

Roll call: Scot Dehelian, Frankie Stark, Patty Rodgers, Kathy Valentine, Erica Staib, Sarah Ash, Judy Brentlinger Lindsay Yinger, Allie McBreen, & Holly Helbig. Anne Thornbury was not present.

The meeting was called order at 8 PM by Scott Dehelian.

Minutes from January meeting were read by Erica Staib. They were voted on & approved.

Financial:

Kathy Valentine provided an update. There is ~\$38,000 in the bank. We are down slightly vs a year ago.

Old Business

A brief discussion was held regarding the website redesign & changes to the schooling/training jumper divisions. These topics will be revisited at our next meeting in October or November.

New Business

Jeremy Sims: While not on the agenda the board discussed assisting the Sims family thru their daughter's health issues. It was unanimously decided that a donation would be made to the family.

Limit Division (opportunity) USEF/OHJA: As background: USEF rated shows are permitted to offer a limited number of classes (10% or a maximum of 20) as "opportunity"(entry level). That means exhibitors in those classes are exempt from USEF membership, horse ID #. & drug test fees. Many of the OHJA shows are now carrying a USEF rating. Riders having shown in a USEF recognized divisions (ie pony hunter) or in a USHJA zone division (ie children's hunter) are not eligible for "opportunity" classes. This presents a conflict for the OHJA Limit rider division at rated shows since riders are allowed to move down for safety reasons. A division is needed to accommodate these riders. A non pro 2' division was voted on and approved. It will be added to the division line up for 2017. Specifications will be discussed at the next meeting.

Professional vs. Amateur: A concern was raised regarding the Amateur status of an OHJA member who was seen coaching a rider at a show. Scott Dehelian reviewed the USEF specifications for professional vs amateur rules with the board. Since no money is being paid for the coaching, no rule was broken. A motion was made and approved with 1 abstention. The person in question is an Amateur.

USEF rated vs. non rates shows: A discussion was held regarding the increased number of USEF rated shows that have been added to the OHJA calendar in the last couple of years. OHJA started as a "grass roots" organization and doesn't want to see the "non-rated" shows pushed out by the USEF shows being held on the same weekend under the 50 mile radius rule. A motion was made and approved to no longer exempt USEF rated shows from the 50 mile rule.

Perpetual Awards: Revamping these awards was discussed. Many of the awards are point driven and are somewhat redundant as high point earners already receive year end awards. Other awards seem to be based on popularity of horse or rider and that the organization has outgrown the need for those types of incentives. Streamlining these awards by keeping or adding a few more meaningful and appropriate awards would be better for OHJA moving forward. Some of the awards to be kept are Junior & Amateur sportsman and horse show of the year. Other ideas will be explored further at our next meeting.

Medal Finals: The deadline for qualifying for Medal finals is 30 days prior to the final. The last show to qualify in 2016 is David Beisel's Show October 15-16. Anne Thornbury will handle ordering the awards for the Medal as well as the OHJA classic. Lindsey Yinger will follow up with Otterbein & CWD medal sponsorships.

Since we now have 2 sections we need for 2 trophies for the Medal finals. Erica Staib will get prices on these.

Year end voting: Efficiency and transparency of the voting process is paramount. It is thought having an outside agency implement the voting will improve membership confidence and participation in the process. We will again use Balloteer to email and count the ballots. As a reminder in order to be eligible to participate in the voting process for the current year, members must join no later than 30 days prior to the medal finals. Membership applications received after that date will be applied to the following year.

Banquet:

The Banquet will be held at the Roberts Center in Wilmington. Patty Rodgers will follow up with them to get prices and menu. She will also see if they can help with "advertising" and email blasts as they did for us last year.

Chris Bell has agreed to handle the reservations. We are in the process of negotiating her fee.

Historic files: Boxes of hard copy historic files are currently stored with the Thornbury's. They have asked other storage arrangements be made. Scott Dehelian will look into the cost of a storage locker in the Columbus area and possibly having necessary files scanned..

Scott Dehelian made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 pm and was seconded by Frankie Startk.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Staib