

Ontario Eventing Association Board of Directors Meeting
July 11, 2022
Draft Minutes

Present: Ann Neal, Justin Ridgewell, Kelly Gravelle, Charlotte Hodgson, Linda Plank, Terri Hough-Gilmour, Nikki Maclellan, Doug Topalovic, Cheryl Denault, Veronica Low

Regrets: Caroline Abrahams, Sarah Richardson Selena O’Hanlon,

Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

1. Meeting Opening

Veronica moved, Nikki seconded and it was carried to approve the agenda. Approval of June Board meeting minutes are deferred to the next meeting.

2. Matters for Discussion

- a) Officials Clinic – occurred this past weekend. Had 12 participants and Ann noted that it generally it went very well. It was announced that EC was going to have a mentor system to encourage people to become qualified. It was excellent to have it coincide with an event as a reference for participants. It was also confirmed that the OEA Officials Bursary information was also shared. A special thank you to Kelly and Terri for being on site during the clinic. We also wanted to specially recognize Geoff and Ann for hosting the event.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, WoW had to fly in an international FEI official for the event. Discussion arose regarding providing funding to offset that cost. Cheryl did note that they would be eligible for \$500 based on our current programs. Members did consider the special circumstance of continuing to support organizers and FEI events in Ontario.

On a motion from Ann Neal, seconded by Nikki and carried that the OEA will provide a one-time only grant of \$1500 to Willowind organizers in recognition of additional costs incurred for hosting the FEI event in July.

Action

It was also agreed that we need to develop guidelines for a program of support for organizers who are interested in running FEIs in Ontario.

- b) PHTA Meeting

At the most recent PHTA meeting a draft copy of a contract between EC, PHTAs and PTSOs was discussed but has not been circulated to PHTAs. Next meeting is August 22nd. Also talked about the vision, mission and values of EC. Also discussion of changing rules to allow schooling days to occur to coincide with sanctioned events.

Action

Ann requested that all members provide their input on potential rule changes and particularly schooling rules in an email.

c) Frangibles

Mim clips have arrived and Nikki will advise organizers.

d) Interprovincial Champs

Approved by EC on a trial basis although there continue to be organizational issues associated with the venue.

e) Glen Oro

Discussion ensued about the tragedy that occurred at Glen Oro with the loss of many horses before their Spring horse trials and whether OEA should provide financial support. The notion of prize money to entrants, as well as free schooling was discussed. Several members raised the issue of opportunities to encourage fundraising for Glen Oro. It was noted that the venue has not yet put out a statement about what happened. It was suggested that this needs to happen in concert with OEA acknowledging and providing financial support. Members raised concern about whether this would cause issues with other organizers. The general sense was that as long as there is clear communication about the very special context of the situation it would be understood that this is an exceptional situation which necessitates an exceptional response from the OEA.

It was agreed that Veronica would discuss the situation with Leslie, and once we had her consent, we would send around a motion confirming the plan for a financial incentive (e.g. offer prize money for Intermediate entries, in an effort to encourage coaches/professionals to enter and bring their students). Cheryl suggested \$1000 for the entire intermediate division. There needs to be a link to the cancellation of the Spring horse trials. It was noted that this motion will be circulated for an online vote.

f) NCHTA

It was noted that the \$1400 we provided to NCHTA for awards appears to have not been used for awards, although the check was cashed. It was agreed that we need to pursue the situation.

3. Treasurers Report

Cheryl noted that membership revenue is still ahead. Levies may be a little behind with the cancellation of Glen Oro. Our expenses are fairly minimal. U25 expenses are mostly fees associated with riders who went to Tryon last year. A question came up about an Ontario resident who has to travel to an event outside Ontario and whether they would be eligible for Assistant TD expense. The thought is that the bursary could be used for this purpose. Linda raised the issue that under current EC guidelines for Officials Certification, along with a shortage of Officials in Ontario, our current and aspiring Officials need to travel out of province to gain qualifications. It was generally agreed that we need to do whatever we can to grow our pool of Officials and in this circumstance, we should consider increasing our

support for this activity. We will continue to monitor the program as we grow the number of Officials in Ontario who are available for Ontario events.

On a motion from Cheryl Denault, seconded by Veronica Low and carried, we will increase the Officials Bursary to a maximum of \$1,000 annually per official to cover the cost of activities required to either become an accredited official, maintain or upgrade current official status.

4. Committee Reports

a. Governance & Policy

No report. It was discussed that we may need a Safety and Emergency Measures policy for our organizers. Cheryl clarified that this is all developed and displayed on the EC website. [EC Emergency Guidelines](#) It was noted that this should be raised with Organizers at the next Organizers meeting and that the link should be provided on our website. Kelly noted that she still has a policy on complaints to write.

b. Communications

It was noted that the Whats App is very popular and provides instant notifications to our members. Char also noted that she's created an Ontario Eventing Group on Facebook. Discussion ensued about whether we could get start times earlier than the Thursday afternoon before an event. It was noted that this is a responsibility of organizers and secretaries who often are dealing with last minute changes and may have other full time jobs. It was agreed that our messaging on the website should indicate that we post times and material as soon as we receive them.

c. Sport Development

Young Rider/U25:

Raised \$1134 at the Willowind show. Updated wording for Training and Travel grant applications. Discussion ensued around details related to the wording on application.

On a motion from Nikki, seconded by Veronica and carried the 2022 Travel and Training Grant guidelines and application were approved.

Justin provided feedback from participants in clinics that there is not enough information about the general timing and format of clinics, along with times. Discussion ensued about challenges in organizing the clinics and last minute changes which make advance publication of times many days in advance very challenging. It was agreed that we need improved communication about how clinics generally run (i.e. depending on clinic – size of groups, amount of time with clinician, expectations for arrival and departure times and processes.)

Adult Riders:

No report.

Coaching:

No Report. Trying to run a First Aid Clinic at Raynham.

Schooling Days:

No Report

d. Competitions

Organizers:

Meeting needs to be set

Officials/Safety/Rules:

No further discussion

5. Other Matters

- a. Someone bought an entry to Bronte Creek at our last banquet and it was then cancelled and wasn't able to make a horse show. Judith offered her a schooling. Should we have a policy on this? Should be clear on the prize – should be for 2023 season and then identify that these things have no cash value. Up to organizers.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, August 8th

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.