



Washington State Hunter's & Jumper's Association
56th Annual Meeting Minutes
December 3rd, 2008 7:00 – 9:00 PM – Bellevue Sheraton

1. President/Vice President: Call to order at 7:00 pm

- a) Welcome and explanation of the meeting's agenda and schedule. The President welcomed the Association members to the 2008 Annual Meeting for the Washington State Hunter and Jumper Association (WSHAJA).
 - i. Formal portion of the meeting first. We will be voting on the new Executive Board first. If you are interested in running as a write-in, you can stand up and tell the audience why you want to be on the board. We will also vote on the by-law changes, but will have some discussion if people need explanation of the proposed by-law changes. There will be no changes to the by-laws. You can just vote Yes or No.
 - ii. Executive Board report and other business while votes are being tabulated. The Executive Board will report on other business including presentation of the scholarship recipients after the formal portion of the meeting is concluded.

2. Election of 2009 Executive Board

- a) Shelly Kerron, candidate for President
- b) Clare Warren, candidate for Vice-President, has graciously stepped into to the role at the end of the year to fill the Vice-President vacancy. Clare has served on the Board in the past.
- c) Nancy Free, candidate for Hunter Representative, has served on the Board this year as the Hunter Representative.
- d) Tami Masters, candidate for Jumper Representative, also the current Jumper Representative, would like to continue to improve the sport.
- e) Kim Stuckens, candidate for Pony Representative, has served on the Board this year as the Pony Representative.
- f) Laina Patterson, candidate for Equitation Representative, currently serves on the Board as a member-at-large; Laina is very interested in sorting out the Equitation division this year.
- g) Nicole Ballantyne and Lola Michelin are the two candidates this year for Amateur Representative. Lola is the current Amateur Representative. Nicole would like to get more involved in the Association as the Amateur Representative.
- h) Junior Representatives: Kristine Farwell thinks there are some positive changes that can be made; Carly Nicefaro is passionate about this sport, sold a lot of raffle tickets this year, wants to really support our junior riders this year; Sarah Selvar did not speak; Conner Smith feels likes he can do a good job. Alexa Anthony stood and asked that she be considered for the Junior Representative position as a write-in candidate.
- i) Members-at-Large: Originally 6 candidates for 5 positions, but Judy Hedreen asked to withdraw her name from consideration due to other commitments this year. Keena Haynes France has come to all of our board meetings in 2008, even though she did not serve on the board this year. Keena would like to grow with the association; , Melody Gilmore is currently serving as a Member-at-Large; Shannon Hendrickson is a current Member-at-Large, Sara Smith would love to get involved and know what's happening, Sally Collins wants to ensure the traditions of the organization continues.



3. Proposed By Law Changes Requiring General Membership Vote

- a) By-law changes must be voted on without any wording changes on the ballot.
- b) The President walked through each proposed by-law change to explain the reasoning behind each by-law change. The President explained how the proposed by-laws were submitted – either by a Board member or by an Association member and why the Board was proposing these changes.
- c) Members were able to comment on their concerns regarding the by-law language.
 - i. By-law Change 1 – Add new Section 3.11 to Article XI. The Pacific Northwest Equitation and Zone 9 Hunter Finals and Jumper Finals shall count for year end points. Points should be calculated as classic points.

Comment from Dianne: Zone finals already count as bonus points for USEF National points. We should be doing the same thing. Comment from Clare – this is a good thing because it will create interest in attending the show.
 - ii. By-law Change 2 – Add new Section 3.12 to Article XI. The Executive Board shall have the ability to align the point categories in Section 4 with any specification changes that may be approved by the governing bodies of the sport during the year.

We find during the year, that the National governing bodies (e.g. USEF / USHAJA) make changes in how classes are scored and how points are calculated. The Board would like to have the authority to align with the National governing bodies standards. Comment from Dianne – USHAJA will have their proposals for rule changes for the following year in by a specific deadline. Comment from Clare – This year, we had a problem with the jumper heights because when a special rule change was made at the National level (meters versus levels). Question from Barbara – should we expand the wording to include the names of the National governing boards? Answer – we can't change the wording at this time.
 - iii. By-law Change 3 – WSH&JA Good Seat and Hands rules shall be amended to the following: Both the 3' and 3'6" classes shall be open to Juniors and Amateurs with no cross-entry at shows. A test shall be performed by all competitors in the over fences round with no call back until the finals (held at the NW Autumn Classic) where the judge may ask up to five riders to return for further testing.

The goal is to give more people the experience during the year to be tested in every class, but not have the call back testing until the end of the year. Concern – Amateurs should not be allowed to ride in the 3 foot class – they can't ride in it now. Amateurs have a lot of their 3 foot medal classes already. The way the by-law is written, an Amateur would be able to compete in the same 3 foot Good Seat & Hands class as a 12 and under child. Second concern – riders need the experience in testing in a call-back mode, so they can start preparing for the pressure of the more difficult medal classes.
 - iv. By-law Change 4 – Year-end awards to be offered in the following categories:

National Program Year-End Equitation Awards:
Short Stirrup Equitation, Long Stirrup Equitation, Pre-Children Equitation, Pre-Adult Equitation, Children's Hunter Pony Equitation, Pony Equitation, 11 and Under Equitation 2'6", 12-13 Equitation 3', 14-15 Equitation 3', 16-17 Equitation 3'3", 18-30 Equitation 3', 31-39 Equitation 3', 40-49 Equitation 3', 50 and Over Equitation 3', WSHAJA Good Seat and Hands 3', WSHAJA Good Seat and Hands 3'6" Medal, Amateur Equitation is open to both AA and AO divisions

Purpose is to align the equitation categories with the rest of the National equitation divisions. This year, it was extremely difficult to account for the points from other



horse shows. The proposed by-law change would eliminate the junior and children's equitation divisions and use "age groups" to determine the division. There was a lot of discussion regarding this by-law change, including suggestions to remove the heights for each age group in the by-laws and to keep the children and junior equitation divisions. The proposed by-law also does not specify that Short Stirrup Equitation separates ponies from horses.

- v. By-law Change 5 – Add two new qualified medal finals to Article Xii, Section 1 (Scholarships): West Coast Pony Hunter Finals, PCHA Onondarka Finals

There were two members in the audience who did not have the fifth proposed by-law change on the ballot they had received in the mail. A review of the ballots received one other submitted ballot also did not have the 5th by-law change on their ballot. The Board went forward with the vote, and the two members present could review the language for this proposed change, and write in their vote on the ballot. The ballot has also been correctly posted on the WSHAJA website for a few weeks with all 5 proposed changes.

4. 2008 Executive Board report to the Membership

- a) Introduction of 2008 scholarship recipients – All but one of the scholarship recipients attended the annual meeting this year. Present: Kelsey King, Amanda Moore, Kristin Cox, Vivian Keller, Wendy Collins, Alexa Anthony, Alexa Allen, Carly Anthony, and Hannah Evans. Each scholarship recipient spoke to the audience to thank the Association for their support of their trips to California and back East for Finals competitions.
- b) President's report - Jeff Anthony reported on the highlights from 2008 and the upcoming Annual Awards Banquet, and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as President for the past 2 years.
- c) Treasurer's report of financial condition – The Treasurer passed out the current financial statements. The statements are based on our current understanding of the financial state of the Association. The Association made more money than it spent this year, and is currently showing a positive balance. Association members thanked the Treasurer for her work this year.
- d) Approval of Minutes from the 2007 Annual Meeting – Minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting approved unanimously.

5. Report of Election Results

New 2009 Board

- a) Shelly Kerron, President
- b) Clare Warren, Vice-President
- c) Nancy Free, Hunter Representative.
- d) Tami Masters, Jumper Representative
- e) Kim Stuckens, Pony Representative
- f) Laina Patterson, Equitation Representative
- g) Lola Michelin, Amateur Representative
- h) Carly Nicefaro, Junior Representative
- i) Keena Haynes France, Melody Gilmore, Shannon Hendrickson, Sara Smith, Sally Collins, Members-at-large



Bylaws Changes

- a) All of the proposed bylaws changes were approved, with the exception of item 3 (Change to the WSHAJA Good Seat and Hands classes) which failed by a margin of 3 votes.

6. Announcements and other business

- a) 2008 Awards Banquet at 5PM January 17th at the Bellevue Westin
- b) Silent auction 2008 beneficiary and procurement – The Washington Hunter Jumper Foundation (WHJF) will be putting on the silent auction this year. The Foundation is dedicated to advancing our sport in the State of Washington, and to providing additional scholarships to anyone who participates in one of the listed year-end competitions. Donations for the Silent Auction at the Banquet and other donations made to the Foundation are tax-deductible.
- c) Points Chair for 2009 - Jil Edwards and Robin Cordell will be the new Points Chair team for 2009. One of their responsibilities of the Points Chair is to post the new Membership form.
- d) Recommendations for Special Awards. The outgoing Executive Board asked the members present if there were any recommendations from the floor of candidates that should be considered for this year's special awards. The following recommendations were suggested.
 - i. Ann Daniels – Lifetime Achievement Award
 - ii. Morgan Houk – Junior Sportsmanship Award
 - iii. Lauren Hill – Junior Sportsmanship Award
 - iv. Hayley Mesojednik – Junior Sportsmanship Award
 - v. Rebecca Sexton – Junior Sportsmanship Award

7. Secretary's report of election results

8. Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 pm