

**Ontario Eventing Association Board of Directors Meeting  
February 21, 2023  
Draft Minutes**

**Present:** Terri Hough Gilmour, Kendal Lehari, Justin Ridgewell, Nikki Maclellan, Cheryl Denault, Veronica Low, Linda Plank, Jamie Kellock, Bernadette Johnston, Tori Pengelly, Sarah Richardson, Charlotte Hodgson, Doug Topalovic.

**Regrets:** Ann Neal

**Call to Order:** 7:03 p.m.

- **1. Meeting Opening**

*Veronica moved, Bernadette seconded, and it was carried to approve the agenda.*

The email with the minutes for the December 2022 & January 2023 board meetings were not received by some and will be resent around for review and approval via email.

- **2. Matters for Discussion**

- a) Committee Assignments

Veronica advised we continue to need people to help out on committees. We need a committee for the AGM & Sponsorship still. Justin has agreed to help with the AGM Committee for the day-of portion/set-up etc.

Confirmed again that Sarah, Cheryl, Bernadette, and Ann will work on the policy and governance committee.

Bernadette has agreed to help the U25 committee.

- b) EV60 Guidelines – Organizers have agreed in their meeting to wave their \$5 fee for day memberships they would normally receive. Organizers met and agreed to the proposed regarding the new EV60 level;

The motions were put forth by Sarah;

1. ***It is proposed that in 2023, the OEA will wave the \$15 fee associated with purchasing its day membership, for EV60 riders who are not already full OEA members, in an effort to encourage riders to try out this new division in Ontario.***

Nikki seconded. Motion approved

2. ***It is proposed that in 2023, all EV60 riders who take advantage of the OEA's offer to waive the fee associated with purchasing an OEA day membership for that division, and who subsequently purchase a full OEA membership prior to October 1, 2023, will qualify for the leaderboard and year-end awards and may apply any points already collected in 2023 retroactively to their total for the season.***

Veronica seconded. Motion approved.

- c) PHTA - EC would like the PHTAs to have policy documents for our members. Examples; "Policy & Procedures for receiving feedback and resolving concerns", "OEA Code of conduct". They have asked us to take the next few weeks to review, give feedback and ask any questions and we are to get back to Sarah to report back to EC. In March we will circulate the final documents to read, review, and agree and sign for members, after we will vote on them.

d) EC has put forth a form the PHTAs will need to complete for review and approval to be recognized as a PHTA. They are currently developing the language for this and it is unknown if this will be an annual requirement or not.

- **3. Presidents Report**

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- a) The Zara Buren Memorial Award had 19 applicants. They added an additional \$500 award this year and a cooler is being sent out to the winner this month.

- b) Veronica reached out to Ontario Equestrian with their contract again. There was one question which was where our membership information is stored?

- **3. Treasurers Report**

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Cheryl asked that outstanding frangibles be delivered as soon as possible so payments can come in from organizers. Veronica will locate and arrange them be delivered as soon as possible.

- **4. Committee Reports**

**a. Communications**

- Charlotte - Hoping to send February newsletter Thursday Feb 23. That will include Zoom link for the upcoming Ashley Johnson Webinar.
- Communications planned for the mental health Zoom call, EV60 Level FAQ, and Thoroughbred incentive.
- Nikki suggested to do a member survey. What program could we bring forward? Nikki suggested we do an awareness campaign and myth busters. Who/what is the OEA? Also what is the role and scope of OEA.
- Nikki will work towards putting together the survey to send out to members. Board is supporting this idea.

**b. U25 Committee**

- Kendal has sent out a U25 recap via email
- Kendal has reached out to some professionals and waiting to hear back from them regarding being potential clinicians.
- Discussions on what topics of webinars we could offer to the U25s. Some options suggested were; Conditioning the event horse? Maximize your dressage score. FEI competition. Veterans maintenance. Social media use.

- Discussion on what else we could offer the U25 riders? Some suggestions were; leaderboard for EV90 and up. Educational webinars. Open up the Assessment clinic to riders at EV90 level as well.
- Currently we have \$14,000 in the U25 account with projected expenses at \$25,000 this year.
- Discussion on whether the U25 could do a raffle, and that riders have to do their own fundraising if selected for champs.
- Nikki to send out an email with motions to approve U25 2023 budget and program so the website can be updated.

- **c. Competitions Committee**

*Organizers Subcommittee:*

Sarah & Nikki - Discussed the EV60 and waiving the fee - all hosting are excited.

Organizers gave positive feedback on the recent changes to the Competition Improvement Program (CIP). (The new suggestion is Part A -50% to a max \$750 for a designer to review and assess a cross country course is now available annually. Part B – For annual course improvements, 50% to a max of \$2,000 (increase of \$500) for refurbishing jumps, footing, stadium jumps, warm up areas, judges booths, etc)

*Officials/Safety/Rules:*

Questions were raised whether organizers will have to police and report coaches who are not licensed/certified and it is understood at this time that they will be responsible.

- **d. Sport Development**

A discussion was had on whether there is support to offer a one-time grant to OEA host facilities/organizers to help build course levels the events currently do not offer. For example; events without the EV105, EV115 & EV120 levels. This discussion will continue.

*Coaching:* OEA wants to support the coaching process and are discussing options. The mental health Zoom Webinar will be forwarded to coaches. We also need to get information about the coach status and what's required for shows, out to coaches as much as possible.

*Schooling Days:* Positive feedback from Bronte Creek, they are wanting to host 2 dates. Nothing else to report currently.

*Adult Riders:* Terri had nothing to report at this time.

- **5. Other Matters**

In response to a potential scheduling conflict, the BOD engaged in a short discussion about how best to handle and define these types of issues where they occur between OEA's Organizers of EC-sanctioned horse trials and OEA BOD members who organize non-EC sanctioned activities related to eventing. Several valid procedural and substantive issues were raised. A consensus emerged whereby the BOD recognized generally the importance of seeking a balance that allowed both groups to pursue their livelihoods and concluded that in this specific case, no action was warranted and, further, that no written policy was necessary at this time.

- **6. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be March 14th, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

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Tori