

RIDE AND TIE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 8, 2007 Telephone Conference

Present: Don Betts, President, Rufus Schneider, Vice President, Dawn Hartsock, Secretary, Steve Anderson, Steve Shaw, Ted Ruprecht, Mary Tiscornia, Pat Browning.

Absent: Don Strong, Lani Newcomb

Visitor: Dennis Miller, 2008 Championship Race director

The meeting was called to order at 6:02

The minutes from the August 16th meeting were approved as presented.

REPORTS

2008 Championship – Dennis Miller

Dennis Miller reported to the board on his progress getting permission to use the trails, and refinding the old trails used in 1991 and 1994. He has community support to help with clearing trails but would like to have assistance from the Ride & Tie Association members as well.

President's Report - Don Betts: Don will send copies of the current Ride & Tie Insurance to the board members for review. Don, Jim Steere and Lani Newcomb are considering different veterinarians to be the new Head Veterinarian for the Ride and Tie Association. They will present their choice to the Board.

Treasurer's Report - Ted Ruprecht

Account Balances November 1, 2007:

General (Combined Funds)	\$12,846.81
CD's of 03/02/07 maturing 03/02/08 @ 5.23%	\$40,000.00
CD of 09/08/07 (reinvested 3 mo.) @ 5% APY	\$15,000.00

Achievement Awards - Dawn Hartsock: Dawn and Steve are starting to work on the end of the year points. Dawn asked for opinions on the awards given at the 2007 Championship (Polar Fleece Jackets and Certificates for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each category). The Board expressed their approval.

Horse Hall of Fame - Mary Tiscornia: Mary and Leah Mirsch have made a criteria but ask Steve Anderson as statistician for his input. They will have a conference call to finalize the criteria and make their new recommendations for the Horse Hall of Fame.

Statistics and Archives - Steve Anderson:

192 Competitors as of 11/7.

396 Participants in all the races.

30 Man/Man teams.

54 Woman/Man teams.

48 Woman/Woman teams.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Directors Insurance – Don Betts:** The quote for the Director's Liability Insurance did not reflect Internet Coverage which was requested by the Board at a previous meeting. A new quote will be forthcoming and Don Betts and Don Strong will decide if the cost is reasonable. If so, the insurance will be purchased.
2. **Board Election for 2008- Don Betts:** Three of the current Board of Directors are up for reelection in 2008: Dawn Hartsock, Mary Tiscornia and Don Strong.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Cash awards for Best Conditioned Horse – Don Betts for Don Strong:** Don Strong requested that the Board consider offering a cash award to the owner of the Best Conditioned horse at the Championship. Jim Steeres moved that the Association give \$1000 to the owner of the Best Condition horse at the Championship. Steve Shaw seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
2. **Championship Race Director's Responsibilities – Dawn Hartsock:** Dawn Hartsock, Jim Steere and Don Betts will come up with a list of responsibilities for putting on a Championship. They will produce a useable list for Championship Race Directors

3. **Minimum Requirements for Championship Race Site – Don Betts:** Don will be requesting from each Board Member a list of things they believe are important in Championship Race sites. He will then compile a list and present it to the Board for use in determining future sites.
4. **Short-Course Completion Rule – Dawn Hartsock:** Due to the confusion at both the Championship and smaller, local races, Dawn asked that the Board discuss the current rule regarding Short Course Race completion. Currently the rule reads: A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have fully crossed the finish line. The finish time for all races under 20 miles is determined by the time the horse meets pulse and respiration criteria as established by the head veterinarian. After much discussion this item was tabled for a future meeting.
5. **Non-Member Race participants – Don Betts:** A high number of people are participating in races without being members. The race directors have signed their sanctioning packets which states that that all participants MUST be members of the Ride and Tie Association, but still allow people to participate without being members. Don wants the Board to understand the importance of having the membership prior to the race.
6. **One-Day Membership – Dawn Hartsock:** Dawn was concerned that people might not be trying Ride & Tie if they have to pay the \$25 membership fee. Discussion followed but no action was taken.
7. **Pro-Am Awards – Dawn Hartsock:** Dawn has provided Pro-Am water bottles for each of the races in 2007. She asked the Board if she should continue providing them. The Board reported that the race directors appreciated having something else to hand out to the Ride & Tie competitors.
8. **Members Emeritus – Steve Shaw:** Steve moved that Mary Tiscornia be made a Member Emeritus of the Ride and Tie Association Board of Directors. Jim Steere seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Congratulations Mary!!!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next meeting will be held March 13, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Annie Betts

**Ride and Tie Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2007 (Teleconference)**

Present: Don Betts (President), Rufus Schneider (Vice President), Ted Ruprecht (Treasurer), Lani Newcomb, Don Strong, Steve Anderson, Steve Shaw (Emeritus), Mary Tiscornia, Nita Browning
Absent: Dawn Hartsock

The Minutes were read and the following corrections were made:

Treasurer's Report: Race Account: \$15,657.53, Administrative Account: \$7,549.15
Ted Ruprecht makes a motion that the board approve combining the two bank accounts into one. Separate records will be kept on the different 'accounts' but the money would be held in the same bank account. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Minutes were approved. Corrected Minutes will be sent to the website.

President's Report: Don Betts

Horse TV is becoming an internet TV site. The Ride and Tie Association could have a program available for viewing through their site if we had one. Discussion followed about using old ride & tie videos or fixing up the footage taken at the Libby Montana Championship in 2005 if we can get it from Horse TV.

Treasurer's Report: Ted Ruprecht

Administrative Account: \$11,394.72
Race Account: \$2,952.18

The grand total so far for this year's championship is \$19,501.29. This does not include the cost of t-shirts and the cost of awards not yet turned in from Rufus. We spent approximately \$12,000 on awards, \$3000 on food, \$2000 on the site, and \$1400 on veterinarians. \$1000 was given to Chris Amaral, race manager, who donated it to the Relay for Life.

Horse Hall of Fame: Mary Tiscornia

Mary is working with Leah Mirsch to completely redo the criteria for Hall of Fame horses. Mary asked the board to suggest horses that might be eligible.

Sponsors and Merchandise: Don Strong

Don has started collecting sponsors for next year. He is developing a form for sponsors which will make keeping track of them and what we have promised in return for their sponsorship easier.

OLD BUSINESS:

Director's Insurance: Don Strong presented three quotes for Directors' Insurance which were sent to the Board of Directors from Fred Vitas of George Petersen Insurance Co. After much discussion about whether or not Directors' Insurance is necessary and if necessary which policy would be the best, Ted made a motion that we insure ourselves with Philadelphia Insurance Company. Nita Browning seconded it. The motion passed with one dissenting vote. Don Betts will email Fred Vitas regarding starting the coverage.

2008 Race Site: The following sites were being considered for the 2008 Championship: Cooley Ranch, Mt. Adams, Georgetown and Taylorsville. Updates were given by Don Betts on each of the sites. Ted Ruprecht made a motion that we adopt the Taylorsville site with Dennis Miller as race director for our 2008 Championship. Mary Tiscornia seconded. Approval was unanimous. Don will continue to work with Dennis to make this a terrific championship.

Cash Awards for 2008 Championship: Don Betts presented a new plan for the cash awards for our next championship. This will give cash awards to the second and third place winners as follows:

Division winners: \$1000 + Trophy

Second place winners: \$300

Third place winners: \$100

First Pro-Am team: will receive Corky Award (\$300) if they do not qualify for Pat's Purse (\$500)

Second and third place pro-am teams: \$100

Don Strong moved that the Association accept the new cash awards. Mary seconded it. The Board approved it unanimously.

Elevator Ride & Ties: Don Betts has been approached by two different race managers regarding having 'elevator' ride & ties. This means that if the race manager would like to, he or she can allow people who sign up for a short course race to 'elevate' to the longer course when they finish the short course if they want to continue and have passed the vet check criteria. Discussion followed which included whether or not a team could 'de-elevate' and whether a team originally signed up for the short course, who elevates to the long course and then doesn't finish it will get short course awards. A motion was made by Steve Shaw that the Ride & Tie Association should allow race managers to have 'elevator' ride & ties if they so choose. The motion was seconded by Don Strong. The motion was passed unanimously.

Non-Member Mentors: (Don Betts) We have 23 mentors. Five of them are not currently active in the association and are not competing. This five are not members of the Association and are not receiving uptodate information about what is happening in our Association. After discussion Rufus moved that all mentors receive the newsletter and any other mail received by Association members but that they must become competing members before they can compete in any race. Mary seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2008 Elections and Nominating Committee

Mary Tiscornia, Dawn Hartsock and Don Strong will all be up for reelection in 2008. The Board needs to appoint a Nominating Committee for possible new board members. Cheryl Domnitch and Cindy Brown and Sue Smythe were suggested. Don Betts will contact them.

Next Board meeting on October 25th, 2007 at 6 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Annie Betts