

**Ride and Tie Association
Board of Directors' Meeting
May 7, 2009-Teleconference, called to order 1801 hours**

Present

Board Members: Steve Anderson, Don Betts Nita Browning, Lani Newcomb, Melissa Queen, Ted Ruprecht, Rufus Schneider, and Melanie Weir.

Administration: Lisa Preston

Not Present: Greg Fellers Cindy Brown, Steve Shaw, Jim Steere Don Strong and Mary Tiscornia.

After correcting the date of the next meeting, motion by Nita to approve previous minutes. Lani seconded. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

Reports

President's Report - Don Betts

Championship: camping is reserved; dinner planned with vegetarian meals available; slightly different, possibly longer course.

Rufus is trying to work with Don Strong on Championship awards, but has not received some information from Don S.

Ted asked how Board terms will be allocated. Don B. advised the current newsletter shows direct voting by the membership.

Ted asked which marathon expo Don B. will attend with a R&T booth. Don advised Seattle was too expensive but if Portland is still available, Don would have a booth at the Portland marathon.

Treasurer – Steve Anderson

*Sent following report in advance:

Financials & Race Data 5/6/2009

Wells Fargo Checking: \$14,385.77

Dodge & Cox Fund: \$38,633.46 (shares: 733.779 /share price: \$52.65)

Coast Central Credit Union CD's: 1 @ \$10,126.69

1 @ \$40,879.27

Business Savings: \$50.00

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Ted asked current location of certain funds and about reinvesting other funds that may not be under Steve's control. Ted will check with Coast Central.

Sanctioning Director - Lani Newcomb

Lisa Stewart in UT, 30 miles SW of SLC, is trying to create a new R&T, along with their Extreme Cowboy Challenge, hopefully this fall.

Championship Awards – Rufus Schneider

Addressed during President's report.

Future Race Sites – Nita Browning

No new information on possible 2011 Championship site but Rufus had mentioned Victor, ID and Don S. had mentioned Yosemite. Melissa Ribley's race is upcoming and will be contacted soon after regarding her race site.

Achievement and Special Awards – Ted Ruprecht

High-point and high-mileage horse and human awards are nearly ready.

Sponsor & Merchandise - Don Strong- not present- no report from him but Don B. noted two saddles have been acquired. A Black Forest treeless worth about \$750 will be raffled. Specialized is providing a \$1500 saddle which will be auctioned.

Ted suggested creating a means for people not present to buy raffle tickets for, and place bids on, the saddles.

Statistics and Archives - Steve Anderson

*Sent following report in advance:

Race Info:

Missing Race Results:

3/29 **Shanghai Trails Ride & Tie**, Pierce, TX

4/11 **No Frills Ride & Tie**, Star Tannery VA

4/18 **Foxcatcher Ride & Tie**, Fair Hill, MD

Number of race participants to date: 86

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Don B. commented that Steve's Quicksilver race short course was almost entirely a field of novice juniors.

Rufus noted every team in the recent 15 mile course was pro-am.

Web Site – Melanie Weir

Membership roster is not on website but the Paypal problem is fixed. She will update local info for the Championship, including restaurants ASAP. She's working with Platinum, which wants our email list. We won't provide members' email list but will work to pass on information from a sponsor to our membership.

Don asked to have the saddles placed on the home page. Melanie will see to this.

Promotion – Cindi Brown not present – no report.

Horse Hall of Fame - Mary Tiscornia not present – no report.

Head Veterinarian – Greg Fellers not present – no report.

Youth Representative – Melissa Queen

Suggested juniors be required to wear helmets just like most horse sports.

Old Business:

None.

New Business

1. Approve guide lines for Ride and Tie Horse of Distinction

In order to honor horses who have contributed significantly to the sport, though not Horse Hall of Fame-type winners. The criteria will include numbers of races and diversity of riders, years in the sport. Horse Hall of Fame horses are specifically ineligible. Nominating criteria and judging committee are now in place. Mary will write an article announcing and promoting the award after Board approval. Ted moved to approve Horse of Distinction. Lani seconded. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

2. Adopt suggested Rule 19: A Junior is a ride & tie participant who was under the age of 18 as of the first day of the ride season in which the ride is held. All Juniors must wear approved safety helmets (Approval by AHSA, PCA, ANSIZ90.4, or Snell)

Melanie suggested first considering whether to have a helmet rule, then to consider the age, and whether the rule applies whenever mounted or only during competition. No one intends people to have to wear helmets while running.

AERC requires helmets at until 16, not 18 years of age. Ride and Tie considers a junior anyone under 18 years of age, but because so many R&Ts are put on with AERC rides, applying the helmet rule to those under 16 would make management and enforcement more straightforward.

Steve asked if cycling helmets should be allowed, Don B. said no due to helmet design and insurance reasons.

Lani pointed out that RDs can implement additional rules on their races, such as not permitting two juniors to be a team without an adult accompanying them.

Revised suggested Rule 19:

Competitors under 16 years of age must wear approved safety helmets while mounted during a racing (Approval by AHSA, PCA, ANSIZ90.4, or Snell).

Ted motioned to approve rule 19, Seconded by Melanie. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

3. Time of year for the annual Championship – Ted Ruprecht

Ted brought Rufus's prior concern back to Board. Some thought the Championship scheduling may be a factor in declining attendance. If a Championship is a culmination of the race year, a Championship at the end of the season makes sense. Ted pointed out our Championship does not settle a pending outcome outside the Championship results. Others pointed out an end of the season Championship in September would negatively impact attendance because of school commitments by so much of the membership.

4. Approve guidelines for Nomination Committee – Don Betts

Annette Parsons, Jane McGrath and Susan Smythe have created guidelines for minimum standards. Nita motioned to approve guidelines. Lani seconded. No more comments. Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

Rufus added that the committee she's on with Don Strong and Melanie Weir. Don S. has suggested possibly having an auction at every Championship, with everyone bringing an item to be auctioned.

Steve Anderson's committee on expenses has suggested reducing printing costs, possibly with electronic newsletters for opting members.

Steve also noted Kirsten Seyferth will staff the Association's booth at the LA marathon and would like additional help.

Ted left at 1900 hours.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 18, 2009 at 11:00 at the Cuneo Creek Horse Campground in the Humboldt Redwoods State Park. (No phone service) Melanie noted she won't be there until 19th, so she will not be able to attend the meeting. Lani will not be at the Championship either.

Meeting adjourned at 1902

Minutes submitted by Lisa Preston