

NATRC National BOD Minutes July 11, 2020, via Zoom Webinar

CALL TO ORDER by President Angie Meroshnekoff, 9:05 a.m. July 11, 2020.

ROLL CALL. Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich, Bob Insko, Lory Walls, Bill Wingle, Laurie DiNatale, Gayle Muench, Alice Perryman, Esther Diaguila, Kris Gray, Shari Parys and Marla Stucky. Sarah Rinne, Executive Director, via Zoom. Also attending: Patsy Conner, Sanction Chair, Andrea Rogers, Technology Chair, Kim Murphy, Drug Testing and E-News Chair, Ruth Mesimer, Honorary and Appreciation Chair, and Sallie Kudra, R5 alternate director.

MINUTES. February 13, 2020. Dieterich mentioned one change regarding the spelling of past scholarship recipient Casey Davisson (mentioned in secretary treasurer report). Davisson has two "s". **Motion by Walls, second by Diaguila to approve the minutes with correction. Motion carried.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Meroshnekoff. Report filed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT. Rinne. Report filed. Current member numbers were provided. Membership is significantly down from last year at this time, most likely due to lack of rides therefore less incentive to pay for membership. We have used Constant Contact for several years, but it is expensive and a challenge to maintain and keep current. Rinne recommended moving our mass email platform to Mailchimp as it is compatible with our website; contacts import so it would maintain current emails. In addition, the free version of Mailchimp would likely meet our needs, but if not, the basic plan is low cost and includes the option of a non-profit discount. Rinne is beginning to research online competition platforms to make the online video submission and judging more efficient, timely and professional.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT. Muench/Gray. Gray has agreed to take over the role as approved by Meroshnekoff. Meroshnekoff stated Gray has been appointed as interim treasurer until nominations and elections in November. Gray shared the files. Ride fees and drug fees are of course down due to the circumstances. We've had sponsorships coming in, and a good profit from national convention. Expenses are down. Foundation is being tracked separately. We are looking fairly healthy financially right now. **Motion by Muench, seconded by Parys to approve the report. Motion carried.**

BY-LAWS & RULES. Parys. Membership timeline change from anniversary date to calendar year. Unanimous vote to change the membership back to calendar year. **Motion by Wingle, second by Perryman. Motion carried.** Rule Proposals:

- Change limits from placings to points for competing in Novice. **Motion by Wingle, second by Diaguila. Motion carried.**
- Adding Experienced class to Leisure Division (LeD). Insko stated it would be twelve more ribbons for management to buy. Dieterich stated since we are reducing placings from ten to six that negates the extra. Perryman said she's gotten feedback that the split isn't necessary. Diaguila indicated that's not the case in Region 5, and that there is a lot of support for the split. Parys said there are experienced riders who won't ride LeD even though they'd like to so that they aren't competing against new riders. Dieterich was surprised how many experienced riders want to ride LeD, and that was eye opening. Insko questioned if this applied to Novice awards. Dieterich believes it would not be a good move to include Novice national placings in the mandatory move to the Experienced class of LeD or exclusion from Novice. **Motion by Wingle, second by Stucky. Motion carried.**
- Change two-mile marker to forward motion point. No discussion. **Motion by Insko, second by Walls. Motion carried.**
- Allow lenience in LeD time penalties at completion of ride. No discussion. **Motion by Walls, second by Perryman. Motion carried.**
- Specify sourcing judges from Leisure Division Judges List. Allow evaluation of overnight stabling for LeD. No discussion. **Motion by Diaguila, second by Stucky. Motion carried.**
- Clarify expectations of LeD placings versus ride announcements. No discussion. **Motion by Walls, second by Perryman. Motion carried.**
- Add out-of-region requirement to President's Cup criteria. No discussion. **Motion by Walls, second by Wingle. Motion carried.**
- Recognize overall high point Novice on national level. No discussion. **Motion by Wingle, second by Walls. Motion carried.**
- Recognize overall high point Competitive Pleasure Team. No discussion. **Motion by Wingle, second by Walls. Motion carried.**

POLICIES & PROCEDURES. Dieterich. We need a consensus on submission dates for *Hoof Print* as they are included in Policies & Procedures. Currently, Bev Roberts acts as our "branding police" and "keeper of the forms". Dieterich believes we need to have a job description and the ability to do some succession planning around the role. We need to seek a good back up for Roberts. Meroshnekoff suggested creating a job description that can be posted publicly to seek an interested party.

PROTEST. Lori Allen. No protests.

PLANNED AND CHARITABLE GIVING. Muench/Elaine Swiss. No report.

NATIONAL HISTORIAN. Conner. Nothing to report.

RIDE SANCTIONS. Conner. Wingle addressed the report and talked about the multitude of changes to the schedule including cancellations and adjustments to sanctions due to COVID-19. Meroshnekoff stated R1 has such tight restrictions they are unable to do anything. R3 may end up having a couple of A rides in the fall, but it is not certain. R2 may still have the fall Boyd Ranch ride. RAHA for sure is cancelling due to location restrictions. R4 has five rides scheduled that are still a go at this point. R5 has three potential rides at this point, but all are up in the air. Insko stated their county has gone on lock down again. R6, there is a clinic going on today and an LeD ride tomorrow in Nebraska. COVID protocol is being followed. All traditional Open/Novice/CP rides in R6 are being cancelled per R6 board decision, however LeD rides are still planned.

CLINIC SANCTIONS. Linda Clayton. Report filed. Three clinics were held in the spring. R4, R5 and R6 have each held one since May.

MANAGEMENT. Swiss. Report filed. She hosted a Zoom meeting for ride managers in early June.

RULES INTERPRETER. Wingle. Report filed. Several rides cancelled so it has been very slow. In the spring there were three accident reports filed. Nine rides have been completed. We are using the new RI form.

INSURANCE. Rinne. Renewing D & O liability and worker's compensation policy.

SAFETY. Swiss. Report filed. Nothing to report.

E-NEWS. Murphy. Report filed. Murphy recently assumed the role as E-News Coordinator. Gray suggested sending an E-News about renewing memberships and getting on board with the virtual challenges.

MARKETING. Gray. Report filed. Parys mentioned the virtual Tevis ride that WSTF is putting on. Thought it would be a good move to give people the option of donating to our organization beyond the basic fee to enter the virtual challenges. Gray is working on getting bios up on Facebook about the judges that are judging the challenges. Dieterich wondered if we need to work to promote what we are for, rather than what we are not.

SOCIAL MEDIA. Jonni Jewell. No report.

BUSINESS MODEL & MEASUREMENTS. Muench. No update.

SPONSORSHIPS. Parys. Report filed. Parys stated she offered renewal extensions for our sponsors which they greatly appreciated given the challenges they are facing. Parys said she will follow up with them. Riding Warehouse is still providing their 5% donation from NATRC purchases.

MEDIA ADVISORY. Dieterich. Report filed. The question remains do we continue to keep printing *Hoof Print*? It is not the main expense but it is part of it. The largest expense is paying our editor. Stucky stated she got feedback from some of our members that the hard copy is their only connection to the sport as they aren't online. Meroshnekoff stated we may need to increase the subscription fee to cover costs. It is not cost effective, especially at \$15 per subscription. At this time, we would need to increase subscription to about \$30.

RIDERS AND JUNIORS. Perryman. No update.

FOUNDATION. Conner. There isn't any action at this time, however the most recent minutes were provided.

NATIONAL DRUG TESTING. Murphy. Report filed. There have been no tests to date due to ride cancellations.

VETERINARY DRUG COMMITTEE. Dr. Tamara Gull. No report filed. Dieterich said the committee did have a discussion about ice boots and compression. We seem to understand that compression is not allowed, however it is not defined anywhere. The easiest solution is to add in the drug rule appendices that compression is not allowed. Consensus to add to prohibited treatments.

TRAIL ADVOCACY AND GRANTS. DiNatale. No new applications.

EDUCATION. Dieterich. Report filed. Making progress on the Riders Manual thanks to Walls. The webinars have been great. Gray addressed that the webinars are being posted as events on Facebook so that it gets out more and reminds people to attend.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT & RETENTION. Nothing more than what has been discussed.

JUDGES. Kim Cowart. Report filed. We need to address the recommendation to adjust the timeframes for judges' renewal requirements and requirements for apprentices/provisionals for 2020. **Motion by Insko to accept the judge's committee recommendations to waive requirements for 2020, second by Diaguila. Motion carried.**

The second question is does the board interpret the judge's committee as the governing body that oversees judging for the LeD? **Motion by Wingle, second by Parys to formally approve judge's committee oversight of LeD judges. Motion carried.** Dieterich asked if Parys would be willing to assist with LeD. Meroshnekoff stated that the board has to vote on judge's committee appointments made by the President. All approved addition of Parys to the judge's committee as an additional rider representative. Dieterich stated LeD judges are currently only approved by the committee but wondered if it needs to follow the approval process of our traditional judges. It was agreed they should but with some flexibility. Cowart has asked to be replaced as the Judges Committee Co-Chair.

HALL OF FAME. Rinne. No applicants.

STUDENT LOAN/SCHOLARSHIPS. Kay Gunckel. No applications. Jason Klamm is in the process of making payments on his loan.

BREED & ORGANIZATION LIASONS. Stucky. The question remains if there will be horses qualified and if there will be any year-end awards.

AHA. Insko. AHA is reducing the amount of minimum mileage for 2020 that qualifies CTR horses. AHA is still planning to have their championship ride in September and convention in November.

HONORARY & APPRECIATION. Mesimer. Report filed. The question is if there are going to be any nominations from the regions given the lack of ride activity. Wingle doubted R3 would submit any nominations since rides aren't happening. Parys stated since it has been advertised that we are accepting nominations we should stay with that message.

TECHNOLOGY. Rogers. Report filed. Stated Coreware is unsupportive so she is doing what she can on her own. She requested to make sure she is included on any events, webinars etc. so she can add it to the website. Meroshnekoff asked where the webinars are on the website. Rogers stated in the online library.

CONVENTION & NATIONAL AWARDS. No convention in 2021. It has already been posted and advertised what national awards will still be offered.

NEW BUSINESS. Meroshnekoff would like to implement an actual webinar committee, as she'd like to see the webinars continue into the future indefinitely. Wingle volunteered to be on the committee. Dieterich would like to participate. Meroshnekoff appointed Wingle as the chair of the committee and is giving him the discretion of committee members and size. Currently Wingle, Dieterich and Rinne will serve. Meroshnekoff stated it would be beneficial to have an official Challenge Committee. Gray suggested adding Keri Riddick as one of the idea generators, and Gray also volunteered to participate. Diaguila also volunteered. Riddick, Gray, Diaguila and Rinne were appointed for the Challenge Committee. Parys suggested sharing the videos (with permission) of the top performances. Rinne suggested mini webinars.

Rinne. Has had some discussions with an AERC committee on possible partnering on shared ride sanctioning and mileage credit. AERC will vote in November on several changes to their bylaws, one of which would deal with this concept.

REGIONAL REPORTS. R1 - No additional update. R2 - Insko said there is still one ride planned. Working on signage at RAHA ride site, however volunteers aren't currently allowed on the premises. R3 - Wingle said Co Trail is probably converting to LeD, Navajo Lake is converting to LeD. At best there are three rides left. R4 - Perryman said rides after 7IL have been cancelling. One LeD ride just occurred. Hoping to maintain the fall schedule with five rides. R5 - Three traditional rides and two LeD rides for the year so far, but now several cancellations. Hoping for fall rides. R6 - No more A rides per region board decision; LeD only.

SHARED BOARD – No shared board.

Old Business – NONE

Motion by Muench to adjourn, second by Wingle. Meeting adjourned.