

USIHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
~Minutes of June 19th, 2007~

Board Members Present: Bernie Willis, Sandie Weaver, Caryn Cantella, Ed Hilgaertner, Barbara Riva, Anne Elwell, Andrea Barber, Katrin Sheehan and Laura Benson

Regional Club observers: None

Secretary's Report (Barbara Riva): The minutes of the Board Meeting of May 29, 2007 were submitted and approved after a few corrections. The minutes of the Special Meeting for the Youth Cup issue were approved via e-mail.

Treasurer's Report (Ed Hilgaertner): The May 2007 beginning balance was \$14,486.77. The May 2007 ending balance was \$15,386.48. So far in June, Ed reports that he had deposited about \$4,500, however, has written checks for approximately \$4,800. The balance in the account seems to stay right around \$15,000. This week Ed received two checks returned. One was returned for insufficient fund in the amount of \$50 to pay for an ad in the Quarterly, the other was returned because it was written from a closed account in the amount of \$15 for the pleasure riding program. Ed reports that this seldom happens and he will be contacting these individuals regard these returned checks and is confident that they will be resolved and made good. Andrea offered to e-mail or call these individuals; however, Ed offered to take care of it on his own. He felt it was minor at this point. Bernie asked Ed how this figure of \$15,000 compares with previous years. Ed did not have that information at hand. Bernie said that he was just curious. Barb remembered that at the last meeting, Ed had reported the balance generally stays right around \$20,000 so if that was the case, then our account is running a little bit lower then in the past. Ed agreed that if that was what he reported. Barb asked if he had received all the income and expense information from the World Championship tryouts from May. Ed said that he had. Caryn said that she had received all the checks from the World Championship tryouts of which she deposited to her Registry Account. She felt that there was some confusion on Heidi Kline's (Competition Committee Chairman) part as to who gets these funds. Caryn asked if Ed had paid for the judges expenses for this event. Ed was also under the impression that he had gotten all the funds collected from the World Championship Tryouts. Caryn had been on vacation during this event and she said she would verify this information and report back. Ed said he received \$3,000 for this event and his records show that he deposited that amount in the Congress account that he manages. Ed told Bernie that he does not have specific information regarding balances as of June of 2006. Bernie asked that if he ran across that information, he would be curious as to how it compares to this year. He would like to see how the account does year-to-year and felt that big picture held important information. Ed said that he has it but not handy at the very moment. Caryn said she would review all her deposits and if she found any thing that should have gone to Ed; she will transfer it to the other account.

Registrar's Report (Caryn Cantella):

The balance in the Registry Account as of today is \$67,544.07. Caryn Reports that the work that Asta has been doing with the Registry is going along great. There have been no complaints and all the work seems to be getting done in a very timely fashion. Katrin commented that her efficiency makes everyone look bad. Caryn continues to work on the completion of getting the remaining horses on World Fengur.

Competition Committee Report (Katrin Sheehan): National Ranking system has been proposed to the Board and everyone had verified they had reviewed it. Katrin asked if it made

sense to everybody or if anyone of the Board Members had questions. Bernie asked if Katrin could summarize the National Ranking System that is proposed. Katrin explained that this is a system to keep track of the high scores of those competitors in the nation. It keeps track of how well the rider performs. The system doesn't take into consideration the individual horse but rather the rider's scores no matter what horse they are competing on. For example a rider can compete on three different horses in the same category and those results can be averaged together. The ranking will be done in all classifications, be it the high ranking classes such as the T-1 or V-1 or F-1 or T-2, or for Intermediate, Novice or Youth classes. Anne assumed this system would rate the horse and rider combination. Katrin said that was not the case. The system only tracks the Rider and not the Horse and Rider combination. Anne asked then if somebody had a very good horse, the scores they get with that particularly good horse will be averaged with a either a not-so-good horse or young horse and will lower that ranking score. She asked Katrin if she felt the riders would hesitate to enter those classes with any horse other than the very good horse for fear it would lower their ranking score. Katrin said no because they would still have good scores with their other horse. Anne said that the riders wouldn't know that if they were averaging all the scores together. Katrin explained that only the best scores are averaged. Katrin said that the ranking system takes the two best scores and average those two. So if a rider has 16 scores, only the top two are averaged. Bernie felt that in this way, the riders are not jeopardizing their scores by using a new horse. Katrin agreed. Katrin explained that if someone uses a new horse they usually go into a T-5 class and that horse can rank there. She felt that it doesn't put the rider in a bad position if they have one horse that scores well and another that really does not. Anne asked Katrin if other countries score the horse and rider combination in their national ranking system. Katrin said no; only the rider is ranked no matter what horse is ridden. Katrin checked the World Ranking web site and verified that only the rider's scores are ranked. She used T-1 as an example. She found Johan R. Skolason with an average of 8.633 and then it lists the country he ranked this score. Then going to the World Competition his score was 8.80 and in Denmark he scored 8.60 and in Germany he scored 8.50. Those scores are determined from his six high scores in a two year range with his average of 8.633. In his case that was all on the same horse, however, it doesn't have to be. Katrin uses another example of Hulda Gustavsdottir in third place. She only rode in Iceland and her score was 8.23 with a mare, 8.23 with a mare and then 8.17 with a different horse. Anne asked then if they were riding two horses and one was much better than the other, that rider's scores would be brought down by the second horse. Katrin said no. Anne said that didn't make sense since we are only averaging the top two scores. Caryn then verified that Anne was using an example that if a rider only used those two horses, then yes, the score would be compromised by the second horse. However, Katrin said that if, in a two year range, you only ride the one horse in one class of one competition, then the score would not qualify because there would not be a second score to average. Anne understood, however, Caryn said that Anne's example was that if one year she takes her good horse and the next year she doesn't take that good horse but rides a different horse that is not as good but wants to have experience. If we use that scenario, then the score will be compromised by the use of that second horse. Katrin said the answer to that would be yes. However, she is sure riders could write a letter or e-mail to the committee and tell them that they did not want to participate in the program. Laura asked if she meant that a rider could ask to be taken off the program for each individual horse or class. Katrin said no, she thought one could ask not to be included in the program overall. Barb asked Katrin if horses had to be pre-registered for this program. Katrin said no, that generally there may be some competitors that say they do not want to participate in this program at all or have their scores listed on the web site. She felt that option should probably be given. Katrin used herself as an example saying that she usually takes only one horse to compete in a year and if she has good results in that year. If in the next year, she competes on a different horse that does not perform as well, then her two

year average will be less than if she would have taken the better horse the second year to compete with. However, if she would be more competitive and wanted to be in the high ranking system and show the world how good of a rider she and possibly be the National High Ranked rider then she would take her good horse. Caryn added that she could also take two horses to a competition. Anne said that she had hoped this system would fulfill a goal that now is not going to. Anne thought it would be ranked as a horse and rider combination and then riders would have an assessment of how they had improved from year to year. This will not happen because the averages do not follow the combination of horse and rider but only the rider for the two years. The only way Anne felt she could accomplish her goal was to ride in two different categories with her two different horses. Katrin agreed. Katrin explained that each category will have the ranking system in it with regard to the high open classes, the intermediate classes, the novice class and the youth classes. In looking at the web site Bernie explained that it shows individual results for horses as well as riders. Our ranking system does not offer that now but maybe it could at some time in the future. Barb asked if the Competition Committee discussed the possibility of this system deterring people from competing in some situations. Anne asked how Barb thought it would do that. Barb felt that since it only follows the rider's score, the rider will only enter those classes they can excel in with their best horse and not any other of their horse because they do not want to jeopardize their average score. With the way the ranking system works, Barb felt it would deter riders from entering more horses in more classes. Katrin said that the ranking system is really meant to trigger more competitiveness in the U.S. and to get people to go to more competitions. Katrin said that she didn't think that anyone thought that people would shy away from competing. Most of the people in the Competition Committee are sport riders and want to see more competitions and more activity in sport. Barb said that from a show organizer's stand point she felt we are always just riding the wire on the expenses of these events. Often times show organizers end up bleeding financially in some areas that we didn't expect and she did not want to see something like this go into affect that may deter the possibility of more income to pay for these events. Katrin agreed and said that maybe there should be a possibility where riders can say they want to ride in the competition but do not want to participate in the ranking system for that particular event. Katrin didn't know how to solve that problem but she will ask the Competition committee for discussion on it. Barb asked that maybe the sport committee can come up with some kind of official sanctioned show registration form where there would be some kind of indication or box that they could check to indicate whether they want to participate in the ranking system for that event or not. Anne agreed that this could be placed on the competition registration form. Barb said that there is an organization in the Midwest area called Tri-State that will send registration forms out to their competitors at the start of every new year that gives the riders the opportunity to register the horses they want to be included in the ranking system where they can win special premiums, however, that registration requires a fee for each horse registered. Katrin said that the Dressage forum has the same system. Riders are included in certain regions where the points are recorded and then allows high ranking individuals to attend the national competition. If riders chose not to register for this system, nothing is changed. They can still compete but their scores are not recorded and they are not considered for the national competition. Barb felt that the organization had a deadline for registration but she wasn't sure. Ed asked that if we adopt the USIHC National Ranking system, will it be voluntary for the participants. Katrin felt that riders should have the option to enter this ranking system or not. Laura felt that this option would be a good idea because professionals sometimes have to show client's horses that may not have the training they need to score well. This would then also jeopardize the rider's score. Ed said that if this proposed ranking system is voluntary, then he thinks it is fine. Anne agreed. Caryn asked if all the scores will be shown and where they rank or are only the top ranking person who gets the award going to be made visible. Katrin said that all riders will be recorded and made visible on the web site. Ed again said that it

is a fine program as long as it's voluntary. Barb agreed. Bernie said that the Board has the power to accept this as it is and add to it the option to be included or not. He also said that we should ask the designers of this program to come up with a separate program that will track the horse's scores. Katrin said that she would take that to the Competition committee for further discussion. Bernie has been looking over the program that tracks the horses on the FEIF web site and finds it interesting. Katrin explained that while FEIF tracks the horse's scores they do not get an award for high score. She felt that if we give out award to riders and horses we have to try to find a way to finance them. Bernie felt that for now we should rank the rider and keep the other ranking system for information purposes only. Bernie asked if there were any objections to the current ranking system as proposed with these few items added. Anne felt it sounded fine and said that David Kline did a wonderful job on the program and Laura and Katrin agreed. Bernie found a discrepancy in the written document as to the presentation of the awards. In one sentence it says they will be given at the annual meeting and in another paragraph it indicates that the awards must be presented in 14 days. Katrin said that the award would be given within 14 days of the announcement of the winners. Bernie said that it still does not make sense to him. Katrin thought about it again and felt that possibly 14 days is not enough time to have the plaque made and engraved. Barb felt that a deadline was too constrictive. Bernie was thinking the awards could be presented at the Annual Meeting. Barb and Anne thought that would be a better idea. Barb said that if for some reason one or more of the winners could not attend the annual meeting, then they could appoint someone to accept it for them in their place. Caryn also added that it could be announced and awarded at the annual meeting and then mailed if the recipient could not attend. Bernie asked Katrin if she could bring this up to the committee to make it clearer. Katrin agreed. In ending, Bernie verified that the Board accepted the High Ranking system with some additions. Barb had an unrelated question on the sport committee. She noticed that the World Championship Team has a sponsorship of the Boett Blanket. She asked if this was brought to the committee and approved. Barb thought that in the past, sponsorships were very tightly regulated. Katrin said that Astund had sponsored the team in the past years. Asta was in Iceland and had chosen a sweat suit for the team from Astund and they will then put the words "Team USA" on the back. Katrin said that there is now a second sponsorship from Boett Blanket Company brought it by Heidi and David Kline who are now the U.S. dealers for the sale of Boett products. Boett will give each rider on the team a Boett Blanket to use during the World Championship. Top Reiter has offered to sponsor the team also; however, Heidi wanted to give Astund a chance to complete their sponsorship first before giving this opportunity to Top Reiter. So there has not been a decision as to what Top Reiter will do with their sponsorship of the U.S. Team.

Breeding Committee Report (Katrin Sheehan):

Flugnir Evaluation went well and everyone that she talked to was happy with the event. However, Katrin felt that not everyone told her what they really think all the time. Katrin asked Barb what kind of response she had gotten from participants. Barb said that she did sit down with a few of the riders and while they had a few issues with the judging, they were not screaming about them and it seemed to work itself out in the end after the evaluation process was completed. For the most part, she felt everyone was happy and content with their scores from what she had heard. As Katrin said, sometimes we do not get the full truth because individuals might be reluctant to hurt feelings. Katrin said that there was one issue where Gudmar has one horse too many to ride. It is not allowed in evaluations to ride alone on the second day and it is also not allowed to have a replacement or 'dummy' horse on the track. One person who had a horse at the farm offered to ride on the track so Gudmar could show both of the horses, however, that was not allowed. The only option was to find another rider to ride Gudmar's extra horse. Laura Benson jumped in to help in this situation and ride the other horse. As it turned out, the

score of the horse Laura rode was improved. There are also issues where some riders have to jump quickly from one horse to show another because of the minimal amount of riders showing. These horses are grouped together on the second day by their ranking of the day before and the readability. Laura felt it all worked well. She was helping to warm up the horses to be shown by Gudmar and the judges were very accommodating and no pressure was put on to stay on schedule. Katrin felt that, unlike sport competitions, there is much less stress at evaluations with regard to keeping on schedule. Katrin has a few issues personally because this was her first time as USIHC representative at evaluations. She felt that next time it will be much easier since the Breeding Committee will have their Evaluation Handbook completed. The certificates are printed out from World Fengur directly and unfortunately they have our title incorrectly printed as 'United Icelandic Horse Congress'. Asta has written them a request for to correct that and will also ask them to put our logo on the certificate. Katrin has the certificate that Germany gives out for the Young Horse Evaluation. She is currently working with Asta on redesigning these for USIHC so they can be distributed at the evaluation. Bernie was intern judging at the Wisconsin Evaluation and was very please with the way the event proceeded.

Constitution Review Committee Report (Andrea Barber):

Andrea reports that this committee is moving along. Bernie had sent his concerns that he hoped the committee would review. The committee is going over them now starting with the election issues. The latest report is that Kari Wangard was going to draft some language regarding the timing of the election. At this time she is busy with the Evaluations, however, hopes to get that to the committee in a week or two.

Education Committee Report (Bernie Willis):

Presented by Alex Pregitzer:

The Education committee is working on the following projects -

1. breeding judges' education
2. sports judges' education
3. riding badge manual for theory classes
4. intern judges forms and cards
5. international Trainer C

1. Breeding judges' education

The committee had made a proposal that was presented to the Board in April. At this time, no plans yet for a seminar for interested students but we will pursue that idea.

2. sports judges' education

the original proposal was changed after the annual Dallas meeting and presented to the Board in April. At the meeting, some changes were discussed and Bernie had committed to make those changes and to email the corrected version to the Board.

Then next intern judge seminar will be offered at Winterhorse Park before Flugnirkeppni in the end of August. Instructor will be Marlise Grimm.

3. riding badge manual

due to lack of books / material that students can use to study in addition to theory lessons, we decided that the education committee will have to produce our own manual which will provide the most basic knowledge. Bernie, Katrin and Alex as well as Susanna have volunteered to work on this manual. The manual was started but it is an extremely time consuming project that will take some time before being finished. We are positive that we will be able to get more help and have some people that already offered their help.

The Flugnir Club will be hosting a youth and kids camp in July where the teaching will be based on the riding badge and an examine for the participants will be offered this upcoming fall.

4. intern judges forms and cards

The committee is working on suggestions for those

5. international Trainer C

Marlise Grimm will offer a first international Trainer C seminar at her farm this August. The seminar will be in English and I am working on a translation of the sign up form and requirements so that interested students have access to those. As soon as we have more detailed information translated available, this information should be made accessible for all of our members as we hope, this will just be the beginning of a series of international trainer's seminars.

Laura Benson has asked Bernie if this committee could use some help. She has conducted a number of riding badge programs and will be happy to help with this program. Bernie will be sure she gets on the committee with Alex. Katrin offered to send Alex's e-mail address so Laura can get on the committee. Laura would like to get this program moving a little better.

Pleasure Riding Committee Report (Andrea Barber):

Andrea reports that the Pleasure Riding is going as planned. She had received two more applications and those checks are on the way to Ed.

Policy and Procedure Committee Report (Anne Elwell):

Anne Elwell asked if the Board members had a change to review what she had sent via e-mail. Anne drew up a letter that would be sent to every election committee to read as follows:

Congratulations on your appointment to this year's Election Committee. The appointment is a recognition of not only your long involvement with the Congress but your personal reputations for organization and thoroughness in the many projects you have undertaken.

In order to provide guidance and consistency, the Board has approved several documents to be used by you in conducting the election. They include

1. Notice of Election
2. Ballot
3. Envelope
4. Membership slip
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

The requirements of the election process are set forth in the USIHC Constitution. The Constitution is a governing document of the organization which means that it cannot be changed without notice to the membership and a two-thirds vote. Therefore, the sections relevant to the election process must be followed without deviation.

The entire Constitution may be found on the USIHC website. The following sections are relevant to the election process:

Article III—Membership

Section 1: There shall be three classes of membership:

- (a) Individual Membership: Shall consist of natural persons residing in the U.S. or owning a horse in the U.S., including their island states and territories. Each individual member shall have one vote.
- (b) Junior Membership: Shall consist of natural persons residing in the U.S. including their island states and territories. They may participate in all activities but may not vote.
- (c) Family Membership: Shall consist of up to two adults and their children under the age of 18 years residing in the same household. Each of the two adults shall have one vote.

Article IV—Voting and Elections

Section 1: Each individual adult member is entitled to one vote for elections. Voting for elections will be accomplished by secret ballot. Mail-in ballots will be provided with instructions subsequent to the Notice of Elections....

Section 2: The President of the USIHC shall appoint the members of an election committee at least six months prior to an election. The Committee shall have no less than three members and no more than seven, all of whom shall be members in good standing with the USIHC. Members of the Board of Directors and candidates for election, as well as members of their immediate family, may not serve on the election committee. The election committee shall

- (a) elect its own chairperson
- (b) Notify the membership of elections by December 1st
- (c) Accept nominations until January 1st.
- (d) Prepare and mail out ballots to all members by January 15th.
- (e) Accept voted ballots until February 28th.
- (f) Count ballots with a majority of the election committee present at a location of their choosing.
- (g) Announce election results by March 7th.

Article VII—Board of Directors

Section 3: Nominations shall be in writing and signed by the Nominator and two Seconders, all of whom shall be Individual Members of the Congress and not of the immediately family of the Nominee, as well as the Nominee, who shall also be an Individual Member of the Congress. Unless a Director declines to run for re-election, he or she shall be deemed nominated for re-election.

Section 4: No two Directors may be elected from the same family.

Mailing labels will be provided to you by _____ prior to the December 1st deadline. These labels will include all those deemed eligible to vote, pursuant to Article III of the Constitution. The only determination regarding membership that will have to be made by you is during your review of the nominations. Please review the definition of an Individual Member set forth in Section III above. In the event of a Nominee, Nominator, or Secunder being someone

not resident in the U.S., that person shall be required to provide proof that he or she is the recorded owner of a horse located in the U.S.

Should you be unclear at any point about the requirements of the Constitution, please contact the USIHC President about your concern before moving forward.

Anne runs through some of the finer points of interest in the letter. Anne said that with this letter we will include a copy of all the documents. The letter above quotes every requirement that is stated in the Constitution that pertains to the election process. Anne felt that last year it looked as though the committee started out being aware of the Constitution and then it seemed to get hazy. In Anne's letter, she felt by laying it out in this letter, we help prevent this from happening again. Bernie also indicated that the individuals who are on the election committee this year set their own work schedule and can be a bit flexible to accommodate our date requirements. Anne felt that since we have a different election committee every year, we needed something that was a generic package that could go out to everybody. At the end of the letter, Anne indicated that they must contact the President of USIHC with any points that they might misunderstand. Bernie asked about the mailing label paragraph. Anne reminded us that we had a problem with the definition of membership and that in order to vote the member had to be a resident in the U.S. or have to own a horse in the U.S. The Constitution Committee should really take up the issue of whether or not we want to continue that or not. It was useful at one time but she doesn't feel it is useful any longer. Anne felt this was an issue the Constitution Committee should review. Andrea verified that this issue is on their list of items to review. Anne said that as of right now, we have to work with the Constitution as it reads and she didn't feel that this is something her committee should wrestle with. She felt the Board should figure out how to deal with this issue. Anne said the election committee should not have to figure out if members are eligible to vote or not. We as a Board should decide that. The easiest way for us to decide this is for the Board to provide the election committee with mailing labels of those who actually are eligible. Caryn said that she did create a voting board list mailing label and individual list because that was requested by the election committee. She ran into a problem last year and in order to fix it but accidentally pushed the wrong button and then provided Martina with an incorrect list that came from the Quarterly mailing list. Caryn said that we do now have mailing lists for eligible voters. She does not believe that they include foreign addresses but she will check further into this. Anne said that is exactly what we need to check now. Caryn said that it now each family member is listed separately so each family that has two adults in it will each get an election ballot. It's not sent where a family automatically gets two ballots in one envelope. Each member of the family will get their own ballot. Caryn said there are about five youth individual members and the only way they can get the Quarterly is if we manual mail it to them. Caryn has the ability to put the work 'Youth' next to their name so they know not to mail ballots to them. Anne asked if there is a place we can list the ages of kids. Caryn said it is only listed in the data base and only if that information is submitted on the application. At times they do not fill it out. Occasionally, as in the girl from Germany who is now on our World Championship Team, she wrote in that she was a junior and it turned out that she was not a junior by U.S. standards. Occasionally, she will get someone who pays the full adult membership but they are actually considered youth, then there is no way of finding out that information. So there are a few incidents like this that would allow ballots to sneak by that would not technically be valid voters. Caryn felt that 90 % of the members fill out the complete membership application so the proper information is in the data base. Anne asked if there is any way of knowing when a kid turns 18 and they become an adult member. Caryn said no but Doug has this issue taken care of on the on-line membership application by asking the date of birth rather than the age. Anne assumed that they would qualify as a junior member if they turned 18 during the year of membership. Caryn said that it is

different within FEIF and thought Sandie might have the information. Sandie said that Bernie could probably explain it to us. Bernie said the age is considered by the calendar year. Sandie gave an example: If a member turned 18 on Dec. 29th, she would be two days too old to go to a second youth FEIF cup event. Caryn said that Anne is correct in assuming that as of January 21st if you are 17 years old you would be considered a youth member throughout the entire year. Bernie said that is correct. Anne asked that if we took this position we would be following FEIF guidelines with this issue. Ed agreed. However, Katrin said that she felt we were incorrect. She thought that if a person is 17 years old on January 1st, and you turn 18 later that year, FEIF considers you 18 the whole year. Anne thought it was the opposite. Katrin said it is not. She said that this goes with eligibility for sport classes. FEIF says that if you turn 16 during the calendar year, which is the last year you are allowed to compete in the youth category. If you turn 21 in that calendar year it is the last year you are eligible to compete as a young rider. Anne asked Katrin to find the rule so it can be made completely clear. Katrin will find this rule and e-mail it to the Board so we can review it. Katrin agreed. Anne felt we should follow whatever the FEIF rule is. Bernie had a question as to the blank in the sentence as to who will provide the mailing labels. Currently Caryn said that she provides the mailing labels but everything should be on the web site before the next election and Ed will be able to access that information. Anne said that we should say 'Mailing labels will be provided to you by the Board of Directors...'

Caryn had another issue to address. What she typically does is after the ballots go out in December, but as people join up to a certain time the committee tells her, she will continue to send them names until the committee tells her to stop. This is indicated by a certain date that they have time to receive them back. Bernie said therein lies the problem. Anne felt this was incorrect. Caryn says that the Constitution says if we send out a mailing list for the end of December, that doesn't mean all those people have renewed their membership by the time that list of mailing labels goes out to the elections committee. Ed felt this was a problem Caryn said that when the committee is ready to count the votes, she sends them a current voting list that they check the ballots to. This is the procedure that Caryn has followed for the last two years but may need review. Both Mark and Martina would then hand send those ballots out to members who missed after January. Caryn asked that if someone is a new member after January and the elections aren't until February, isn't that member allowed to vote in that year? Anne said that is what we must decide. Bernie said that he is comfortable with sending notices to members on the first of December and those are the people who get to vote for that year. Barb agreed. She felt that we need to be a little stricter about this. There seems to be this foggy line about who is a member and who is not and who is allowed to vote and who is not. Bernie felt that if you are not a member by the first of December then you wait until next time to vote. Caryn felt that most people maybe were waiting to join the first of the year to become a member. Andrea would not want to put a cut off date as of December 1st because we allow some time during the new year before the membership laps. Anne said that clause was dropped from the rules on March 31st. Andrea is uncomfortable saying December 1st. Sandie agrees because so many people are busy with the holidays, vacations and Christmas. Caryn felt that they were saying if you were a member in 2006, you vote for 2007. But if you become a member in 2007 in January, then you don't get to vote for 2007. Anne and Bernie agreed. Andrea asked to verify. She asked if Caryn meant to say if someone is a member for the prior year, then you get to vote. Caryn said yes. Andrea then posed this scenario; What if we have someone who was not a member in the prior year but send their dues in on December 1st? Anne said no. Ed said sure. Katrin said "in the middle of July for that matter". Andrea said that one person said yes and another said no, so there is still confusion on this issue. Anne said that if they are a member in the middle of July, then they are a member for 2007. Caryn said no, if they're on mailing labels. The only way Caryn can search mailing labels would be current members. If you join November 30th, your membership would be put in as a current member and your name would be on that mailing label.

Anytime someone joins before December 1st, they would be sent the voting information. Caryn also said; actually the person who joined for 2007, before December 1st would be allowed to vote. Anyone who joined January 1st would not be allowed to vote. Bernie asked no matter when we have the cut off it's going to be a problem for somebody. Anne agreed. Ed said that we will just have to make it clear as to the cut off date. Caryn said that it's a lot easier for her to make the cut off as of December 1st, however, she feels bad that there will be some people who actually joined but still do not get the benefit of voting. Bernie also feels bad but no matter what date we chose, it will be bad for somebody. Ed said that it's always going to be a true statement so it doesn't matter what date we pick. Caryn agreed that it would be a lot easier to have a specific cut off date because she wouldn't have to send out the individuals who joined after the December 1st notice date. Bernie said the process has gotten too complicated. Anne said she would like to see the procedure made simpler until the Constitutional Review Committee has a chance to look at this issue to see if they can find an easy solution. Andrea said that this is exactly what Kari Wangard is drafting now with regard to changing the election dates to make the process work easier so we won't have this problem. Caryn is fine with it as long as everybody is clear as to what has been done in the past and as to what we want to do now. Bernie asked if anyone objected to having a membership cut off date for voting as of December 1st. No one objected, however, Andrea felt that we needed to really publicize this change very well. Anne suggested that we put it on the web site and in the Quarterly. Andrea said that we should do this as soon as possible so everybody knows that they need to get their membership renewals in by November 30th in order to be able to vote in the next elections. Bernie asked if we get a notice of the election if we are a member on December 1st. If you do not renew your membership by February 28th, then your vote does not count. Andrea understood but stated again that we need to publicize this change very early and very well. Caryn sends two separate mailing lists. She sends one that includes current member in December which were members for the entire year and then on February 28th she sends only those paid up members for the year. However, that list will also include names of new people that have joined after January 1st because she can only sort out a current list of members. Bernie verified that the February 28th list would have names of people who did not get the notice and who did not vote so it would not matter. Caryn agreed and also said that she was just trying to make this process clear to the Board. So if someone wanted to know what the average was of members who voted, it wouldn't really be accurate because there may be some new members on the list who joined after January. Bernie sees the problem but doesn't feel it is a big problem. Anne asked us to back up a bit because the Board has to deal with a process for figuring out who are the non-resident people and deciding who is eligible to vote. Ed felt that none of the non-resident members should be allowed to vote. Anne said that we have a Constitution that says non-resident people who don't own a horse in the U.S. are not allowed to vote and we must follow that. Caryn said that means we will have to pull up a list and verify which non-resident members own and horse in the U.S. or not. If they do own a horse in the U.S. then they must be sent a ballot. This is going to have to be verified every year. Katrin asked what horse ownership have to do with voting and knowledge about Congress. Anne said originally when this was put into the Constitution way back in 1986, there was a very real and concrete danger that there would be particularly a lot of Icelanders who would be able to determine an awful lot of things if they get vote because we had very few members at that time. Anne said that when they were the Federation they had about 19 members. Anne felt that this is no longer useful. We will no longer have the threat of non-resident members joining the Congress so they can affect the outcome of things. Times have changed, however, for the time being, we are stuck with it. Ed said that as long as Andrea deals with this issue, this will be the last time we will be stuck with it. Ed and Katrin agreed. Andrea had a question on this issue; the way it's written now the non-resident member only has to own a horse in the U.S. but it doesn't say it has to be registered. Anne said, however, that is the easiest

way to check it. Katrin felt that the horse has to be registered or there would be no way to verify this part of the Constitution. Anne said that without the registered horse the verification process becomes too burdensome and we'd then have to get affidavits from the non-members as to what horse they actually owned that was in this country. Caryn said that currently in the Constitution it is not worded 'registered'. However both Anne and Caryn felt that this would not happen and Anne felt we needed to come up with a solution that was easiest for the Board to verify. She felt the solution was to word it that if they non-resident member owned a registered horse in the U.S.; they would then get to vote. Katrin asked if it mattered where the horse is. Anne said no it doesn't matter as long as it is in the U.S. Anne asked Caryn if this non-member issue involves a lot of people. Barb asked if someone in Europe could register their horse in the U.S. Caryn said no and Anne said she didn't think so. Caryn said that the horse has to reside in this country in order to be registered. Barb asked Caryn if she verifies that fact with each registered horse. Caryn said that the only horses she registers are those that have certificates or passports from other countries that are mailed from the U.S. She never sees something come to the Registry from another country. Caryn then said that actually there had been some horses transferred from Canada. She felt that if this would happen it's quite rare and would not make a difference. Ed felt that if Andrea and the Constitution Review committee does their job, this shouldn't be an issue for too much longer. Anne wanted to make sure everything was covered as follows:

Two sets of mailing labels will be sent to the Election Committee by the December 1 deadline. One set is for the election notice and the other is for the mailing of the ballots. Anne will make a note of this for her document. The only thing that is complicated for the Election Committee is that only individual members, which means not people residing in other countries and who do not own a horse here. Only individual members can be a nominee and a nominator or seconder. The Election Committee needs to know that because they are the only ones that are going to see who is the nominee, nominator or seconder. Anne felt that maybe, when those nominations come in, they should check those nominations with Caryn so they don't have to look at this issue or make any decisions about it. Caryn said either with her or whoever is handling the membership at the time. Bernie said that is why he feels we need to have a position printed in the blank that was on Anne's document. Anne agreed and asked if it should be the treasurer or the registrar. Katrin felt it should be the registrar because that person is doing all the computer work anyway and working with all the data bases. Caryn felt that was only until the membership information goes on line. Ed felt that it still had to be some official title in charge of this. Katrin said that even when the membership information goes on line there is people who have different access to the online data base then the general public or other people. Caryn said correct but the Treasurer at that time, will most likely take over the job that Caryn has been doing for Ed. The reason Caryn had been doing it for Ed is because she is the only one with access so far until the information is on line. Caryn asked if we could put both the Registrar and the Treasurer. Katrin said that we should put the wording of 'the person designated by the Board' so that we can make a decision every year as to what would work best. Katrin felt that with Asta as the Registrar she would be able to do a brilliant job if somebody else doesn't feel comfortable with it. The problem that Anne sees is that when somebody will have to check the membership to verify the nominators, nominees and seconders. She doesn't feel we can say 'the Registrar/Treasurer' so she feels we need to indicate one position. Anne used this example: '. . .by the Registrar unless otherwise instructed by the Board'. Ed felt that would work. Anne said that if we wanted to change it to the Treasurer, then that would work also. Anne is trying to come up with a form that is so generic that it will operate no matter what and so that we don't have to keep redesigning them. Ed agreed. Bernie asked if we all agree that will work. There were no objections. Anne said she would re-word that paragraph and check it with everyone on the Board via e-mail. The only other two forms that need to be revised were the notice of election

which was Rich's original form and Martina adopted it adding new names for that election year. The forms are actually fine but we need to add blanks where new information is used every year so that each Election Committee can fill in their names and addresses, etc. On the ballots, the one that was designed by Martina is fine with only a few changes. The 'select three candidates, no more or no less' statement needs to be correct to 'select up to three candidates'. Anne also said she changed paragraph two so that it says the same thing 'you can vote for less than three candidates but not more'. In paragraph three she deleted the three so it just says the names of the candidates to who you wish to vote. She took out the year in item six so each committee can put in the current year. Anne felt that she should also delete the last paragraph that says in paragraph eight. 'the results will be posted on March 7 ____, on the Congress web site.' Anne didn't feel this needs to be on the ballot. She felt that only the voting instructions should be on the ballot. Katrin and Bernie agreed. Barb asked if something should be said about the deadlines that are stated on the Constitution. Anne agreed and said the members will have all that with the election notice and it shouldn't be on the ballot. Barb agreed. Andrea felt it made sense. Anne also asked that in her letter to the Election Committee, she felt they needed to be told what to do after they counted the votes. She felt that we should follow the procedure that was done this year which was to notify Bernie and Bernie then posts it to the web site. Andrea said that the Election Committee must notify the President, who then calls each of the candidates as to whether they were voted in or not and then the results is posted to the web site. Andrea felt it was only fair that they get a personal phone call before seeing it posted on the web site. Bernie felt that was a nice thing to do and Anne agreed. Anne then stated that the wording would be much like: 'notify the President who will notify the candidate and see that it's posted to the web site. Andrea agreed. Caryn pointed out a typo in her document. Anne said that there were probably more of those types of corrections but wanted to know where she saw the typo. Caryn said that there was a typo on the same page as where we were discussing the mailing labels. Anne found it and will make further corrections and get all of this done by the weekend so that everyone can review it and put it together and get it out to the Election Committee.

Bernie asked Anne a question about operating procedures for decisions. Under #1, 'If a question is raised and answered and the answer does not give rise to an objection, approval is also assumed' Bernie's question is if 8 Board members are not watching their e-mail and therefore do not object, then it is considered approved. Anne agreed. Bernie said that this requires that everyone must monitor the e-mail list constantly or anything could happen. Ed said that the very first sentence takes care of that. There is a presumption of competence for all board members in exercising their responsibilities. Barb objected saying that she didn't feel that someone going on vacation would indicate that a Board Member is incompetent. Bernie just wanted to get some other Board Members thoughts on this. Anne said that we needed to back up a bit. This procedure is only for items such as when Caryn asked if she could get a separate e-mail list for the Registry and these kinds of things. The request for feed back. Anne said that it is not like a vote. She said that if somebody is so out of the loop that they wouldn't see Caryn's post or they wouldn't find out about it until the e-mail/telephone number had been created. At that time they would say that was a terrible idea to have a separate e-mail address for the registry. Anne said that we could raise the issue again and discuss and consider it again. Then if the majority of the Board thought this was not a good idea, then we could change the decision. She felt this procedure was really for the kinds of informal things were we are looking for some kind of heads-up on something. It would not be used for some really complicated issue. Those more complicated issues must be decided during the Board Meetings and a vote via teleconference. Bernie asked for us to then read the next sentence. Anne agreed with the sentence saying that most of these items will be routine and not have to be recorded. Bernie then asked that with this procedure, we will have items that will slip by without any kind of recording

process. Anne felt that quite frankly these types of things really don't need feedback and they should be considered part of the job of the Committee Chairman. As far as Anne was concerned, Caryn could have set up a separate e-mail address for the registry as part of her job and other than just letting us know, we wouldn't necessarily have to know. Bernie agreed with that specific instance however, he felt someone needs to know that it happened. Anne said they would find out when they see a separate e-mail address. Anne stated that this procedure is for little stuff. Bernie said that if nobody else sees a red flag with this then he is prepared to accept it. Caryn felt that there is never going to be a time when you have at least nine people where there will be at least four or five people that will become aware of it. Anne agreed this is something that could be a potential problem. Caryn said that when the Board Member would get home they would be aware of the change since it would still be on their computer. Ed felt that it is just for picking out every day stuff to be decided on. Bernie said that if everyone is comfortable with it then he will also go with it. Anne said that it could be a problem and that we should have a presumption of competence; however, a presumption is only a presumption. You can still say that you had recognized that something had not been happening. For example Anne said one could say: "Gee Ed, why isn't that happening. Ed would then say that he felt it should not happen and then we could say no we feel that it should happen" and then the Board can decide to change it. Anne felt that we can't and she certainly doesn't want to be cognizant of everything everybody is doing when they are doing their job. These are nine intelligent people. Ed said that a saying where he works is "Don't pick the fly specks out of the pepper". Caryn is hopeful that when people give their monthly report, people will include these decisions in their report. Anne feels that when we think there is something that might be controversial; we tend to raise the issue anyway. Anne felt that our instincts are pretty good at keeping the Board informed of important or even not so important items of interest.

Katrin would like to make one more point about the election information. In FIPO, .32, it says eligible riders and that is about international competitions. It says that where there are international competitions there are no special classes for youngsters as 16 or younger in brackets it says (that turn 16 in the calendar year) or over can compete. That is the official rule with FEIF. The age is as of the calendar year. Katrin will look for other areas that will verify this rule. Anne asked if she could research this further and if we find consistencies then she feels we should follow the FEIF lead on this issue. Caryn asked that if when they turn 18 and they pay a junior membership in December they can vote. Caryn asked how she will know that. Ed said she will not know until the information is on the application. Caryn asked if members who turned 18 in that calendar year can no longer be considered a junior and if they would then be required to have an adult membership. Anne stated that she will not have to find that information. Ed said not to worry about it. Bernie said that while they may be considered adult individual members once they turn 18, they actually didn't pay the adult individual membership fee. Caryn agreed. Katrin later found another reference to the age requirements of FEIF. It stated that "Riders of at least 16 years old or not more than 20 years old in the calendar year". Anne asked her to put this up on the Board e-mail list so there is a record somewhere. Sandie asked Katrin where she found it. Katrin said she found it in FIPO.

Promotion Committee (Laura Benson):

Laura asked if everyone had reviewed the mailing labels that she designed and if everyone has approved them. All agreed. Laura asked if someone would like to have them printed and then distributed. Bernie asked Caryn if there was a way these labels could be printed right from the computer to the Avery labels. Caryn said that Laura should have no problem doing that herself if she sized them to a certain size. Laura verified that they are sized specifically for a label size. Laura did not see the point of printing them if she does not have any of the brochures. Caryn

said that she also does not have any brochures. She said that they can take this label design and get the Avery basic template size. Laura explained that Avery offers an 8 or 10 label pages and whoever is distributing the brochures can print them up as needed. Andrea Barber said that she could take this to a printer and have some made. Laura agreed and Andrea said that she didn't know if that format will be acceptable for them but she was willing to run it over to them to see. All agreed. Andrea explained that printing out labels from computers is difficult to do. Katrin said, however, that once they are lined up, then they are easy. Andrea said that she was willing to check into the price of printing labels up from Laura's design. Barb told Caryn that she has a box of the brochures from Iceland and she was told to mail some to her. Caryn thought about these brochures and she doesn't feel they are appropriate for her to mail to new members because they do not have any information about Congress itself. Caryn would like to send brochures to people who are registering horses and are not members. So they already own the horse and she feels they really need information regarding Congress so they can join. Bernie said that the main point of the brochures from Iceland is to give information about the breed to those who are interested. What Caryn needs is a brochure that Laura will design that will give individuals information regarding Congress and how to join. Laura said that project is next on her list of things to do. Andrea asked if there was any work on whether we are going to be allowed to print the Icelandic Brochures from Iceland. Bernie had been in contact with Hulda Giersdottir but he has not heard anything back to this regard. Katrin said that Hulda informed her that she would contact Bernie. Laura asked how the Horse Breeders Association got permission to print these brochures, then there shouldn't be a problem for us to get permission to reprint these brochures from Iceland. Katrin said that she thought the only issue they had was the photos. Bernie said the Horse Breeders Association may have paid for them and then it would be o.k. Katrin assumes that is the case also. Laura then asked if Ed had received the Equine Affair invoice that she had sent him. Ed thought that he did receive it, wrote a check and sent it off. Anne then mentioned to Laura that Equis is doing a gaited horse article on Icelandic Horses and they asked for photos. Laura is aware of that. Anne asked if Laura requested a copy of the article and Laura said no. Anne felt that might be a good idea. She felt that many of the articles that she has noticed have a lot of misinformation. Laura agreed to get a copy of the text before going to print. Anne felt that would be o.k. She said that these magazines are always willing to get that information to the right person to be sure it is correct. Barb had noticed that many of the articles would get information from someone who represents themselves as a gaited horse expert. Some of the information that she had seen from these individuals regarding riding Icelandic Horses can be damaging in her opinion. Both Anne and Laura will be working on the Congress Brochures as their next priority. Ed informed Laura that he had not received the invoice from her for \$417 to cover the space at the Equine Affair in Massachusetts. Laura was concerned since she had sent the invoice to Ed six days ago. Caryn verified that it had not arrived to the post office box when she checked on Monday. Laura asked if we could get a list of contact information for all the Board members, that would be very helpful. Katrin said that it was on the Yahoo Groups web site; however, Andrea informed us that it is not updated. Katrin asked Andrea to update the Yahoo Groups information.

Regional Club Committee (Andrea Barber):

Andrea reports there is nothing new to report.

Quarterly Committee (Anne Elwell):

Information for the Quarterly has been coming in on a regular basis. The next issue looks to be on schedule. There is still time to get any lingering information in the September issue. It would be great to have the Youth Cup 2008 tryout information. We are also starting to accumulate information for the winter issue which should have Election and Annual Meeting information. Barb added that after talking to Sandie we did get the 2008 Youth Cup information into the September issue. Barb was concerned that if this information is delayed, the weather had

turned to winter in many parts of the country and then it's difficult for the kids to get videos completed. Anne will work at getting the election items in the Quarterly also.

Web Site Committee (Katrin Sheehan)

Katrin reports that nothing has been done on the web site. She had written some a few e-mails today regarding the slow process of getting this web site take care of. Mark had contacted Katrin but has not done anything that was asked of him prior to this meeting. She hopes that he will be able to take care of those items in the next few days and she will update the board at that time. Anne asked what he was asked to do. Mark had asked to give a bid on designing a new web site layout and nothing had been done. Andrea feels that it might be a little inappropriate that the chair of the committee is bidding on the job. Anne asked why she felt that way. Andrea again stated that she didn't feel it was appropriate for the chair of a committee to bid on a paying project of that committee. Barb said that if you look at it that way, then maybe the chair of the breeding committee shouldn't have evaluations. Anne said that while Mark can submit a bid it is still the Board who makes the decisions. Barb stated that it's so difficult to get members to help and volunteer toward these projects. She felt that the organization needs to utilize these talents that are available within this organization. Andrea agrees with Barb but still feels that it is inappropriate for a chairman of a committee to bid on a paid project for that committee. Andrea said that if he would step down and then bid on the project, she would feel better about it. Anne asked why it was a problem since he did not make the decision on who does the project. Barb felt that he has a right to bid on the job just as anyone else would since the Board makes the decision on who does the job. Andrea said she was just expressing her feelings. Ed thanked her very much. Caryn said the bigger project is to get the site cleaned up at this point. Katrin agreed. Andrea pointed out that she had tried to contact him a number of times and he never gets back to her. She has since given up on trying contacting him. Now when she needs to make a change, she goes directly to Asta because she knows it will get done. Katrin agrees. Ed asked Katrin to follow up on this further and report back to us. Katrin said she felt the new design is very much needed on the Congress web site. She said that when she refers new people to the site, they phone her back to ask again where they need to find the information. She feels the web site is not organized well enough to make it easy to navigate. Barb agreed. Anne also agreed saying that she always thought it might have been the fact that she has difficulty with navigating the internet but other people have told her the same thing. Caryn said that Asta designed the site some time back. Caryn added that if the Board goes ahead with keeping Asta as the registrar at the end of the year, she will not continue the updating of the web site. Anne agreed. Caryn said that it's just not fair to keep loading work on someone who is responsible and does things quickly. Katrin said that if Asta does not want to continue the updates to the web site, that Congress will be at a great loss without her help on the web site. Caryn said that we may have to make this a paid position so that this information gets updated on a more timely basis. She added that with a volunteer, then we cannot expect these updates to be done as quickly. Caryn said that working with Mike, things are done pretty much immediately. Caryn said it is quite different if we ask for change from volunteers such as Mark or Doug who do these things on a volunteer basis and may not be done as quickly. Caryn felt that the Board might want to look at getting a paid person to keep the web site updated. Bernie asked Caryn if she felt Asta would want to continue keeping the web site updated for a fee. Caryn said that she thinks Asta feels she does not have the time to do that along with the registrar position. Bernie asked Katrin to check again with Mark and report back to us. Anne asked if anyone had considered checking with Rebecca Bing since she also designs web sites. Andrea said that Rebecca designs beautiful web sites. Katrin said that we should have at least three bids for the site; however, Mark had offered to bid on the project. She has asked him about it three times and still has not gotten a response. However, Katrin would like to have his bid included with the others when she gives the Board this information. Andrea stated that as chairman of the committee, he should be the one getting these bids. Katrin agreed saying that she is supposed to be just the liaison. Andrea said that Mark or whoever he would like to delegate the job to, should be getting the bids. Ed asked for verification that Katrin said she was waiting for Mark to get back to her and that he committed to do so in a few days. Katrin verified from his e-mail that he stated he is very busy but is working on a proposal for the web site and will try to have it completed before the weekend of June 30th. Andrea stated that Mark is only speaking of his own bid for the project. She felt he should be getting other bids as well. Anne asked if he was asked to solicit other bids. Andrea felt we shouldn't have to ask him to solicit other bids. Katrin said that he is the head of the committee and he should be able to lead that committee. Katrin said that Mark is letting her tell him what to do and what not to do. Anne said it appears as though he isn't doing that. Ed stated that Katrin needs to be pretty candid with him when you speak to him regarding this issue. Caryn suggested that, as liaison, Katrin gives Mark a list of what she feels his responsibilities are. Andrea agreed. Caryn thinks that he may not be clear on what his responsibilities are. Andrea said that it possibly is just a misunderstanding.

Youth Committee (Sandie Weaver):

In order to avoid the \$35 bank charge for wiring money to the FEIF Youth Camp account, Sandie asked that the \$100 be sent straight to the Youth Camp attendee. To start Bernie verified Sandie's request to send the \$100 to Morgan Venable. This amount is the usual amount sent for each Youth Camp individual. Sandie felt that since

there is only one youth going and the time was drawing near, it would be o.k. to send the money to Morgan rather than directly to the Youth Camp organizer. All Board members agreed via e-mail.

Sandie reminded Bernie that he had also asked about the Youth Committee Budget. She said that six or seven years ago the fee was \$500 for three kids and two or three years later Sandie asked if the budget could be doubled. The Board voted on that and now the budget is \$1,000. This information is recorded in the archives if anyone would like to verify it. Sandie said that so far this year, there have been no expenses so the \$100 will be the first expense for the year. Last year Sandie said that there were five kids that had gone to Youth Cup so \$500 was spend and an additional \$80 for stalls so \$900 were spend on the kids at last years Youth Cup. Bernie stated that we pay our bills as they come in and we don't, as a rule, have an annual budget for things. We haven't operating in that way in the past and thinks it's important that we do in the future. Caryn agreed with Sandie's budget and said that is the only committee that we've ever had a budget for. Ed said that there doesn't seem to be any objection for this one youth to get the \$100 directly. All agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

Caryn Cantella (Proposal Tracking System) (Membership On Line) Doug sent an experiment program for her to look at and try on Sunday, June 15th, regarding the Proposal Tracking System and the Membership On-Line System. Caryn looked at both systems but was not able to get into them. The programs were saying they did not like her password. One problem that Doug brought to her attention was that the server we have for our web site at the time does not support what the System needs. Caryn tried to contact Mike, who is familiar with our system. Mike e-mailed Caryn and said he would like to talk to her about this but has not yet heard from him by phone. Caryn has concerns that any change in the server not work well with the registry programs. She is told that they do not work in the same sort of data base. Bernie asked if Caryn and Mike will work out how to support Doug's request. Caryn agreed and said the web site server he is suggesting is less expensive then what we are using. She read an e-mail from Mark that said that he thought that the server was fine and powerful enough. Caryn feels there area few issues that we have not considered the cost of. If we have the on-line membership and people are able to pay by Pay Pal, our cost to use the Pay Pal service will be \$5.23 for each membership or renewal. The cost to use for paying for a Farm Listing will be \$3.49. If someone upgrades their membership from Individual to Family that will cost \$0.88. Caryn is a little concerned about the \$5.23 fee for the new and renewal of memberships. Caryn said that at one point we figured it was \$27 per member to send a Quarterly. If we now add an additional \$5.23 per member for the use of Pay Pal, we are close to \$33 of expenses to Congress per member to run the organization. Andrea said that we could add that fee to anyone who would become a member and pay on line. Caryn said that we could do that. Ed said that it made sense to add that additional fee to those who paid by Pay Pal. Doug also talked to her about getting a hosting service to encrypt information keep it secure. Caryn said we could purchase a secure certificate for the site to protect the files; however, Doug did not give her any costs for this. Since this information was just sent to her on Monday, she was not able to get additional information. Doug also asked where we wanted to put the Proposal Tracking System on the web site and his suggestion was to put it in the Committee area. Caryn agreed. Caryn looked at the application that was going to be used and it did have a section to indicate the age of the member and it seemed fairly complete, however, she was not able to get back into the program a second time to word with it further. Ed was happy to hear that progress is being made. Caryn said she will continue to work with Doug on the programs and talk with Mike about potential problems, if any, with changing the server.

Anne Elwell (Youth Panel Update): Eileen is calling all the parents individually. She has given up trying to get John and Rich to respond to this task Caryn asked if Eileen had talked to any of the parents and Anne did not know. Barb said that Eileen was at Winterhorse Park in

Wisconsin for the Evaluations and had probably just returned from that event so may just be starting to think about calling the parents. Caryn asked that when the minutes for the Special Meeting for the Youth Cup Issue are completed that Anne will be sending something to the parents. Anne said that when the minutes are done, she will review them and see if any changes need to be done in her draft letter and get that out to the Board to look at and approve and then it can be sent to the parents. Barb went back to the tapes of the Special Meeting to review the points that the Youth Panel had recommended and, even on the recording of the meeting, everyone seemed so confused. She felt it was important to transcribe the meeting minutes a little more closely to a word-for-word transcription if it was o.k. with the Board. In going back through the tapes, she found that she missed some of the extra comments. She asked the Board if they felt she should take the additional time to transcribe these minutes more closely to what was actually said. For example, at one point in the meeting we all agreed to something and then later Andrea even state that it all seemed pretty confusing. Bernie remembers that there was an issue as to who would be involved with the three person panel to select future Youth Cup leaders. Barb agreed and added that on the tape, one person agreed and then disagreed later. So Barb asked that if it was o.k. to take a little more time, she would like to transcribe them a little more closely to word-for-word. Caryn said that her comment on this issue was that the Youth Panel there should be a three personal pane and Caryn said that Sandie should be one of the three and she thought that everybody had agreed to that. That is her recollection but it would be good to review the recording to confirm that. Ed agreed. Caryn didn't remember any objections to Sandie being one of the Three Person Panel that the Youth Panel recommended to chose Youth Cup Leaders. Anne stated that it was not what the Youth Panel recommended. Caryn agreed and again stated that was what she suggested. Bernie asked Anne what the panel recommended. Anne said the Panel there should be a three person committee created by the youth committee consisting of two people from the Youth Committee and one would come from a past participating youth from the Youth Cup. Caryn said that the only role the panel recommended was that Sandie had vis-à-vis, the Youth Cup was an advisory role to assist and supervise the program and in selecting the future Country Team Leader for the Youth Cup. Caryn said that they did not recommend that Sandie be a member of this Three Person Panel. Caryn said that at the time we were discussing it, they didn't come out and say that, but Caryn said that Sandie should be one of the Three-Member Panel and she believes there was no objection to it. Bernie said that it looks like Barb needs to go through the tape and come up with better information on this. Caryn said that she realizes Barb has been busy. Barb stated that the minutes are taking a little longer then she had anticipating. Sandie felt that the minutes and the letter should be done first before any further steps are taken. Ed said that we need to get the minutes finalized so that we can take the further recommended steps. Barb agreed and will get the minutes completed over the weekend.

Katrin Sheehan (2008 Annual Meeting): Katrin said that she could secure the same prices we had in Dallas for the 2007 meeting. Everything would be exactly the same; \$99 for the rooms and the banquet price would be the same. Katrin asked the evening before the annual meeting our guest speaker. The hotel representative asked if we needed that room again so Katrin left it on the agenda for the time being. She felt that if something interesting comes up we just may need that room. The hotel will allow us to reserve that room with only 30 days advanced notice. Bernie asked what our time frame is for using the hotel in Dallas. Katrin only asked her now soon in advance we need to inform them as to how many rooms we need and they would need 30 days advance notice. Bernie said that we have about more then five months to figure out an alternative location if we would like. Katrin is working on an alternative to Dallas and she would like to get more particulars but it is looking good and may possibly be less expensive. This location is in Madison, Georgia. Katrin said the nearest airport is Atlanta (Delta hub) which

would be 50 minutes drive by car to the new location. Katrin is working on transportation at this time and the questions as to how long individuals can wait for transportation at the airport. She is told that the norm is up to two hours. So far that is the only issue. The rooms would be less expensive, the rooms would be better and the entertainment would be much better. Barb added that she had heard the airport is extremely nice and would not be difficult to spend additional time waiting. Katrin said there are many restaurants and comfortable places to wait along with internet access. Bernie said that we have had this meeting for three years in Dallas and it might be nice to have a change. Katrin said that we still have Dallas on hold so she will call them again to see how far in advance she needs our commitment. Ed agreed. Katrin said that she will not need that much longer to look into the rest of the information for the Georgia location. She states that the rooms and food information is set and she also has two Icelandic Horse individuals committed for the event and also has some ideas for people who do not want to be involved in horse related events. She is excited about this location and feels it would turn out pretty nice. She said that Madison was the number one small town of America so there are many sites to see for people who do not want to fully take part in the horse related part of the meeting.

Katrin Sheehan (Reimbursement of Sport judging expenses for the competition in

Kentucky 2006): Caryn proposes that since Gudmar had more than one judge, that we do not pay for the expense. Caryn's feeling is that the reason we pay for FEIF judges is to try to bring in judges for those shows who cannot afford that expense. If you are having two and three judges, she doesn't feel that Congress should pay for the judge. That is Caryn's personal opinion. Ed agrees with Caryn. He feels it is not Congress's intent to subsidize judges forever anyhow and it was only to get competitions started. Barb asked if the show organizer has to show that there is a loss in the event to get reimbursement of the judge's expense. Katrin said that as far as she understood, the show organizer only has to show that there were 20 horses entered. Katrin said that in reviewing the rules at the time Gudmar asked for the reimbursement, he was eligible. The rules on the web site state: 'In certain circumstances the congress will pay for the travel expenses of the International Sport Judge and \$150 stipend toward his or her expenses. The show must meet all of the requirements of a sanctioned show including the collection of payment of any fees owed to the USIHC and it must have had an entry of at least 20 or more horses. This reimbursement is offered to help new shows get help in getting started. Once a show is established, it is expected that its entry fees will cover the cost of the judges and it is anticipated that reimbursement will be phased out for a show at some point. At the moment, no criteria have been determined for deciding when a show is not entitled to reimbursement. At some point we might limit the reimbursement to a certain number of shows per year or a certain number of years per show. We might decide to deny reimbursement to shows with large entries to require shows to have minimum entry fees or require shows to submit accounting of income and expense records to determine if reimbursement is warranted.' Caryn asked if Gudmar sent in his non-member/non-registered fees. Katrin said that Heidi told him he did everything correctly. However, Ed said he did not send them to him. Laura asked if he was already told he would be reimbursed. Katrin said no he was not. She said that Gudmar asked Heidi and she would present it to the Board for discussion and approval. Caryn asked if this competition was a year ago and Katrin said that the show was in November of 2006, however, he had asked Heidi about it much sooner but Katrin forgot to put it on the agenda until Heidi reminded her recently. Caryn asked if he had a loss at the show in November. Katrin had no idea if he had a loss. Barb said that is the reason she is questioning the requirements. She felt that if someone is going to be making a profit on a competition, then we should not subsidize the expenses. However, she said that if we take away the expenses of the other two judges and only using the expenses of that one judge and he still showed a loss on the event, then yes, she thinks Congress should help him. Laura agreed. Bernie said that he had taken the three judges to lunch and asked them who paid them to come to

the U.S. Bernie said the judges told him that they all paid their own way and they had come to support their friend and relative Gudmar. So Bernie stated that if he didn't have a loss, he certainly would have if he had to pay the judge's way. Caryn stated that this reimbursement policy has always been based on an honor system because there are so many variables and it was difficult to come up with a formula to regulate it. Caryn used the example that certain shows might have a competition with other breeds that have regulations in place for every one to follow. Katrin said that she will again check with Heidi to be sure all the requirements were met and then review this again. Bernie said that this policy states what we 'might' do. Barb agreed that it is too vague of a policy. Anne said that she wrote the policy and purposely made it vague because there was no way to come up with a formula that would work for every show. Caryn agreed saying that the Board worked a couple of years trying to come up with a workable formula and since there were so many different variables of how people can organize their shows, this was the only wording that seemed to work. It had always been based on show organizers being honest about needing help. Anne said that this policy is intentionally saying 'we do not know where this program is going and we will have to see what develops'. Laura asked if the best way for this particular situation, we should ask Gudmar for a list of his expenses. Katrin agreed. She will ask Heidi to get this information from Gudmar so we can make a better decision. However, Katrin feels that if the three judges did not charge Gudmar for their service, then she is assuming he should have been financially fine with the event. Caryn also reminded Katrin to ask whether he collected the required Congress fees. Anne said that she was sure he did because it is on his entry form. Katrin is also sure because he had Maggie Brandt taking care of that portion of the event for him. Caryn said that Katrin has to be sure that those fees collected were actually sent to Congress. Katrin thinks it might be a good idea to have the sport committee review this policy. She feels that possibly these rules may have been good at one time but need to change for current times. Barb added that just from a few of the shows that have gone on in the Midwestern and Eastern part of the country, she doesn't see any of them making a profit. She remembers that Dillsburg had a fantastic turnout of participants but it still lost a lot of money. Barb stated that she rarely makes a profit on the shows held at her farm. Katrin asked how the shows in California are able to make a profit. Barb didn't know but from what she sees on the web site, they have even less participation than the shows in her area. Caryn said that the shows put on by Heidi Kline and Asta Covert make money because they do not have to pay for the facility. However, the show organizers do not get any money back because the Andalusian's show organizer collect all fees. What they will do now for those shows is add an extra fee to the classes to help offset the judge's fees. Caryn said that riders are paying up to \$50 per class at those shows held with other breeds and Congress has still had to subsidize a portion of these shows. Caryn said that they are very popular shows and tried to remember the fee that the classes brought it and thought it was around \$545 to partially pay for the judge. She further explained that in shows that are organized with other breeds, we typically do not get any money back unless an additional amount is charged over and above what is already charged for classes. So in trying to come up with a formula, it is difficult to cover all scenarios of those shows that are organized with other breed and those that are organized at farms that have a track. Bernie asked Katrin to take this up further with Heidi and perhaps she can propose some modifications.

NEW BUSINESS:

Katrin Sheehan: International Breeding Judge certification in the U.S.
Katrin reports that the Education Committee has worked on this program for quite a while during the time that Bernie Willis chaired the Education Committee. Bernie had established the program with some help from Marliese Grimm. This program was presented to the Breeding

Committee for discussion. There were a few questions a few months ago; however, when she brought it back to the Breeding Committee for further discussion, there were not questions. Anne asked if there was a vote taken in the Breeding Committee. Katrin said no. Anne felt that for procedure purposes there should be a vote taken at the committee level before bringing it to the Board of Directors. Katrin agreed. Bernie asked if Anne feels we should delay approval of this program until Katrin gets that vote from the Breeding Committee. Anne didn't think that was necessary. She just felt that to be sure this proposal goes through the proper procedure a vote should be taken at the Committee level. Bernie said there was some discussion about the prerequisites of taking the breeding judge classes. Katrin said that discussion was in the very beginning. David Kline presented his questions; however, after he read FIZO he understood that in Iceland one has to have a college education to even be allowed to become a judge. Our prerequisites then were just fine with David. Katrin made it clear that anyone who is interested can take the clinics; however, they should not take the test if they are not familiar with the basic knowledge needed for the Icelandic Horse; meaning knowledge of the gaits and general knowledge of the horse. Bernie use an example: If we have a breeding horse evaluation seminar and ten people want to attend and 5 of them qualify under the program. Under this program all 10 could take the seminar but only 5 could take the test. Katrin agreed and said that individuals should be encouraged to take the seminar because of the knowledge that they could gain from them. Bernie said that in further discussion with Barbara Frische, Marlise Grimm and Katrin, did we come to the idea that if a person had sat through the entire seminar without the prerequisite, the next time around their first observation would then allow them to take test on the second time around. Katrin agreed that this would probably be a good idea for now because we don't have many prerequisites to offer people to obtain. Usually, individuals with the highest riding badge one can get are a prerequisite for all tests, such as trainer's certification, etc. Since we do not individuals who have obtained many prerequisites, then we cannot require it. We probably have a number of people who are knowledgeable and have a number of years of experience and knowledge with the Icelandic Horse but have not had the opportunity to gain these official prerequisites. If these individuals go through one of these seminars and the judge sees that they have the knowledge to do well, the judge can suggest that they take the test. Bernie asked if there were any questions from the Board. There were none. Bernie asked if there were any objections to accepting the Breeding Judge Certification. There were none. Sandie had a question about the college education requirement. Katrin verified that in Iceland there is a requirement that their International Breeding Horse Judges must have a college degree in Agricultural Sciences to be able to even just attend a seminar. They want to be sure that their students have the most amount of knowledge because the future of the breed will depend on it. Barb asked if this was also a requirement for our U.S. program. Katrin said no and explained that our prerequisites are much lower than that.

Reimbursement for transportation of the World Championship Tryout Judge from Amy Goddard's house to the airport for his flight back to Iceland. (Katrin Sheehan): Barb said that any expenses that were incurred for this judge would be paid for by Congress. Anne didn't feel this was something that had to be approved during the Board Meeting. Katrin stated that Heidi had asked her for Board approval. Anne told Katrin that the bill just needs to be sent to Ed. Caryn asked if it was a rental car or taxi. Katrin assumed it was a taxi and the bill was \$100. Ed said that the bill should be sent to him and he will pay it.