

Ontario Eventing Association Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 13, ²⁰²⁰
Final Minutes

Present: Ann Neal, Roseanne Corbett, Kendal Lehari, Alexis Minz, Laura McGuire, Terri Hough-Gilmour, Veronica Low, Cheryl Denault, Kelly Gravelle, Caroline Abrahams, Kathleen Wilson, Char Hodgson, Peta Christen, Pat Frewen-Lord

Call to Order: 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Opening

Veronica moved and Cheryl seconded and carried approval of agenda.

Veronica moved and Pat seconded and carried approval of the Sept 14th minutes with a minor amendment.

2. Matters for Discussion

i. Vote on Executive Positions

It was confirmed that this coming year would be Ann's first term as President, as she stepped in midway in 2019-20 for Deb Welna.

The following motions were made, seconded and unanimously carried, to form the 2020-21 Executive Committee:

President – Ann Neal – V. Low moved, second T. Hough-Gilmour
Vice President – Veronica Low – R. Corbett moved, second P. Christen
Chair – K. Gravelle - P. Frewen-Lord moved, R. Corbett second
Treasurer – Cheryl Denault – P. Frewen-Lord moved, L. McGuire second
Secretary – Caroline Abrahams – R. Corbett moved, V. Low second
Director – Char Hodgson – V. Low moved and L. McGuire second
Director – Laura McGuire – A. Neal moved and K. Gravelle second

ii. Review of By-law Amendments

Kelly noted that the final amendments should be ready in the next 2 to 3 days. She also noted that the by-laws refer to our policies and we need our policies consolidated so that they are easily referenced by Directors and members. Kathleen noted that she should be involved in the digitization of OEA assets. It was suggested that we could move our AGM to Monday Dec 14th and we would need to post amended by-laws no later than Oct 30th.

Action

Kelly to circulate amended by-laws by October 16th.

iii. Plans for AGM

It was discussed and agreed that the AGM would take place in December via electronic means, and that we would have a regular Board meeting in November. Kathleen noted that she had ideas on format and technical requirements and that we could investigate a broadcast rather than a zoom meeting. We should also rehearse the preparation of materials (e.g. slide deck) and make sure we pretest for technical requirements. She noted that we could conduct polls and even breakout rooms and some interactivity with the audience. We could include prizes to facilitate more interactivity and a facilitated Q and A session. We would also need to make sure that all those who vote are eligible to vote.

Action

Kathleen to investigate technical requirements for AGM and consider verification of membership and eligibility for voting, as well as voting mechanism.

3. Presidents Report

i. Update on Committee Plans

Ann emphasized the importance of having a paper trail of our activities to maintain continuity as we have turnover with Directors and asked that all Committee chairs provide updates on their committee plans.

ii. C4 Belts

It was noted that we still have 29 OEA C4 Belts for sale and they were originally purchased to offset the costs of the banquet last year. They are \$30 plus costs of shipping.

Action

Char to post and promote C4 belts on our social media sites and on the website.

iii. Bulletin and OEA Levy

Ann noted that a draft of our October 7th bulletin had been circulated with the intention of the bulletin to clarify the role of the OEA. It was noted that since this bulletin was drafted, we've been advised that one organizer has elected not to submit their levies. It was noted that all omnibus pages since 2002 have noted that the OEA levy formed part of the entry fees. In this particular case, as a result of amendments made to the 2020 omnibus, the particular organizer omitted the OEA levy from a description of entry fees even though the entry fee did not change. It was clarified that the OEA levies were reconfirmed in the minutes of 2018 and approved in 2019.

It was agreed that a letter should be prepared to this organizer clarifying that according to approved OEA policies, they are expected to pay levies in order to benefit from programs such as CIP and any future Championships. Further discussion ensued around the role and authority of OEA to be involved in approval of Ontario EC sanctioned competition dates.

Action

Ann to prepare a letter to the organizer. Executive Committee and Communications to ensure our policies are clearly posted on our website.

4. Treasurers Report

Roseanne noted that we've raised \$1980 for the Zara Buren award. Kathleen noted that so far \$1000 has been raised from the sale of bracelets. The family has set up a GoFundMe fund as well and it is doing very well. Kathleen noted that BR Canada reached out to donate a saddle pad, tendon boots and a bonnet in Zara's colours.

Roseanne sent around a membership report, and all things considered we are doing very well and only about 50 down from the same time last year.

5. Competition Report

Pat noted that she's heard from Glen Oro that they would like to add an extra event next year. The 2021 schedule is now set. Pat is recruiting for new directors and has identified a couple of individuals who would be great assets. She noted that we don't need to fulfill our quota of 15 and we can have as few as 12, as long as Directors are willing to put in the time. She also noted that we can bring on new Directors throughout the year and not necessarily at the AGM.

The Organizers meeting on October 7th went very well and we received a lot of support from Organizers at that meeting.

Pat also noted that she has been in contact with a major course designer in Ontario and we need to think about if we can direct levy funds to the support for frangible technology for organizers. It was noted that several OEA members (organizers and trainers) have expressed interest. Kathleen said there is an opportunity to fundraise for this as well.

6. Young Rider/U25 Update

Veronica noted that they've awarded 11 training grants over the past two days and now are considering travel grants. To be eligible, riders have to have competed at the 2-star level. She noted that there have been a series of clinics held over the summer and managed to break even. The biggest cost was a clinic on a statutory holiday (July 1) with the venue charging a facility costs and extra labour costs. She noted that she will do a full report for the AGM and suggested that eligibility policies for YR-U25 needs to be on the website as well.

7. Adult Amateur Update

Terri noted that plans are underway for clinics and information sessions in November. They raised almost \$4500 in fundraising and now putting together a plan for how to spend the money.

8. Communications

Char noted that we have a growing following on our social media with over 2,000 followers on Instagram and this is an important platform for Young Riders. It was noted that posts regarding Zara definitely increased the following.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 9th

10. Meeting Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 9:43 by Roseanne, seconded by Veronica.