

MINUTES - BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors and Rider Representatives met following the Point Chaser Ride, October 19. Present were Ray Gehrig, Monna Radtke, Mary Mott, Art Priesz, Dianne Kuhg, Dale Lunde and Louise Riedel; and Rider representatives Lori Windows and Roberta Harms. Also present by invitation were Wayne Gastfield and Elinore Tonsor.

Member of the awards committee, Audrey Gehrig, and Art Priesz reviewed the plans for year-end awards.

Lori reported having received several suggestions in favor of a longer rest period on competitive rides.

This will be discussed at the next board meeting, which was scheduled for November 23 at noon at Ray Gehrig's.

Ray announced that we would discuss the proposed by-law changes, but no action will be taken until the next board meeting. A proposed change would cover the position of Secretary-Treasurer. It has been suggested that since officers and directors must be ride managers, Louise is not actually eligible for this position. Art explained that a possibility was to make this an "emeritus" position as long as she and the board agree that she wants to do it and the Board shows confidence in her conduct of the office. The description of the position of Secretary-Treasurer will be postponed until the office is vacated.

In the interest of having fairer regional representation on the Board, it is proposed that one director be elected from each of the following states: Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, plus two directors at large. At present, directors are elected for a two-year term, and the terms are staggered. This year directors being retained are from Minnesota and Wisconsin, so we could elect directors from Illinois and Michigan. Copies of the proposed by-law changes, which are attached to these minutes, will be printed in the November Newsletter, asking for comments from the membership.

Ray and Audrey announced that they are starting a private scholarship fund for UMECRA kids. They invite UMECRA and UMECRA rides and individuals to become involved. They hope to turn it over to UMECRA in future years for management. A private foundation will be administering the program, but Ray and Audrey and their UMECRA friends are setting up the guidelines for eligibility. The program will never cost UMECRA's general fund a cent.

The limited distance program was discussed as to whether to make it a permanent program. Dianne will prepare a set of guidelines before the November 23 meeting, and will deal with the awards for this year.

The computer program covering the proposed change to a 5-minute p/r hold will be ready for discussion at the November meeting.

Nomination of the following rider representative candidates was announced. Guy Worthington (nominated by Wayne Gastfield), Roberta Harms, Connie Gray, Grace Ramsey, and Lori Windows (nominated by Ray Gehrig), and Louise Riedel (nominated by Art Priesz).

A proposed change to cover "grievances" (situations where no rule infractions are involved) could be incorporated as a rule change instead of a by-law change.

Wayne Gastfield announced he is planning a 5-day endurance ride, and inquired whether, if he decided to include competitive rides, he could set a limit on the number of entries. The reaction seemed to be that "rides must be open to all." However no action was taken. Wayne also announced that UMECRA is now a member of the Michigan Horse Council, and he is our representative. He has paid UMECRA's dues for this year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Louise Riedel, Secretary