

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
EQUINE DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION  
Conference Call November 16, 2017

Pursuant to notice, the quarterly meeting of Equine Distance Riding Association was held via conference call on November 16, 2017 at 6:04 pm PDT. Board members present were Lois Fox, Kathleen Ferguson, Julie Barnfather, Susan Summers, Mackenzie Pierce, and Julie James, being the directors. Appointed member Sandy Cheek, Secretary was also present. Membership quorum achieved. Absent were Lori Bewza and Kathleen Pillo. Call to Order: Kathleen Ferguson, President

**Reports**

**Secretary's Report:** (Sandy Cheek)

The minutes from the September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 were sent to the BOD prior to meeting. Small correction was made regarding the Steward qualifications. With change, it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Julie James)

- Endorsement income vs insurance costs: EDRA has \$1,750 in endorsements and spent \$1,195 on insurance. So we are \$555 up in that category. This suggests that our \$250 endorsement fee is sufficient at present.
- Trailer status: A used trailer for a very good price was found and purchased with the email approval of Board members, but the purchase did not go to a full formal vote of the Board. *Moved, seconded and approved that the BOD ratify the decision/action to purchase the used horse trailer for use at rides as an ambulance and equipment transport.* Kathleen Ferguson stated that an inventory list needs to be created and maintained to be housed inside the trailer so supplies don't disappear. The list should be posted on the RM page. Sue Summers and Julie James volunteered get the list completed before the first ride in the spring. Repairs needed on the trailer: Tires, bearings packed and brakes examined; hitch and ramp replaced, roof vent repaired. *Moved, seconded and approved to fund up to \$1500 to get most essential safety work done to make trailer usable.* Terry James will get estimates on other more cosmetic items.
- Raffle: A discussion of the raffle ensued. First prize: a trip to Scottsdale to ride the Scottsdale 100 (any distance) complete with horse. Second prizes: private lesson from Celena Pentrack or Robin Ryner; or a gift certificate for a tack set (bridle and breast collar); or a complementary glue on shoeing at a mutually agreed upon location. First prize tickets \$20 a ticket; \$10 for second prizes. We need a group to put this together and address when the drawing occurs; how people purchase tickets; where and when to

begin selling, etc. It was agreed that we go out to the membership to recruit for this committee. Kathleen Ferguson volunteered to put a notice out on Facebook to solicit volunteers for this committee.

- EDRA logo: The new logo needed to be finished by a graphic artist. With email approval of board members, \$125 was given to a graphic artist to finish the logo. *It was moved, seconded and approved that the BOD ratify the decision to pay a graphic artist for finish work on the EDRA logo.*
- PNER Convention: *It was moved, seconded and approved that EDRA donate sufficient water bottles (est. 200-250) so that each registrant at the convention receives a bottle in their goodie bag* We will again have an EDRA booth at the Trade Show. Kathleen Pillo is donating 150 mugs to the EDRA booth. The logo and calendar will be featured on the mugs. Kathleen Ferguson indicated a committee needs to be formed to manage the details of the booth. Kathleen Ferguson will contact Dani Gregoire to see if she might be interested in forming a committee.
- PNER handbook ad: *Moved, seconded and approved that EDRA purchase a full page ad in the 2018 PNER handbook.* Sandy Cheek and Julie James will work together to reserve a booth and get a full page ad.
- Membership 2018: Stripe fees will be added to any 2018 online membership applications. This works out to 2.9% so adults \$77.50; spouses \$26; youth \$10.50. *Moved, seconded and approved to pass Stripe fees on to members who register online.*
- Lori Bewza, Board member from BC, incurred \$50 of cell phone charges at the last meeting. *Moved, seconded and approved that Julie James request bill from Lori and pay accordingly.*

### **Drug Testing (Kathleen Ferguson)**

The drug testing program was successful this ride season. Horses were tested at 3 rides and no positive results were found. However, due to the important role of the Steward in the drug testing procedures, Kate proposed that she work with Gail Williams, Julie Barnfather, Tom Dean and one of the vets to develop Steward training for drug testing. No motion was made.

### **Education Program (Kathleen Ferguson)**

The Education program is in need of a chairperson. All the other committees are up and running but Education has not moved forward. Sue Summers indicated that she is working with Robin Burns who is happy to post articles on the website. It was suggested that we need a chairperson to oversee her work and grown the reach of the Education program to include organizing clinics for each ride, etc. The membership will be reviewed for 2018 to see if anyone emerges as a potential Chairperson.

## Unfinished Business (Kathleen Ferguson)

- **ERABC Reciprocal Agreement: Background:** After our initial proposal, which was agreed upon by both parties, EDRA elected to formalize the proposal into the format of an actual agreement. At this point, ERABC revised the agreement and indicated they would only accept miles completed at EDRA rides for lifetime mileage, not awards or points in their club. Discussion ensued regarding options: a) opt out of agreement, b) do equivalent action for our US EDRA riders, or c) keep our end of the agreement with ERABC miles counting towards lifetime mileage and mileage awards for US riders. Sue Summers indicated that she had no communication from any BC riders (who were EDRA members) regarding completion of rides. She indicated that she expects riders to self-report when they finish a BC ride, or when a BC rider does a US EDRA ride. All agreed. Sandy will amend the draft agreement to reflect Option C and will present to the BOD and ERABC Presidents for signature.
- **AHA Communications: Background:** Sandy Cheek has been in contact with the Distance Committee and the Competitions Chairperson for AHA. In her latest correspondence, she reiterated the request that AHA grant full recognition of EDRA for all distance programs, including counting rides towards qualifying for the AHA Distance National Championships and being eligible to host same event. She submitted the letter written by Dr. Dick Root supporting EDRA rides and attesting their quality. The AHA meeting is on November 24<sup>th</sup> so we shall have a decision by then. Kathleen Ferguson stressed that if we are turned down this year, we persist and request again in subsequent years as our reputation and membership increases. Additional letters from vets, riders and breeders will be solicited to support our request.
- **Awards:** Lois Fox submitted a budget for awards with broad guidelines for estimated expenses for each award. These were based on the value of the award (how difficult to attain) and numbers of recipients. Kathleen will examine what awards will be offered this year and give Lois a total budget number for awards, with the understanding that awards would be purchased with this total in mind. No vote taken.
- **Ad on Endurance.net:** Jennifer Kaplan emailed that she had spoken with Steph Teeter about getting a banner ad (like what AERC has) on the endurance.net website. Steph did not want to do that but suggested we buy an ad on the website. After short discussion, it was concluded that this course of action would not be followed as most did not feel it was good use of EDRA funds. Julie Barnfather suggested that we look at developing a marketing plan to assist with future decisions of this nature. Kathleen Ferguson asked her to email her more details on this proposal. No vote taken.

## New Business (Kathleen Ferguson)

- Changes to Rules:
  - Language needs to be added to the rules regarding requirement that Best in Class and placings be awarded at rides. If vet determines no horses are eligible for BC, then no award. But must consider BC judging. Sandy will make revisions to rules.
  - Ride and Tie proposal: Ben Volk submitted a proposal that Ride and Tie miles completed at an EDRA event count towards equine's lifetime miles and mileage awards. Equine must be registered with EDRA. *Moved, seconded and approved that language be added to the rules to indicate eligibility of Ride and Tie miles for equines.*
  - Grace period: for 2017, a grace period of 3 months from the start of the first ride in the season was given whereby if someone joined in that 3 month period, they would be able to retroactively count their results towards awards and points. It was determined that this would not be offered in 2018. Riders must join prior to the first ride of the season in order for those rides to count. Sandy will revise the rules if necessary to make this clear. In 2018 we will accept retroactive miles but no points.
- FEI: Susan Summers asked if the BOD would be interested in working with FEI to have EDRA rides be considered as qualifiers for FEI 1\*, 2\* and 3\* rides. Basically, FEI riders would have to submit their documentation that they completed the EDRA ride within the 'set speed' that was required. All agreed this was worth pursuing and Sue will communicate with Carol Giles about next steps. No vote taken.
- Next BOD would be at the PNER convention on Thursday prior to convention. Kathleen stressed it was really important to have all BOD members present. Tentative agenda developed; hoping to have meeting at 1 pm and continue with dinner. No need to reserve a special room; we can use our own rooms as it will be a small gathering.

With no further items, *it was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn.* Meeting conclude at 8:10 pm.