Minutes
Board Meeting
September 29, 2011 at 6:30pm PDT

Attendance: Melanie Weir, Ben Volk, Steve Anderson, Sue Smyth, Rufus Schneider, George Hall, Ted Ruprecht, Greg Fellers
Absent: Mary Tiscornia, Sherrie Reimers, Steve Shaw

President – Melanie Weir
Vice-President – Ben Volk – Promotions
Treasurer – Steve Anderson – Statistics
Secretary – Sue Smyth – Sponsorship
Sanctioning Director – Lani Newcomb
Championship Awards – Rufus Schneider
Future Race Sites – George Hall
Achievement and Special Awards – Ted Ruprecht
Horse Hall of Fame – Mary Tiscornia
Head Veterinarian – Greg Fellers
Sherrie Reimers
Steve Shaw

Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm, PDT

I.  Approval of June minutes

    a. Motion to approve made by Lani Newcomb and second by Ted Ruprecht following correction. Motion passed, unanimous.

II.  Reports:

President – Melanie Weir

Fort Stanton
Attended the Fort Stanton Ride & Tie and partnered with new board member Sherrie Reimers. Roger and Sue Taylor are really neat people and put on a great week of endurance and ride & tie. Two new members joined.

Membership
    112 new members to date (as of August 6th)
- 131 members of 299 paying members (44%) have renewed so far this year.

Karen Camilli has taken over handling membership administration. I have also trained her to enter race results. Liz Perkins will take over email contact. Liz to work with Annette on address corrections of members.

Website
We are in the process of changing the website so that we host it ourselves. This came at the recommendation of webmistress Trish Gibbs and David Christy. They will still do the actual work and programming, but no longer will we be billed for hosting services from them, but rather we will pay it.

Statistics On-line
Steve Anderson, David Christy and I are working to bring statistics to the online database. The system already calculates points and miles based on race results entered (this started in 2010) but we need to get the miles history in there so that we can pull accurate reports. Additionally, members people will be able to look up their points and miles online.

Veterinary Scholarship
Received only one scholarship submission. Awarded to Heidi Talbot at Washington State University.

Vice President - Ben Volk
No report

Secretary - Susan Smyth
Championship sponsor thank you letters mailed.

Steve Anderson – Treasurer’s Report
Wells Fargo: $27,639.41
Dodge & Cox: $48,675.47
Osterweis Fund: $32,216.84
On 6/15/2011 we earned $441.64 dividend in the Osterweis Fund.
Further discussion occurred regarding location of funds and performance. The Board discussed need to investigate loss/value performance and concerns over “non performing” stocks. Ted Ruprecht will discuss with John Osterweiss appropriate questions to ask concerning the Dodge & Coxs funds. This fund originated in 1998. Concerns were raised over recent poor performance and consideration to change.
Steve Anderson – Statistics
Members competing to date: 152
Participants at races: 232
Man/Man: 15
Woman/Man: 26
Woman/Woman: 37

Ted Ruprecht
No report yet on special awards.
Did not receive any feedback on the ride managers’ handbook draft.

Future Race Sites – George Hall
Discussed some issues

Hall of Fame - Mary Tiscornia
No report.

Head Veterinarian - Greg Fellers
No report.

Sanctioning Director: Lani Newcomb, DVM
No report.

Championship Awards – Rufus Schneider
2011 Championship awards mailed.

III. Old Business:

a. No current report on Committee for Future Ride & Tie Association Funding- (Melanie & Steve S.)
b. Sponsor Spotlight/On-line education: Plan to pursue sponsor spotlight and put on-line education on hold at this time.
c. Allocation of resources: Growth vs. Championship:
   - Discussion of new race assistance program under item f
d. Ride & Tie Race Director manual: Ted Ruprecht currently working on and seeking feedback.
e. Financial oversight: Melanie to discuss with Steve Shaw. Discussion on how we keep our audit transparent. Discussion of non-profit status and responsibilities. Discussion to continue.
f. Assistance program for New races
• Motion by Lani Newcomb to waive insurance fee for Snow Tent Slide Ride and tie July 30, 2011. Second by Ben Volk. Motion passed, unanimous.
• Motion to provide assistance program to all new races not associated with endurance event if requested by race director. Motion to waive insurance fee (to be paid by Association) and provide financial assistance for Veterinarian services, since a veterinarian is required at all races. The reimbursement of financial aid will not to exceed $300.00. Motion by Lani Newcomb and second by Sue Smyth. Motion passed, unanimous.

IV. New Business:

a. Welcome Sherrie
b. Newsletter non-member mailing list: no discussion.
c. AERC/Endurance news ad campaign (Steve Shaw not in attendance, no discussion.
d. Membership expectancy and research.
   • Ted proposed that if we are interested in learning more about Association members, and their membership and race patterns, if we have the right data he can build an "expectancy table" to give us more insight. It is a question on whether or not we have the data in a format that is workable. Discussion to be continued.

Meeting adjourned 7:55 pm PDT by Lani Newcomb and Second by Sue Smyth

Next Meeting: January 26, 2012, 6:30pm PST