

Ride and Tie Board Meeting December 15, 2022

1. Call to order - 6pm/9pm

2. Roll call - Courtney Krueger, Carrie Baris, Steve Shaw, Sara Boelt, Greg Fellers, Rhonda Venable, Bob Heltibridle, Janice Heltibridle, Lani Newcomb

3. Approval of minutes from the last meeting (November 10, 2022) - Motion to approve: Bob, Second - Rhonda. Motion passed.

4. Committees:

a. Godfrey Sullivan Committee: Steve Shaw spoke to Godfrey Sullivan to update him on what we have been doing. Godfrey would like stats for the past several years prior to and since implementation of the AERC/R&T agreement. Steve S., Bob and Courtney are working on putting those together. Comment made that we each need to find 3-4 more long term revenue streams/sponsors in addition to those from the west coast (Sullivan, Osterweis and Shaw). Goal is to get a list of at least 25 from all parts of the country.

b. Nominating Committee: Looked over Courtney's list of requirements, has discussed with Janice and Courtney about who from the West Coast could possibly be on the board. Carrie, Courtney, Alison's terms are all ending in 2023. Looking for more diverse representation on the board. Need nominations with write-ups by February. Comment made that Greg may be able to provide insight into some potential candidates.

c. Vet Scholarship Committee: Waiting for essay submissions, deadline is January 15th.

d. R&T/AERC Committee: Agreement has been finalized and sent to AERC for signature.

e. Treasurer's Report: Steve Anderson not present, but sent over report. 2023 budget proposal given. Due to a cash flow shortage in 2022, \$7,000 was withdrawn from the endowment fund to cover championship and other expenses. That has now been transferred back to the endowment fund from the general operating fund. NOTE: The dividends and interest from the endowment fund can be used to cover operating expenses, but the capital in the endowment fund should always be maintained.

f. Horse Awards: Bob is working on statistics for the end of year and for horse awards.

g. Publications: Bob finished writing the instructions for new online submission of race results, and it along with the link has been posted in the Ride Managers manual (and also under forms). He is working on the HOD award parameters and will post them online when completed.

h. Technology: Janice has started compiling requirements and is looking at membership management software programs to replace/augment the current custom database.

5. Ongoing Business

a. Youth Year End Awards: Sara is working on developing guidelines/proposal for youth awards. Janice will add mm/dd for birth date on to list of requirements for new membership management software planned to replace current database since we have no way to capture youth currently. Janice suggests using AERC rules, 15 years or younger as of first day of ride season. Considering basing the awards on mileage, or general participation awards.

b. 2023 AERC Convention in Jacksonville: We are sharing booths with SERA, SEDRA, and OD. Our portion will be \$81.25. We are also sharing food costs for the Thursday night meet and greet and Friday night dance. Our portion is \$741. 57. Joanne Mitchell has agreed to organize and staff our booth. We will support her financially, hotel and travel. Suggestion was made and approved to offer a free entry for the World Championship as a raffle item at the convention.

6. New Business

a. West Coast Regional Championship: We do not have a ride designated. Susan Smyth doesn't believe we should have a WC regional since things are spread too far apart. Steve Shaw sent her a donation for rides. She wants to use that money for Coolest cumulative awards.

b. Susan Smyth wants the Coolest to sponsor awards for doing multiple races on the west coast, a Coolest Championship Point System, not an official Ride and Tie Association award. It will be sponsored by the Coolest races.

c. We have three 100 mile ride and ties on the calendar for 2023 - Old Dominion, Iron Mountain, and JDs Carolina.

d. Webinars with AERC for 2023: None are currently planned, but suggestion made to come up with a list of topics.

e. Information cards: Carrie - need to make decision before January meeting, prior to the convention, whether or not to create or use some sort of flier or business card that explains ride and tie. We have used a trifold in the past, and have a current draft already prepared for 2023 so working from that model. Suggestion was made that the next time we have new banners made up, that we add a QRC so individuals can just snap a picture to take them to the website.

f. 2023 World Championship update: Carrie - Working out details for championship in September 2023 at the Biltmore.

g. Sponsors: Looking over list to assign board members to contact them to see if they want to continue to be a sponsor. We all need to actively recruit new sponsors. Question raised on whether to continue to raffle off saddle with our logo, but for the year instead of at the championship. Based on the discounted cost of the saddle, plus the cost of shipping versus money raised in the past, decision was made to discontinue with saddle raffle/auction.

7. Adjourn - 7:29pm/10:29pm

Next meeting: January 26, 2022 9 pm EST/6pm PST