

MINUTES
USIHC BOD MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2006

Members Present – Andrea Barber, Caryn Cantella, Sara Conklin, Betsy Covert, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaertner, Judy Strehler, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Representatives from Regional Clubs

Dawn Shaw – The Cascade Club

Doug Smith – Northern California Icelandic Horse Club

Barb Riva – The Flugnir Club

USIHC Office – Sophie had decided to discontinue her services as the keeper of the congress office with the closing of Anne's law practice. The new congress office will be at the residence of Bernie Willis. He will be in charge of the congress e mail, phone and fax.

Handbook – The annual handbook or directory of the congress for 2006 will include policies of note up to the time of publication. The new policy *Requirements for Proposals* will be included.

Annual Meeting – Various proposed agenda items will be addressed by board members familiar with the area of concern. The congress booth will be on display. Regional Clubs are encouraged to display their last year's events through pictures. Committee reports and agenda items are expected to fill the day. Friday evening the Texas Tolters are providing a demo at 7PM at a nearby farm. Board members with oldies but goodies video of past riding are encouraged to share them with Sara for a presentation.

Vice President – Earlier this month Rich Moore brought to our attention that we were out of step with our constitution for not having a vice president. It was an oversight on our part in not including these duties for Judy Strehler as she is the replacement for Anita Sepko. Judy is the vice president.

Riding Badge Program – This program is approved with the following corrections: 1. Redo the intro to reflect that the students pay for the services of the examiner. 2. The USIHC reserves the right to approve examiners. 3. Change incorrect entries as noted by Caryn.

Requirements for Proposals – The methods of seeking changes in congress procedures as conceptualized by Ed and edited by Anne is approved. It will become part of the Handbook for 2006 and go up on the website ASAP.

Website – Andrea is now the official website monitor.

Quarterly – With Sara’s resignation effective at the next Annual Meeting, Judy Strehler will become the chairperson of the Quarterly Committee. She will be in charge of its editing and publication. Sara will outline the procedures and work with her for the next issue at least.

Youth – Sandie reports that there have been no entries so far for the Spaejari award. Youth Cup entry deadline is Feb. 28th. Seven youth are expected to try out.

The meeting concluded about 10:30 Easter time.

Respectfully submitted by Bernie Willis, Recording Secretary

**USIHC Board Meeting
Minutes of Nov. 21, 2006**

Regional Club Observers: Dawn Shaw (Cascade)

Members present:

Andrea Barber, Betsy Covert, Caryn Cantella, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaertner, Barb Riva, Judy Strehler, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Committee/Area Reports

Treasury – Ed reports a Sept. balance of \$20,640. The Oct. balance is \$20,008. After the checkbook was balanced checks were written for a total of \$3,847.59. There is one outstanding bill to Turley publications, New England publisher of the Equine Journal for \$350. This bill will be paid but Barb will make contact with them at 800 824-6548 to determine if we are getting our money's worth with this publication.

Non-profit status update

Ed received a call from IRS which indicated that we are not eligible for the original non profit status we requested but that we are eligible to 501c4. A letter has been sent to the accountant for correction. The issue of investing the funds in the registry account has been brought up again with the accountant.

Pleasure Riding – Ed

Board member spotlights approved via e-mail

The board approved to have each board member spotlighted in the member spotlight section of the website. This was an idea that Amy and Andrea came up with so that everybody could get more familiar with the members of the board.

Amy's Regional Prize proposal:

I have a question and proposal for the Board, regarding the PRP for Regional prizes.

At the Annual Meeting last March, it was decided that we should determine the regional club winner by calculating the club with the highest percentage of its members enrolled in the PRP by counting only the USIHC members of that club, not the entire membership. So, for example, if the club had 30 members, but only 20 are USIHC members, and 10 of those are in the PRP,

we would determine that 50% of the club's USIHC members are enrolled in the PRP.

My question is: do we then give prizes only to that club's members who are enrolled in the PRP, or to all of the USIHC members in that club (whether they are PRP members or not)?

My proposal is that, each year, we award a gift to be shared by the entire club (such as a food basket) and also a small gift for each club member, such as Icelandic horse key chains or lapel pins. Andrea mentioned that the USIHC recently received some flags from FEIF, and that perhaps we could use one of those for the gift to be shared by the entire club.

Thanks,

Amy

Caryn moved that gifts etc. should only go to members of the program who are members of the congress because the funds for this come from the congress. Prizes should go to the individual members who are participants in the program only. The group gift was the Feif flag which has been sent.

Seconded by Andrea

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Registry – Caryn

The current balance is \$61,656.53. There has been a lot of early renewals so far this year. All micro chip and freeze brands have been entered into WF and our data base. Breeding certificates were ready but an error was discovered in the handler of one horse. That is now corrected so certificates will go out soon. Caryn also reports that the scores from the Tulsa evaluation are now entered in WF.

Martina has requested a special list for sending out ballot information to voting members instead of family memberships. It will take some time to get this from the master list but it will be good to have it for future use.

WorldFengur for all

Andrea asked if we are set up to go on this. Caryn has asked WF and received an e-mail on how to prepare the information but so far its not been done.

WorldFengur issues - Caryn, Bernie and Anne were discussing a guide for entry of information in to WF at evaluations. Caryn will develop this over the Winter. The project is to be finished before the next evaluation scheduled for June 2007.

Promotion - Barb

Barb has accepted the chair position of the promotion committee. She would like a representative from each RC to give input for promotion. Andrea will send a notice to the regional clubs.

Trail Rider ad

Kimberly Douglas put together two ads for the publication. Barb indicated that a column in the Quarterly about how individuals promote the horse will begin in the March issue. She will wait until the year end to come up with a budget for promotion. She will also work on the USIHC brochure.

Plan for FEIF flags approved via e-mail.

One flag goes to the winning club of the PRP program, one to Sara for inclusion with the promotion booth material. Barb will take the third flag for RC use for displays. Andrea has sent the first two flags out and will send the third to Barb.

Website

Mark Peal is the new chairman of the website committee. So far he hasn't had direct contact with Doug Smith on the tracking project but has been working with Asta on web updates

Andrea addressed the cluttered look of the website bulletin board.
Ed moved to clean up the bulletin board every two months.
Seconded by Bernie.

Vote, Yes - unanimous

Proposal tracking project

According to Caryn, Doug is waiting for board approval before making more corrections

Caryn moved that we approve the tracking procedure with on going developmental changes. Caryn said she would follow up with Doug and Mark on this.

Seconded by Andrea,

Vote, Yes - Unanimous

Newsletter – Judy

Things are going fine except for a computer crash at the print shop. The magazines are out now. The deadline for the March issue is Dec. 1st.

Education – Bernie

Bernie acknowledged that there are contradictions in the currency requirements for the Sport Judging Program and that the education committee met in Kentucky this past weekend and is considering changes that will make it mandatory to practice judge at a sanctioned show and a large European show each of the two calendar years after taking the Sport Judge Seminar. In addition there may be requirements to scribe, judge a non sanctioned show, attend the seminar or work as a show secretary within two years following the seminar. If these requirements are not met the Intern judge may be required to attend the seminar and retake the test to remain part of the program.

Secretary – Bernie

Bernie will find out what it cost to get more brochures from Iceland.

Regional Clubs – Andrea

Andrea has one renewal so far and an inquiry about restarting a club in PA.

Insurance for all

Bernie reports that two of the five companies have responded and that they can write insurance in only a few states. Anne suggested that FOSH, Friends Of the Sound Horse, may be a good organization to deal with as they provide low cost insurance for the show in Dillsburg. She will provide contact information.

Breeding – Anne

Dawn Shaw has questions about the FEIF fees. Anne did get a message from Per Finn and learned:

1. The fee is only for fully evaluated horses.
2. The fee is 15 Euros or about \$20.00
3. The congress will be billed at the end of the year by FEIF.
4. The fee is due no matter who entered the data in WF.

Anne moved that the congress charge a \$20.00 fee per horse that is fully evaluated at a breeding evaluation so that when FEIF bills the congress at the end of the year funds will be on hand to pay the bill.

Seconded by Bernie

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Boise Evaluation – Based upon the above decision Ed can now bill the Cascade club for the FEIF charges at the Boise Evaluation.

Anne also will contact FEIF about an refund of fees from the Wisconsin evaluation based on the fact that it was not an International Evaluation.

New FEIF requirements/Breeding Evaluation Handbook

Anne will finish the outline of the requirements and send it to Steve Barber to review the appeal procedures and calibrating information with Systs in Iceland. This is the last item to be included in the Breeding Evaluation Handbook. She plans to have this finished by Dec. 7, 2006.

Youth – Sandie

- General update no update

Independent Panel update – Eileen Gunipero has received a response from John Parke and they plan to work on the Friday or Saturday after Thanksgiving. They created the due date of mid Jan. They will figure out how to meet it. Sandie is reminded to contact the panel if she has any body she wants the panel to interview.

Competition – Betsy (from Heidi Kline)

There has been an e-mail discussion about combing the WC tryouts with a sanctioned show.

Vote - No, Unanimous, The board members felt that this would be difficult to accommodate due to scheduling (some try-outs locations are mid-week), the USIHC may lose money that it would otherwise gain to cover the costs of the try-outs, and that a show may overshadow the importance of the tryouts.

Kentucky show issues

A horse owner made a complaint that her horse should received scores yet the judges declared it to be lame from injury after the fact and placed her horse in last place.

Ed moved that we support the judges decision

Seconded by Bernie

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

WC try-outs proposal

1. I propose that the tryouts for the World Championships 2007 be set up to benefit 3 groups of riders;

A. Riders wanting to ride on the US team for 2007

B. Riders having an interest in scores only for this tryout but the possibility of being on the US team in the future

C. Riders unsure about riding at the WC but want to get scores in WC classes and input from this qualified judge 2. I propose that the classes are only 4-gait, 5-gait, tolt 1, tolt 2 and pace race (easier to man than pace test) 3. I propose that we also take advantage of having a FEIF training judge here for tryouts and have some teaching and judging time for our intern judges.

Betsy moved we accept this proposal.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Bulk ticket purchases for WC

The tickets must be pre-purchased. It is too early for people to commit so the congress could be left holding tickets for a large number of unused seats.

Ed moved we don't buy bulk tickets.

Vote - No, Unanimous

General Items

Election Committee (Andrea)

The notice of elections and membership renewal is in the mail. The printing costs were approved by e-mail.

Committee Chairperson Proposal

Barb has presented a proposal for the smooth change and review of committee chairpersons. This proposal will be discussed at the January meeting.

Agenda Items

Andrea moved that all agenda items be submitted by the Friday before Tuesday meetings. Seconded by Bernie

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Next board meeting date set for: Dec. 19, 2006

Meeting Adjourned at 11 PM EST

Minutes USIHC BOD Meeting May 3, 2006

Members in attendance: Andrea Barber, Caryn Cantella, Betsy Covert, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaertner, Barb Riva, Judy Strehler, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Visitors: Dawn Shaw - Cascade Club
Annette Coulon - Northern California Club

Letterhead - Discussed and decided via the board e-mail list. Approved. Martina designed it in a format so it can be kept on everyone's computer and used as a template. Andrea asked if everybody had received it. Anne did not. Andrea will send it to her.

Junior membership charge - Discussed and decided via the board e-mail list. Contained in the constitution, but not in practice. Decision to put it into practice and set the fee at \$35.00 – approved and posted on the website (Asta changed the membership form).

Schooling Show Handbook – Discussed and decided via the board e-mail list. Had the consensus of both the Education and Sport committees. Approved by board. Bernie will send to Barb for website.

Youth Cup Jackets – Three companies interested; Topreiter, Iceline, and a third company. Goertz George knows there are 6 riders. Warning by Sandie, if new tack is donated, it shouldn't be used on borrowed horses. A suggestion was made by Barb Riva that the Board limit sponsorship to items that don't go on the horse such as clothing, hats, whips, etc. Susan Peters had offered to donate jackets, but will wait now since Goertz George is working on a sponsorship.

Judge Training program - Will be discussed via the board e-mail list. Project to be finished by end of first week of June

Badge Order – Education committee says Badge program is ready to go and badges need to be ordered. Andrea will poll the RC for additional orders, then Bernie will place the order through Will Covert . Funds to come from Registry.

World Fengur for everyone – Caryn negotiating with Jon Larange. Plan to start next year. Tabled for now awaiting for response from Iceland.

Membership Directory – When is the cut off? Publishing it around election time will create problems if not complete. Directory usually put out at the end of the year. Barb Riva, shouldn't membership list be only those who are eligible to vote. Anne Elwell we need to clean up the constitution on this before that will work. For now the membership list should not be related to the ballots. Those who join on Oct. 19 or later in the year have their membership rolled over to next year. Decision – Membership booklet will be members from Jan. 1 through Oct. 19 of a given year. To be published and sent out with last Quarterly of the year. Andrea will contact Sara as Sara indicated she was still willing to work on this.

Sport Rules – Discussed and decided via the board e-mail list. Full discussion from Sport committee submitted to the board. Approved by board.

Asta Covert has volunteered to keep track of rider class eligibility and scores.

Judge lodging – Reaffirmed policy that judges may stay in private homes if the host is not competing. This applies to both sport competition and breeding evaluations. This policy is to be added to the application for sanctioned shows, the master list of policies and on website on appropriate pages.

Youth Cup Horse Selection Policy – Discussed and via the board e-mail list. Rich made minor corrections over what seems to be a final draft, Sandie to review and present to BOD via internet. Vote will be taken over the internet.

Brochure wording – Discussed and via the board e-mail list. Still under revision. Regional Club reps Dawn Shaw and Rich Moore also submitted changes. Anne Elwell will print out and show to individuals of the general public for response, correct if necessary and send to BOD for final approval.

Evaluation Rules – Discussion began via the board e-mail list. FEIF has made significant changes that we need to address immediately. National breeding shows will no longer be able to be entered into WF. International breeding evaluations will be able to be entered but they have many additional requirements. International shows also require three judges instead of two. Anne contact Pa Finn and he did wave that requirement for the US. The new requirements include the x-raying of stallions for spavin, DNA parental verification of stallions, and microchipping. Anne indicates judges can do the microchipping. Andrea asks where do they get the equipment for this? Caryn what about the X ray for Spavin, where will the central reviewing place be? What microchipping system will we use? X rays are costly, involve stallions only five years and older, Perhaps we could ask Pa Finn for some relief, extension or leniency, on the X rays. Anne will check with her vet about places for checking X rays. Andrea mentions that Cornell may be a possibility. What ever we have to do to get scores in WF we will do. Anne to call Finn tomorrow.

Caryn, Brian Putin asked about bill for evaluations. Anne to make sure fees were charged for international shows only. Perhaps we are due a refund since our shows have been national. Anne will ask Per Finn tomorrow.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM Eastern time

Bernie Willis, secretary USIHC