

UMECRA Board Meeting UNAPPROVED Minutes – November 11, 2017

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call** The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by President Theresa Meyer. Also in attendance were board members Peggy Pasillas, Janette Sasena, Bill Suskey, Jon Wagner, Maxine Bernsdorf, Tony Troyer, Bonnie Mielke, Darlene Molitor, Dr. Wes Elford, Joslyn Seefeldt, Bruce Birr, and Nicole Mauser-Storer (10:28a). Guests present were Roberta Harms, Linda Jacobson, and Eleanor Tonsor (10:21a – 1:14p).
- 2. Review and approval of minutes from March, and Conference Call meeting in August**
March, and August conference call board meetings minutes were approved upon motions and seconds as follows: March – Maxine/Peggy, August – Peggy/Tony. August minutes need yet to be published in the December newsletter.
- 3. Treasurer's Report** Bruce handed out a Profit & Loss report for the year to date, and gave a verbal balance sheet report, which is to be published in the December newsletter. The report (PDF attached) was approved by motion of Wes and second by Max.
- 4. Old Business**
 - a. Standard Operating Procedures** SOP's still lacking were rider rep, director at large (Bill will write), points-keeper, website, and newsletter (Peggy will write). A committee of Wes, Jon, and Max was formed to obtain and pull all SOP's together into a cohesive document.
 - b. 2018 Sanctioning received to date** Joslyn presented a list of rides, of which 14 have requested sanctioning for 2018 so far.
Competitive score sheet The latest draft of the 'electronic format' of the sheet was presented along with a report from Wes on the committee's work. Discussion resulted in a few changes. The result was approval to take to the members at the convention by motion of Tony and second by Bruce.
 - c. Rule change proposals** Many potential rule changes were discussed, as follows (All motions and seconds were in order to bring the proposal to the point of it being a motion that could be debated and ultimately voted on):
 1. A proposal to waive UMECRA rider fees for riders from "non-UMECRA" states at UMECRA rides was made by Joslyn and seconded by Jon. [Rationale: It could mean more riders from non-primary UMECRA states, and/or cost savings to the primary states rides.] After discussion, this was unanimously defeated.
 2. A proposal to change the minimum age of a sponsor of a Junior in endurance, from 21 to 18, was made and seconded respectively by Bill and Max. [Rationale: This would agree with AERC's requirements, and because 18 is voting age.] This was approved by the board.
 3. A proposal to more clearly define the ride year and age for which one qualifies for being a Junior in endurance was made by Peggy and second by Bonnie to have the 14 – A wording to read as follows: "A junior is a rider who was under the age of 16 as of December 1st". This motion was passed. [Rationale: Agrees more with AERC wording and ride year, and satisfactorily agrees with UMECRA's ride season/year.]
 4. A proposal was made by Peggy and second by Bonnie to amend the Competitive Rules, section 2, Management Requirements, item C to read as follows: "*There shall also be a*

Junior Division. A junior is a rider who was under the age of 18 as of December 1st. Juniors generally must ride in the junior division (unless they and their parent/legal guardian have advised the UMECRA secretary/treasurer and the UMECRA points keeper in writing of their intent to ride as seniors before their first ride of that season.) Placing and completion awards should be furnished.” A sub-motion and second were made by Bill and Jon respectively for removing some of the language missing from the above result, as well as a sub-motion for additional strike language made by Tony and second by Bonnie, and both sub-motions passed. The overall motion passed unanimously.

5. In reference to the above Competitive-2-C, it was moved by Tony and second by Peggy to amend sub-item 2 (and approved motion/second of Jon/Max to add the words “...and points keeper...”, and a failure to approve the motion/second of Bonnie/Jos to strike the words “limited distance and/or endurance” from the list of acceptable ride types to account for the 500 miles) to ultimately read as follows: *“Riders in the Junior Division shall be accompanied by a sponsor 18 years of age or older. EXCEPTION: If they are between 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 and have notified the secretary/treasurer of their intention to ride as a senior and have this letter on file with UMECRA by which a parent/legal guardian consents to the request for unsponsored status. A copy of this letter should also accompany the junior to each ride.”* This resulting motion passed.
6. Again in reference to the above section Competitive-2-C, a motion by Bruce and second by Jon was approved to amend the language of sub-item 1 to read *“All riders under 18 years of age are required to wear helmets.”*
7. Regarding a section of rules under Endurance dealing with a ‘gate into a hold’ (sub-item 9), a motion was made to strike sub-item 9B, was made by Peggy and second by Joslyn. [Rationale: riders shouldn’t have to wait a minimum of 20 minutes at a vet check if it is early in the ride and extremely hot weather is happening or forecast.] The motion was defeated.
8. Regarding defining ‘event duration’, there was discussion but no motion. (This was referring to General Rules, 3. Veterinary Requirements A. Horses must be under veterinary supervision throughout the duration of the event.) The board's consensus being “duration of event” for this situation is defined as from vet-in to an hour after the finish.
9. A motion was made by Tony and second by Joslyn to delete UMECRA General Rules, rule N, regarding the paying of ride fees and posting of ride results. This motion passed.
- d. **Convention update – IL (’18)** Convention dates are January 26-28, 2018 at the Rockford, IL Hilton Garden Inn.
- e. **Convention update – MI (’19)** There was a very brief update about a possible convention activity similar to a murder mystery dinner, and the board thought that sounded fun and worth pursuing.

5. New Business

- a. **Use of PayPal and/or other for fee collection by UMECRA** Bill presented some info and costs on using some these, but aside from further investigation, no action was taken.

Bill is to submit a written summary for the December Newsletter so members understand that electronic payment options for small groups are very complicated.

- b. Timeline for Rider Rep vote** Three nominations received to date (Maxine Bernsdorf, Tracy Johnson, and Laura Savatsky). The nominations will appear in the December newsletter, and the board approved electronic only voting and only January 2-15.
- c. Membership notification (e-cards or other; Set Procedure)** Nicole and Bruce will work out the details of this, but member cards will generally only be mailed to those who do not provide an email address on their membership application. It might also be presented to members via US Postal Service ride book mailing on the address label.
- d. Name Newsletter Editor and Sanctioning Coordinator** Joslyn has accepted the job of Sanctioning Coordinator, and she was approved by motion/second of Tony/Peggy. Peggy wants to step down as Newsletter Editor, but with no one stepping forward yet to take on that job, she was approved to continue by motion/second of Tony/Jan.
- e. Increasing membership (Joslyn)** Joslyn brought forth some ideas that she and Eleanor discussed and will work towards member recruitment. Elinore and Joslyn will bring back more concrete steps and suggestions within roughly a month so a conference call can be scheduled in mid-December among the board to consider which plans to pursue.
- f. Bylaw glossary for delegates, alternate delegates, proxy, etc.** Theresa and Jon offered to work on this before our January meeting.
- g. Insurance – new vendor; How did it go?** Slight discussion, and Joslyn and Bruce agreed that she would forward him insurance needs after the November 30 deadline, and he would proceed to get quotes.
- h. Trail grant awards review** Bruce mentioned that two applications had been received (but he didn't bring them with him). A grant in the amount of \$300 was approved for Coon Valley (motion/second of Bill/Max), and South Kettle Moraine group was approved as well for \$300 upon motion/second of Janette/Joslyn.
- i. Streamline Endurance and LD rules in Rulebook** This topic was postponed.
- j. Webpage revisions – points, entry form, member form more prominent, etc.?**
Discussion was had, but no specific actions taken.
- k. Hall of Fame and Shining Light awards, if needed** No nominations received yet. Tony will check with Jen Allen to see if she will coordinate the Rider Choice Award nominations and ballots at the banquet.
- l. Other?** Several things were brought up:
 - 1. It was stated that future board meetings should have some agenda time for strategizing on issues
 - 2. Bruce presented a modified membership application form and asked for permission for the organization to use it. The new form has a place for "office use only", which would make it easier for him to keep track of memberships, payments, deposits, etc. The board agreed to the use of the new form.
 - 3. Bruce asked for input on an uncertain item from the March meeting (info given) and asked for and received some guidance on how much detail the board wanted in the minutes.

6. Next meeting, and Adjournment
adjourned at 2:53 pm CST.

Upon motion of Tony and second by Jon, the meeting

Respectfully,

/s/ Bruce A. Birr, Sec-Treas.