

USIHC BOD Meeting
Feb. 27, 2007

Regional Club Observer: Dawn Shaw

Members Present: Andrea Barber, Caryn Cantella, Betsy Covert, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaertner, Judy Strehler, Barb Riva, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Treasury - Ed reported a January balance of \$28,118.31, a February balance of \$27,002.06 and a balance for February 26 of \$24,436.62. Anne indicated that the USIHC should have a credit for payment to FEIF for the Wisconsin breeding evaluation. Ed further reported that according to our accountant our non-profit status allows us to recover funds from previous years' taxation. From 1995 to 2005 refunds could amount to thousands of dollars. Ed has asked around about more knowledgeable accountants but so far no name in particular has come forward.

Pleasure Riding - Ed provided this report from Amy Goddard

1. Although the deadline for the previous year's PRP logs is Feb. 1, there are always a few stragglers who are late with their logs for various reasons, such as a computer crash, misplaced logs, or just got out of the hospital! I have two outstanding for the West region; East and Central/Mountain are closed.

2. As I have been disappointed in the last couple of years' jackets from ICE-line, going forward, we will be purchasing jackets from Mountain Horse. They currently give us a 50% discount on vests, and will do the same for jackets. Unfortunately, they cannot provide silk-screening or embroidering, so the USIHC logo will have to be done separately, I am looking into local vendors.

3. So far we have 43 people enrolled in the PRP for 2007; 13 of those are new PRP members, 30 are renewals. 6 are youth.

4. In response to an accusation that occurred last summer regarding a PRP member who may be "over-riding" her horse, and not caring for it properly, I have added the following to the bottom of the PRP Enrollment Form:
"Please sign the Pleasure Riders Pledge: I will strive to keep my horse sound, conditioned and healthy. I pledge that I will not compromise his/her

health for the sake of winning a prize.”

5. In regard to the above, I had also written to the AQHA Ride Program, asking how they address such issues. Their response was that, although they are indeed concerned about such issues, they can only do something after the member has been convicted in a court of law for mistreatment. They also stressed that education is important. I have asked one of the PRP committee members to write an article for the Quarterly about conditioning your horse.

6. I am resigning from chairing the PRP as soon as a new chairperson can be found, or Jan. 1, 2008. I have contacted several PRP members who impress me as being capable of the job, but all have declined except one, who is considering it. My suggestion to the new chairman is to delegate certain jobs to committee members, to reduce the time spent by the chairman, (for example, promotion, content for Quarterly and website, prizes, etc.)

7. I'm attaching the PRP Manual that I put together to give people an idea of what's I do now, or should do for the future (for example, the Iron Butt award is new for 2007). If anyone has any suggestions or likely candidates for a new PRP chairman, please let me know.

Registry - Caryn reported a balance of \$65,419.70 as of January 1. She is continuing to update the registry page of the website to make the information more clear.

Promotion - Barb reports that there were Equine Affair booths in CA, OH and MA for 2006 at about \$400 each. The costs for 2007 are up a little at \$600, \$540 and \$550 respectively.

The ad in the Trail Rider was good expect, the small size made it hard to read. They are working on a new ad for the future. A business card ad in each issue of Trail Rider may be the best option for now.

The FEIF flag information will be added to the web site.

The brochure is in progress by the committee.

The shipping cost of the display for the fair booths is about \$107.00 depending upon location by UPS.

Website - Barb reports that there have been a rush of updates to committee pages. The Spæyri award may need updates as well. The bulletin board has not been updated in many months.

Andrea moved that the bulletin board update be made #1 priority for the website committee.

Seconded by Caryn

Vote - Unanimous

Caryn reported that Doug Smith plans to have a demo of the tracking program for the Annual Meeting.

Quarterly - Judy is looking for a good membership number for correct printing of the Quarterly. Caryn indicated this should be available Mar. 31. Barb indicated that 25 extra copies have been ordered in the past but that they will order 30 extras now.

Education - Bernie introduced the Sport Judge Program rewrite and after much discussion it was decided to eliminate the historical info and add a paragraph about the limitations of classes for interns to judge unsupervised. Bernie will present the changes via internet for the board to consider.

Breeding - Anne indicated that Katrin Sheehan was compiling a complete report from the breeding meeting at the FEIF Conference. Some high lights included a concern about the loose attitude toward the FIZO by some members. She moved for a better FIZO which passed the FEIF Conference breeding committee. She also noted that Worldfengur would like to be the world registry for Icelandic Horses within 10 years.

The Evaluation Handbook progress is stopped again pending the decision of the breeding committee on the adoption of the FIZO.

Anne moved that the Congress send notices to owners of qualifying breeding horses information about the opportunity to participate in the World Championship.

Seconded by Andrea

Vote - Unanimous

A suggestion was made that at some future Annual Meeting there be a learning day or weekend for prospective scribes and Worldfengur data entry persons. No action was taken.

Competition - Betsy reported from Heidi that entries for WC tryouts are up to 38 from 20 last time. There is a sanctioned show planned for Burbank, CA.

Youth - Sandie reported that a coloring book of Icelandic Horses was presented to FEIF as a gift. This book is available to the USIHC in disk form for our use. Andrea suggested that Lulu.com can publish it on demand. Sandie will get the file from FEIF. Andrea suggested that Steve Barber might be able to help as he is familiar with Lulu. Barb asked about using Lulu.com for brochures. Andrea thought they might be too expensive coming from Lulu and would probably be better printed in bulk.

The Spæyri Award - Sandie moved that the USIHC order, send and pay for the plaques, and provide the \$150.00 award money. John Parke will reimburse the Congress \$300.00 and determine the winners.

Seconded by Andrea

Vote - Unanimous

Other comments-

The Election Committee will announce results March 10. Andrea will inform the candidates by phone and then post the results to the board and give them to Ásta to post on the USIHC website.

Next board meeting is March 13 to elect the officers and gear up for the annual meeting.

Caryn needs relief from the registrar position and would like to start training a new person sometimes before Jan. 2008. She believes it should be a paid position. Ásta Covert is very interested and has experience helping Caryn in

the past.

The fact finding panel on the Youth Cup has asked for direction and the board has reiterated its position of “do your job as you see fit but do it ASAP.”

Meeting adjourned 11 PM Eastern