

**Texas Hunter and Jumper Association  
Board of Directors  
2018 Annual Meeting Minutes  
Saturday January 6, 2018  
Hilton DoubleTree Hotel, Campbell Center, Dallas, TX**

Call to order at 8:33 AM by Lindsey Black, President.

1. Roll call by Angeleah Cleek.
  - Present: Stephen Lang, Jerry Converse, Linda Moore, Robert Yaffe, Doug Brombach, Bob Brawley, Jessica Harries, Kimberley Brunson, Matt Cyphert, Kim Cox, Vicki Hunton, Katie Cox, Suzanne Warmack, Ellen Eakin, Colleen Brombach, Patty Roberts, Jane Thacker, Brittany Hildebrand, and Lindsey Black.
  - Absent/excused: Lynn Walsh, Katja Kallenberger, Amy Uniss-Coleman, and Gayle O'Rear.
  - Absent/unexcused: Trapp O'Neal.
2. Reading of meeting minutes from September 25th meeting.
  - Lindsey Black moved to waive the reading of the minutes. Katie Cox seconded the motion. All were in favor.
3. Report of the Finance Committee by Suzanne Warmack, Linda Moore, and Doug Brombach, including dedicated discussion time regarding revenue generation.
  - Doug Brombach indicated that he has reviewed the financials. Linda Moore reported that THJA is low on cash with a 2017 loss of approximately \$26,000. She also reported low banquet ticket sales with approximately 150 tickets sold this year versus 250-300 tickets sold in prior years.
  - Robert Yaffe provided a handout reflecting membership trends from 2012 through show-year-to-date 2018. THJA reported approximately 300 more members in 2012 than in 2017. There was much discussion about the impact of this decline on THJA's net income.
  - Angeleah Cleek agreed to send an email to those board members who have not yet renewed their THJA membership. Robert Yaffe also agreed to send a mass email reminding prior members to renew.
  - As a follow up on the trainer membership campaign discussed in the previous meeting, Kim Brunson reported that she received feedback indicating that most trainers do not see a benefit to being a THJA member. She also emphasized the large gap between the constituency of local/schooling shows and rated shows. Patty Roberts commented that USHJA struggles with a similar issue.
  - Suzanne Warmack suggested that THJA investigate changing tax status to 501(c)(3), which could open new revenue streams and exempt THJA from paying sales tax.
  - Doug Brombach moved that Suzanne Warmack contact ABIP to inquire about changing filing status to 501(c)(3) and report progress to the Executive Committee within 60 days. Lindsey Black seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Lindsey Black reported that other state organizations have received permission from USEF to charge a \$1.00 to \$3.00 'Education Fee' at horse shows to all competitors. The funds must be spent for an educational purpose reported to USEF.
- Doug Brombach moved that THJA request a \$3.00 educational/competition fee from USEF for the 2019 show year. Vicki Hunton seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Ellen Eakin stressed that this fee would not solve the larger issue of THJA's need to show competitors the benefits of being a THJA member.
- Vicki Hunton suggested selling THJA merchandise. Lindsey Black reported that AJ Design has offered to create a THJA hat, short sleeve shirt, and long sleeve shirt to display for sale to its customers. AJ Design would pay THJA a percentage of THJA merchandise sales. Jerry Converse suggested that THJA also post a link to purchase the merchandise on the website. Doug Brombach moved that Lindsey Black negotiate terms with AJ Design for this arrangement. Kim Brunson seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Doug Brombach moved that THJA continue the High-Point Award but amend the speculations to calculate points based on each riders top five (5) horse shows. Matt Cyphert seconded the motion. Kim Brunson opposed. All others were in favor.
- Robert Yaffe moved to amend the High-Point Award speculations to state that winners must be present to receive the cash prize. Steve Lang seconded the motion. Kim Cox, Kim Brunson, Katie Cox, Robert Yaffe, Steve Lang, Suzanne Warmack, and Ellen Eakin were in favor. Lindsey Black, Brittany Hildebrand, Jessica Harries, Jane Thacker, Matt Cyphert, Patty Roberts, Doug Brombach, Linda Moore, and Bob Brawley opposed. Vicki Hunton, Jerry Converse, and Colleen Brombach abstained. With seven (7) favorable votes and nine (9) opposing votes, the motion failed.
- As part of the discussion regarding Robert Yaffe's motion, many indicated that they feel the award will not get enough publicity if a recipient is not present to accept their prize. Doug Brombach suggested that THJA issue large checks and post photos of the presentation online next year. Jessica Harries suggested increasing publicity surrounding the award by having an award presentation at a horse show.
- Lindsey Black moved that THJA host an awards presentation at Pin Oak II for the High-Point Award winners in addition to the banquet presentation. Matt Cyphert seconded the motion. Kim Brunson was opposed. All others were in favor.
- Lindsey Black agreed to order awards for the secondary presentation. It was agreed that the Banquet Committee chair will be responsible for ordering a second set of ribbons for this award in future years.

#### 4. Report of the Rule Book Committee by Jerry Converse.

- Linda Moore and Gayle O'Rear reviewed the rule book and found some typographical errors. Jerry Converse indicated that he is in the process of making updates related to the aforementioned errors.
- Jerry Converse announced that he is resigning from his board position and will send a letter requesting Emeritus status within the week. He requested the board find a replacement for his position as Rule Book Committee chair.

- Jane Thacker volunteered to replace Jerry Converse as Rule Book Committee chair. Jerry Converse and Jane Thacker agreed to meet to discuss the duties.
5. Report of the Nominating Committee by Steve Lang and Jessica Harries.
    - As Jerry Converse's Central Region position is now vacant, Colleen Brombach volunteered to fill the Central Region position. This left a vacant At-Large position.
    - Jessica Harries moved to nominate Angeleah Cleek for the vacant At-Large position. Kim Cox seconded. Jerry Converse abstained. All others were in favor.
    - The Nominating Committee had no additional items to discuss.
  6. Report of the Prize List Review Committee by Linda Moore
    - Linda Moore reported that an email has been sent to show managers (a) reminding them to apply for their shows and (b) informing them that THJA will only list shows in the competition calendar for which they have received applications.
    - Linda Moore also reported that show managers continue to submit applications in an untimely manner containing material errors.
  7. Report of the Exhibitor Show Standards Committee by Jessica Harries and Colleen Brombach.
    - The Exhibitor Show Standards Committee did not have any items for discussion.
  8. Report of the Sponsorship Committee by Patty Roberts, Steve Lang, and Kim Cox.
    - Patty Roberts reported that she has been working with Don Stewart and Great Southwest Equestrian Center to host a video review clinic in May. The clinic would be free to THJA members and charge a small fee to non-members. She also stated that she intends to organize another similar clinic in the fall.
    - Patty Roberts and Kim Cox agreed to work with Melissa Osbourne to promote the new events.
    - The Sponsorship Committee also reported that THJA will not be sponsoring WCHR this year.
  9. Report on the website and information systems by Robert Yaffe and Lindsey Black.
    - Robert Yaffe reported that he is planning to change THJA's website host to Winhost. He anticipates a slight decrease in cost.
  10. Report on USEF and USHJA News by Patty Roberts.
    - Lindsey Black indicated that the THJA luncheon was a big hit at the USHJA annual meeting, but overall, the meeting was not well-attended.
    - Patty Roberts noted that, although the change was not brought forward to USEF, there was discussion at the meeting of amending schooling ring rules to equalize the rules for hunters and jumpers.

- Patty Roberts also reported that there was a push to create a rule to require ambulances on show grounds to provide more medical services than an EMT can provide.
- Colleen Brombach reported that a requirement for professionals to undergo mandatory background checks and CPR training was proposed. Trainer certification requirements were dropped from this proposal.

#### 11. Report on the THJA Annual Awards Banquet by Melissa Osbourne.

- Melissa Osbourne reported on the status of the 2018 banquet.
- The 2019 Annual Awards Banquet is to be held on January 5, 2019 in Austin, TX. The appointment of a Banquet Committee chair was tabled until the committee discussion later in the meeting. Angeleah Cleek agreed to send out a calendar invitation regarding the 2019 banquet.
- Colleen Brombach agreed to research event planners, determine pricing, and provide an update to the Banquet Committee before the next meeting.

#### 12. Other agenda items:

- a. Ad hoc committee presentation on award programs/medal class offerings for 2019 (Bob Brawley, Colleen Brombach, Suzanne Warmack, Jessica Harries, Kimberley Brunson, Patty Roberts, Brittany Hildebrand, Ellen Eakin).
  - Bob Brawley provided handouts detailing the committee's proposed speculations for equitation divisions and THJA medal classes. The proposal aimed for the creation of THJA medals and equitation divisions (which include a Champion and Reserve Champion) with a minimum of three classes (two over fences and one flat class) at various heights. The provisions allow for the divisions to include existing medal classes.
  - Bob Brawley indicated that Great Southwest Equestrian Center was not able to incorporate a medal final into the Autumn Classic schedule.
  - The group agreed to move forward by discussing the new proposition with show managers, solidifying the rule language, and working with Jane Thacker to update the rule book accordingly. The intent is for the new offerings to be in effect for the 2019 show year.
- b. Discussion regarding the split of the Children's Hunter Pony division and the 3'3" Amateur Owner division to adhere to USHJA Zone awards.
  - Patty Roberts moved that THJA amend its rules related to the Children's Hunter Pony division and the 3'3" Amateur Owner division to mirror the USHJA zone awards. Colleen Brombach seconded the motion. Linda Moore was opposed. All others were in favor.
  - Jerry Converse and Jane Thacker agreed to meet to amend the rule book to reflect these changes for 2019. Upon completion, Robert Yaffe agreed to send a notification to the members about the rule change and post it to the website.
- c. Discussion regarding membership (Lindsey Black).

- Lindsey Black indicated that her points under this agenda item had already been addressed in the prior discussion of membership and revenue generation.
  - Matt Cyphert suggested a raffle or other prize for trainers at the banquet to incentivize them to encourage their clients to become THJA members.
  - Patty Roberts moved to form a Membership Committee. Colleen Brombach seconded the motion. All were in favor. Matt Cyphert volunteered to be chair of the Membership Committee. Jessica Harries, Ellen Eakin, and Vicki Hunton also volunteered to join the committee.
  - The committee agreed to continue to brainstorm on Matt Cyphert's idea and to work closely with the Banquet Committee in developing a trainer membership incentive.
- d. Discussion regarding sanctioning of out-of-state horse shows.
- Robert Yaffe indicated that he has heard of other states sanctioning out-of-state horse shows. The consensus was that THJA would not like to pursue that at this time.
- e. Election of THJA Officers and Executive Committee members and Passing of the President position.
- Lindsey Black, President, called for a vote to approve the following 2018 Executive Committee slate:
    - President: Suzanne Warmack
    - First Vice President: Jessica Harries
    - Second Vice President: Doug Brombach
    - Treasurer: Linda Moore
    - Secretary: Angeleah Cleek
    - Non-Officer Member: Robert Yaffe
    - Non-Officer Member: Stephen Lang
    - Non-Officer Member: Matt Cyphert
    - Past President Member: Lindsey Black
  - All were in favor of the Executive Committee slate.
- f. Confirmation of remaining committee members.
- Rule Book Committee: Jane Thacker (chair), Steve Lang, Matt Cyphert, Bob Brawley, Jerry Converse, and Colleen Brombach
  - Prize List Review Committee: Linda Moore (chair) and Gayle O'Rear
  - Exhibitor Show Standards Committee: Lynn Walsh (chair), Jessica Harries, and Colleen Brombach
  - Finance Committee: Jessica Harries (chair), Doug Brombach, Angeleah Cleek, and Linda Moore
  - Sponsorship Committee: Patty Roberts (chair), Steve Lang, Matt Cyphert, Kimberley Brunson, and Kim Cox
  - Nominating Committee: Jessica Harries (chair), Steve Lang, and Katja Kallenberger

- Banquet Committee: Vicki Hunton (chair), Ellen Eakin, Katie Cox, and Colleen Brombach
- USHJA & USEF Committee: Lynn Walsh (chair) and Patty Roberts
- Website Committee: Robert Yaffe (chair) and Lindsey Black
- Social Media Committee: Brittany Hildebrand (chair), Melissa Osbourne, and Suzanne Warmack
- Membership Committee: Matt Cyphert (chair), Jessica Harries, Vicki Hunton, and Ellen Eakin
- Angeleah Cleek agreed to send an updated committee list to all board members. Robert Yaffe agreed to make updates to the website to reflect changes in board members, Emeritus members, and committees.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at 6:30 PM. The meeting will take place at Great Southwest Equestrian Center. Angeleah Cleek agreed to send a calendar invitation.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 PM.