

**Texas Hunter and Jumper Association  
2015 Annual Board of Directors Meeting  
January 10, 2015  
Hyatt Lost Pines, Bastrop Texas**

**# 4**

1. Call to order by Colleen Brombach at 8:30 am

2. Roll Call taken by Claire Rock.

Present: Stephen Lang, Jerry Converse, Linda Moore, Robert Yaffe, Doug Brombach, Katja Kallenberger, Jessica Harries, Kim Cox, Kim Brunson, Vicki Hunton, Katie Cox, Suzanne Warmack, Vickie McGovern, Colleen Brombach, Patty Roberts, Pauline Cook, Claire Rock, Lindsey Black, Ashley Hyten, Gayle O'Rear

Absent/Excused: Susie Baker, Lynn Walsh, Bill Chamblee

Absent/ Unexcused: Matt Cyphert

3. Reading of the minutes for Special Meeting held September 2014. Patty Roberts motioned to waive reading of the minutes. Colleen Brombach seconded the motion. All were in favor.

4. Report on the Annual Awards Banquet by Jennifer Devening. This year the afternoon sessions will begin with a judge's perspective open forum with William Sparks followed by a USHJA forum with President, Bill Moroney. The evening's program was reviewed as well as the champion and reserve champion awards. This year, 50% of the silent auction profits will be donated to ROCK, a therapeutic riding center in the Austin area.

5. Report of the Finance Committee by Linda Moore and Lindsey Black.

Membership stands at about 680 at this time. We expect more as the show season picks up, especially in Houston with the Winter Series and Pin Oak. Membership has increased since the rule that the "rider" must be a member, went into effect.

Linda reviewed the profit and loss statement as well as the balance sheet as of November 30, 2014. We are currently at a loss for Profit/loss however all banquet expenses and income have yet to be recorded. Doug Brombach noted that we have a good deal of money in the bank and that we need to look at spending it down to appropriate non-profit levels / proportion. Normally, a non-profit needs to have year of operating expenses saved. We have two years plus at this point.

Colleen Brombach presented the revised contract proposal for accounting by ABIP. Other companies have been contacted for services. All required a great deal more expense than ABIP.

The Board agreed to accept the proposal. ABIP recommended that finances be converted to Quickbooks. ABIP proposed a one time charge to manage the conversion. The Board voted 13 in favor of the charge/conversion and contract as is, 5 opposed, 2 abstain.

**6. Report of the Rule Book Committee by Jerry Converse:**

Conference calls: Jerry has amended the rules to state that Executive Committee may have conference calls when needed

Nominating process rules. Discussion tabled to the Nominating Committee.

Robert Yaffe noted that December 2013 is that last Rule Book update on the web site.

Vickie McGovern motioned that all trainers must be members of THJA effective December 1, 2015. Patty Roberts seconded that motion. All were in favor.

**7. Report of the Nominating Committee by Stephen Lang:** Discussion continued from the September meeting regarding the review of potential Board nominees. It was decided that nominees need to be discussed with the president prior to the slate being sent out. This discussion should take place by mid summer.

**8. Report of the Prize List Review Committee by Linda Moore and Gayle O'Rear.** It was noted that show managers need to be more cognizant of what they are sending. The mistakes are extensive and inexcusable. Some managers are sending information very close to deadlines.

**9. Report of the Show Standards Committee by Claire Rock:** No show complaints were sent in during 2014. Claire will contact USEF / USHJA to see if there were any complaints regarding Texas shows, sent to them.

**10. Report of the Sponsorship Committee by Patty Roberts:** Patty noted that no sponsorship requests have been received for this year. Fifteen thousand dollars in sponsorships were awarded last year. Kim Brunson noted that she will be applying for a sponsorship for the NTHJC Benefit show again this year. In 2014 her horse show raised over \$20,000 for local therapeutic riding centers.

**11. Report of the Web Site and Information Systems by Robert Yaffe:**

Robert reported that things are running well. We need more photos from horse shows to rotate throughout the site. Robert would like possible photos sent to him. They should be horizontal format and in highest resolution possible. Lindsey Black suggested that the horse show photographers be contacted for photos. We would offer some form of promotion on our site in exchange for photos. Robert will follow up with them and/or horse show managers.

Robert also noted that USEF/USHJA calculated points incorrectly with the December 1 year. Texas points were not up on the web site for the Thanksgiving and Christmas shows (as of this date). They will be posted once USEF has made corrections.

**12.** Report of the USEF Zone 7 Committee by Pauline Cook: Cookie noted that the 2015 as well as 2016 Zone finals (south) will be held at the Great Southwest Equestrian Center Autumn Classics.

**13.** Report on USHJA Association and annual meeting by Colleen Brombach : Discussions continue regarding how to monitor pregreen status for horses especially when so many are imported from Europe and we cannot track. Discussions are in place regarding new “developing hunter” divisions. Discussions regarding having warm up classes prior to major derbies so that horses may experience the ring. Discussions regarding injuries, particularly with children/junior riders. Should there be a guideline as to when riders may return to competition following an injury (concussions in particular).

**14.** Other agenda items:

a. Excused vs unexcused absences to Board meetings. Claire Rock requested definition.

It was suggested and proposed by Colleen that all absences will be reviewed by the executive committee following the Board meeting if necessary. Unexcused will be determined at that time. All were in favor.

b. THJA policy regarding the support of other non-profits. This was brought up due to this year’s banquet committee giving a percentage of auction profits to a local non-profit. Doug Brombach proposed that the banquet committee may annually determine a specified amount of any profits earned from a silent auction and/or raffle, to be donated to a local non-profit of choice.

Colleen Brombach agreed, Vickie McGovern seconded. All were in favor.

c. Lifetime Achievement awards versus Hall of Fame awards within THJA.

Colleen Brombach offered definitions of each award. It was determined that Lifetime Achievement awards will be given as needed. It will not be an annual award. It will be voted upon by the board and given to an individual based upon their contribution to the equestrian community (both THJA and non-THJA).

It was also requested that each year, during the banquet, the committee acknowledges those members of our equestrian community that have passed as part of the evening presentations.

d. Patty Roberts requested that Mike McCormick be nominated Director Emeritus. Patty agreed to contact Mike regarding this nomination. According to rules, the member must make a written request to be nominated Director Emeritus.

e. Patty Roberts requested that we make the 2’6” Modified Childrens/Adult Hunter specifications more restrictive. After discussion, it was determined that specs will remain as is.

f. Discussion in regards to making our THJA Annual Awards reflect USEF Awards. And making sure that our point calculations (pony, child/adult jumper in specific), follow USEF. USEF does NOT award points for champion and reserve in pony, child or adult jumpers. Linda Moore motioned that no points be awarded for champion and reserve for year end point calculation purposes. Champion, Reserve as well as 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> ribbons will still be awarded at the year end banquet. Also, Classics, will be awarded as a separate class. It was also motioned that Childrens' and Junior equitation classes fall in line with Zone 7 specifications. Claire Rock Seconded this motion. All were in favor.

A list of Year End Zone Point Awards versus THJA Point Awards was distributed by Patty Roberts. All Board members are to review these lists for discussion at the next meeting.

g. Robert Yaffe and Linda Moore proposed that we change the mailing procedure of show results to Ann Yaffe and treasurer effective immediately. The mailing procedure will change from certified mail to priority mail. Results will be required within five business days following the close of the horse show rather than the previously stated ten. Claire Rock will send out a letter regarding this change to all show managers and show secretaries following the meeting.

h. Discussion regarding research into THJA potential 501c3 status. Angeleah Cleek presented information she had gathered regarding this move. She noted that THJA needed to reinstate its "Right to do Business" in Texas with the State Comptroller. Jerry Converse offered to look into resolving this matter. We may be able to complete the forms on line.

Doug Brombach proposed that the Executive Committee work with Angeleah to determine what type non-profit of organization THJA would like to be, public or private. The Executive Committee should then follow thru with the new recently hired accounting firm.

Colleen Brombach seconded the motion. All in favor.

i. Discussion regarding junior/ao jumper classes. Colonel Russell submitted a request via Gayle O'Rear for Texas show managers to consider adjusting the heights of their junior jumper classes to 1.40 / 1.45 meters minimum. This height adjustment will allow more Junior riders to qualify for Young Riders etc., without having to go out of state.

Claire Rock will write a letter to be sent to all show managers with the request.

j. Discussion in regards to requiring all THJA Board members to attend the annual awards banquet. Colleen Brombach strongly requests that the Board members attend the banquet when possible.

k. Colleen Brombach proposed new THJA medal classes such as 2'6" child/adult and 3' child/adult medal. Specifications for these classes were handed out for review. It is

requested that all Board members review these specifications for discussion at the next meeting.

l. Discussion regarding the use of conference calls for future meetings.

After a good deal of discussion, it was determined that full Board conference calls would not be feasible for this organization. Executive Committee conference calls are allowed.

Jerry Converse noted that voting by proxy may be allowed. He offered to review the rules for further confirmation .

m. Confirmation of Executive Slate for 2015. It was noted that Vickie McGovern must move off . Lindsey Black nominated Robert Yaffe to be on the Executive Committee. Claire Rock seconded that motion. All were in favor.

n. Additional discussion regarding the THJA web site. It was noted that more information / community involvement / horsemanship issues etc should be posted for our members. Claire Rock will contact Johnnie Martin Carey to ask if she would like to help in providing additional content and links for a fee. Colleen Brombach will do the same with Melissa Miller.

15. The Annual Rules meeting will take place on April 29 in Tyler (Texas Rose Horse Park) during the Lone Star Round Up II horse show.

Meeting adjourned at noon