

# UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 3:00 P.M. EDT

# **MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Tom O'Mara, Elisabeth Goth, Judy Sloan, Jacob Arnold, Tom Brennan, Allison Brock, Jane Clark, Ling Fu Wylie, Lisa Gorretta, Nancy Harvey, Valerie Kanavy, Carol Kozlowski, Jon Kreitz, Beezie Madden, Joe Mattingley, Diane Pitts, and Judy Werner

Board Members Absent: Philip Richter and Richard Spooner

**Council Chairs Present:** Mary Knowlton, National Breeds & Disciplines Council Chair; and Joe Mattingley, International Disciplines Council Chair (Board member)

**USEF Senior Team Present:** Bill Moroney, Kelly Bolton, Will Connell, Mike Delahanty, Terri Dolan, Sonja Keating, Lisa Owens, Justin Provost, and Stephen Schumacher

#### 1. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Mr. O'Mara called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. EDT. Following a call of the roll, Ms. Adams noted that a quorum was present.

# 2. Adoption of the Revised Agenda

Ms. Goth moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded the motion to adopt the revised agenda as circulated. Mr. O'Mara noted that agenda items 8, 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 have been removed for review at a Special Meeting of the Board in October. There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the revised agenda carried unanimously.

# 3. President's Opening Remarks

Mr. O'Mara welcomed the Board. He congratulated Valerie Kanavy on the Endurance Young Rider team success, Aachen successes for the Jumping, Dressage and Eventing teams, and Jacob Arnold for his World Driving Championship performance. Mr. O'Mara stated that Championship season is upon us with many events in September and October for numerous breeds and disciplines.

#### 4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Ms. Keating requested that Directors declare conflicts with any item on the agenda. No declarations were made by any Director.

#### 5. Approval of Mid-Year Board Meeting Minutes – August 30, 2021

Ms. Sloan moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on August 30, 2021. Following discussion and a vote the minutes were approved with Ms. Kanavy abstaining.

### 6. Presidential Modification Report

A summary of Presidential Modifications granted since the June Board Meeting was presented to Directors for informational purposes.

#### 7. Treasurer Report

Ms. Sloan reported on the July and August 2021 financials stating that in many areas we continue to exceed 2019 actuals and 2021 budget. These final four months will be challenging as we put activity against the revenue and cash balances. The Board approved excess cash decrease of \$1.6MM to pay down the building loan and \$4MM to Clear Harbor.

### 7.1 Review of Quarterly Financials

Ms. Sloan stated that as of August we continue to perform strongly against the budget set at 85% of years prior to the COVID environment.

#### 8. Approval of the 2021-2022 Audit Committee

Mr. Kreitz moved, and Ms. Sloan seconded the motion to approve the seating of Tom Brennan, Ali Brock, Judy Werner as Chair, Lisa Gorretta, and Elisabeth Goth for a one-year term. Following discussion the motion passed with Mr. Brennan, Ms. Brock, Ms. Werner, Ms. Gorretta, and Ms. Goth abstaining.

# 9. Consideration of Referred Rule Change Proposal

Ms. Sloan moved, and Ms. Brock seconded the motion to approve draft 2 of the referred rule change proposal to GR1005.10 related to Officiating eligibility and guest cards for Certified Schooling Supervisors. After discussion and a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

#### 10. Approval of Resolution 2021-05 to Create an Investment Committee and Adopt Charter

Mr. Mattingley moved, and Ms. Goth seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2021-05 to create an Investment Committee and adopt its Charter. Ms. Keating stated that the Governance Committee reviewed and recommends the creation of this committee and the proposed Charter. Following discussion and vote the motion passed unanimously.

# 11. Ratify Ad Hoc Group actions related to 2021 FEI calendar changes (Resolution 2020-08)

Ms. Pitts moved, and Ms. Kanavy seconded the motion to ratify the actions of the Ad Hoc FEI Calendar Groups as presented and required under Board approved Resolution 2020-08. After discussion and vote the motion passed with Ms. Gorretta, Ms. Kozlowski, Ms. Brock, Ms. Clark, Mr. Kreitz, and Mr. Spooner abstaining as they participated on one of these Ad Hoc FEI Calendar Group meetings.

#### 12. International Disciplines Council Report

Mr. Mattingley reported that the Council continues to focus on finalizing the 2022 budget and growing relationships with the FEI and USOPC. Mr. Connell reported that our U.S. driver, Tracy Bowman, won the Individual Gold medal in the Para Driving World Championships.

# 13. National Breeds & Non-FEI Disciplines Council Report

Ms. Knowlton had no additions to the written report provided.

#### 13.1 Approval of the 2022 Hunter Seat Medal Final Specifications

Mr. Brennan moved, and Ms. Pitts seconded the motion to approve the 2022 Hunter Seat Medal Final Specifications. Ms. Knowlton stated that USHJA Equitation Task Force feels strongly that this is a test of riding, not of following numbers and is a fairer way of testing these children. The NBDC accepted the USHJA Task Force's recommendation. The USEF National Hunter Committee disagreed and feels the

jumps should be numbered. Discussion ensued about whether the jumps should be numbered, and the discretion currently provided to do so.

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Ms. Harvey seconded an amendment to the motion to include the addition of the following language to Course Requirements, point 6a: the fences may be numbered at the discretion of the Official. Following a vote, the motion to amend passed unanimously, and the amended motion passed unanimously.

### 14. Member Services Council Report

Ms. Campf was not available for a verbal report. Mr. Moroney noted that there is nothing to add to the written report as presented.

### 14.1 Approval of amendments to the 2022 Licensed Officials Policies and Procedures

Ms. Kreitz moved, and Ms. Sloan seconded the motion to approve the Licensed Officials Policies and Procedures for 2022. Mr. Moroney noted that four sections 12.2.1C.2, 12.2.2.C.2, 12.2.3C.2 and 12.2.4C.4 as follows:

2. Judges must officiate at three *two* Federation licensed competitions every three years. *No more than one Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation officiating experience may occur at an IHSA, NCEA, or ANRC Federation Education Partner competition, providing that the organization has a current Education Partner Agreement with the USEF, and its Championship/final is USEF licensed met the applicable Federation requirements and is listed as such on the Federation website. Judges are responsible for submitting officiating credit as required by the Federation.* 

Mr. Kreitz moved to approve the Policies and Procedures as amended. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. After discussion and vote the motion passed unanimously.

#### 15. CEO Report

Mr. Moroney reported that the UK Lab received accreditation from the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium which joins eight others to cover 92% of all racing. The Competition Task Force has proposed additional extraordinary rule changes which have been certified by the Officers and are now available for comment. The first trimester of 2022 in Florida was conducted and we are now looking at working on the California competition environment. The Workforce Recovery has completed and due to a surplus staff will be allocated a COVID relief bonus to thank them for their hard work during the pandemic.

### 16. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### 17. New Business

There was no new business.

# 18. Executive Session

At 4:19 p.m. Mr. O'Mara requested that Council Chairs and staff, other than Mr. Moroney, Ms. Keating, and Ms. Lowell leave the meeting for an executive session of the Board.

The Board covered the following Agenda items:

18.1 FEI Sport and Naming Update

18.2 Approval of FEI Calendars

# 18.2a Approval of 2022 U.S. FEI Calendars for Dressage, Driving, Endurance, Eventing, Para Dressage, Reining, and Vaulting and 2023 U.S. FEI Calendar for Jumping

Ms. Pitts moved, and Ms. Brock seconded a motion to approve the calendars as presented. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

# 18.2b Approval of modifications to the 2021 and 2022 U.S. FEI Jumping Calendars

Mr. Mattingley moved, and Mr. Jacobs seconded a motion to approve the calendar as presented. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

# 18.2c Approval of the 2023-2027 Eventing Calendar

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Ms. Sloan seconded a motion to approve the calendar as presented. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

# **18.3 General Counsel Report**

# 19. Adjourn

At the conclusion of the Executive Session the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m. EDT.

Signed and submitted:

Karen Adams

**Recording Secretary**