UMECRA Annual Meeting

Gladstone, MI

January 19th, 2019

Call to Order – the meeting was called to order by President Jon Wagner at 2:06 pm.

- **Meeting procedures:** Jon explained that he would like the meeting to proceed informally yet orderly to insure everyone had a chance to be heard. He asked that individuals wishing to speak, wait until they are recognized and to use the available microphones.
- **Roll Call of Rides/Quorum/Majorities:** Bruce called for Ride representation. Thirty (30) rides responded as being present with sixty-one (61) ride delegates, four (4) Rider Reps and one (1) Vet Rep for a total of sixty-six (66) voting delegates. Quorum was met with better than 40% of the rides present. Simple majority n= thirty-four (34), two-thirds majority n= forty-four (44).
- **Official vote counters:** Peggy Goberg and Ainsley Suskey were identified as the meetings official vote counters.

Approval of 2018 Annual Mtg. Minutes – the January 27th, 2018 Annual Meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Sec./Treas. Reports – Profit and Loss Comparisons (P&L) and copies of the Balance Sheet had been distributed in delegate packets for members to review. There being no additions/corrections to either the P&L statements or the Balance Sheet, they were approved by unanimous consent. (P&L and Balance Sheet are attached)

- **2019 Insurance:** costs are expected to be similar to last season. Bruce will be in contact with Ride Managers concerning insurance needs and will submit that information for appropriate quotes of cost. Bruce shared that he had been asked by the board to inquire about increasing coverage from $1 million to $3 million and possibly changing dates of coverage (i.e. policy period). He anticipates being able to share his findings with the BoD at the March board meeting.
- **Audit/Internal Peer Review:** The Internal Peer Review committee of Tony Troyer, (Chair), Dr. Elford, Maxine Bernsdorf, Sandra Wright and Ken Meyer reported the results of their peer review to the general assembly. The committee noted that a few receipts were missing and that Bruce would follow up by locating those receipts by the March Board of Directors meeting. The committees report was approved upon motion of Tony, second by Roberta Harms.
- **Membership Report:** the membership report (included in delegate packets) was briefly discussed and it was noted that there was an increase in total memberships of +41 new members.

2019 Ride Schedule – copies of the ride schedule were also included in the delegates packet. Sanctioning Coordinator Joslyn Seefeldt recorded the few corrections noted and will make the necessary changes. The 2019 ride schedule was approved as amended by motion of Linda Mower, seconded by Tony Troyer. The updated schedule will be subsequently posted to the UMECRA web-site. It was also noted that ***ride flyers are due by February 1st.***

Old Business – Nicole reported that the Promotions Committee has been working on procuring an online store featuring the UMECRA logo. Look for more information about this in the near future.

- **Comp Score Sheet:** Dr. Elford briefly described the addition of the "zero points" line to the sheet and offered to meet with anyone after the meeting to discuss any other items concerning the score sheet. The addition of the zero points line was approved by unanimous consent.
- **ICF Annual Report:** Bill Suskey gave a brief overview of the International Competitive Fund and reported its balance as: $6806.25 as of December 31st, 2018.
- **Motion to approve the addition of Bylaw Definitions as Appendix B, page 11 to the bylaws –** Jon provided some background on the development of the proposed addition of the definitions (to help clarify terms/language used in our bylaws) and a motion to approve the addition of the definitions as Appendix B, page 11 was made by Peggy Pasillas, seconded by Lynda Zimmerman. Motion was **approved** unanimously. (Appendix B attached)
- **Motion to approve changes to Article IV, Sec. 5 –** this proposed Bylaw change as brought forward by the Bylaws Committee: (words inserted/added are **underlined**; words removed are ~~**struck out**~~) "*Article IV, Sec. 5, President, sub section (d) To be eligible to be elected, a nominee for President: ~~must be present and a delegate to the meeting at which the election is held,~~ must be; 1) A current UMECRA Ride Manager or former Ride Manager; 2) Who has been a UMECRA Ride Manager during at least three (3) seasons in the past five (5) seasons, or who has been a Delegate in the preceding two (2) years".* A motion to approve these changes was made by Tony Troyer, seconded by Dr. Elford and was concurrently **approved** by a unanimous vote (prior notice of both proposed bylaw changes had been posted in the UMECRA newsletter).

New Business – the Rules Committee brought forward the following rule change proposals:

- **General Rule 5 Awards - C:** to remove item **C;** "*Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. [IE: 1st, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc.]"* from General Rule 5 and place it in the Competitive Rules section under Rule 2 – Management Requirements -H. **And add** the following language to this item for clarity; "*Points to be awarded will be that of the placing. [IE: If two riders tie for first place in a 25-mile ride, the points awarded, 11 will be given to each first-place rider. No rider would receive second place points.]"* Bruce Birr motioned to approve said changes. Motion was seconded by Dr. Elford. Motion was **approved unanimously.**
- **Endurance Rule 12 Ties**: to rewrite the current language to help clarify the rule concerning ties occurring in Endurance rides, and to distinguish it from the Competitive rule concerning ties, and without changing the current practice of the rule. The current wording of Rule 12 is: *In the case of ties, the points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of people who tied.* (* note: this rule is underlined to denote that it is stricter than or different from AERC rules). **Proposed changes:** *Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted, (IE: 1st, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc.) Points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of riders who tied. (IE: if two riders tie for first place in a 50-mile event, the points awarded, 22+20=42. 42/2=21, 21 points will be awarded to each first-place rider.)* Tony Troyer motioned that proposed

changes to Endurance rule 12 be approved, second by Tracy Johnson. Motion was **approved unanimously.**

- **Endurance Rule 9 – item B:** the proposed change to Endurance Rule 9 was the elimination of item B of the rule which states: "*Horses passing the P/R parameters shall remain at the check area for the time specified, but a minimum of 20 minutes.* (underlined to show difference from AERC rules) The BoD, at its morning meeting, decided to withdraw this agenda item from the general meeting agenda and send it back to the Rules Committee for further review/study. There were no comments/questions from the general assembly and the proposal will return to the rules committee.
- **AERC Rule L4.1:** Jon reminded RM's of the change to the Limited Distance rule allowing a rider to use the entire ride time to complete the ride, and have an additional 30 minutes to meet completion criteria including pulse recovery. **This rule takes effect for the 2019 ride season.**
- **New Business from the Floor: 1)** A member asked for a clarification about rules pertaining to Juniors and their Sponsors, asking specifically if it was permissible for a Sponsor to allow the Junior to change sponsors on trail because the sponsor felt they were holding the junior back by going slower than the junior. Jon indicated that this specific action is not permissible per AERC/UMECRA rules. Additional scenarios were discussed and comments/suggestions were shared and discussed. Jon summarized the discussion by stating that there are specific AERC rules governing the Junior/Sponsor relationship and that both UMECRA RM's and members should become familiar with them to avoid any problems/issues**. 2)** Lisa Doctor, UMECRA member, introduced herself and shared with the group that she is the Trails Grant Liaison for AERC. She invited members wanting information about trail grants/trail advocacy to contact her.

Elections – elections were held as follows:

- **Vice President:** Tony Troyer, nominated by Barb Gardner, seconded by Ruth Casserly. There were no other nominations. **Tony** was approved as **Vice President**.
- **Sec./Treas.:** Bruce Birr, nominated by Linda Hamrick, seconded by Peggy Pasillas. No other nominations were received, **Bruce** was approved as **Sec. Treas**.
- **Ill**. **Representative:** Nicole Mauser-Storer nominated by Roberta Harms, seconded by Linda Mower. There were no other nominations from the floor, **Nicole** was approved as the **Ill. Rep.**
- **Mi Representative**: Sandra Wright was nominated by Lisa Germann, seconded by Diane Maxey. There being no other nominations **Sandra** was approved as the **Mi. Rep.**
- **Two At-Large Representatives**: Barb Gardner was nominated by Katie Bachhuber, seconded by Roberta Harms, Peggy Pasillas nominated by Jan Sasena, seconded by Lynda Zimmerman and Bill Suskey nominated by Samantha Donath, seconded by Dr. Rae Birr. **Peggy and Bill** were elected as the two **At-Large Reps**.
- **Announcements –** 2020 Convention to be held on the weekend of January 17-19@ the Holiday Inn of Stevens Point, Wi. Kim Fosler is the Chair of the Convention Committee.

Adjournment – Katie Bachhuber moved to adjourn at 3:43 pm., seconded by Tracy Johnson. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Bruce Birr,

UMECRA Sec./Treas.