



USIHC Board Meeting

December 9, 2025 Minutes

In Attendance: VL, EM, JM, SW, MS, CC, FR, LN

Report of Officers

President - Virginia Lauridsen

- FEIF Meeting and Delegates Assembly
 - Jan. 30 - Feb. 1, 2026, in Budapest, Hungary
 - US allowed 2 delegates in delegate meeting January 27 - Jeff Rose, Melinda Studstill, Janet Mulder (if available).
- Financial Reimbursement Policy -
 - **4. Reimbursement of Travel and Related Expenses PROPOSAL:**
 - The Congress will pay the basic FEIF Conference fee for any Board member or Committee Chair who is an active member and attends the full conference on behalf of the USIHC. Decisions to amend this policy will be made on a case-by-case basis.
 - Each USIHC representative to the annual FEIF Conference shall be eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses up to an amount of \$1200.00. The representatives shall be selected/approved by the Board of Directors in advance of the conference and be responsible for attending their assigned meetings at the FEIF Conferences in accordance with FEIF Statutes 5.1.1 and 5.1.2.
 - Reimbursement for travel expenses will occur after the voting delegates have attended the FEIF Conference and have submitted all receipts to the USIHC Treasurer. Representatives shall be financially responsible in making their travel arrangements.

Article IV - Voting and Elections

Section 1: Only adult members of record as of two weeks before the notice of election are eligible to vote in the upcoming election. Voting for elections will be accomplished by secret ballot. Ballots will be provided with instructions subsequent to the Notice of Election.

- All issues at a General Meeting will be voted upon by the members in attendance at the Meeting.

- Section 2: The President of the USIHC shall appoint the members of an election committee no later than June 15th. The committee shall have no less than three members and no more than seven, all of whom shall be members in good standing with the USIHC. Members of the Board of Directors and candidates for election, as well as members of their immediate family, may not serve on the election committee. The election committee shall
 - (a) Select its own chairperson.
 - (b) Notify the membership of elections by September 1st.
 - (c) Accept nominations until October 1st.
 - (d) Oversee the preparation of an anonymous, electronic ballot to be delivered to the membership by October 15th.
 - (e) Oversee the electronic collection of responses and tabulation of votes cast until **November 1st**.
 - (f) Announce election results by **November 15th**.
 - **New Directors shall attend the December BOD Meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month)** and will take office on January 1st, following the election. **Officers of the Board of Directors shall be elected at the December meeting by the Board of Directors.**
- Section 3: If by October 1st there are three or fewer nominations, the nominees shall be considered accepted by the Membership and there will be no need to prepare ballots for an election. The nominees shall take office on January 1st.

The above amendments for Voting & Elections voted on by BOD through email, passed unanimously.

- Proposal to have in person meeting for BOD/annual meeting biannually. Proposal coming for Louisville, KY February 2027.
- Discussion on the position of President, should there be term limits or easier way to transition a new President into the role. More discussion needed before any proposals voted on.

Vice President - Jeff Rose

Secretary - Janet Mulder

- 861 Members, 188 Family Subscriptions (down 2 members, 5 family subscription)

Treasurer - Shelby Walker

- Financials -  November Financials-2025-12-08.pdf

Motion to approve October Financials by JR, second CC, voted all in favor.

Report of Committees

Affiliated Clubs - Jeff Rose

- Renewals from: CIA, Sirius, Hestafolk, Toppur, Alaska, NEIHC, and Klettafjala. Waiting from: Cascade, FIRRC, Flugnir, Freisly, NWIHC, and Saint Skutla.
- Klettafjalla has applied for Policy 31 Funds for the September clinic at Tamangur. 17 qualifying participants.

Breeding Committee - Virginia Lauridsen

- No updates this month.

Education Committee - Caeli Cavanaugh

- Editing the education documents
- Trainer of the Year Nominations (FEIF limiting to trainers under age 30)

Leisure Committee - Melinda Studstill

- I have also met with Paul Delb who will be working with me on the S2SS route next year commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Great American Horse Race of 1976.

Sport Committee - Asta Covert

- The virtual show is now complete and the results have been posted on the website and Icetest. Mackenzie will make a post about it on social media and members can view the videos of all the participants. We did not have many entries again this year and if it wasn't for the FEIF Youth Cup tryout I am not sure how many horse and rider combinations we would have had so maybe it's time to do this once a year or only when we have tryouts attached to the show. We had a total of 26 horse and rider combinations and 9 of them were Youth Cup tryout horse and rider combinations.
- Discussion of virtual shows, the BOD would like to continue to offer these as we find a value to the membership, especially those who live far away from organized shows or have very few per year.

Youth Committee - Lucy Nold

- The results from the Fall Virtual Show are posted and therefore we have the rankings for the FEIF Youth Cup Tryout as well. I have gone through the applications and reference letters and scored them as well and they are consistent with the scores from the tryouts. If you all approve, I will send emails to the kids and ask Mackenzie to post the results. FEIF gives us 3 spots initially and we can request more but those spots are usually not granted until April or May so the remaining riders will be reserve riders until we confirm additional spots.
 1. Finja Meyer Hoyt V1: 5.93 T1: 6.33 Average: 6.13
 2. Liesl Kolbe V1: 5.93 T1: 6.23 Average: 6.08
 3. Evelyn Kaufman V1: 5.73 T1: 5.37 Average: 5.55
 4. Abby Cruiser V1: 5.80 T1: 5.20 Average: 5.5
 5. Laura Shalhoub V1: 5.17 T1: 4.5 Average: 4.83
 6. Amelia Wappett V1: 5.03 T1: 4.5 Average: 4.76
- So far I have received one application for country leader. Those applications are due December 15th. If you know anyone who is interested in being a team leader or country leader please have them reach out to me or fill out the application that's on the website youth page.
- North American Youth Cup for 2027, would like location and date determined so applications/plans being made. There are extensive needs for the facility and to have 18-20 suitable horses available in the area. This is a big ask from the community and we hope to make it happen on a continuing biannual basis.

Promotion and Website - Ebba Meehan

- Equine Affair went well, 31k people were on the grounds over the 4 days, I think USIHC should have a booth

Quarterly Report - Nancy Brown

- Issue Four 2025 of the Quarterly has been mailed and the e-Quarterly is posted on the website. We printed 625 copies of this issue; there are 10-15 extra copies available as replacement copies or for promotional purposes.
- We are now open for submissions for Issue One 2026, to be mailed in March. Board members and committee chairs, please send us any news, photos, meeting minutes, announcements, or advertisements that you would like to share with the membership. Remember that ads for USIHC-sponsored events are free, space permitting.

- The deadline for submissions for Issue One 2026 (mailed in March) is January 1. Please send all submissions to quarterly@icelandics.org.

Old Business

- Membership Meeting [Membership Drive Committee Minutes.docx](#)
 - VL proposes we go ahead with membership drive March 15 - May 15.
JM Seconds, all in favor.
- Annual Meeting
- Social Media/Cyber Policy
- Financial Audit

New Business

- Committee Structure
- Page in the Quarterly to honor Rakshys family. - CC & VL will coordinate with the Quarterly committee.
- BOD officers for 2026: Virginia Lauridsen - President & Breeding Committee, Jeff Rose - Vice President & Affiliated Clubs, Janet Mulder - Secretary, Shelby Walker - Treasurer, Caeli Cavanaugh - Education, Asta Covert - Sport, Lucy Nold - Youth, Melinda Studstill - Leisure, Ebba Meehan - Promotion & Website.

Next Meeting: January 13, 2026 2000EST