

Texas Hunter and Jumper Association
Board of Directors Rule Change Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 10th , 2023 @ 6:00pm
Via Zoom and In-Person at Great Southwest Equestrian Center

Call to Order by President

1. Attendance Roll Call By Secretary (Brittany) - Brittany, Ari, Colleen, Susan, Ellen, Katja, Lindsey, Robert, Matthew, Kim, Lynn, Patti, Susan, Vicki & Kim Brunson arrived later at 6:54.
2. Reading of the meeting minutes or election to waive reading – Vicki motions, Lynn seconds.
3. Report of the Treasurer (Ari)
 - a. Sent out the financials
 - b. ballot sheet
 - c. Good condition
 - d. Savings \$77,023.56
 - e. Checking \$71,102.04
 - f. Education Fund \$31,924.48
 - g. Taxes filed back in February and in good standing
 - h. Cost for banquet
 - i. Vicki was not given a budget
 1. we need to vote on a budget: strict budget
 2. lifetime achievement needs to cost less
 3. need a banquet chair - Vicky will be the head but not planning. Bob has a group of ladies planning the banquet for 2023
 - a. total budget of \$50,000 not including ticket sales
 - b. Voted on and All in Favor
 - ii. Spent 102,000 on the banquet for 2022 but not sure this is actual amount spent
 - iii. gross income \$20,232.22
 - iv. Lifetime achievement awards were \$19,110 or Ribbon Racks
 - v. Vicki used her own money to pay banquet and needs to be paid back
 1. Ari said we have a debit card that can be used for purchasing and paying bills.
 - vi. 50,000 other?
 1. transfer from other bank to checking to help cover costs of banquet
 2. leaving remaining to re-invest
4. Report of the Rule Book Committee (Kim Brunson)
 - a. Kim Brunson in chairperson
 - b. Ellen updates the rulebook
 - i. Bob has been feeding Ellen the approved rules
 - ii. Rulebook was totally updated by Pin Oak so all up to date
 1. It is posted online by Robert
5. Report of the Nominating Committee (Katja)
 - a. All up to date and is current
 - b. No other changes need to be addressed

- c. Membership online needs to be double checked
 - i. Email of corrections of board member list to Robert
- 6. Report of the Prize List Review Committee (Vicki)
 - a. Vicki receives
 - b. most of the time they are fine
 - c. not a lot of mistakes have been found
 - d. find typos
 - e. low adult vs modified adult name inconsistencies for points
- 7. Report of the Exhibitor Show Standards Committee (Colleen)
 - a. Have not had any help from anyone to create a questionnaire to ask what THJA can do to better serve their members.
 - b. Tough to get a formal way of questioning each show because THJA does not have control over certain things like footing.
- 8. Report of the Sponsorship and Education Committee
 - a. No applications received
 - b. Nothing to comment on
 - c. Need to have Melissa post on facebook
 - d. Mostly word of mouth is how we receive applications
- 9. Report on the Web Site and Information Systems
 - a. Not a lot has changed on website
 - b. Send formal list of people
 - c. Truck load of paper accumulated- needed paperwork shredded cost about \$50
 - d. Need to move Ann to a bigger office
 - e. Asking if Ann can have a bigger monitor that THJA will pay for?
 - i. 42" Screen that you can display 2 screens
 - ii. Robert motion, Kim Second, All in favor, none opposed, none Abstained- Motion passed.
- 10. Report on USEF and USHJA News (Lynn)
 - a. Biggest concerns right now is deaths and injuries to people and horses
 - i. not sure what to do and how to move forward
 - ii. opinion- too much showing (horses and riders get tired)
 - iii. footing- old school sand had better give- concerned on the give
 - iv. might start requiring vests after they have more studies
 - 1. worries about them causing more injuries
 - v. volume of people showing is up
 - vi. more people competing and more shows available to travel too
 - b. Nothing else exciting going on
- 11. Report of the Membership Committee (Vicki)
 - a. Membership is way up
 - i. has not slowed down
 - ii. Exact number of members: 848 members
 - iii. guessing we will be close to 1000 members by the end of the year
 - iv. down to 500-600 last year
 - b. Offer T-shirts and stuff

- i. From Kingsland? - Vicki
 - ii. Brittany's client has a job where they set up jobs
 - 1. Send contact information to Vicki.
 - iii. Have people sponsor shirts
 - 1. Different tiered sponsors on shirts
- 12. Report on the THJA Annual Awards Banquet (Vicki)
- 13. New Business
 - a. Rules Changes
 - i. School Rule: written now " NO junior shall be required to perform before 6pm on a school day in classes where year-end points are tabulated by THJA for Junior exhibitors only"
 - 1. My points and concerns - Kim Kox
 - a. We are getting several show managers asking for acceptance to this rule.
 - b. The rule does not seem to be working as written for scheduling of classes
 - c. Show managers are asking to start the classes at 2pm or 3pm – as the rule is written now, they can start the classes but not pin them.
 - d. Should we have a new time to allow equitation, jumper and hunter junior classes to be pinned on School Days
 - 2. Colleen proposes that the equitation divisions and jr jumpers may be held on Friday of a show week. However, it cannot be pinned earlier than 6:00pm unless all exhibitors have competed.
 - 3. We need to keep in mind the flat phase of certain classes that will not be able to run unless everyone is present.
 - 4. The new equitation divisions can be run on Fridays. Not the ones that are qualifying for finals.
 - 5. Breaks up amount of classes for juniors.
 - 6. Rewriting a new rule-
 - a. The only junior exhibitor classes permitted to run on Friday are
 - i. Low Childrens Equitation
 - ii. Pony Equitation Division
 - iii. 14 & under Equitation - 3'
 - iv. 15-17 Equitation - 3'6
 - v. Children's Equitation Division
 - vi. Short Stirrup Equitation
 - b. The old rule stays with the exception of the above.
 - i. NO junior shall be required to perform before 6pm on a school day in classes where year-end points are tabulated by THJA for Junior exhibitors only with the exception of the classes listed below in Rule XXXXXXXX.
 - c. Patty motioned, Kim seconded, all in favor, non opposed, none Abstained- motion passes.

- d. Vicki motions and Kim seconded, all in favor to add Short Stirrup Equitation to above.
- ii. Section 2.3 – reads we are to have 2 junior members on the board.
 1. We have not had junior members on the board for 2 years.
 2. I think we should consider removing this from the rules.
 3. Kim Motioned, Vicki Seconds, All in Favor, All opposed-none, None Abstained- motion passes to remove from the rulebook.
- iii. Section 2 concerning “conflicts” - please see attached copies of the rules from THJA and USHJA with highlighted context.
 1. Points and concerns
 - a. “to keep the board as diverse as possible..” – we have trouble filling the board so I don’t understand why we are kicking people off the board that have severed for 10+ years, who are young professionals and riders and bring benefit to board with different perspectives.
 - b. “no business relationship” - I think there are a lot of others on this board that will need to step down if we don’t rewrite this part of the rule. I am pretty sure everyone sitting on the board has business relationships with the other people on the board. How many of you have sold each other horses or your clients have purchased horses from the other trainers on this board. We also have a lot to gain from show managers or facility managers being on the board.
 - c. USHJA defines
 - i. “family” – I think this needs to be added to our rules
 - ii. “conflict” to include business or financial relationship – whether direct or indirect
 - d. USHJA doesn’t prohibit “familial or business relationship” it only says it must be disclosed. See attached form they require
 - e. USHJA as states a board member shall not be involved in any discussion of or vote on the issue (they are in conflict with). For example: the discussion of Jet Rusidovski at the meeting when we were considering new board members should have been handled very differently.
 2. Proposal for New Rule to Read something to this effect: “To keep the board of Directors as diverse as possible, not more than two members may have a familial or Close business relationship where as a close business relationship is defined to include a partner, employer, contract laborer or client. Each THJA board member must fulfill his/her obligation to disclose any conflicts by submitting to the board a description of any circumstances that may be a conflict of interest or be perceived to be such a conflict at anytime such circumstances arise or annually.
 - a. Create a form that excludes members from this rule.- Brittany?

- b. Create a number cap on how many should be allowed from a family or a barn.
- c. Kim motioned, Ari Seconded, All in favor, none abstained- motion passes.

iv. Section 9A, B & C Page 29

1. Allow the ability to show other 2'.
2. May not add into any other classes at the horse show with the exception of any 2' classes. - DOES NOT PASS THIS WAY
3. Short Stirrup is a protected division because across the country they can't cross enter.
4. Short Stirrup can't jump oxers.
5. They are only allowed to cross enter into short stirrup equitation division ONLY.
 - a. Vicki motions and Kim seconded, all in favor to add Short Stirrup Equitation to above list and allow Short Stirrup to cross enter into Short Stirrup Equitation only.

v. Change Jr. Eq to age group eq to match USEF / USHJA to make point keeping easier

1. 14 & under Eq. - 3'
2. 15-17 Eq - 3'6"

vi. Proposing to change the 15-17 Equitation - 3'6 to 3'3.

1. Proposed by Colleen
2. Patty Seconds
3. All in Favor

vii. Kim Proposing to reinstate Katie Kox to the board.

1. Vicki will call an executive meeting to discuss reinstating her.
2. We are eliminating one position.
3. Would love to have Doug back.
4. Someone has to send a written request/ petition for an extraordinary rule change to reinstate any members at an Executive meeting.

14. Next meeting should be in September-

- a. Tyler or Katy

- i. Tyler does not have good WIFI
- ii. Wednesday, September the 20th at 6:00pm at GSWEC with the option to call in on Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

THJA Secretary Name and Signature:

Brittany Sekanic – April 12, 2023