

2017 Equestrians Institute Annual Meeting

Bellevue Public Library, Bellevue WA

Called to order: 1:06PM

Attended by 14.

AGENDA

- Overview of 2017 Events and Updates
- Financial Review for 2017
- Reports from Each Division
 - Dressage
 - Eventing
 - Driving
 - Sport Horse Breeding
- 2018 Board of Directors - Vote

Review and Approval of 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

Motion passed to waive reading the minutes. Motion passed to approve the minutes as written.

Overview of 2017 Events

2017 EI Events

- 1 Seminar: dressage scribing
- 6 Clinics: dressage and eventing
- 6 Dressage: shows
- 2 Eventing: USEA Horse Trials
- 7 Driving: CDE, Driving Trials, Pleasure Show, Dressage Festival, CDE Schooling
- 3 Sport Horse Breeding: Breeders Classics and Championships
- 5 Board Meetings
- 1 Annual Meeting

Busy year, dresses scribe seminar, 6 clinics throughout the year – central to our mission – 6 dressage shows, 2 horse trials, 7 driving events, 3 sport horse, 5 board meetings, and 1 annual meeting. More details in the division report.

General division / board –

List of activities the board is accountable for: add Instagram to the list. Insurance is a good deal versus cost for individual show.

2017 statistics as #EI community

Membership dropped by 12. Still updoing a bit better than national average of “joining national organization”. Facebooks statistics continue to be high. Seems to have stabilized. Seems to be the main channel of communication.

Look at history – division interests – dressage is the primary interest – eventing dropped a smidge, driving jumped up quite a bit, (joining is easy way to get \$ back via show discounts), sporthorse breeders are active across the whole organization,

Volunteer extraordinaire – Trish was it for this year.

EI is online

Facebook, website – Kelsie who has been doing the website and membership – will have new webmaster in 2018, Markey Kerr will be membership.

Financial Statements

Combined balance sheet / income statement – January assets by division - \$140,139 total cash, prepaid = \$5,000 sponsorship with dressage vendor. Fixed assets = jumps and storage trailers. Asset base \$185,744. All owned and paid for = same as equity

Income / Loss by division. Details in the

Lost \$14,531 in the year.

Asset purchase / sale

Cash is down to \$117,073.

Plus fixed assets and prepaids = total assets and equity (same number)

General Account

Applies to all divisions: membership, insurance, dues to USDF, SUEF, USEA, ADS. Flying changes magazine. Bill out insurance to the divisions at the end of the year. Why difference between 10mos actual versus 12 months projected.

At the end of October, we had 6300 spent but next column by end of the year, expect to break even (division support will come into the general fund, insurance parceled out.)

Reminder we are not here to make money – to cover costs of shows. Keep the organization surviving.

Dressage Report

4800 loss so far. Started off the year with the learn to scribe seminar. How we get our scribes trained for the schooling and recognized shows. Don't have to scabble around and get the scribes for our show. Make a little bit of money.

Schooling shows are popular. April show attendance was down due to a competing Eventing Camp on the same weekend. May show was record-breaking – made \$1200 profit on both shows. Fun and easy to run from the organizers perspective. Lots of eventers show up.

Recognized shows held in June & July – are signature shows for those of us involved for a long time. Take a lot of time and effort – have struggled to make it work financially. This year at B – almost broke even – 5 entries short. Was a great show. Worked wonderfully. IT Volunteer was awesome – did a fantastic job.

C- date changed and ended up on conflicting date with two other shows. Total bust around for everyone. Lost 2400.

Just continue to build every year to build the shows and set them apart from what everyone else does. Committed to do these two shows one more year. Adding 2-3 ideas to reduce costs or encourage people to attend. Do a check- every year if continue these shows. Such a big part of EI dressage.

Anne Gribbons & Lilo Fore clinic series – clinicians are willing to do it again – top two instructors in the US. Like our climate and the riders here who are serious about improving their dressage skills. Opting

to continue the series. Riders who were selected appreciate the mentor relationship with women of this caliber and within the group.

Attendance of the clinic – commit to all 4 but could excuse for one of them if circumstance. Only one who asked to be excused – had a judge commitment. Others dropped due to injuries. Substituted from the waiting list. 5 will have done all 4, 1 did 3. Auditors? Encourage students to audit – half of audit fee could go to as a credit for the teachers fee. Had 20 first clinic, then it fell off. Not that many. Not sure why not encourage more to attend?

Eventing –

2 horse trials held – successful spring and fall and one clinic (not 2 as the previous slide said)

Spring was best run event ever.

Biggest changes over the summer – horse park – added intermediate level course – bulk of competitors walk to the courses (upper course), prelim and intermediate at the lower course areas. Lost \$ due to the course creation. Infrastructure was purchased. Unexpected things – 2 weeks before the fall event – cargo trailer was stolen – fires up in Cle Elum – had to pay to get the trailer out of hock – fires did abate with the winds shifting on Monday before the show. Will have an emergency plan for how to evacuate 300+ cars and trailers if needed.

Lost \$ was the new course – took lots of help and construction costs, infrastructure – shared the cost with the horse park - course builder brought 2 assistants (un expected)

12 people signed up for the intermediate course – needed confidence in the show and the course designer – very encouraging – it rode well

In the spring – clinic with Yves S? - it was a great clinic!

Had one grant person apply – she was awarded the grant.

At membership – EI eventing members are low – the non-member tax is working – why we are low – usea is our governing body – they provide everything eventers need in our area. Don't need to be part of ei to enjoy a good event – can't give discounts. Now in line to run the area 7 championships – will put their bid in for that. Some funding goes with it for encourage fluff and really good prizes. Will need a few extra jumps. (\$2K each jump)

NAYRC at Rebecca Farms – any involvement with our shows – all young riders tend to attend our shows. The spring show is the first “good” one before Aspen, use the EI show to get their season going. Area 7 sent junior and senior teams to the Young Rider Championships.

Driving

Good year – 3 events (3 weekends – kitchen sink is a bonanza of events) – entries filled crazy fast – pleasure classes didn't fill but they tend to grow. Was earlier in the year – May – ground was a problem. Grass was growing a foot a day and could not mow. Boarders didn't want to take horses home due to soggy ground.

CDE – filled and had a wait list. Had some cancellations due to fires.

One day driving trials – filled to capacity.

Careful budgeting – driving is proactive in our fundraising – have to make it viable – one of the committee members focused on fundraising – silent auction, raffle throughout the year – reach out to sponsors – drivers give \$20 here and \$30 there. \$8K was for unexpected purchase of tables and chairs. Committee will meet next week to plan for 2018.

2018 plans: 4 events. Clinic –

No pleasure show – will replace with a derby. Pleasure shows are losing popularity. The driving derby has taken off. Two marathon type obstacles with cone sets. Can be entry level – or can be crazy.

Add intensive educational clinic into the mix – follow our mandate

Driving trial instead of 2 back to backs

Question – level 1 testing at the Kitchen Sink (amy blossom)

Sporhorse breeding

Third year affiliated with EI. Put on show for the finals in the region – tie into the clinic since both dressage clinics are sport horse breed judges

Trimmed costs – combined show manager and show secretary roles

Kept show the last weekend in august

Encouraged breeders to joining ei for the year end award

Charlene memorial – family made another contribution to keep it going

Awards receptions sponsored by Laurie

Show name – 1 & 2 – 48 entries, sponsorship from MultiCare Health System) \$2134 net profit.

Regional championships – have been awarded the show and championship again for 2018

Looking to bring others in to share the expertise and show planning.

Number of people that took a break from breeding are now breeding again. The economy had hit them hard.

Geography: WA, ID, Canada, plus a few from Oregon.

How to combine sporthorse with eventing? Main way is if we came to one of the eventing shows and held it there. Meika to generate some numbers for Chris. USDF and USEF –

Size of the breeder community? Have breed inspections – instead of doing the shows.

The other thing is on Friday for eventing – host an inspection for the warmblood inspections

Approval for 2018 board nominees

Same as 2017 with exception to add Jo Renn –

Any suggested changes for 2018?

Motion to approved. Motion passed.

Any other business or discussion?

Markey – dressage committee sponsors one of the arenas at Donida – now the EI arena – had a wooden sign produced. People are fascinated with the logo.

Meika – someone hurt doing EI business. Contract states he covers his own medical. Way to recover costs is to sue EI and the Horse Park. Dressage – story elsewhere where someone as a groom was kicked and sued the group putting on the show. Our insurance covers volunteers but volunteers sign the waiver of liability.

Reviewed the volunteer waiver form.

Concern about the document – poorly written. I agree” has to be a bullet point. Must be initialed by the person. Law is straight forward – needs to be under a stress free situation – ideal would be when they sign up versus on the date of the event. Need it before they commit. Yearly ok but every time would be better. At the time of recruitment versus at the time of the work.

What is the board doing if anything to come up with a strategy to increase memberships again?

Enticement within each division – year end membership awards is one. Making sure value for money or offer clinic at a discount – can offer (eventing and dressage) for unrecognized shows.

Offer stabling or parking in a better area? Another idea – giving volunteer bucks – script to the members – not giving them a discount – can get around the EF prohibition. Give voucher to food at the event.

Family membership – got a half dozen last year.

Review of historical membership rosters? Who has renewed or not? Get a rash of renewals when membership gets you discount at shws.

Adjourned 2:40

Roles

Diane – president

Meika – VP

Sarah – driving director

Gunn dressage

Gunn – treasurer

Chirss – sport horse

Dates: Jan 13th

Saturday 3-6

Feb 24th Sunday

March 25 Sunday

April