

UMECRA Board of Directors Meeting
March 15, 2008
Antiqua Bay Resort
10:00 am

The meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Levin. In attendance were: Sheryl Levin, Jill Feller, Tony Troyer, Julie Jackson, Elinore Tonsor, Sharon Hahn, Theresa Meyer, Linda Hamrick, Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Mower, Wayne Gastfield, Joslyn Seefeldt and Dawn Haas. Guests: Barry Saylor and Linda Jacobson.

Treasurer's Report was presented in the format of a balance sheet. Dawn made the motion to approve the report as presented, seconded by Wayne; approved. A discussion was held on a cost comparison of the annual convention. Since there were no costs paid yet for the 2008 conventions, no report could be given. Once these costs are received, a report will be presented; the current treasurer database only has accurate records dating back from the 2007 convention, only two years worth of information will be presented.

Secretary's reports from the annual convention was previously sent to all BOD members to read. No corrections or additions were indicated. Tony motioned, Dawn seconded to accept reports as presented; motion passed.

UPDATES:

- Points data base: Sheryl reports that some of the deadlines have been missed and the last deadline is on March 16th or the program will be scraped and we will start over with a new program and new programmer.
- Membership cards: these are on hold until a database has been completed; cards may not be available to members until 2009 season
- Advertising in Ride book, website, and directory: we currently have one advertising customer. Elinore and Joslyn will work together to get more vendors to advertise. It was noted that some vendors wanted to see what a *ride book* and *member directory* were and would have advertised had they been approached at an earlier date. The advertising committee will pursue more vendors for the 2009 books.
- New Ride Entry Form: the new ride entry form is on the website. Ride Managers need to be sure their riders have the new form. Ride Mangers must also POST THE EQUINE LIABILITY signs at their rides.
- Discussion of moving fiscal year: this has been put on hold due to the convention expenses not being available at this time.

- Clinic packets; new members, etc: A discussion was held on creating some 'standardized' packets of information that UMECRA members can request for clinics that they will be managing. Several BOD members had clinic booklets from previous clinics that were reviewed by the BOD. Theresa Meyer and Jill Feller will work on creating a booklet for UMECRA members to use for clinics. Jacque Deweese has volunteered to assist in formatting the booklets for UMECRA (*Jacque was contacted after the meeting and he volunteered to assist as needed*).
- Ride manager packets: these will be sent out soon and will contain the following: t-shirt letter, non-member sign up sheets, rule books, statement for reporting ride results and a novice packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Louise Riedel Versatility Award/Charles Phillips Versatility Award: In the November BOD meeting a Louise Riedel Versatility Award was discussed and approved to be presented at the annual general meeting. In the morning BOD meeting in January, GLDRA presented the Charles Phillips Versatility award to the board. At that time, the BOD approved the Charles Phillips Versatility award in place of the Louise Riedel award. To provide clarity to this situation, the Louise Riedel Versatility Award will NOT be an annual award, but the Charles Phillips Versatility Award will be presented annually. Dawn motioned to not take the Louise Riedel award to the general meeting, Tony seconded the motion; passed. The criteria for eligibility for the Charles Phillip Versatility Award:
 - One horse/rider team must complete the following:
 - Two endurance rides of 50 miles or more in length
 - Two open competitive rides (25 or more miles) or two competitive drives (20 or more miles in length)
 - Two limited distance rides of 25 miles or more in length
 - Points will be accumulated in the following manner:
 - 1st place = 7 points
 - 2nd place = 6 points
 - 3rd place = 5 points
 - 4th place = 4 points
 - 5th place = 3 points
 - 6th place = 2 points
 - Completion = 1 point
 - Riders must notify the UMECRA points keeper (Barb Gardner) before the beginning of the last ride of the season that you want to be considered for this award. UMECRA members that do not notify the points keeper prior to the last ride will not be eligible for the award.

- Senior Horse Award: this award will be sponsored by Sharon Hahn. The criteria to win this award will be the total points accumulated throughout the year and the miles ridden. The newsletter contains more information on this award.
- 100-mile horse award: Barry Saylor presented a proposal for this program. Dawn motioned, Wayne seconded to take this program to the general meeting in January; motion passed.

100-mile Horse Program

Goal: To increase participation in current 100 mile events
To increase the number of UMECRA sanctioned 100 mile rides.

Enrollment: One time fee of \$50/ horse/rider team.

Year End Awards:

1. Recognition of completion of first one-day 100 mile ride will be a plaque with picture of horse/rider team doing the ride
2. Bronze level- same horse/rider team completion of 3- 1-day 100 mile rides
3. Silver level- same horse/rider team completion of 6- 1-day 100 mile rides
4. Gold level- same horse/rider team completion of 10- 1-day 100 mile rides
5. Platinum- same horse/rider team completion of 15- 1-day 100 mile rides
6. Triple Crown Award- completion of any three UMECRA sanctioned 1-day 100's by the same horse/rider team in a single year, ties to be split by best placements
7. 100-mile Horse of the Year- horse that has completed the most UMECRA sanctioned 1-day 100's that year, ties to be split by best placement.

Other aspects of the program:

1. Add on to web page a 100-miler section with past 100-mile horse/rider teams listed with their pertinent information
2. Make a presentation at the 2009 annual meeting to introduce and kickoff the program
3. Work with ride managers to encourage some 75 mile rides to make it easier for riders to make that jump up in mileage and/or have some elevator rides
4. Mentor program- included as part of the 100-mile section of web page listing people that would be open to mentoring 100 mile newbies
5. Have ride managers state on ride flyer how many riders they would require in order to hold a 100-mile ride

6. Have riders commit 2-weeks ahead to the ride managers that they would be doing the 100-mile ride so ride manager has sufficient time to mark the extra trail
7. Encourage ride managers to give better completion award to 100-mile riders
8. Only UMECRA sanctioned rides count towards annual awards.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Top Objectives of the Board of Directors: committees do not seem to be working well in this organization as only a few of them have been able to show any results of their work: rules/by laws, finance, and convention committees. The other committees are being discontinued at this time. The BOD needs to put their focus onto our customers: ride managers and riders. We need to simplify paperwork for them. We currently have several different people that ride managers and members must mail information to and they are getting confused and frustrated. A motion was made by Tony, seconded by Julie that going forward and starting immediately, **ALL paperwork** concerning UMECRA will be sent to the secretary/treasurer and she will forward it on to the appropriate person. Motion passed.
 - Newsletters; due to a computer breakdown, the February newsletter was not mailed out by the deadline of February 15th. In order to prevent further newsletters from missed deadlines, a new procedure is being put in place. Sharon Hahn will send the electronic newsletter to Elinore for printing. Once received, Elinore will send an acknowledgement back to Sharon stating she has received the newsletter. In the event Elinore does not contact Sharon within a two-day period after sending the newsletter, Sharon will call Elinore to see if there is an issue. Sharon does have printers near her that she can use should Elinore's computer malfunction again. Future newsletter deadlines are *not* to be missed.
- Trail grants: a trail grant request for \$250 has been received for the Wildrock Campground in Neilsville, WI, home of the Wildcat ride. This money will be used in conjunction with money raised by the Neilsville Saddle Club for improvements in the campground. Dawn motioned, Jill seconded to approve the grant; motion passed.
- President and Secretary/treasurer election criteria: a request was made at the January BOD meeting to change the criteria for eligibility for the President and secretary/treasurer position; they

don't need to be a ride manager. This motion was not approved in January based on the way the motion was presented. A new motion has been presented with stricter criteria. The following is the new proposal: Under Article V, Officers, Section 1, the following will be added: *The office of president must be held by an elected delegate, ride manager or former ride manager who has been a ride manager during at least five seasons in the past decade or who has been an elected delegate in the preceding five years, and who must be present at the time of the election. The office of secretary/treasurer may be held by a non-delegate, though they must be present at the time of the election and have been a ride manager for at least five years. Once elected, these officers will have one vote.*

A discussion followed. The BOD has tabled this topic until the November meeting as the term 'delegate' needs to be better defined in the bylaws.

- Limited Distance Restricted Mileage Awards: what happened to these? Jill will look back into the old minutes to see when they stopped and if there is any documentation about why. *Jill looked at the minutes of the convention from 1995 forward and there is no record of UMECRA ever awarding a 'restricted mileage award for limited distance rides'. The restricted mileage awards were formerly called limited distance competitive and limited distance endurance. Once AERC instituted the Limited Distance rides, UMECRA changed their awards to 'restricted mileage' to avoid confusion.*
- Junior Restricted Mileage Awards: what happened to these? Jill will investigate these in the minutes also. *In 2001, UMECRA awarded junior restricted mileage awards for endurance and competitive rides; they disappeared from the records after 2001.*
- November meeting: the next BOD meeting will be held on November 8th at 10 am at Antiqua Bay resort.
- Summer Conference call meeting: the BOD may hold a conference call in summer to touch base on some issues. Time and day will be announced at a later date.
- Ride date changes: any ride manager that needs to change the date of a ride or cancel a ride due to weather or personal issues needs to contact Elinore ASAP to inform her.
- There is no one to run the 2010 convention. Elinore has volunteered to run it and will contact Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc for dates.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Feller, secretary/treasurer