

USIHC Board of Directors Meeting  
of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007

~Minutes~

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

Regional Club observers: None

**Secretary's Report:** Barb Riva reports that she is still transcribing the Youth Cup Special Meeting minutes and hopes to have that done this week.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ed Hilgaertner reports there is a balance ending for April 30, 2007 of \$20,301.91. Current balance ending May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007 is \$14,486.77. The expenses of approximately \$5,800 when to pay for the printing of the Quarterly and for the WC tryout judging and travel fees. Ed anticipates an additional \$3,000 should be coming in from the WC tryout fees and the remaining amount of approximately \$1,000 to come in during the month of June which normally represents some additional late membership fees. Our account is usually in the general vicinity of the \$20,000 amount for years and he feels that balance will remain as previous years have shown before. Ed reports that we typically get about a half dozen of late membership fees per month until about October when the new membership year approaches.

Ed also reports that he became a grandfather today. His youngest son and his wife named the new baby girl Katerina. The entire Board gave their congratulations.

**Registrar's Report:** Caryn Cantella has been on vacation, therefore, does not have access to the mail to give the financial information on the registry account. She will update that information at our next Board Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007. She has been in contact with Asta Covert who is our Registrar in Caryn's absence and all is going well with the registry. There haven't been any problems and Asta has also gotten all the horses for the Wisconsin evaluations entered into WF. Bernie said that Asta has been a pleasure to work with. He brought up the World Fengur entry procedures that were discussed last fall. Asta put together a little booklet and Bernie forwarded that to Katrin so the Breeding Committee is now up to date on that information.

**Breeding Committee Report:** Katrin Sheehan reports the Breed committee as voted to adopt FIRO. One committee member abstained, to members did not cast a vote and the rest voted in favor.

Katrin reported that the Breeding Committee had started some discussion of the Breeding Judge Proposal from the Education Committee. This subject has been on hold until the completion of the discussion and vote on FIRO. Katrin will bring that information back to the Breeding Committee and may have an update for our next Board Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Anne asked if Lanny Carroll had contacted Katrin regarding the evaluation requirements for his stallions to be evaluated in Wisconsin. Katrin said that Lanny had never contacted him. Katrin felt that if Lanny does not contact her then she didn't see the need to contact

him. Barb Riva asked if Gudmar has talked to her regarding these stallions. Katrin said that Gudmar called her twice and she explained to him the procedures and that was it. Barb said that she thought Lanny was hoping Gudmar (his trainer) would be able to get the right information regarding this issue. Katrin said that the only thing that is missing for one of his stallions is the parentage of the father of his stallion and that should not be a problem since he is now in Germany and he has been tested already. Katrin said that she should be able to get the test results if we need it. Barb asked which stallion of Lanny's was missing the parentage information. Katrin misunderstood and said the stallion in Germany was As fra Feti. Barb clarified that she wondered which stallion of Lanny's needed this information, since he was evaluating two. Katrin did not know that. Barb thought that Lanny would be able to figure this out. Anne had talked to Gudmar regarding the feasibility of sending one or both of his stallions to the breeding show at the World Championships in Holland until after the Evaluations in Wisconsin. Katrin said that Lanny had told her that if the stallions do not make first prize, they will not be sent. Anne had heard that same decision through a conversation with Gudmar.

Katrin is currently in Iceland attending a breeding show and is finding it more than interesting.

**Competition Committee Report:** Katrin Sheehan reports that the committee has voted to adopt FIRO. The committee agreed that this new information should be given to all show organizers to inform them of the need to form an arbitration committee for every competition that would include one rider representative. This must be done before the show starts. This information should be added to the instructions and requirements to have a sanctioned show that is now presently on the web site.

**Katrin Sheehan made a motion that the Board adopt FIRO for both the Breeding and sport competitions.** Ed Hilgaertner felt that if both committees agreed then he felt we should also support that decision. Anne asked that the arbitration procedure should go up on the web site. This is something quite different than what they might be used to with other kinds of shows and she felt that it needs to be understood fully by show organizers. The more we can inundate people with this information, the more likely it will be understood. Anne also felt that we in the U.S. have a slightly different situation than what is experienced in Europe in that (as far as she knew) all the European shows are almost always pre-entered. Anne asked when the riders pick their representative at the European shows. Katrin said that it is done on the premises the day before the show. Anne said that would then work for our competitions as well. Katrin said that normally the show organizer will choose a rider representative no later than the morning the competition starts. Anne felt that most of the shows in the U.S. have a meeting the evening before the show with the judges and that would be a good opportunity to choose the rider's representative. Bernie then asked if there were any objections from the Board to adopting FIRO. There were none. Bernie said to let the minutes show that FIRO is now adopted.

**Constitution Review Committee:** Andrea Barber reports that the committee as just started its review of the Constitution. She has started an e-mail discussion list. Currently the individuals on this committee are Steve Barber, Rich Moore, Pat Moore, and Kari Pietsch-Wangard. Andrea asked if any of the group has suggestions of people who might want to join. This was a few weeks ago and she had only just now heard back from Rich. She hopes that this discussion will start to pick up sooner, rather than later.

Anne Elwell asked to be included in this committee. Anne felt that there is no one on the committee now that has any past history experience. She felt that might be helpful in the discussion. Andrea agreed to put Anne on the committee and the discussion list. Bernie asked if Andrea had a list of issues in the Constitution that may need work. Andrea said that, as in past Board discussions, she felt it was important to start with the Election Process information. Bernie said that he will e-mail her a list of current concerns that he has with the Constitution. Andrea said that if he would prefer to be on the Committee, she would be happy to get him listed. Bernie said that he trusts the current committee can handle the task but just want to be sure his current concerns were known.

**Education Committee:** Bernie reports that Alex Pregitzer, chairman of this committee has no report at this time.

**Pleasure Riding Committee:** Andrea Barber reports that Barb had sent the newly embroidered jackets to the winners of the 2006 Pleasure Riding Program today. Barb had the logo set up at a small embroidery shop near her home and had the jackets stitched and then mailed to the respective winners. Cost of the logo set up was \$250 and each jacket was embroidered at a price of \$10 each. Total expense for set up and embroidery was \$325.81 plus tax. Shipping via UPS was \$101.84. Andrea thanked Barb for handling this task.

The transition of the Pleasure Riding Committee from Amy Goddard to Andrea Barber is complete. Andrea changed the information on the web site and took over the e-mail committee discussion list. Andrea recently picked up all the paperwork and files from Amy and has been going through it slowly to review all the material. Andrea will have to order some new patches soon. Andrea is gearing up to the half-way point of the program where she will collect the member's logs to record the half-way score board. Ed asked how many people are involved with the program this year. Andrea did not have that information at that time; however, since she had taken over the committee, there are two new people. So whatever the number reported by Amy the last time she submitted a report, we should add two to that. She felt that there may have been about 70 people enrolled for 2007, but she was not completely sure. Ed thought that was also a close guess. Andrea is still having problems getting representatives from the Regional Clubs to be on the Pleasure Riders Program Committee. Andrea said that she continues to badger the regional clubs about because she feels that it is important because each Regional Club does have a Pleasure Rider(s) enrolled. So it would be great if we could get a representative from each regional club to be on the Pleasure Rider Committee. However, it still seems like a hard sell. Bernie asked if she had a representative from Alaska. Andrea said that she didn't believe so. Bernie will suggest someone for her. Andrea thanked Bernie. Barb asked if she had a Flugnir representative and Andrea said that she did.

**Policy and Procedure Committee:** Anne Elwell reports that she put together some various discussions we've had and from different ideas some books on the subject offered to see if she could come up with something that was simple and efficient with regard to making decisions. These compilations of ideas are as follows:

I've attempted to come up with some simple operating procedures that allow everyone the freedom to do their jobs, avoid micromanagement, satisfy the need for information

and feedback, maximize opportunities for discussion, assure that objections get attention, and reserve final discussion and decisions for Board meetings.

First of all, I would like to propose that we have a presumption of competence for all Board members in the exercise of their responsibilities. This means that there is no need for a Board member to come back to the Board for approval of decisions that that Board members deems advisable to get their job done. If a Board member wants feedback for any reason (he/she is new to the job, the job is a new one, there has been some controversy about the project, etc.) h or she obviously may seek it and some or all of us should provide that feedback. The operating principle should be that we are here to help each other not to second guess how each of us is doing their job. Of course presumptions are reputable. If we hear that Ed and Vicky are taking long week-ends in France once a month we might want to ask if there is anything unusual happening in the income or expense flow....

Formality in general....

All of the Roberts Rules books suggest, first of all, that small groups such as ours can be “deliberative assemblies” (where issues are discussed and decisions made) but that unlike larger groups which require starting out with formalized procedures and then relaxing them if possible, “you start off with more relaxed rules and only get formal if such a change becomes necessary.” (Dummies).

Typically relaxed rules include:

1. Motions don't have to be seconded.
2. People can speak as often as they can politely obtain the attention of the other members. “Motions to limit debate aren't in order and the Motion to Reconsider practically knows no limit.”
3. People can discuss things without a motion being on the floor.
4. The chairperson can make motions, participate in discussion and vote.

I thought the following in Dummies was interesting:

“One more thing about procedure in ...small boards that's exemplary of the relaxed rules available to these groups: A vote can be taken by assuming a motion even where none has been formally made, and it's abundantly clear that a particular decision is pending, that decision can be made by unanimous consent.”

“An example may help here. Suppose you've been talking about whether the fire truck you're recommending to the company commander should be a red fire truck or a white fire truck. Your [Board] is [on the phone] and you say, “The red one is cheaper. Besides, the white one will show more dirt.” Bill says, ‘Yeah, I like red fire trucks better anyway.’ The chairman then says, ‘Then I guess we go with the red fire truck. Any objections?’

“You've just decided to buy a red fire truck, or at least to recommend the purchase to your membership. Wasn't that easy”

## Use of the E-mail List for Making Decisions.

All but one of the books was opposed to electronic meetings. All say that decisions made in electronic meetings are not legal unless your By-laws (Constitution) specifically provide for it. Only the author of the *Idiot's Guide* stated that such meetings are possible and she does not see them as desirous. The general negativity seems to rest on the horrendous difficulties in true deliberation (which is the *raison dieter* for groups and parliamentary procedure in the first place). The *Idiot's Guide* describes an organization of over 110,000 members which has no other way to conduct business and has an unbelievably elaborate procedure for conducting electronic meetings. The best comments I saw were in Webster's *New World* book on Roberts Rules:

“Meeting via e-mail or electronic chat room does not allow members to fully participate in the democratic process. Many organizations try this approach to meetings and find that it creates confusion rather than order. They have difficulty keeping order, having members understand where they are in the process, and getting business done.

“E-mail is a quick way to get announcements, agendas, committee reports, and minutes to members. However, e-mail is not always effective when used during a decision-making process. Some e-mails get read immediately, and some don't. Occasionally e-mail is not delivered to the proper recipient; sometimes it is not delivered at all.

“One problem with deciding an issue by e-mail is that members often respond to the remarks of one member at a time, instead of responding to all of them at once. Plus, two or more members may be typing a response at the same time, and if conflicting responses to an issue are sent simultaneously, it can be difficult to determine the response from which to work.

“Often the entire group becomes confused with who said what, who responded to what, and what was finally decided. As a result organizations must still have a standard meeting to get everything sorted out. What begins as a potential timesaver can result in wasting a lot of time. If the members were in a room together, they would all hear the discussion at the same time, know who is speaking and what side they are on, and know the outcome of a vote. Because there is not such order in electronic meetings, essential elements of democracy are sidestepped.”

It seems to me that our e-mail list has been extremely valuable for the following sorts of things:

1. Imparting information—,making and changing Board meeting dates, calendars, agendas, minutes, reports, FEIF news, and getting answers to questions (“Does anyone know the new address of so-and-so?”)

2. Introducing discussion—raising an issue to see what others think about it for whoever wishes to participate. This gives us a chance to think about something before we have to have a final discussion and vote. Given my inclination to obsess on the ultimate consequences of things, I find that this lead time gives me an opportunity to really turn something over in my mind and often points are made that I initially dismiss which end up being really important in my decision.

3. Vehicle for making simple time-sensitive decisions. Not everything needs discussion....

### General Operating Procedures for Decisions

1. A request for feedback may be raised on the e-mail list by any of us who seek it. If it is a request for approval it can be framed as “Does anyone object to?... If no one raises a question or objects that is approval. If a question is raised and answered and the answer does not give rise to an objection the request is approved. Most of these are routine and do not need to be recorded. If it looks like something that should be recorded someone should make a motion which can be voted on at the next meeting.

2. If an objection is made by any of us a discussion should then take place but unless the objection is resolved in the course of that discussion the issue should be raised in the next Board meeting for discussion and decision.

3. Any Board member may raise something for discussion and decision at a Board meeting. If the decision is not unanimous a roll call vote should be taken.

Bernie would like to summarize and he feels basically there are three things addressed:

There is such things as a formal Roberts Rules of Order in that are needed in some situations. Generally it is appropriate to try to simplify Roberts Rules of Order and you have the simplified process outline. You address the use of e-mail for making decisions. Bernie asked if that was the basic areas that Anne was trying to address. Anne agreed. Bernie felt that with the size of our group and the way that we are able to operate, it seems to him that the less formal system can work for us. Anne feels that any other way will drown us in procedure. Bernie agreed. He said that at one time we had no procedure and then he tried to get a more formal procedure which turned out to be too formal. Bernie would like to hear the other board members opinions on this less formal procedure. Anne informed us that she did not come up with this procedure and these ideas were quoted from the books. Ed felt that he agreed with pretty much of what Anne wrote. He feels that we can all work with this typically relaxed procedure. In General the only thing we should do is title this and distribute a copy for all of the board members. In this way when a new member comes on the Board, they will have the procedure in hand to follow. Anne felt that this type of hand-book document should be done in many areas. Ed felt this was a good start. He would like to see Anne resummarize and title it to be distributed to the current Board members as well as new Board members being elected. Bernie asked if there were any contrary opinions to what

Ed suggested. Anne will summarize and condense to a procedure of making decisions on the Board and then get it to the Board to review. Bernie would like us to be able to come to an agreement on this via e-mail. Anne didn't have a problem with that.

**Promotion Committee:** Laura Benson reports that she is still frustrated with the e-mail situation between Barb (the past promotion committee chairman). Barb could not even open the attachment Laura sent her for the board meeting report. Laura will try to work this out when she is in Wisconsin for the evaluations there. Hopefully we can come up with a solution. A new member has joined the Promotion Committee, Heidi Green. Laura has also been working with Nancy Marie Brown to start a column in the quarterly to report events that promote the breed such as Equine Affair and the Horse World Expos. Individuals will have the opportunity to write their opinions and thoughts on these events. The committee is still discussing the congress brochure. The brochures from Iceland are starting to be too expensive to ship so we may have to revisit the issue of a Congress specific brochure. Andrea Barber asked if Laura knew if we could just have the brochure from Iceland printed here in the U.S. Andrea felt that we could at least get a quote as to how much that would cost. Bernie talked to Hulda about that and she was thinking it might be o.k. but was going to get back to Bernie about the copy write on the pictures in that brochure. However, he has not yet heard back from her. She did promise him one additional box and Katrin was going to try to carry it on her flight home. Katrin said that she actually has two boxes in her possession in Iceland that she can bring back with her. Caryn would like to have a supply of these brochures at her office for her and Asta to send to everyone who is new who owns and horses and is not a member. She has been asking for a year and a half now for new brochures or something that she can include the invitation letter she sends with the registration certificate. Katrin can bring one box to Wisconsin with her and Barb can forward some to Caryn. Katrin informed the Board that there are four boxes of these brochures in the U.S. and this is the last that we will get. Katrin informed Hulda that if there is an issue with the photos, we could just use the text and add our own photos. Andrea said that what would be easiest is if we could just get the file to print. Laura said that if we are going to use our own photos then we should just as well create our own brochure. Andrea agreed. Andrea again stated that if we can get the file to print the brochure it would be very easy to get a quote of a price to do that. Bernie had hoped there might be enough Board members at the Wisconsin Evaluation to have a face to face Board Meeting. So far only four board members will attend. All we would need is five board members. Bernie asked Anne to reconsider attending the evaluations in Wisconsin. Caryn asked that if we are going to use these brochures, will we also try to design a Congress brochure in the mean time. Laura felt that we should wait until we find out if we can print the brochure from Iceland before trying to design a Congress Brochure. Caryn asked if the Promotion committee can make this a top priority because she feels this is something that we really do need. Andrea and Anne agreed. Andrea felt that a simple tri-fold brochure that included a tear-off application form would be easiest and least expensive to design if we find we need to go that route. Katrin said that Iceland is coming up with a three-fold brochure as well in about a month. That will also be printed in high-volume and available to us. Hulda is checking on printing availability for us also. Caryn felt that we still need to having something that informs individuals about USIHC and what we have to offer members. Laura asked if we should then pursue a smaller, less expensive tri-fold brochure about USIHC. Andrea thought that would be a great idea. She felt it didn't have to be low quality since a nice quality brochure is very reasonable to print. Andrea felt that a brochure designed should include things about the Pleasure Riders Program, Regional

Clubs, the Registry, etc. with some nice photos with the tear-off application included. Andrea will get Laura a copy of the one that was designed for Tolt News so Laura can get a good idea of what she is talking about. Laura said that she already has one but would need someone to help her with the text to be included in the brochure. Anne Elwell agreed to work with Laura on that project. Bernie sensed Caryn's concern that the brochures from Iceland are all about the horse and there is nothing about the Congress or anything regarding information to contact or access Congress information. Caryn felt that Congress is here to educate the owners or perspective owners as to where they can get further information and support with regarding to registering. Bernie agreed that there is limited information in the brochure from Iceland and they need to be lead on to other information which is found through USIHC. Bernie felt that at the bare minimum, we should have the USIHC contact info inserted or placed on these brochures. Caryn asked if there is a place on the back of the brochures to place a sticker of USIHC information on it. Laura said there is and Andrea felt we could come up with a sticker to put on these and any other brochures we acquire from other sources. Laura will design a sticker with the Congress Logo with all the contact information to include the address, phone number and e-mail address. Bernie suggested she come up with a design and then bring it to the Board for approval before getting printed. Laura agreed. Andrea suggested that if this design works well for a sticker, that it could also be easily made into a magnet. Andrea will send Laura a j-peg of the Congress Logo.

Laura sent in the paperwork for the Equine Affair booth in Springfield, Massachusetts that Brian Puntin will be handling. She needs to have Ed send a check to Equine Affair. Laura will get that bill out to Ed to pay.

**Regional Club Committee:** Andrea Barber reported that basically everything has continued to be a quiet. They do have one request which came up today. They would like to see the agenda up on the web site by the Friday before the board meeting so Andrea has time to get the Regional Club representatives included in the meeting on time.

Ed felt that we needed to come to some kind of closure with regard to the 'Insurance for All' issue. Bernie agreed and he felt that Andrea should update the regional clubs that his research proved that it would be more expensive to go through the Congress. Bernie suggested that Andrea ask for more suggestions from the Regional Clubs. A problem arises because insurance companies only are licensed for certain states. He has found that insurance laws vary from state to state and that is why some insurance companies may not overlap to other states. Andrea will continue the research on the insurance issue with Congress and the Regional Clubs.

**Quarterly Committee:** Anne Elwell has no report at this time.

**Web Site Committee:** Katrin Sheehan reports that the Committee is currently discussing a new layout for the web site. Mark and Alice will be coming up with a price to produce a newly designed web site. Katrin would like to open this up to other individuals to quote a price on this task. Caryn Cantella asked if Mark and Alice are offering to do this for a certain price. Katrin said that Mark and Alice do this for a living and they would give the Congress a very reasonable price for designing a new web site. However, they have not yet come up with a rate. Caryn asked if she was sure Mark and Alice were not volunteering this service. Karen said no, they were not. Andrea suggested that we also

contact Rebecca Bing who also designs web sites. Andrea really liked her designs and said that she designed the North East Icelandic Horse Club site. Andrea felt it might be worth getting other quotes. Katrin said she had planned to get an estimate from Mark and Alice and then get additional quotes from that point. Andrea will give Katrin Rebecca's contact information. Katrin said that she already has that information. Caryn added that so Katrin has some base to compare, Asta designed the current site and her price was billed at \$20 per hour. Andrea felt that while redesigning the site is great, she still feels the bulletin board still does not get the attention it needs. She feels the old information needs to be cleared out on a more regular basis. Bernie suggested that Andrea take over that task. Katrin said that Asta has complete control of the web site and as soon as Asta gets the information it is put on the web site that minute. Andrea agreed but she felt the old information needs to be moved off of the bulletin board sooner. Katrin asked if the Board could come up with a rule that would require that old information should be taken off. Andrea said that we had done this twice already and it still isn't being implemented which is why Andrea continues to bring it up. Katrin is the new liaison to the committee and did not know what that time frame was. Andrea said that she will find the minutes that indicated that time frame and let Katrin know. Katrin said that she could probably find it herself if it was in the previous meeting minutes. Andrea said that this decision was made before Katrin was on the committee but Mark Peal should know what that time frame was. Andrea said that since he is the chairman of the web site committee, he should be doing this. Bernie asked if Andrea had an idea of what that time frame was and she thought it might be two months. She said all they had to do is review the bulletin board every two months and clean out or file old information. Katrin asked if the information to be filed must go into each pertaining committee page. Andrea agreed. Katrin will contact Mark and go over that information and take care of that.

**Youth Committee Report:** Sandie reports that the Spaejari Award deadline is Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Steve Barber is having trouble with printing the cover of the coloring book so Iceland will resend the file.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Anne Elwell:** Youth Cup Panel Update: Anne reports that there is still no progress on the exit interviews. Eileen sent John Parks a long e-mail on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. He had been very busy in trial and had since also broken his leg. He agreed that the exit interviews need to be done, but Eileen never seems to get a response from him. Eileen will be contacting all the parents due to the lack of response from John Parks. Anne did her draft letter to the Board and is waiting for the minutes to be approved. Caryn reminded the Board that the Constitution states that the minutes must be done within 21 days of the Board Meeting. Bernie felt that they typically should be done by the next meeting. Caryn suggested that this might be something we may want to review when going through the Constitution.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**World Championship Team:** Leadership, captain, team spirit, etc. Katrin informed the Board that this issue has been completely researched, discussed and there is no longer any concern.

**Annual Meeting 2008:** Katrin Sheehan reports that she has not contacted the Dallas hotel since their last discussion in March. Her apologies to the Board. She had hoped to try to contact them today; however, he schedule did not allow the time to make that call. She is, however, researching possibilities to make the annual meeting more interesting to try to get more members to attend. She has gotten a fair amount if input from an Icelandic Horse discussion list and privately as to what people would like offered in the line of short seminars or short lectures by interesting people to make the whole annual meeting more worth while to people who would rather not listen to reports for the entire day. Bernie remembered that the Forum discussion was a very hot topic and this would be worth pursuing.

**Proposal for the different groups ridden in the open classes submitted by Heidi Kline at sanctioned shows.** This item was missed on this agenda, however, it was on the agenda when Katrin was out of the country and she would like to address it now. Here is the vote for the proposal I sent you the other day regarding the change to Open Classes.

Heidi Kline submitted this proposal: I would like to make a change to the sanctioned class list. Currently we have open classes available as an individual or a group class. Because the difficulty level is higher for an individual program I would like to propose that we also use the FIPO classes which are ridden exactly the same but are ridden in a group rather than as an individual performance. Then either one could be offered to meet the requirements of open classes at a sanctioned show.

That would mean:

T1 (Individual) or  
T3 (Group)

V1 (Individual) or  
V2 (Group)

F1 (Individual) or  
F2 (Group)

All of the other classes would remain the same. This only applies to open classes. This would all be in preparation for the high point system to come at a later date. To compare individual programs to group classes is not the same thing at all. Group classes have the speaker to tell them when to change gait and what gait they must ride next with a leeway of time to make the change. Individual programs must be much more precise to receive the same scores. The judge also sees all of the rider's program as opposed to only a part because he/she was watching another rider.

To me there is no down side to this change. There are still classes for everyone at the sanctioned shows. The riders choosing to ride individual programs will be in a more difficult group and be rewarded for it with the new Nat'l Program that is being worked on as we speak.

12 out of 19 members voted yes and 7 did not vote at all. There were no objections of any kind. Please have the board look this over and approve the change.

Andrea Barber

yes

Anne Ellwell	yes
Anne Marie Martin	yes
Asta Covert	yes
Bernie Willis	yes
Caryn Cantella	yes
David Kline	yes
Heidi Kline	yes
Martina Gates	yes
Sophie Katakozinos	yes
Steve Barber	yes
Will Covert	yes

Bernie was glad that she mentioned this because it was not on the agenda for this meeting. Katrin did ask to save it for this meeting and that was verified. By changing these classes to their descriptions in FIPO, it will make the proposed High Point System easier to record. Bernie asked for a clarification on the Loose Rein individual program which really is never ridden individually. Katrin agreed. Barb asked for further clarification. She used T-1 and T3 as an example and asked if they will be considered basically the same class and going to be classified as the same class. Katrin said no. They are not the same class because T-1 is harder to ride than T-3 because T-1 is individual and an individual program has to be ridden much more perfectly than in a group performance. In a group performance you are waiting for the announcer to tell you when to change gait or when to change direction. She also said that in a group the judges are looking at three people on the track and cannot possibly catch all faults whereas in the individual program, the judge is focused only on one rider. Barb said she agreed with Katrin's explanation but wanted to be sure. Bernie verified that there will be a high point award giving to these individual classes and not grouped as the same class. Katrin agreed. Katrin said that the High Point System is going to be a whole different issue coming up in the near future, however, in order for the committee to complete that program, they need this to be addressed and voted on. Bernie asked Katrin's recommendation. She felt that any move to follow FIPO makes sense and makes it very clear. She feels that in just a few years people will be referring to these classes by their designated number rather than calling them "individual programs" as a classification anymore. Anne felt this made sense, however, it will require some small revising to our competition rules. Bernie asked if we adopt the name change could we hold off on the competition rules revision until they come up with the High Point Program which would then necessitate the name change. Anne felt that the revision of the competition rules would be very easy, it's just that the editing out of certain things where we talk about groups and individuals. Anne offered to take a look at it and didn't think it was going to be a big deal and she felt it would make sense to do it all at once. Katrin felt that Heidi would be able to make those revisions in a very short period of time. Anne agreed. Bernie asked if she needed us to act on this name change before she can come up with this High Point System. Katrin said yes because the High Point System is based on the FIPO classes. Anne suggested that we say something along the lines of: yes, we approve of this happening but before we give final approval, Heidi has to come back to the Board with the revised competition rules for us to review. Ed agreed as did Katrin. Katrin asked if we could decide on that via e-mail. She said the High Point Program is just about ready to go and they would like to implement it as soon as possible. Anne felt that wouldn't be a problem. Bernie wanted to make sure there were no objections to this class name change for now. We can go over the High Point System when it becomes available to us.

**Anne Elwell:** Anne will try to get a draft of the member's survey done. The items discussed are in the last board meeting minutes. Sandie asked why we will be drafting a survey to the members. Anne explained that it would give us a good idea of what the members would like from us.

**Bernie Willis:** As per Article IV, section 2 of the USIHC Constitution, Bernie has appointed Doug Smith, Gail Smith and Annette Coulon as the election committee for 2008. They will contact Martina for material that may be left from the 2007 election and still usable for 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 pm