

**MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
EQUINE DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION
Conference Call May 7, 2019**

Pursuant to notice, the quarterly meeting of Equine Distance Riding Association was held via conference call on May 7, 2019. At 7:05 pm PST President Terry James called the meeting to order. Directors present were Lois Fox, Julie Barnfather, Susan Summers, Georgia Glidden, Margie Thorngren and Sandy Cheek. Quorum was achieved. Treasurer Tiffany Buob was also in attendance. Guests were Brian Glidden, Sue McLain, Cortney Honan, and Carol Giles. Absent were Vice President Jo Weinstein, and Past President Kathleen Ferguson.

Secretary Report:

The minutes of the February 4th 2019 BOD meeting were sent electronically for review to the BOD prior to this meeting. Terry James asked for corrections to the minutes; none were offered. *Moved by Lois Fox and seconded by Sandy Cheek to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.*

New Business

2019 Goals for EDRA: The BOD was provided with an electronic copy of the goals for their review prior to this meeting. Motion to accept goals as written **carried**.

Terry James explained that the most time consuming and significant item on the agenda is the 2019 Rules Review. Because of the lengthy nature of this item, this topic would be addressed prior to committee reports and other items on the agenda. Sue McLain started by thanking the other members of the Rules Review Committee, Carol Giles and Sandy Cheek. She reminded the BOD that they had been provided with a memo summarizing the significant changes, as well as a redlined draft of the proposed rule changes in advance of this meeting. It was decided that the BOD would vote on each individual proposed change.

Rule 2: Addition of text "in the event of a course change due to safety concerns GPS submittals are required within one week after the event." Motion to accept proposed text **carried**.

Rule 3: No action taken. The TYM Relay committee will re-convene to determine language regarding eligibility for seasonal as well as lifetime awards. Sue Summers will report back to the executive on the results and the final draft will be presented which will include language in both the rules and the relevant Appendices as requested by the committee.

Rule 6: Addition of text "In the event the course is modified after the endorsement submittal a new submittal is required. Any course change that takes place the day before, or the day of the event, requires dialog and consensus between the Ride Manager and the Steward." Motion to accept proposed text **carried**.

Rule 9: Addition of text "...for a specific reason (documented in the Steward's Ride Report)...the rider completed the equivalent course, but not in the designated manner (i.e. Riding a loop backwards or riding loops out of sequence)." Discussion: Board suggested removal all text after the word "manner" in the interests of letting ride managers have the authority to determine what constitutes 'equivalent.' All other text as written. Motion to accept revision to proposed text **carried**.

Rule 13: Addition of text “Miles, completions and/or points are not accumulated retroactively.” Motion to accept proposed text **carried**.

Rule 14: Addition of text “Upon joining or renewing their EDRA membership, riders who declare a weight classification are eligible for year-end weight class awards.” Motion to accept proposed text **carried**.

Rule 15: Deletion of sentence “Youth riders with 1,000 miles of documented distance riding with an approved organization and written parental permission may petition to ride without an adult during the event.” Discussion: Sue McLain explained in permitting a youth to solo on a ride might go against SafeSport guidelines (youth could encounter an adult on the trail or at a vet check). Lois Fox felt this was overkill, and recommended leaving it in. Further changes were suggested: “That riders age 15-17 as of January 1 with 1000 documented miles with written parental permission may petition the Board to ride unsponsored for the year.” Motion to accept with revisions to proposed text **carried**.

Rule 16: This is a proposed new Rule: “Welfare of the Rider: EDRA is committed to the health and well-being of its athletes—rider safety is far more important than any competitive outcome. Riders are required to wear a helmet at all times when mounted at a ride site or on the course. Additionally, because head trauma may adversely affect decision-making, the Ride Manager and Steward have the authority to issue a Rider Option pull if they believe a rider may have sustained a concussion. The process to be used in making the decision is addressed in Appendix G Concussion Protocol. At the determination of the Ride Manager and Steward, a refund of ride entry may be awarded.” Motion to accept proposed text to Rule and Appendix **carried**.

Rule 18 f: Proposed text: Addition of a final sentence: “If a gait anomaly is suspected, the veterinarian may ask for further examination (e.g. that a horse may be trotted in hand in a circle.” Discussion: concern about perception of being “singled out” for more substantive exam, about unequal treatment of equines (if one circles they should all have to circle), and if we need to expressly state circling versus simply saying ‘more substantive examination.’ No conclusion. Terry James will convene a committee asking for input from both vets and riders. Motion to leave 18f as is **carried**.

Rule 19 b: Proposed text: “The treatment veterinarian must be within close proximity to ride camp (e.g. within 45 minutes) and must be dedicated to equines participating in the event (e.g., they may not be on-call to treat any local emergency).” Discussion: Lois Fox indicated that many rides do not have on-site treatment vets. Julie Barnfather expressed concern that if this is the case the Ride Managers should alert prospective attendees. Numerous suggestions about timing (perhaps only the day of the event, or provision of alternate plan, etc.) were forwarded. Sue McLain agreed to propose some other draft language and then this revision would be addressed through an email vote. The BOD agreed.

Rule 19 c: Proposed text: The addition of a final sentence “Ties are not recognized.” Motion to accept proposed text **carried**.

Rule 19 d: Addition of bullet regarding pull code options: “Rider Option (when the equine is deemed to exhibit “the ability to carry on” but the rider chooses not to continue in the competition.” Motion to accept additional proposed text **carried**.

Rule 21: Deletion of 3rd bullet: “An EDRA Service Champion of the Year will be awarded.” We have not given this award for the last two years. Motion to delete text **carried**.

This concluded the work of the Rules Committee. Sue McLain will provide the Board with a final version, including the relevant appendices, and in particular the text which is subject to email vote (Rule 19b).

Membership report:

Sue Summers reported that numbers are looking good. We are currently at approximately 150 members which is more than we had at this time last year.

Treasurer Report:

Tiffany Buob, Treasurer was unable to stay in the meeting but forwarded the following information:

Bank Balance \$30,631.52

Memorial fund current balance: \$4665.15 Original balance \$5120.15

Funds from Memorial sent to Grizzly-\$100, Owyhee No River-\$315, Eagle-\$40

Unfinished business:

Concussion protocols: Posters are being made for display at all ride events. See revised rules and Appendix.

SafeSport: Carol Giles reported that she has not yet had a chance to review what is being done in other regions. To date, we have recommended that interested individuals take the Safe Sport training available on line. She will have a report and proposal for review by the next Board meeting if not sooner.

Spot Trackers: Sue Summers did some research into the various trackers on the market. Most are beyond the financial scope of our organization.

Equipment trailer: inventory has been completed. No saddle racks or tubs have been purchased. Numbers have been placed on water tanks. No medical kit has been ordered.

Committee Reports:

Elections: Cortney Honan reported that she has found a company that will essentially run our election for \$30 (relative to size of voting population). She foresees we should be able have them send out the ballots, have them returned anonymously and counted, and inform us of the election results.

Education: Robin Burns was not able to attend but she sent a report that encouraged everyone to post pictures or send them to her for inclusion on Instagram.

Franchising: no report

Logbooks: Margie Thorngren presented the results of her research into forms of logbooks in use in other countries/locations. She will be working with the veterinarians and other board members to figure out how to encourage/education vets and riders to use these more effectively.

Mentoring: Lois Fox has set up an email list but feels like she has not gotten feedback yet from mentors regarding best way to communicate.

No report from Steward, Youth, or Service.

Missing members letters: Sue Summers will send Sandy Cheek the list of non-renewing members and Sandy will reach out to a sampling to get feedback as to why they are not renewing.

Motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Sandy Cheek moved, Sue Summers seconded. Motion **carried**.