly mine, but represent complaints and ideas heard round the circuit during the year.

In respect to ride management-I feel, on the whole, they were well-conducted with only a few instances of apparent unpreparedness, i.e. handwritten vet check forms on scraps of paper. If we want to grow and encourage new riders to participate, it's mandatory that all aspects of the ride by management, including the veterinarians, be performed in a professional and knowledgeable manner. I include the veterinarians here, because there were instances on competitive rides that a complete lack of understanding of the importance of the P&R checks was demonstrated. A case in point, a very knowledgeable individual took the P&R of his animal prior to taking him to the vet. The vet found the horse to be considerably higher, which in itself is no big deal, it has happened to all of us, but when the vet was asked to recheck it, the statement was made, "Don't worry, the horse is below 70/40 and won't be held, that's all that matters." Another case is of the infamous 5 second pulse count, then multiplying by 10 to get a full minute's worth....and then arguing its validity. People pay good money for the right to torture themselves and demonstrate their masochistic tendencies, but in the end they do request an equal chance with their fellow riders. Winning or losing shouldn't depend on a chance draw.

The trails were well-marked in most instances, but where they weren't, it was disastrous to those who got lost. (Louise, next year I'll

(con't on p. 7)

1977- RIDER MILEAGE

Miles ridden on any horse in 1975, 1976 and 1977. Chevrons awarded for 250 competitive miles and 500 endurance miles.

COMPETITIVE

Micallee Campion	290
Joanne Gernant	265
Henry George	520
R. T. Guy	275 300
Tom Guy	470
Sarah Haenert	305
Sue Haenert	400
Larry Hansen	585
Bonnie Kaufman	610
Marie Larson	350
Jean Martin	250
Suzanne Morstad	325
John MacDonald	340
Marian MacDonald	265
Louise Riedel	755
Mary Ruckwardt	280
Diane Slone	330
Skip Svendsen	395
Chris Taliaferro	365
Mary Taliaferro	405
Sandi Thomas	255 380
June Viele	280
Guy Worthington	390
Jan Worthington	440
VIRGINIA RICE	315
Bob Mielke - 290	290

ENDURANCE

Vi Bredl	600
Ken Coffman	825
Lynette Engevold	670
Larry Engevold	700
Gene Nance	500
Louise Riedel	1145
Skip Svendsen	700
Lindsay Taliaferro	1125
Lindsay Taliaferro III	650

Please check your records. If you find errors, or if you should be listed and are not please contact Louise Riedel, 455 Moore Hts., Dubuque, Ia. 52001