

Combined Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 1, 2020, 5 p.m. Pacific, 6 p.m. Mountain, 7 p.m. Central, 8 p.m. Eastern

Meeting Modality: Zoom -Directions and password were sent out ahead of time.

Meeting Logistics

- The meeting was co-facilitated by Julie Alonzo and Jeanne Bond.
- Participants were given instructions as to meeting decorum in a Zoom Meeting. All members had an opportunity to speak on every motion up for discussion.
- Participant order for discussion was also established in an earlier email.

Voting Order

When we vote, the meeting facilitators will either call for a voice vote or a roll call vote. A **voice vote** will be used if there appears to be consensus on an item. A **roll call vote** will be used if any member of either Board requests it, or if there does not appear to be consensus.

If a voice vote is called, meeting secretary (Biddie Lowry) will record whether there were any ‘nay’ vote casts. If a roll call vote is called, Biddie will call on individual Board members by name and record the votes from the Confederation Board separate from the votes from the WE United Board, alternating between calling the votes starting with the Confederation Board and starting with the WE United Board.

Voting order was established prior to meeting. Roll Call Votes are recorded on the Voting Record Sheet and saved in Shared Drives > Collab – BOD meetings folder. There were no Roll Call Votes at this meeting.

Members in Attendance:

WE United		The Confederation for Working Equitation	
Julie Alonzo	Sarah Pinney	Jeanne Bond	Lauren Gueswel
Polly Limond	Cindy Branham	Karen Burch	Natalia Lord
Trisha Kiefer-Reed	Emily Kemp	Jill Malone	Adair Soho
Erin O’Shaughnessy	Barry Dornon	Leslie Martien	Kat Waters
Tracy Erway	Kiki Pantaze	Ashley Bowers	Chris Stanko
Kristine Strasburger	Heather Walters	Eleanor Thomas	Maria Blackstone

Members Absent:

CWE: Jill Malone, Eleanor Thomas, Lauren Gueswel, Natalia Lord

WEU: Emily Kemp, Heather Walters, Erin O’Shaughnessy

Non-Voting Attendees: Biddie Lowry, Olga Hendrickson, & Kris Blacklock

Meeting called to order at 8:24 pm EDT by Julie Alonzo, President of WEU. Both organizations must have at least 7 members present for quorum. Quorum was met.

All motions will be voted on by the Individual Board of each organization.

- Nine members of WEU present, five required to pass any motion.
- Eight members of CWE present, five required to pass any motion.

Agenda:

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2020 – Julie Alonzo

Motion made by Julie Alonzo **to accept the minutes of June 17, 2020 as submitted.**

Seconded by Jeanne Bond.

Discussion? none

Seeing no further discussion, Julie called for a Voice Vote on the Motion.

Voice Vote: When asked, “ayes” were heard and zero-“nays.” **The Motion carried.**

II. Awards Proposal, post-public review changes – Sarah Pinney & Kris Blacklock

(Note from the Secretary: Discussion will be recorded by section of the proposal.)

Sections 1-4: no discussion

Section 5: Julie commented on two changes that were made: to be on the High Point National Leaderboard, no DQs allowed. Also, the number of shows used to determine the Leaderboard is capped at six instead of eight. The Cattle Trial’s points will count towards the Leaderboard, but- “An unsuccessful attempt at Cattle will not impact points earned in successfully completing Dressage, EOH and Speed Trials.”

Section 5C: Regional Leaderboard- The Awards Proposal said that the Regional Leaderboard will recognize Region Top 10 with certificates and patches. There was a discussion about this with concerns about time to process, cost of certificates (producing and mailing), and concern that all regions should participate and wasn’t sure if that would happen especially if there was no regional director in a region. **It was therefore AGREED to change the proposal to say: that the Regional Leaderboard would be maintained by the National Awards Committee and will recognize the Top 3 Open/Amateur/Youth at each Level with Top 3 Region Patches.**

Sections 5D, 6, 7, 8, 9 had no discussion.

Before moving on, Tracy Erway noticed that the proposal referred to “active membership” in Section 5A. After discussion, it was decided in the meeting that the wording should be changed to “active individual membership” any place it is seen. **Any place where it says, Not Group Member (GM) or not General Member- should say active individual membership.**

Note: Kris Blacklock announced that she updated the Awards Proposal doc during this meeting with the modified changes in this meeting.

Motion by Julie Alonzo to vote (non-binding) to approve the Awards Team Final Proposal as modified in the Combined Board Meeting on 7-1-2020.

Seconded by Polly Limond.

Further Discussion? none

Seeing no further discussion, Julie called for a Voice Vote on the Motion.

Voice Vote: When asked, “ayes” were heard and zero “nays.” Barry Dornon abstained as he just joined the meeting. **The Motion carried.**

III. Licensed Officials Proposal post-public review changes - Kat Waters

Discussion: Kat Waters went over several of the Licensed Officials Committee (LOC) responses to the public comments of the Proposal. Then there was discussion on the number of people on the LOC. Some thought 3 members, some 5 members, some thought it be best to have a minimum number as the National organization may need to expand later to divide tasks. It was decided to change the proposal so that there would be a minimum of 5 members on the LOC.

Then there was the discussion on who would serve on the LOC. Concerns for conflicts of interest were expressed if the LOC were all Licensed Officials (LO) and lacking a TD’s/Judge’s professional input if all non-licensed officials. It was suggested that the majority of members on the LOC should be non-licensed officials. It was clarified and agreed that using the word “suggested” is not advisable from a governance point of view. It was decided to change the proposal so that a majority of the members of the LOC would be comprised of non-licensed officials.

Kat clarified the response to the comment no. 25 (from the Public Comments/Responses doc) referring to “Social Media Publications”. She clarified the role of the LOC in keeping up with accurate and up-to-date information on the website, newsletter, and social media announcements.

Kiki Pantaze brought up comment #3 from the Public Comments/Responses doc. A long discussion ensued. Kat explained that testing needed to be Jan 1-Feb 1 as the new rules go into effect on Dec 1st and the LOC needs a month to prepare the tests to be ready for administration on Jan 1. She also explained that not every LO tests every year. Everyone maintains their license until Feb 1. If a LO did not take the required test, his/her license becomes inactive, not revoked. Some other concerns about the judges knowing the new rules and testing was discussed. Kat assured this group that interactive programs were being developed to help LO. Most LO are very professional and know the rules.

The last item discussed was the LO's evaluations after a show. In the past, the LOs did not receive a copy of these evaluations. Some wanted them to, thinking it would help future performance, others warned that show managers might not be forthcoming with comments if it was known that the comments would be shared with the judge for fear of retribution or just awkwardness at the next show where that LO was used. Jeanne pointed out that if there was a rule problem or major infraction, the Competitions and Event Committee would address those problems immediately. All points of view were recognized, and a compromise was arrived upon. It would be added to the proposal that the LO would receive a summary of evaluations if there were at least 3 evaluations that year. All identifying information about the show and personal would be removed. Many felt like this type of summary would help to improve our LOs.

Motion made by Julie Alonzo **to vote (non-binding) to approve the Licensed Officials proposal with the following modifications: "Majority of members of the LOC shall not be Licensed Officials" and "a summary of evaluations received from show managers will be sent to each Licensed Official at the end of each competition season, provided there are at least three evaluations. All identifying information about show management and show shall be removed prior to sharing."**

Seconded by Tricia Kiefer-Reed

Discussion? none

Seeing no further discussion, Julie called for a Voice Vote on the Motion.

Voice Vote: When asked, "ayes" were heard and zero "nays." **The Motion carried.**

IV. Julie recommended that since the time allowed for this meeting was nearing an end, the presentation on the Membership Proposal would be tabled to the next meeting.

V. Conclusion

Since several members of the Combined Board cannot attend a Wednesday night meeting, it was decided to have some meetings on Thursday nights and some on Wednesday nights. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 8 pm, EST.

Topics for the next meeting:

- Membership Proposal
- Coaches Network (formally Ambassadors/WE Professionals) Proposal
- Ethics Proposal (possibly)

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm, EDT by Julie Alonzo.

Minutes submitted by Biddie Lowry on 7/2/20.

(Note: Because there were no calls for Roll Call Voting, there is no Roll Call Vote Record for this meeting.)