

NATRC National BOD Minutes February 13, 2020, San Antonio, TX

CALL TO ORDER by President Angie Meroshnekoff, 8:01 a.m. February 13, 2020.

ROLL CALL. Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich, Bob Insko, Lory Walls, Bill Wingle, Laurie DiNatale, Gayle Muench, Alice Perryman, Esther Diaguila, Kris Gray, Sallie Kudra, Shari Parys and Marla Stucky. Sarah Rinne, Executive Director, via Zoom. Also attending: Patsy Conner, Sanction Chair, and Kim Cowart, Co-Chair Judges Committee.

WELCOME. Introductions for new board members.

MINUTES. November 9, 2019. **Motion by Dieterich, seconded by Gray to approve the minutes. Motion carried.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Meroshnekoff. Report filed. R1 voted to re-elect Jamie Dieterich to the board. **Walls made a motion to approve the appointment of Dieterich, DiNatale seconded. Motion carried.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT. Sarah Rinne. Report filed. Discussed website and renewal issues for members. Renewed Back Country Horsemen of American and the Equine Land Conservation Resource partnerships. Adjustments were made to awards with split of Competitive Pleasure into weight classes.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT. Muench. The original budget approved was not completely correct. Muench shared the errors in coding which reflected the expenses of 2019 less approximately \$4,000. Loss \$17,000 for 2019, projected loss for 2020 is \$35,000. Student loan discussion. Presently the repayment schedule and term are not included in the promissory note, which needs to be added. Wingle stated it should specify the period of years allowed for repayment. It was highlighted that several of the scholarships have paid off dividends as several of them have become veterinary judges in the sport. Discussion on Hoof Print expenses. Perryman stated she'd like to be able to save and print the electronic version so it can be shared and feels it shouldn't just be a member benefit. Parys stated it is better for sponsors if our Hoof Print is a public and shareable document. **Motion by Muench, seconded by Wingle to move the Hoof Print out of the members only section on the website. Motion carried.**

BY-LAWS & RULES. Parys.

Rule Proposal – Change limits from placings to points for competing in Novice. Shared adjustments to the language to clean up proposal. Walls referred to using the word “team” to stay consistent with other places in the rule book. It was questioned why “combination” was changed to “pair”. Wording changed back to combination.

Rule Proposal – Adding experienced class to Leisure Division. No changes to wording.

Rule Proposal – Change two-mile marker to forward motion point. No change to wording.

Rule Proposal – Allow lenience in Leisure Division time penalties at completion of ride. Parys questioned the consistency of the language around the definition of horse, rider and team. Language adjusted to read “horse and rider team arriving more than 30 minutes” as this covers all divisions including Leisure.

Rule Proposal – Allow evaluation of overnight stabling for Leisure Division. Discussion about when is stabling evaluation really warranted. Dieterich recommended leaving wording as is and discuss with Equisure again to make sure we are handling it correctly for our coverage.

Rule Proposal – Clarify expectations of Leisure Division placings versus ride announcements. Dieterich said Andrea Rogers is concerned about mixed messages in awarding of placing and points. Meroshnekoff suggested changing the language to read “all Leisure Division classes” as opposed to defining the classes to prevent future adjustments. Recommended that the points distribution be

discussed with the data team for new recommendations that make the most sense and it will be addressed via the next Zoom meeting.

Rule Proposal – Add out of region qualification to President’s Cup criteria. No changes to wording.

Rule Proposal – Recognize overall high point Novice on national level. No changes to wording.

Rule Proposal – Recognition of overall high point Competitive Pleasure Team. No changes to wording.

BYLAWS. Each region needs to look at their own bylaws to be consistent with the changes in the membership structure and dues payment in the national bylaws.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES. Dieterich. Dieterich requested to add a job description for the Sanction Chair. There are a lot of things the sanction chair does, and it is a comprehensive description. Meroshnekoff stated this really should be a two-person job, so we are looking for input. An apprentice or assistant. Wingle stated he is interested in assisting and being a backup. Rinne discussed the goal of succession planning for the organization, particularly these larger and time sensitive roles. **Motion by Wingle, seconded by DiNatale to add the Ride Sanction Chair job description to the Policy & Procedures. Motion carried.**

PROTEST. Lori Allen. Report filed. No protests.

PLANNED AND CHARITABLE GIVING. Muench/Elaine Swiss. Member donation has been received.

NATIONAL HISTORIAN. Conner. Helene Pritchard passed away just recently, and her family reached out to her to do a memorial write up. They are providing a lot of historical documents to the organization.

RIDE SANCTIONS. Conner. Conner emailed managers about the January 31 deadline for written notice of the ride date. Conner stated she doesn’t approve the sanction application until the application is put into Dropbox upon notification of payment. Agreed that the website should state “Pending” instead of “Confirmed”.

CLINIC SANCTIONS. Linda Clayton. Report filed.

MANAGEMENT. Swiss. Report filed. Discussion around Leisure Division inclusion with Type A rides. Wingle said it has been successful in R3, and the format has been desirable for new and experienced riders alike. There was discussion about how to bridge the gap between LeD and Novice Division. A suggestion was made to add a checkbox on the entry if it is their first non-LeD ride so we don’t lose someone in the shuffle. If they did a LeD ride they may not check the first time rider box when registering for a Novice Division ride. Parys shared how Nebraska rides are addressing this by having a LeD ride on Saturday and a B ride Novice on Sunday for riders who want to try more mileage. Meroshnekoff said LeD is a good way to encourage new ride management. R1 is developing a spreadsheet of potential ride locations to share to encourage a new ride manager to take on a ride at one of those locations.

RULES INTERPRETER. Wingle. Report filed. A new RI Report form has been drafted and ready for upload to the website upon review by the board. Walls asked about LeD and the RI role. The language as adjusted on the form about RI being required to attend all ride briefings to read “if feasible” for LeD. **Motion made by Parys to change the RI form as suggested, seconded by Stucky. Motion carried.** Discussion about the revised rule book and what needs to be in the printed version and what would be better online. Not everything is needed in the print version. Meroshnekoff stated it is just an awkward time while transitioning and adjusting the website to move parts of the rules online. **Consensus to remove scorecards from Rule Book.**

INSURANCE. Rinne. No updates.

SAFETY. Swiss. Report filed. We still need to look at ensuring we have qualified people as safety personnel at rides.

MARKETING. Gray. Report filed. Committee is trying to figure out the way to use the budget in the way that makes the most return on the investment. They want to allocate the funds in the best way possible. Gray stated they could use more help on the committee to do some of the leg work.

SOCIAL MEDIA. Jonni Jewell. The update was covered by the Marketing Committee. 10,359 likes on our page. This is almost doubled since last year. Now it is a matter of converting these followers to members and riders. Gray discussed the challenge with some folks because we are getting interest from people in areas where we don't currently have events.

BUSINESS MODEL & MEASUREMENTS. Muench. Covered in Budget and Marketing reports/discussions.

SPONSORSHIPS. Parys. Report filed. Parys inquired about the raffle ticket sales status. Still some outstanding unsold tickets. We need to decide if we want to continue this raffle for 2020. It was suggested we continue the raffle but adjust the time of it to have more selling time. The Riding Warehouse discount code for members has changed.

MEDIA ADVISORY. Dieterich. Report filed. Dieterich is still seeking a replacement for the position. Perryman graciously declined the position.

RIDERS AND JUNIORS. Perryman. No updates.

FOUNDATION. Conner. Electing new officers. Foundation meeting will follow the board meeting.

NATIONAL DRUG TESTING. Kim Murphy. Report filed. Cost per horse has increased with the new custom panel.

VETERINARY DRUG COMMITTEE. Dr. Tamara Gull. No report filed. The committee is in favor of increasing the drug testing fee per horse to accommodate the increased cost in testing. Meroshnekoff is concerned with raising the drug fees at this point in our low numbers. We will see how the year goes before taking action.

TRAIL ADVOCACY AND GRANTS. DiNatale. No new applications. The funds that were approved for the R2 location are pending disbursement as there is not yet a place for the funds to go. Insko updated the board on the status of that and will let Rinne know where the funds need to go.

EDUCATION. Dieterich. Report filed.

JUDGES. Kim Cowart. Report filed. **Motion by Muench, seconded by Stucky to accept the judge's committee nominations. Motion carried.** Cowart discussed changes to the LeD scorecard to improve usability. LeD oversight needs to be more clear. Dieterich said we can't necessarily require an apprentice ride but is suggesting that the first ride an LeD judge judges be done under a provisional status with a scorecard review post ride. The review would be for consistency and quality. Meroshnekoff said judges need ongoing education and support to improve. Cowart requested support from the board to allow the judges committee to promote proper/safe footwear for riders at check-in. This does not require a rule proposal, just a guideline that supports judges in enforcing safe footwear. Cowart brought up judges' renewal criteria, and some recommended adjustments to the timeframe to be more accommodating. The recommendation is to adjust it from a 12 month to a 24-month period for veterinary judges to meet the criteria. **Walls made a motion to adjust the timeframe from 12 to 24 months for veterinary judges to meet the renewal criteria, seconded by Perryman. Motion carried.** Cowart requested to offer a compensated membership to veterinary judges who are not competing. Muench inquired as to the potential financial impact. It would be approximately \$500-\$600. It was recommended to cover this at a regional level. Cowart addressed judges who have been inactive for several years and are not

corresponding with the judges' committee. The recommendation is to be able to move them to inactive status. **Motion by Diaguila, seconded by Walls to move Frank Keeran and Darlene Wehr to inactive status. Motion carried.**

HALL OF FAME. Rinne. No applicants.

STUDENT LOAN/SCHOLARSHIPS. Kay Gunckel. No applications. Student loan recipient, Jason Klamm, graduated and will begin repaying his loan in April 2020.

BREED & ORGANIZATION LIASONS. Stucky. Stucky will be taking over for Amy Martin officially. Dieterich wanted to address the elimination of the three ride requirement from annual breed awards. **Motion by Muench to have the NATRC breed liaison send to the breed associations the top five horses of each breed across the Open, Novice and CP divisions ridden by a current member of NATRC regardless of number of rides, seconded by Parys. Motion carried.**

AHA. Insko. First time a CTR horse has been named Distance Horse of the Year in the AHA publication.

HONORARY & APPRECIATION. Ruth Mesimer. Report filed. Recipients will be recognized at convention.

TECHNOLOGY. Andrea Rogers. Report filed. Coreware project update was provided. Changes have been done in baby steps, and progress is not where we want it to be. It's been a challenge working with the developer. Muench, Rogers and Rinne will meet to discuss what needs to happen going forward.

CONVENTION & NATIONAL AWARDS. Muench. San Antonio.

REGIONAL REPORTS.

SHARED BOARD \$325.67.

Old Business

1. Website/Data Integration
2. LeD/Scorecard Updates

New Business

Motion by Perryman to adjourn, seconded by Diaguila. Meeting adjourned.