

**USIHC BOD Minutes**  
**Jan. 16,2007**

Regional Club Observers:  
Dawn Shaw (Cascade)

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

Committee/Area Reports

Treasury –

Ed reports that with the incentive to renew by the 31<sup>st</sup> of the year was successful and that the Dec. balance is \$ 29,135.18 up from a Nov. balance of \$16,160.00. There are out standing bills from FEIF and World Fengur of approx \$4,000.00 which Ed will pay.

Non-profit status update –

A letter has just been received from the Internal Revenue Service indicating that the USIHC is now a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization. It is also indicated that this status applies to income from associated investments such as saving accounts, money markets and stock funds. It would not apply to profits from non related business activities.

Andrea questioned the need for another accountant since the one we are currently using does not seem to be up to date on non-profit corporations. The current one also seems to be slow. Anne and others agree. Ed volunteered to enquire about recommendations for another accountant. It was also discussed that certain benefits – such as sales tax exemptions – need to be looked into so we can understand better what we can and can and cannot do.

Pleasure Riding (from Amy Goddard)

Ed reported that 17 people have signed up so far this year.

Registry –

Caryn reports a Dec. balance of \$64,208.84.

WorldFengur for all update

All entries are up to date. There have been some returns because of incorrect e-mail addresses. Caryn is working to resolve these.

Promotion -

Barb reports that the Trail Rider add has had a good response from folk in the mid West. The Equine Affaire in CA is coming together. The booth is ready for shipment. The brochure situation is grave. We are about out and the new one is still in progress. Barb

has the draft of the new text that was originally drawn up by Anne and others. She said she will make working on it a priority.

Barb also requested an itemized financial statement so we can make a budget for next year. Ed volunteered to develop something from which to work. Anne suggested we formulate a spending plan for the future. Barb asked Ed if there are any other financial reports we need to make now that we are non-profit status.

Website – Barb  
Mark Peal  
January 16, 2007

Revisions have been prepared and posted to the Frequently Asked Questions page. Election time is upon us and the FAQ answers did not reflect the changes in how Board elections are conducted and what happens at the Annual Meeting. The Committee reviewed the revisions, and comments were incorporated into the final changes. The revisions sent to Ásta are detailed at the end of this report.

Based on a high number of comments from members about the difficulty in finding information on the website, a draft is under way of a new navigation structure to display the wealth of Congress activities more completely and meaningfully to the visitor. The draft will go to the committee members for review and comment within two weeks.

Caryn Cantella sent an important email to the Board expressing concern about her role with Doug Smith on the proposal tracking system and online membership renewal projects. Mark completely agrees with her concerns. The Board has given those two projects specific priority, and the committee supports Caryn's role in them. Some of the issues that are brought to the committee would depend on Doug's and Caryn's knowledge and expertise, and we are careful that our agenda does not conflict with their work. Caryn has been sent the link to join the USIHCweb forum so that the information loop is more complete.

The website Bulletin Board is growing long, with new announcements added at the top and old ones tending to remain. The committee welcomes guidelines from the Board on removing old announcements. It seems that a certain length of time could be set as a rule of thumb.

Here are the revisions to the FAQ page that were sent to Ásta:

*#2. Why should I join USIHC?  
Insert this text after the 3rd paragraph:*

New this year: Members who are US residents and whose 2007 dues are paid up by December 31, 2006, receive a basic subscription to World Fengur [[link here](#)], the online database with comprehensive information on 300,000 Icelandic horses world-wide.

*#4. How is the Congress organized?*

*Text rewritten to reflect the changes in the election process.*

The USIHC is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors elected by the USIHC membership. Board members serve a three-year term. The terms are staggered on a rolling system so that three Board members are elected each year.

Any adult USIHC member can run for the Board. Nominations must be in writing and signed by the nominator, two seconders, and the nominee, all of whom must be members of the Congress (and not of the immediate family of the nominee). Incumbent Board members are automatically nominated for reelection unless they choose not to run.

Nominations close on January 1 of each year, and an Election Committee prepares ballots and mails them to every USIHC member in good standing by January 15. Each USIHC member has one vote (family memberships entitle the family to two votes). Members mark their ballots and return them by mail to the Election Committee by February 28. The committee meets to count the ballots and announces the results by March 7. The elected Board members take office when the results are announced.

The current Board of Directors, and the year in which each member's term expires:

Andrea Barber, New York (President), 2008  
Sandie Weaver, California (Vice President), 2008  
Bernie Willis, Alaska (Secretary), 2008  
Ed Hilgaertner, California (Treasurer), 2007  
Caryn Cantella, California, 2009  
Betsy Covert, California, 2007  
Barbara Riva, Wisconsin, 2009  
Anne Elwell, New York, 2009  
Judy Strehler, Minnesota, 2007

The USIHC Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) are elected by the Board of Directors at the first Board meeting after the Annual Meeting. Each officer's term is for one year or until a successor is elected by the Board.

*#5. Who organizes USIHC programs?*

*First line changed to more current date:*

Committee chairs as of November 2006 are . . .

*#6. When does USIHC meet?*

*Paragraph 1 changed to reflect that Board elections don't happen at annual meetings, and how agenda items work.*

*Paragraph 2 changed to indicate that Board minutes are posted on the website and to be more specific about when the Board meets:*

The USIHC Annual Meeting is held in the first quarter of each year, usually in March. For the past few years, it has been held at the Marriott Hotel Airport South, Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. USIHC members are encouraged to attend and meet other Icelandic Horse enthusiasts and become more informed about the organization.

The Annual Meeting consists of reports from Officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer), from the breed registry, and from the committees. There is a process for members to place a proposal on the Annual Meeting agenda. Once on the agenda, only members in attendance at the meeting may present the proposal to the Board of Directors, and the Board takes it under advisement. Votes may be taken among the members present, but they are not binding on the Board.

The Board of Directors meets periodically at times established by the board, usually the third Tuesday of each month. These meetings are also usually held by telephone conference call. The minutes are posted on the USIHC website [[Link to www.icelandics.org/bod/minutes.html](http://www.icelandics.org/bod/minutes.html)] and published in the next available issue of the Quarterly. Each USIHC Regional Club is entitled to have a non-voting observer at the Board meetings; there is more information on establishing a Regional Club here [[Link to www.icelandics.org/regional.html](http://www.icelandics.org/regional.html)]. Individual members can submit proposals to be discussed by the Board of Directors; contact any Board member or the USIHC Secretary.

*#9. How can I meet other Icelandic Horse owners?*

*This paragraph changed to adjust the number of members and link to the Regional Clubs page for the list of clubs.*

The USIHC numbers over 500 members spread throughout the country. Members receive an annual membership list; you're encouraged to contact Icelandic Horse owners in your area or in neighboring states. Many USIHC members organize informal trail rides, clinics, open houses, and other events to which you may be invited; often these are advertised in the Calendar section of the Icelandic Horse Quarterly. There are 13 Regional Clubs [[Link to www.icelandics.org/regionalclubs.html](http://www.icelandics.org/regionalclubs.html)] affiliated with the USIHC.

Andrea raised the concern that the website committee should not be changing documents on the website (such as the FAQ) without board approval. She suggested that the committee use their own judgment when it comes to small changes and keeping the website up to date (something which is long overdue) – things like filing away old items on the Bulletin Board, keeping the Calendar of Events up to date, etc. But when they would like to change a document on the site – including but not limited to things like the FAQ, registry information, promotional materials, etc. – they must run the document by the board for approval. The rest of the board was in unanimous agreement. Mark asked if we can get the agenda for these minutes to him in advance. Andrea agreed and stated that with the new rule decided on in the last meeting, that all agenda items must be submitted to her the Friday before the meeting, this should not be a problem in the future and the agenda for this meeting was provided.

- Proposal tracking project

Doug has contacted Caryn and is ready to proceed on the project.

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Newsletter –

Judy reports that the next issue is on track for the scheduled mailing.

Brian Putin has an article in which he says Mill Farm has the first domestic bred horse to receive 1<sup>st</sup> prize status. It was confirmed by several on the board that this is not correct and that Judy should point Brian to WF if he needs further verification. Gaefa from North Salem was the first domestic-bred horse to be awarded First Prize status. This occurred at the USIHC evaluations at Vallejo, California in 2002."

A page is being developed that will give directions to the website in an attempt to reduce repetition and give more room in the magazine for articles. This page would give basic news and refers to the website for more information. Judy stated that there is currently too much USIHC news in the publication and it is limiting space for articles and that this is a possible solution proposed by Nancy Brown. Andrea stated that she felt that USIHC items should be given priority and that the board meeting minutes should be printed in their entirety. Caryn agreed. Andrea said that she would like to see a sample of this new page sent to the board so they could all look at it and actually see what is being proposed.

Judy had a question about sending sample or back issues to new members. Caryn indicated that the membership as of Dec. 27, 2006 is 346 individual, 120 family members, 97 juniors counted in family memberships, plus a few individual juniors and 38 farm listings. About 470 total members that received a Quarterly. Sara Conklin is sending old copies to new members. It makes sense for Judy to send the Quarterlies to the new members instead of Sara now that Sara is out of old copies. Judy will communicate to Sara Conklin that Sara will no longer send out a sample newsletter with the new member packets. The general idea was to print 10 extra copies, or more as needed, for Judy to have a good supply.

A list of all current Farm Listing to be printed in each Quarterly has been approved unanimously via e-mail.

Education –

Bernie recommended that the board delay the review of the revision of Sport Judge Training Program until Feb. or Mar. so that the three person committee of Katrin Sheehan, Heidi Kline and Andrea Barber could talk to Marlise Grimm about some unresolved issues when they see her at the FEIF Conference in Feb. (see below). But in the mean time approve the following motion.

Bernie moved that the sentence, "The recommend European practice judging is not to be considered a prerequisite to attending the FEIF Sport Judge Seminar." be added to the end of the second step in the current program.

Seconded by Ed.

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Ed, Caryn and Betsy have been concerned about restrictions to interns judging pace, five gait and open classes. The statement is:

Marlise holds the opinion that those who simply pass the first very basic test may not judge Open, Five Gait, and Pace classes until they have gained sufficient skill and knowledge from additional experience such as participating in Show judging with FEIF judges in Europe or Iceland. It needs to be spelled out that way in both the meeting minutes and in the Judge Training Program to prevent members from making wrong assumptions in dealing with Intern Judges.

There has been unanimous approval via e-mail of three person committee to speak to Marlise Grimm at the FEIF Conference. The committee consists of Katrin Sheehan, Heidi Kline and Andrea Barber. Katrin is to be chair and to report to the board. Bernie will notify them.

#### Regional Clubs –

Andrea reported that the Heartland club of Indiana has not renewed for 2007. Other clubs are getting their renewals in now. Most are complete.

#### Insurance for all

Bernie reported that only the North American Horsemen's Association is willing to cover activities in all 50 states, but will only do it on an individual club basis because of different laws in each state. Betsy asked about the American Horseshow Association. Ed commented that the name has been change to United States Equestrian Association.

#### Breeding –

Anne reported that the last thing for the Evaluation Handbook is the acceptance of the Spavin protocol. It has been reworked by Dr. Dykes and Anne.

#### PROCEDURES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH RULES REGARDING RADIOGRAPHS FOR BONE SPAVIN

FIZO states in Section 111 under the heading Additional Rules for organizers of International Breeding Shows, the following requirement:

“Radiographic examination of the distal tarsus is required for stallions before entering the first breeding show from the age of five (5) years.

A complete radiographic examination is requested including four different projections of each hock. The radiographs are sent for central interpretation (by the same radiologist) in each country.

Information about the radiographic diagnosis will be recorded in World Fengur for information for the breeders.”

Further specifics for compliance with this requirement are contained in the document “Rules Aimed to Reduce the Prevalence of Bone Spavin in Icelandic Horses” which may be found at the FEIF website (feif.org)

All stallions appearing for evaluation at our breeding shows must comply with this rule, including the specifics contained in the second document. The required radiographs are:

1. Lateromedial (LM)
2. Dorsolateral-plantaromedial oblique (DL-PIMO)
3. Plantarolateral-dorsomedial oblique (PIL-DMO)
4. Dorsoplantar (DPI)

These may be analog films or digital files [high quality prints or CD-ROM]; digital files should be DICOM format for full fidelity; JPEG format is not acceptable for diagnostic evaluation; digital images are not accepted as e-mail attachments.

The procedure in the U.S. for compliance with the above rule is as follows:

1. The owner of the stallion must have the above x-rays of each hock obtained by a licensed veterinarian of his or her choosing.
2. At the time the x-rays are taken, the veterinarian shall be provided with the name and registration number of the stallion being x-rayed and will confirm the identify of the stallion by freeze-brand or by scanning the stallion’s micro-chip I.D.
3. The radiographs shall be permanently identified with the name of the owner, the name, registration number, ID chip number (or freeze-brand) of the horse, the date of the study, and the name of the veterinarian making the radiograph, as well as the name and location of the veterinary hospital. This information shall be exposed into the emulsion of the film or included in the DICOM header (and thus visible on the digital image). The left and right tarsus shall e clearly identified with appropriate radiographic markers. Radiographs supplied with this information on materials that can be removed from the film are unacceptable. Radiographs inadequately labeled will not be evaluated and will be returned to the veterinarian.

4. The veterinarian will forward the radiographs to the Section of Veterinary Imaging, Cornell University Hospital for Animals, Box 36, Ithaca, N.Y. 14853 with a letter including the following:

- (1) The name of the owner and the horse and the method of identification;
- (2) The date of the x-rays;
- (3) A check for \$50 made payable to Cornell University;
- (4) A request that a spavin determination be made for the USIHC.

4. Within 30 days of the receipt of the x-rays, Dr. Nathan L. Dykes of the Section of Veterinary Imaging of Cornell University Hospital for Animals, or another board-certified radiologist designated by him, shall evaluate the radiographs to determine if the horse should be diagnosed as having or not having spavin. This determination shall be communicated by letter from Dr. Dykes to the USIHC Registrar (Caryn Cantella, P.O. Box 1724, Santa Ynez, Calif. 93460) and the veterinarian who took the x-rays. The Registrar shall mail notification to the stallion owner within 14 days of receiving this letter.

5. The owner of the stallion will have 30 days from the date of the Registrar's letter to object, in writing, to the determination. In the event of such objection, the x-rays will be reviewed by Dr. Sigridur Bjornsdottir at Holar, Iceland, whose determination shall be final. All costs associated with Sigridur Bjornsdottir's review of the x-rays will be the responsibility of the stallion owner.

6. The final diagnosis of spavin or its absence will be entered by the USIHC Registrar as part of the horse's record in World Fengur.

Andrea moved to approve.

Seconded by Bernie

Vote – Yes, Unanimous

Caryn asked if stallions need to be x rayed that are judged for conformation only? Anne replied that we have not in the past allowed stallions five and over to be evaluated on conformation alone and that it was contrary to the information sent out to have done so. In her opinion the conformation only evaluations on stallions five years and over were a mistake but one that we should allow to go through. Anne will ask Katrin to check on whether or not these horses need to meet the spavin x-ray requirements.

Youth –

Sandie reported that the FEIF YC will be held in Sweden. The ages will be 12-18. The date and place are not definite yet.

Susan Peters wrote the board asking for action on the youth leadership issue and making suggestions for the future of the program. She contacted Andrea and asked Andrea to call her to discuss. When Andrea returned her call Andrea reaffirmed to her that the

board is standing behind the decision to let the panel do its work and wait for their recommendation.

Competition –

Betsy (from Heidi)  
The Sport Committee recommends that the Green card requirement for USIHC World Champion participants be for one year.

Andrea move to accept.  
Seconded by Betsy

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

The Sport Committee recommends raising min. World Championship score to 6.0.

Discussion, - Caryn is against it because it was raised from 5.0 to 5.5 recently and shouldn't be raised until after the next WC.

Sandie thinks 6.0 is reasonable but it's not right to change it right now as it's not fair to the people who have been focusing on achieving the 5.5 during the past yet.

Barb says leave it for now

Ed thinks there is no hurry to change it.

Bernie questioned the need for a min. score at all until we define why we want to participate in the WC. Depending upon the motives the need for qualification changes.

Bernie moved that we leave the min. score at 5.5 until the WC tryout for 2009.

Seconded by Ed.

Vote -Yes, Ed, Anne, Sandie, Caryn, Barb, Judy, Bernie

No, Andrea, Betsy

The Sports Committee recommends that another site for WC tryouts be added at Rocking R Ranch with Karen Olson as the organizer.

Discussion- The general concern is there enough interest support the judge transport and expenses. Besty noted that Karen Olson has offered to underwrite the costs.

Barb wondered if the congress would end up footing the bill because the fees go to the congress?

Ed moved that for a one time guaranteed fee of \$750 payable to the congress by Karen Olson that the Rocking Ranch site be added for the 2007 WC tryouts. If the actual expenses are less than \$750 (meaning that the fees collected from participants are over \$750) the difference will be refunded to Karen. Ed will develop a formula for the future.

Seconded by Andrea.

Vote - Yes Unanimous

### General Items

#### Election Committee

Printing/mailing approved unanimously via e-mail. Ballots and included notice of the annual meeting went out on time.

#### Annual Meeting

Unanimous approval of annual meeting agenda items and mailing via e-mail

Unanimous approval of Jon's WF Presentation on Friday evening and the USIHC paying for half his airfare and all hotel/meals, etc. The board discussed if there should be a cap on Jon's expenses and it was unanimously decided that there will be no cap on Jon's expenses for meals, hotel etc.

#### FEIF Conference

Unanimously Approved via e-mail, Andrea, Sandie, Katrin Sheehan, Nicki Esdorn to attend the conference

Congress to cover the Presidents expenses for 2007, flight, hotel/conference. Vote taken via email was:

Yes, Anne, Betsy, Caryn, Ed, Sandie

No, Barb, Judy, Bernie

Abstain, Andrea

Result was approval

Bernie's motion to have Andrea represent the USIHC at the Delegates Assembly was approved unanimously.

Registration form for the FEIF conference completed and sent in to FEIF by Andrea

Panel update –

Andrea was contacted by Rich Moore for documents which she then provided to him. Andrea also talked to both Rich and Eileen and heard from John via e-mail and the results is that they are moving forward.

Next board meeting date set for: Feb 27, 2007 at 9 pm EST.

