



**BOD Meeting
November 13, 2010
Ho Chunk, Wisconsin Dells
Agenda**

Attendees: Wayne Gastfield, Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Mower, Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Shelly Sentyrz, Marty Powers, Julie Jackson-Biegert, Marge Dixon, Bonnie Mielke, Dianne Schmidt, Lynn Reichert, Peggy Pasillas, Angie Mikkelson, Joslyn Seefeldt, Theresa Meyer

Guests: Linda Jacobson, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Sarah Mower, Barry Saylor, Jeanne Crispin

Meeting called to order by President Rick Nelson

Secretary report: Wayne made motion to accept report from March meeting, Bonnie seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer report: Report was presented by way of balance sheet and P&L. Linda Mower made motion; seconded by Wayne to accept reports as presented; motion passed.

Business:

- **Convention update** – Dianne Schmidt
 - Dianne presented a report on where rides, members and ride managers are located. Dianne made a motion that WI Dells be the midpoint of the corridor. The corridor would go east and west every other year from the midpoint. Would we also want to discuss going south and north? Dianne made a motion to make WI Dells the midpoint for the conventions with every other year going east or west. There was no seconded for the motion.
 - A discussion was held on why people attend or don't attend the convention. Should a questionnaire to discuss ideas. We should do a survey with Survey Monkey. Shelly will work on the survey with Dianne.
 - Dianne passed out information about the 2011 convention. The speaker will be \$350 and be a sports med physician to hold a discussion on knees. AHDRA will be sponsoring the Friday night entertainment. Dianne is asking UMECRA to pay for the speaker and the casino night \$500. The cost of the meal will be between

\$25-\$30/person. There will be a tack swap also at the convention. The convention information is posted on the UMECRA website.

- Dianne is asking for \$500 for casino costs and \$350 for the speaker; Wayne made motion, Julie seconded. \$100 has been paid for the casino which leaves \$750 to come from the convention fund; leaving the convention fund in \$368.57. Passed.
- Illinois Expo
 - Tony asked for \$100 to sponsor a booth at the IL Expo. Tony and Joanne Gernant would work the booth. Dianne made motion, Wayne seconded to approve the \$100; Motion passed.
- Rider concerns- Maxine Bernsdorf
 - Max has four letters from riders:
 - **Tentative ride schedule** should be published within 24 hours after it is approved by the BOD. A discussion was held on the liability of doing this; the schedule can be posted with a disclaimer as "TENTATIVE". Motion made by Maxine seconded by Linda M to post the tentative schedule, with a disclaimer that the schedule is tentative schedule after the BOD meeting. The schedule will be posted on the website, but not within a 24-hour period of time.
 - **Novice rides** should require a vet check in the middle so the ride is similar to a competitive ride. Suggestion is to do a 6-mile loop, come back to camp for a vet check, do another 6 mile loop. Bonnie suggested that the rides should be holding a clinic before the ride. Some of the vets suggested that no novice riders should be able to participate in the ride unless they have participated in a clinic. A clinic (even a short one) should be held before the ride. Opinions voiced were that not all ride managers have the time or help to host a novice clinic on each day of a ride. Some novice rides are run smoothly while others are not run well at all.
 - Marge Dixon expressed her concern about her first novice ride- it was bad and no information was available to her.
 - Julie made a motion to put a committee together to look at Novice rides and how we can improve them. Theresa Meyers seconded the motion. Joslyn will chair the committee, Marty, Julie, Nicole and Bonnie will be part of the committee. Motion passed.
 - Lynn Reichert shared her novice ride experience as a ride manager. She asked some competitive riders who rode on Saturday to stay on Sunday and assisted the novice riders. There was an experienced rider with the small groups and it worked well. The experienced riders met the novice group when they came in and assisted them through the vet check.

- Theresa Meyers asked if any RM's have the novice riders call or email ahead. Some riders will call/email ahead some will not. It might help if the RM knew in advanced how many riders will come.
- Barry Saylor commented that he limited his Novice to a 10 mile ride. He stated that he has seen horses that did not look like they would make a longer ride.
- **Limited Distance**
 - **Restricted mileage is requested.** Discussion was held on restricted mileage: Theresa: if we expand the LD division, our budget is still the same for awards. Angie: 264 entries in LD that were UMECRA members and 21 accumulated over 190 miles; 243 would qualify for restricted mileage awards. Some people can only make it to so many rides and would like the restricted mileage. Comments: why would we give an award for doing *basically nothing*? This is not an organization in which we 'sign up and get an award'. Limited Distance under 195 miles is like doing nothing.
 - Motion made by Joslyn to offer Restricted Mileage for LD – same mileage as competitive (195 miles), seconded by Linda M. Motion passed. 8 passed; 3 opposed. **GOES TO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY.**
 - **Weight divisions for LD are requested.** Max made a motion to have weight divisions in LD; light weight, heavy weight with weights the same as endurance. Joslyn seconded the motion. Discussion: this would make the RM do more work as submitting the points to AERC and UMECRA would now be different. Also, if UMECRA would follow AERC rules, we would now need to write new rules for LD weight division. Angie: 264 LD, 247 Comp riders 125 endurance riders; we have more LD riders than all other groups and they are the least recognized. Motion failed with a vote of 4/7.
- Ride Manager concerns- Rick Nelson
 - Karen Bahrman: Pine Marten RM does not feel that DRAWARMA should be allowed to continue as a multiday rid. She is protesting the presence of DRAWARAMA on the same weekend as Pine Marten. What is the mileage between the rides? 276 miles; the rule is 300 miles distance. Theresa: DRAW was on one weekend in fall and then moved due to the anchor weekends Memorial Day and Labor Day. The tentative schedule out a few years shows that both rides will conflict for a few more years. If DRAW moves one weekend, this protest will be a non-issue.
 - Sanctioning coordinator will contact both ride managers to discuss the issue. Shelly will explore the options of these rides and get back to the board within the next week.

- Donation to Southern Kettle Moraine Horseman's Park- Bonnie Mielke
 - Bonnie belongs to the Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Associate and since UMECRA has several rides there, Bonnie would like UMECRA to donate to this fund. \$400,000 is being donated by the state but they need more money. Motion made by Bonnie to give \$250 to this organization, seconded by Dianne; motion passed 16/1.
- Charging non UMECRA members more on ride entries- Bonnie Mielke
 - Bonnie said that she rides at rides outside of the area and at many rides there is an additional fee if you are not members. Bonnie made a motion to charge a \$5.00 fee per entry for non UMECRA members (novice riders are excluded) at rides; Marge seconded the motion. Motion vote was tied; broken by vote from President; motion failed.
- Attendance at fall & spring meetings:
 - Do we want to reimburse members of the BOD to drive to the spring and fall meetings? The mileage could be set at any rate that the board would want to set it at. Discussion was held as to the reason why people are on the board. Rick mentioned that he is on the board because he enjoys it. Angie voiced her opinion that a backup plan should be in place such as video or teleconferencing.
 - Would GO-TO-Meeting work? Everyone can go online or just use audio to call in for those who cannot make the meeting. No action was taken on this subject.
- **Rule changes**
 - Theresa walked through the proposed changes:

SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS

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. **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.**

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

- Theresa made a motion, seconded by Joslyn to accept the above change. There were two rides this past season in which the ride fees were not paid within a 60-day period. Riders were upset and wanted to know if the next ride by that ride manager would be sanctioned. Theresa feels that we have some responsibility to our riders to make sure there are results posted in a timely measure. Dianne- we should charge the \$50 and just pull the sanctioning for the following year and not pull the current year sanctioning.
 - Angie: by not posting the points, we are punishing the riders and not the ride manager. What if we posted the points and then pull them later? This could cause problems with riders if they were counting on those

points and planning they year-end rides to allow them to place in the top ten.

- Lynn Reichert: my concern the riders pay for the ride so they should not be punished.
- Barry Saylor: would it be possible for have the points posted under a subheading so they are not counted in? This is a points keeper issue more than the Webmaster issue; it would involve a lot of extra work and would not solve the problem.
- Marge: why are these ride managers ride mangers if they do not want do the work involved with running a ride? *This topic will be postponed until January; Theresa will rewrite the proposed rule and put it out on the BOD group email to review before the convention meeting.*

- Motion made by Theresa that ride results, rider fees and ride insurance fees must be sent to sec/treasurer within 30 days (current rule is 14 days). Motion seconded by Marty.

- Bonnie: we should keep the timeline short so it is not forgotten.
- Theresa: in the past, the people who were doing awards had concerns with the last ride of the season. Is that still a concern? Yes it is.
- Motion failed.

- Motion made by Marty, seconded by Julie to move the 14 days to 21 days. Motion failed.

- Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Jill:
 - **J. Ride Managers must respond by November 30th as to the date(s) of their ride for the following year. If possible, the ride manager should respond by the time of the Fall Board of Directors meeting so that an initial ride calendar can be presented at that meeting. If no response has been received by the fall meeting, the Sanctioning Coordinator must make at least two attempts to contact the ride manager for the information. If no reply has been received by November 30th from the ride manager, then the board can choose to take the ride off of the calendar and may replace it with another ride**

Motion approved. GOES TO GENERAL MEETING IN JANUARY.

- COMPETITIVE RULES

2. Management Requirements

H. There must be a minimum of one rest stop during each 25 miles or increments over 15 miles thereof. (For example a ride must be 40 miles or over in order to require two rest stops.) Horses may not travel more than 20 miles without a scheduled vet stop **if the ride is between 25 and 34 miles. A one day ride of 35 miles or more may have one loop that is a maximum of 25 miles.** All vet stops must be a minimum of 40 minutes long.

- Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Dianne. Discussion: Marty has a concern going 25 miles without water. Motion failed: 4/6

- LCD projector discussion
 - With the cost of renting these LCD projectors (\$250 for the convention) UMECRA should look into purchasing one. Joslyn made a motion to purchase an LCD projector, bulbs and case at a cap of \$700. Linda seconded the motion; motion passed. Jill will look into purchasing the equipment.
- Outstanding Service award- Rick Nelson
 - This award has been sponsored by AHDRA in the past; they also want to pick the recipient of the award. Rick told the AHDRA president that UMECRA would need to select the award since it is a UMECRA award. Rick said that when he was president of AHDRA, he nominated Art Pretz for the first award but it was UMECRA who approved the nomination. There is no determination in the past how this was done. Maxine said that since she has been doing awards, AHDRA has picked the recipient for this award. Motion passed 6/4- AHDRA picks the recipient.
- 2011 Ride schedule- moving of ride dates, new rides, etc.
 - Shelly passed out the tentative 2011 schedule with some changes.
 - Marty moved to accept tentative schedule, Joslyn seconded. Approved.
- Rider's Choice award- who will be in charge of this?
 - Theresa has only one nomination – would someone like to do this? Sarah Mower will coordinate this event. She will contact the NL editor with her contact information.
- Membership committee- updates:
 - Contacted the membership committee on how to improve membership. The committee wants to send a letter to novice riders to join UMECRA. For 2011, a form will be created with Marty's address to send form directly to her after each ride. Marty will contact the 2010 ride managers for the names and addresses of the novice riders.
 - 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.
- ICF committee- updates? Peggy Garner was not at the meeting to provide updates.
 - The silent auction at the convention will be managed by Peggy Pasillas
- Scholarship fund- Jill Feller
 - \$3070 is available for scholarships for the next year.
- Insurance- Jill Feller
 - Have not been informed of any changes for the next ride season but will provide more information at the convention meeting.
- Hall of Fame nominees: there was one nomination for Hall of Fame this year. The nomination was accepted
- Trail fund requested by Tony \$250 for trail work at Mathissen St. Park; Motion made by Wayne, seconded Julie. Motion passed.

- Appointment of: pointskeeper, webmaster, sanctioning coordinator and newsletter editor
 - Change the bylaws to match that in odd years all appointments will be replaced. Theresa will need to update the bylaws to reflect the change.
 - Introductions:
 - Jeanne Crispin was introduced as the tentative Sanctioning Coordinator. Appointed as SC.
 - Nicole Mauser-Storer is interested in the webmaster position. Appointed as webmaster.
 - Angie Mikkelson and Robyn Schandt both expressed an interest in pointskeeper. Robyn will be the new pointskeeper. A big thank you to Angie for her past experience.
 - Peggy Pasillas will remain as NL editor.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

Secretary/treasurer