

Ontario Eventing Association Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 12th 2021
Final Minutes

Present: Ann Neal, Veronica Low, Cheryl Denault, Caroline Abrahams, Sarah Richardson, Doug Topalovic, Kendal Lehari, Nikki Maclellan, Linda Plank

Regrets: Justin Ridgewell, Kelly Gravelle, Terri Hough-Gilmour, Char Hodgson, Selena O'Hanlon

Call to Order: 7:08 p.m.

1. Meeting Opening

Cheryl moved, Nikki seconded and it was carried to approve the agenda.

Sarah moved, Veronica seconded and it was carried to approve the Sept. 13th minutes.

2. Matters for Discussion

Board Membership

Ann advised that Linda Plank has expressed interest in joining the Board, and if approved would join our meeting at 7:30.

Ann moved, seconded by Veronica and carried that Linda Plank would join the Board as an interim Director effective October 12th 2021.

EC/OE Issues

Ann reported that leadership from EC attended the Willowind Fall Finale and received a good sense of the effort required to run an event with 50 volunteers involved. It was noted that the recent proposal to update EC bylaws was suspended. The president of EC expressed an interest in coming to a future OEA Board meeting, or a separate meeting with Directors to discuss the by-law issues.

Action:

Ann will reach out to schedule a meeting and directors agreed that this could be convened as an extra meeting if schedules permit.

It was noted that OE held a GRIT event on the same weekend as Willowind. It was agreed that we need to improve communications to limit similar conflicts in future.

PHTA Issues

Discussions are ongoing with other provinces about ways to improve eventing in Canada and optimize relationships with all governing bodies. A roundtable with EC and PHTAs is scheduled for later in November.

2021 AGM

We have confirmed that the AGM will be a virtual event and that we are not having a banquet.

Action:

- It was determined that the 2021 AGM will take place on Tuesday, December 14th as a virtual event.
- Nikki agreed to source quotes for end of year ribbons
- Decisions need to be made on trophies or alternatives for end of year awards and associated costs.
- Ann will circulate a spreadsheet of awards and associated costs

Conflict Declarations

Linda Plank noted that she is a TD for EC events.

Organizers Meeting/OEA Lead

At an upcoming meeting a number of important issues need to be discussed including dates for next year, frangible clips, CIP claims and clarification of TD and Assistant TD policy. It was noted that another director needs to step in and assist with this committee. Nikki indicated that she would be willing to help out and can devote more time once show season has ended, and agreed to attend the upcoming meeting.

There remains an issue with an organizer who ran a grasshopper division alongside an EC sanctioned event, in addition to an unwillingness to remit OEA levies for the event. It was determined that this issue needs to be discussed further with EC. In the meantime, it was felt that a motion could be passed related to Steven's Creek and their grasshopper division.

Cheryl moved, seconded by Ann and carried that OEA levies for the 2021 Steven's Creek Grasshopper division would be waived.

Day Memberships

Caroline noted that our website currently indicates day memberships could be purchased for Intermediate divisions and below, although the form specifies PT and below. It was confirmed that day memberships should only be available for PT and below and the website will be updated.

Cheryl moved, seconded by Nikki and approved that 2022 Day Memberships will be available only for PT and below.

Membership

Caroline reported that our memberships as of October 11 2021 are 1209, surpassing 2015 levels (year of PanAm games). It was agreed that this information should be shared on our socials.

3. Treasurers Report

Cheryl noted that financials are posted as part of the meeting package and were self-explanatory.

4. Committee Reports

a. Governance & Policy

Ann noted that EC is seeking updates on OEA policies including Safe Sport and Appeals.

b. Communications

Doug noted that he is regularly posting ridetimes and results. It was noted that there is much that is stale on the website that needs to be refreshed.

c. Sport Development

Young Rider/U25:

Veronica reported in total we had 87 riders signed up for the program in 2021. The YR/U25 leaderboard was updated and awards reallocated. The first installment of travel and training grants were awarded. Tryon selectors were at Willowind and we will be sending a 1 star and 2 star team. One final show at Wesley Clover this weekend. She noted that the EC President spent time with the YRU25 riders at Willowind.

Adult Riders: Momo has agreed to do a clinic in November and it was noted that we need to confirm the date/time and post specifics.

Coaching: Kendal noted that she would like to focus on mental health in February. We could look at bringing in a sports psychologist and an athlete to discuss issues such as depression and wellness strategies. Nikki noted that she has a contact with Rosie McLellan, an Olympic athlete who might be willing to participate in this kind of session(s).

Action

It was agreed that Kendal, Nikki, Veronica and Doug could convene a committee to help support this program.

Schooling Days: Sarah reported that the Bronte Creek schooling day was very successful and that we should move on organizing these days for 2022. Ann noted that in 2022 coaches coming to our XC events need to be licensed/certified within EC regulations. Ideally, we could post our clinic and schooling dates early in 2022.

d. Competitions

Nothing to add beyond Organizers meeting discussed above.

Volunteers: No Report

Officials/Safety/Rules: The ongoing shortage of officials was discussed and it was agreed that we need to raise this issue with Organizers at their upcoming meeting.

Action

Linda agreed to follow up with Rachel at EC to get a sense of plans for courses in 2022

5. Other Matters

None raised

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on November 8th, 2021