

WE Coaches Network Proposal Membership Feedback

Thank you to our members for offering so much insight and suggestions for this new program. It is clear that a program of this type would be valued. With the large number of responses and a number of overlapping topics please see the topics addressed below.

1. Grandfathering Confederation Professionals and Ambassadors.

Proposed adjustment based on member feedback: Half-priced application fee for current Confederation Professionals and Ambassadors.

Rationale: When the new national organization is launched, both the Confederation and WE United programs will no longer exist. Until then, all current Confederation Professionals and Ambassadors will maintain their status and listing on the website within that organization. All current Confederation Professionals and Ambassadors will need to apply to become part of the WE Coaches Network. In recognition of their efforts for approval within the Confederation's program, we propose a half-priced application fee for those five individuals.

2. Including competition management or judging hours in application requirements.

Rationale: The competition experience requirements represent an educational aspect that relates directly to teaching and training riders and horses for Working Equitation. The aim is to demonstrate a variety of experiences with a variety of officials and circumstances.

3. Continuing Education Requirement of 30 hours over two years.

Rationale: WE Coaches need to be deeply committed to WE as a stand-alone sport. This is a very minimal number of hours compared to other programs of this type. Attending a single Licensed Officials Seminar could cover this requirement. Attending one three day show would nearly meet this requirement.

4. Application Cost.

Rationale: The small size of our sport allows a significant presence on the website, this is inexpensive advertising at only \$75/year for the first two years and half the price after the initial two years.

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5. The sport being too new for a program as proposed.

Rationale: The fact that the sport is new is exactly why it is vital that we offer this resource to new members. With a desire to grow the sport and encourage new competitors, this network will be the most valuable to people first learning about the sport which is a greater portion of our current membership.

6. Limited regional opportunities to fulfill proposed requirements.

Rationale: The committee did its best to create a simpler application process than the Confederation's Professionals application as that program struggled to attract applicants. It was clear that the cumbersome application, which allowed a broader range of qualifying activities, was daunting to many well-qualified applicants. This new network's application process will require some potential applicants to get out to shows and events to qualify. This will deepen their understanding of the sport and hopefully create well-rounded individuals who understand the competitor's experience.

7. Levels.

Rationale: Our goal is to create a simple and digestible list of WE coaches that is easily understood at a glance. At this time, it makes sense to create one level and one list. The bios that the WE coaches provide should highlight the skills, experience, and accolades of the individual Coach.

8. Defining and tracking years of previous experience.

Rationale: The open definitions of the certain aspects of this application process are built-in to celebrate the uniquely varied backgrounds of the people that pursue and love this sport. The application form will ask applicants to detail previous experience for each required preceding year.

Thank you for the time and effort that was put into the member feedback!

Sincerely,

The WE Coaches Network Merger Team