

Equestrians Institute 2020 Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 21, 2020 1-3 p.m. Pacific Time

Location: Zoom Conference Call

Attendees: 13

Called to Order: 1:07 PM



AGENDA

- Approval of 2019 annual meeting minutes
- 2020 Recap
- 2021 Plans
 - Overall organization and divisions
- 2021 Board of Directors
 - Overview of what we do
 - Communications
 - Vote to approve 2021 board nominees
- Other Business? Questions?

Approval Of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

All members received a draft of 2019 annual meeting minutes. Motion made and passed to waive reading of the minutes and accept them as written.



Review and Approval of Last Year's 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes

Read the minutes aloud
OR
Waive reading and accept as written and
sent out to members prior to this meeting


Recap of 2020

COVID-19 happened. Due to concerns for safety, the uncertainty of openings in WA, and the lack of pandemic insurance coverage, EI cancelled all in person events for the year.


2020 Statistics

- Membership is down by 100. While there is some uncertainty for 2021, the board is hopeful to get membership numbers back up.
- Facebook numbers are also down. EI posts on a variety of Facebook pages so there are multiple places people can get information re: EI.
- There were no significant changes to EI member interests.

At this time, the primary concern for 2021 is membership numbers and getting people re-engaged.

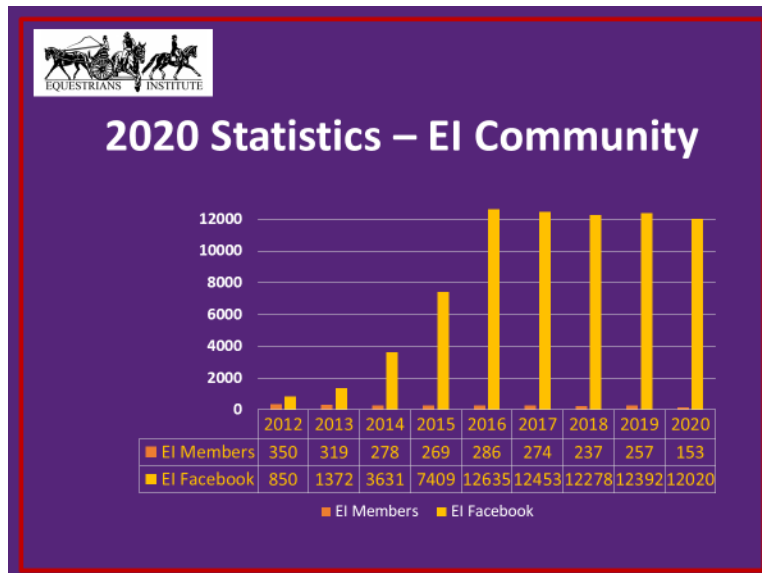


2020 Recap



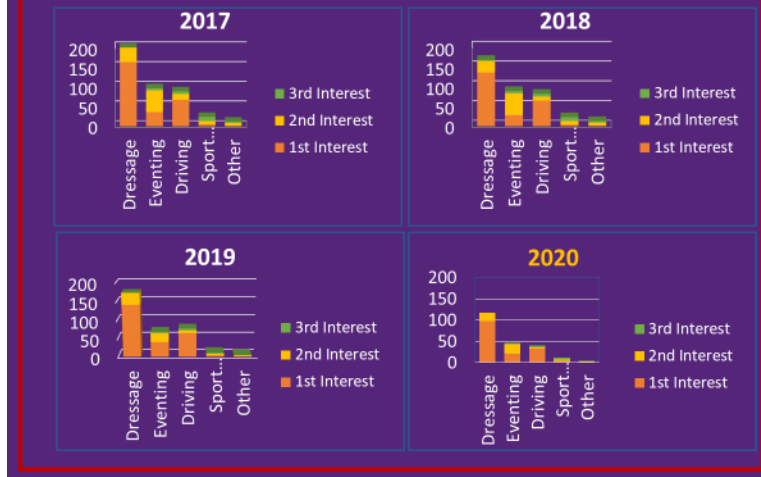
Covid 19 Happened

- Board made the tough decision in May to cancel all in person 2020 events due to safety, uncertainty about timing of openings in WA, and lack of pandemic coverage by insurance.





EI Members' Interests



Financial Review (YTD as of 10/31/2020)

Financial statement shows a starting cash balance of \$107,275 with an ending balance of \$80,294. Prepays are the sponsorships given to Donida for better arena footing. Fixed assets include jumps and other assets. A loss of \$19,881 was due to cancellation of all shows or clinics, except for the one clinic held in late February. Prepaid accounts for all deposits made for 2020 shows and prizes and those will be carried over as expenses in 2021.

Cash by division was reviewed. Driving is holding steady due to driving community contributions. Eventing is still strong but a bit less than normal after giving to the Horses Park for infrastructure. Dressage needs to build up its cash a bit as it is "too low for comfort". The goal for cash on hand is for a division to cover costs if a show is a last-minute cancellation.

	Cash January 1, 2020	Income / (Loss)	Prepaid for 2021	Cash October 21, 2020
Dressage	6,184	(404)	(2,000)	3,780
Driving	28,936	301	(5,100)	24,137
Eventing	37,537		(12,080)	25,457
Sport Horse Breeding	4,210		(400)	3,810
General	30,408	(7,298)		23,110
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Total Cash	107,275	(7,401)	(19,580)	80,294
Prepays	3,500		19,580	23,080
Fixed Assets	50,075			50,075
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Total Assets	160,850	(7,401)		153,449
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Equity	160,850	(19,881)		140,969

General Account

The general account statement projects a loss of \$6,898 for the year after all expenses and with \$2,000 for projected memberships dues. In 2020, the following expenses were handled differently:

- Liability insurance is paid out of the general fund. And while it is usually allocated to divisions based on the events and shows held, this year EI received a partial refund and remainder tallied as a general fund expense.
- Storage is normally split between the general and dressage budgets. This year the total was kept in the general fund.
- There is no division support for the general account since there were not shows in 2020.

General Account (ten months ended Oct. 31, 2020)				
		10 mos Actual	12 mos Projected	12 mos Budget
Income:				
Membership		1,332	3,332	10,000
Division support				3,000
Donations		-		
Total Income		1,332	3,332	13,000
Expenses:				
Dues - USDF, USEF, USEA, ADS		1,587	2,387	5,000
Flying Changes Magazine		707	1,407	2,500
Insurance - Directors & Officers		2,699	2,699	1,700
Storage		1,841	1,841	750
New webpage design		-	-	-
Postage and office expenses		209	209	380
Other - web site, quickbook, member processing		1,587	1,687	2,550
Total Expenses		8,630	10,230	12,880
Net Loss		(7,298)	(6,898)	120

2021 Organizational Goals

The main goal is to get back to “normal,” hosting shows and clinics, annual awards, etc. Focus will also be to strengthen membership and equine community by improving outreach and involvement, increasing social media communications and direct emails. Discussion followed on improve written communications, connecting better with dressage trainers and barn owners, adding extra incentive / enticement for trainers, better outreach to young people, and hosting different mix of events, shows, and/or clinics



2021 Overall Organizational Goals

- Get back to some sort of “new normal”
 - Division shows and clinics
 - Annual awards
 - Volunteer recognition
- Strengthen our membership and equine community
 - Improve outreach, involvement
 - Increased social media communications, Flying Changes articles, direct emails
- Manage and grow resources needed to provide shows and programs (financial, people, materials)

2021 Division Plans

Dressage

Dressage Division plans include organizing it's schooling and recognized shows as well as hosting dressage clinics for adult amateurs as well as open riders. In order to maintain a solid financial position, the division will plan for two judges at the recognized shows with the option to add a local judge if there are more entries than planned.



EI Dressage 2021

- **Clinics**
 - **Back-to-Basics Dressage Clinic Series for adult amateurs**
 - Two spring and two fall dates
 - Taught by Regina Agren and Ulf Wadeborn
 - **Open Riders Clinic Series**
 - One May clinic and one other date TBD
 - Taught by Anne Gribbons
- **Shows**
 - **Two schooling shows**, Bridle Trails, Kirkand, WA, spring dates TBD soon
 - **Chablis/Beaujolais**, Donida Farm, Auburn, WA, June 19/20
 - **Champagne Classic**, Donida Farm, Auburn, WA, July 17/18

Driving

Driving Division will organize the same shows and clinics as planned for 2020. All events will be at Donida Farms. There was some push back from the driving community for cancelling the 2020 shows. The Driving Division will need full shows plus \$5,000 in fund raising to break even. The division is still deciding if it will organize a beginning driver clinic.



EI Driving 2021

- **Driving Division schedule for 2021**
 - **CDE Clinic**, June 7-10, with Stacey Giere and Sterling Graburn
 - **Kitchen Sink**, June 11-13
 - **CDE**, August 13-15
 - **Driving Trial**, September 11-12

All Events at Donida Farm

Eventing

Eventing Division will again plan the spring and fall events plus a clinic. Only difference is the Fall event has a different date. Eventing reported the Washington State Horse Park's covered arena is now up and the division is looking forward to working in it for the shows.

A new idea the division is going to consider as a fund raiser is a derby day. The idea is to give riders a time slot and they can do what they want with the XC and show jumps set up. No jump judges and no rider times. Just come and ride.

Eventing also reported that Area VII will not host the championships this year due to dates conflicting with ACR.



EI Eventing 2021

- **EI Spring Horse Trials**: May 27-29
- **EI Fall Horse Trials**: September 2-4
- **Clinic with Yves Sauvignon**: Date TBD

Sport Horse

Sport Horse division reported the Breeders Classics I & II and regional championships shows will be licensed to Donida again in 2021. The division plans to focus on educational programs and is exploring the following:

- a seminar for US Sport Horse Breeders judges

- a Future Event Horse show
- genetics testing seminar
- preparing for a show or inspection
- in hand methods as prep for being under saddle
- showing a horse in Materiale



EI Sport Horse 2021

- **Shows**
 - The Breeders Classics I & II and Regional Championships will be licensed to Donida Farm for 2021.
 - Future Event Horse show under consideration.
- **Educational program**
 - Sport Horse Breeding Seminars under development-
-exploratory phase

2021 Board of Directors

General Board Accountabilities

There was a review of what the board and division heads are accountable do for the equestrian community. The objective is to build equine community through shows, clinics, and educational programs. It all takes volunteers, times, commitment, and money.



General Division/Board: What We Do

- **Host regional equine community-building events in dressage, driving, eventing, and sport horse**
 - Shows, clinics, and educational programs for our members
 - Budgets/Events planning, review & approval
 - Policies and procedures updates & approvals
 - Maintain USDF, USEF, USEA, ADS affiliations
 - Contracts with organizers and venues
 - Sponsors/donors
 - Insurance
 - Website, Eflashes, Facebook
 - Flying Changes subscriptions/articles
 - Grants
 - Tax Form 990 compliance
 - Membership

Member Communications

Communications are sent direct email flashes (eFlashes) to EI members as well as Facebook posts to the EI Facebook group, division groups, or other groups. There has been discussion about making changes to reach a broader audience.

Member Communications

- Direct email flashes to EI members
- EI Facebook posts
- EI Website
- Other Facebook group posts
- *Flying Changes*

2021 Board Nominations

The 2021 slate of nominations was presented. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion was passed to approve the 2021 board slate of nominees as presented.

Vote on Approval of 2021 Board Nominees

- Diana Axness – returning board member
- Chris Bredeson – returning board member
- Trish Camozzi-Ekberg – returning board member
- Gunn Cooper – returning board member
- Meika Decher – returning board member
- Sarah Johnson – returning board member
- Penny Leggott – returning board member
- Kathryn Lewis – returning board member
- Laurie McLaughlin – returning board member
- Sara Mackenzie – new board member

Other Business

There was discussion on vaccination availability, vaccination requirements, and the potential relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions for those attending horse shows. Requirements might come from federal, state, or local county governments as well as from USDF and USEF (for recognized shows.) The anticipated requirement will be mask and distancing to remain in effect for shows.

Adjourned: 3:00 PM