



**UNITED STATES EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 7, 2022
3:00 P.M. EST**

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Tom O'Mara, Elisabeth Goth, Judy Sloan, Max Amaya, Jacob Arnold, Alex Boone, Allison Brock, Ling Fu Wylie, Lisa Gorretta, Deborah Johnson, Mary Knowlton, Jon Kreitz, Joe Mattingley, Lauren Nicholson, Diane Pitts, Philip Richter, Chester Weber, and Judy Werner

Board Members Absent: Jennie Brannigan, Carol Kozlowski, and Richard Spooner

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

1. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

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

2. Adoption of the Revised Agenda

Mr. O'Mara noted a revision to add the approval of Board Resolution 2022-04 as new agenda item 15. Ms. Sloan moved, and Ms. Fu Wylie seconded the motion to adopt the agenda as revised. There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the revised agenda carried unanimously.

3. President's Opening Remarks

Mr. O'Mara thanked the Board members for their dedication and hard work towards the betterment of our organization. USEF competitions are well underway and while global issues still exist our sport continues to enjoy robust competition. The Competition Task Force and the Amateur Task Force work continues and a new Eventing Elite Program Task Force has just begun its work. Mr. O'Mara stated that social license is not a constant but is the public's perspective of what we do.

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Ms. Keating requested that Directors declare conflicts with any item on the agenda. No conflicts were declared.

5. Approval of Annual Meeting Board Meeting Minutes

5.1 First Board Meeting – January 15, 2022

Mr. Kreitz moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the first Board Meeting on January 15, 2022. Following discussion, the motion passed with Mr. Amaya, Mr. Boone, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Knowlton, Ms. Nicholson, and Mr. Weber abstaining as they were not a Board member at this first meeting.

5.2 Second Board Meeting – January 15, 2022

Mr. Kreitz moved, and Ms. Goth seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the second Board Meeting on January 15, 2022. Following discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Presidential Modification Report**

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

7. **Ratify Ad Hoc Group actions related to FEI calendar changes (Resolution 2020-08)**

Mr. Sloan moved, and Mr. Fu Wylie seconded the motion to ratify the actions of the Ad Hoc FEI Calendar Group as presented and required under Board approved Resolution 2020-08. After discussion and vote the motion passed with Ms. Fu Wylie, Ms. Sloan, Ms. Goth, and Mr. Weber abstaining as they participated on one of these Ad Hoc FEI Calendar Group meetings.

8. **Treasurer Report**

Ms. Sloan reported that we are trending well for the first two months for the year. She noted that a new look at how the financials are presented can be seen on the prepared financials.

8.1 **Review of December 2021 and January 2022 Financials**

Mr. Delahanty noted that at the April Board meeting we will have the full first quarter financials to review. A change in deferred revenue recognition amortizes over 12 months rather than just ensuring the amount is placed in the correct year. The balance sheet remains strong and is slightly favorable to budget to date.

9. **Consideration of Rule Change Proposals**

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded the motion to put both of the extraordinary rule changes on the floor for discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

9.1 Extraordinary Rule Changes

Tracking ID# 099-21

Mr. Moroney noted that a Presidential Modification was granted in January pending the submission of this rule change. After discussion and vote the extraordinary rule change to JP118.1 regarding Amateur Jumpers passed unanimously.

Tracking ID# 102-21

Both the IDC and the Competition Management Committee requested a delayed implementation to 5/1/22. Ms. Gorretta moved, and Ms. Pitts seconded the motion to revise the effective date of this rule change to 5/1/22. Following discussion and a vote the extraordinary rule change to GR1210 outlining further compliance with Sharp's containers passed unanimously with the effective date of 5/1/22.

9.2 FEI Rule Change

Tracking ID# 103-21

Ms. Goth moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded the motion to approve the FEI Rule change. Following discussion and vote the FEI rule change to DR121 regarding Dressage curb bits passed unanimously.

10. International Disciplines Council Report

Mr. Connell, Staff liaison for the IDC, added that a meeting with AERC took place over the weekend looking to advance the sport of Endurance as just one step in our current strategic process for this sport.

11. National Breeds & Non-FEI Disciplines Council Report

Staff liaison to the NBDC, Ms. Dolan, reported that she had no additional information to present.

12. Member Services Council Report

Mr. Moroney stated that he did not have any information to add to the report provided.

13. Approval of an additional member to the USEF Audit Committee

Mr. Richter moved, and Mr. Kreitz seconded the motion to approve the addition of Joe Mattingley as an additional athlete member of the Audit Committee. Ms. Keating stated that this Committee will be repopulated at the Mid-Year meeting to coincide with the Audit cycle. After discussion and a vote, the motion passed with Ms. Brock, Ms. Gorretta, Ms. Goth, Mr. Mattingley, and Ms. Werner abstaining as they are on the Committee.

14. CEO Report

Mr. Moroney reported on the EHV-1 situation in California and the decision to cancel the Jumping Nations Cup in San Juan Capistrano to ensure the safety and welfare of our competitors and their horses. Staff have been working closely daily with the CDFA and organizers on the growing status of the virus to be proactive in reducing the spread of this virus. Dr. Schumacher provided the history of this outbreak regarding the response team, testing, quarantine & isolation plan, and return to play protocols.

Additionally, Mr. Moroney noted that the Eventing Elite Program Task Force met in person and is working on components of the elite program to socialize to the broader community for greater feedback. The 2023 first trimester of Hunter Jumper competitions in Florida is underway per the Board approved Resolution. The 2023 California Hunter Jumper calendar planning process is ongoing following the consensus at an organizer meeting in the principles of building a calendar including diversity of competition products and venues, and improvements in facilities through a performance improvement plan.

The Affiliate leadership one-on-one meetings have begun as well as all Affiliate bimonthly meetings.

15. Approval of Board Resolution 2022-04 banning Russian and Belarusian athletes from competing in U.S. National competition

Ms. Gorretta moved, and Ms. Sloan seconded the motion to approve Board Resolution 2022-04 to ban Russian and Belarusian athletes from competing in U.S. National competition. Ms. Keating stated that following the lead of the FEI, IOC, and the FEI to ban athletes that are citizens of these nations at USEF licensed and FEI competitions will be in place until further notice. Following discussion and a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Once it is determined the best route to assist citizens of Ukraine, we will communicate how to assist in this crisis utilizing the USEF Disaster Relief Fund. Ms. Pitts moved, and Ms. Gorretta seconded a motion to allow the USEF Officers to make a decision on set up and distribution of USEF grants for the Ukraine. After discussion and a vote, the motion passed, with Ms. Goth and Ms. Sloan abstaining.

16. Old Business

There was no old business.

17. New Business

There was no new business.

18. Executive Session

At 4:14 p.m. Mr. O'Mara requested that staff, other than Mr. Moroney, Ms. Keating, and Mr. Delahanty, leave the meeting at this time for a closed session of the Board. Joining the Board for agenda item 18.1 were Mr. Aaron Kennon, Ms. Kirstin Mobyed, and Mr. Tim Schantz from Clear Harbor Asset Management.

The Board covered the following Agenda items:

18.1 Clear Harbor Asset Management Report

18.2 General Counsel Report

18.3 Competition Update

18.4 BIG Update

19. Adjourn

At the conclusion of the Executive Session the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. EST.

Signed and submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Adams", written in a cursive style.

Karen Adams
Recording Secretary

Attachment: Board Resolution 2022-04

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD
BAN ON RUSSIAN AND BELARUSIAN ATHLETES COMPETING IN NATIONAL COMPETITION
(2022-04)**

WHEREAS, the IOC, IPC, Fédération Equestre Internationale, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee Athletes' Advisory Council, and the global Olympic and Paralympic community have called for a complete ban on Russian and Belarusian Athletes from sport participation due to Russia's attack on the Ukraine and the support given by Belarus;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the United States Equestrian Federation, Inc. (the "Federation Board") wishes to join in solidarity the aforementioned ban; and

WHEREAS, the Federation Board wishes to prohibit all Russian and Belarusian Athletes, Horses, Owners, and Officials from participation in USEF national events, effective immediately and until further notice.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that USEF condemns Russia's invasion of the Ukraine and attack on its innocent people. Additionally, USEF condemns Belarus' support of such actions. In an effort to join in solidarity the IOC, IPC, Fédération Equestre Internationale, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee Athletes' Advisory Council, and the global Olympic and Paralympic community in a complete ban on Russian and Belarusian Athletes from sport participation, the Federation Board, effective immediately and until further notice, prohibits all Russian and Belarusian Athletes, Horses, and Officials from participation in USEF national events. This prohibition applies to any Athlete, Horse, Owner, or Official who is a citizen of Russia or Belarus, or has declared Russia or Belarus as their Sport Nationality.

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution presented to and adopted by the Federation's Board of Directors at a Meeting duly called and held electronically via Zoom on the 7th day of March, 2022, at which a quorum was present and voted, and that such resolution is duly recorded in the minutes.

Recording Secretary:



Karen Adams