



# **USAWE Annual Member Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: February 5, 2022

Meeting Time: 9:00 a.m. Pacific, 10:00 a.m. Mountain, 11:00 a.m. Central, 12:00 p.m. Eastern

Meeting Modality: Zoom

<b>Board Members Present</b>		Board Members Absent	
President	Barbara Price	Treasurer	Erin O'Shaughnessy
President Elect	Olga Hendrickson	R4 Director	Kiki Pantaze
Secretary	Julie Alonzo	R7 Director	Rebecca Algar
At Large Director 1	Trisha Kiefer-Reed		
At Large Director 2	Doreen Atkinson		
R1 Director	Heather Humelbaugh		
R2 Director	Robin Bond		
R3 Director	Chris Stanko		
R5 Director	Becky Sherven		
R6 Director	Kimberley Hillyer		

# COMMITTEE CHAIRS OR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Awards Committee	Lynn Maloney
Coaches Network	Trisha Kiefer-Reed
Competitions Committee	Kris Blacklock
Ethics Committee	Dan Dahlke
Licensed Officials Committee	Christy Reich
Membership Committee	Olga Hendrickson
Rules Committee	Jeanne Bond
Elections Committee	Biddie Lowry





USAWE Members in Attendance (\*based on people who provided their names in their Zoom log-in information. Some people in attendance might not be listed).

Member Name	Region	Member Name	Region
Julie Alonzo	1	Dale Blacklock 5	
Emily Callihan	1	Kris Blacklock	5
Dan Dahlke	1	Sandy Klinkey	5
Veldee Hall	1	Sandy Lippert 5	
Kathryn Maslanka	1	Erica Peet 5	
Robert Phinney	1	Howard Peet 5	
Willa Rose	1	Becky Sherven	5
		Meaghan Zeiner	5
Robin Bond	2		
Glynna Hoekstra	2	Jeanne Bond	6
Barbara Price	2	Melissa Evelyn 6	
Christy Reich	2	Andrea Hathaway-Miglorie 6	
Sue Watkins	2	Stephanie Hayes	6
		Kimberly Hillyer	6
Olga Hendrickson	3	Stephanie Jennings	6
Chris Stanko	3	Biddie Lowry	6
		Lynn Maloney	6
Doreen Atkinson	4	Barb Sullivan	6
		Rose Watt	6
Trish Hyatt	Int		

There were 35 members in attendance, including Board members. This represents 6% of the current membership of USAWE.

President Price called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Pacific Standard time.

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

President Barbara Price welcomed members and encouraged members to stay current on USAWE happenings through reading the newsletters and checking in with their regional directors regularly.

She provided an overview of her three core strategic goals for the year

- 1. Actively promote USAWE
- 2. Enhance member experience and benefits
- 3. Support our working committees

She then asked the Board members to introduce themselves. All Board members in attendance briefly introduced themselves, after which the meeting transitioned to updates on association happenings.





## FINANCIAL REPORT

President Barbara Price presented a 2021 Year-End Financial Summary, prepared by Treasurer Erin O'Shaughnessy (appended to these minutes) and noted that a full 2021 Financial Statement will be available soon for the membership.

#### COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Kris Blacklock, Chair, shared the competitions committee report (appended to these minutes).

#### LOC REPORT

Christy Reich, Co-Chair of the LOC, shared the LOC report (appended to these minutes).

#### **COACHES NETWORK REPORT**

Trisha Kiefer-Reed, Chair, introduced the members of the Coaches Committee. In addition to herself, the committee includes Kat Waters from Vermont, Andrea Sullivan from California, and Ashley Smith from Oregon. The goal of the Coaches Network is to help connect people interested in the sport with professionals who have spent a lot of time specifically in the sport of Working Equitation. Current coaches include: Trisha Kiefer-Reed (R1), Polly Limond (R2), Sue Watkins (R2), Chris Stanko (R3), Michelle Lackey (R5), Erica Peet (R5), Emily Kemp (R5), and Stephanie Hayes (R6).

#### YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Barbara Price, President, asked anyone who has any suggestions for youth development to contact Youth Committee chair Alex Tyson.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Barbara Price, President, provided an update on membership (appended to these minutes) for the membership committee.

#### AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Lynn Maloney, Awards Committee representative, provided an update from the Awards Committee (appended to these minutes).

## **ANSWERS TO MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

President Barbara Price and Competitions Committee Chair Kris Blacklock answered a question about which membership type (Open, Amateur, Junior) competitors should sign up for. Youth should sign up as Juniors if they want to be eligible for free membership and for awards designated for youth. Adults who meet the USEF requirements for showing as amateurs can either sign up as Amateur or Open. Adults who do not meet the USEF requirements for showing as amateurs must sign up and compete as Open.

A member asked about where they can find the listing of Breed Award winners. President Barbara Price explained that the Awards Committee will be posting the winners once they close the window for making corrections in a few days.





A member asked what they should do if their horse is not currently listed on the Recorded Horses list but used to be. They were asked to email <a href="Membership@usawe.org">Membership@usawe.org</a> to request that the committee correct the listing.

President Price thanked the members who attended the meeting, and expressed her gratitude to all of our volunteers for their outstanding work in support of the organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m., Pacific Standard Time.

Minutes submitted by Julie Alonzo, USAWE Secretary



## **Treasurer Summary Information**

## Financial Summary for 2022 General Meeting

Net Income 2020 \$20,422.13

Net Income 2021 \$101,151.67

Cash on Hand 12/31/21 \$121,559.17

USAWE's first full year of operation showed Operating income from Member Dues, Horse Recording, Contributions from The Confederation and WE United, Program income (which includes Show Licensing, Sponsorship for year-end awards, and Licensed Officials applications fees) and Education income from Clinics/Seminars put on by USAWE.

There was also some small income from the new created Product sales program. In Other income we received some cash back income from our PayPal Mastercard and some appeals fees that at the time of this document were either pending or not upheld and will stay on the books.

Operating Expenses were Advertising, Awards, Dues & subscriptions (mostly for software and website support), Insurance, Tax Return Preparation, PayPal Fees and various office expenses (postage, licenses/permits etc.)

All the monthly financial reports and bank reconciliations for the year have been done and are on the Google drive. If anyone has any questions, email is the best way to reach me.

Submitted electronically.

Erin O'Shaughnessy 02/03/2022

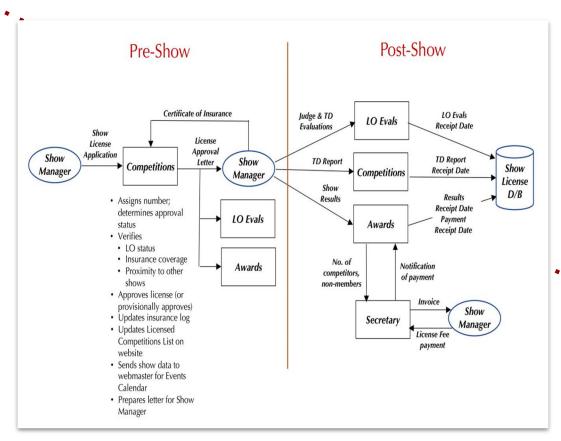
# **Competitions Committee**

Kris Blacklock (WI), Chair Jeanne Bond (MD) Sue Watkins (CA)



# Requesting a show license

- Show organizer submits online show licensing request(s) for Dressage-Ease of Handling-Speed Trial for the performance levels the judge is authorized to judge
  - 'r' (L1-L5)
  - 'R' (L1 L7)
  - 'S' (L1 L7)
- Note: Cattle Trial requires a separate license for L2-L7 (L1 not eligible)
- Post Show Review
  - Receipt of Show Results (Y, A, O)
  - Judge and TD Evaluations; TD Report; Judge Report (optional)
  - · Payment of show fees



# 2022 Licensed Shows

- 3 Zone Championships
  - Central Zone Show (includes optional Cattle Trial)
  - Western Zone Show (includes optional Cattle Trial)
  - Eastern Zone Show (includes optional Cattle Trial)
- 90 Rated Shows (14 include optional Cattle Trial)
- 6 Canceled Shows

113 Total Licenses (as of 2/5/22)

Appreciation to show organizers!

Thank you for the opportunities.

Visit USAWE.org > Competitions > Competition Resources > Competitions for a list of licensed shows (includes license#, date, location, contact name, region, judge and TD)

# Zone Championship Proposals

# 2022 Zone proposals submitted and approved by the USAWE Board

- Central Zone October 20-23, Fairgrounds Hutchinson KS
- Eastern Zone November 3-6, Three Bulls, LLC Bulls Gap, TN
- Western Zone December 8-11, WestWorld Scottsdale, AZ







2023 Zone Championship proposals are due May 31, 2022

# New! Championships website page

- · Zone Map by Regions
  - Western − R1, R2
  - **Central** R3, R4, R5
  - **Eastern** R6, R7
- Horse-Rider Pair Qualified Scores
  - **2021** by Performance Level (L1–L7)
  - **2022** by Performance Level (L1–L7)





# How does a horse-rider pair qualify for Zone Championships?

To be eligible to compete, a horse-rider pair must earn a combined average of **58**% or higher in Dressage and EOH (L1-L7) and successfully complete the Speed trial (L2-L7) at a minimum of two licensed shows. At least one of the scores must be earned during the current **2022** competition year.

The qualifying period is December 1, 2020 of the previous 2021 competition year through the show entry deadline for the zone championship show in the current year.

Horse-rider pairs may compete in any or all zone championships, regardless of where the qualifying scores are achieved.



# USAWE encourages Feedback

Competition organizers work hard to provide opportunities for our members to participate in high-quality events. The Competitions Committee provides opportunities for members and licensed officials to share feedback with competition organizers without worrying about feedback impacting relationships.

- Competitor Feedback
- Judge Feedback
- Judge Evaluation
- Technical Delegate Evaluation
- Technical Delegate Report



Visit USAWE.org > Competitions > Competition Resources

What questions, suggestions, ideas and recommendations do you have for licensed competitions?

Please use the zoom meeting 'Chat' button to pose questions for the Competition Committee or email your thoughts directly to Competitions@usawe.org

We will jot each down and respond accordingly via

- Email
- Phone call
- eNews
- Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
- Targeted eBlast

Thank you for being the heart of Working Equitation



# Licensed Officials Committee

- Doreen Atkinson
- Christy Reich
- Jeanne Bond
- Kellee Campbell
- Leslie Martien



# What We Do

The LOC exists to license judges and technical delegates and to provide ongoing educational opportunities to further advance the skills of our licensed officials.

Our goal is to have educated and trained judges and TDs that not only represent the association well but help to raise the quality of the riders and horses as they advance through the levels through valuable feedback and consistent experiences at all competitions.

# Our Year in Review

# 2021

Many of the LOC's accomplishments in 2021 were created in response to the need for creating virtual learning opportunities in the face of the Coronavirus pandemic.

- Created Licensed Officials test to license all judges and technical delegates in preparation for the inaugural competition season of USAWE
- Created training modules for online education
- Held Hot Topics seminars in the spring and the fall to highlight problem areas in competitions and changes in the rule book
- Held two online seminars with WAWE judges, Antonio Vicente and Claudia Matos
- Created Working Equitation Educational Resource Center (WEERC) website (in Beta testing phase) to allow greater storage of LOC training materials and to facilitate on line-testing and record keeping
- LOC Newsletters to all LOs periodically throughout the year to keep everyone abreast of developments and issues experienced at competitions
- Advanced 38 Provisional Technical Delegates to Technical Delegate status through virtual training sessions
- Revised and updated Rules test annual event

# What's on the Horizon for 2022?

#### 2022

The LOC is focused on creating educational opportunities for our LOs. The relaxation of COVID restrictions will allow resumption of in-person education for the LOs. In the coming year we plan to;

- Streamline the LOC application process and paperwork
- Finetune the LO Program
- Design and produce in-person seminars
- Debut Remote Silent Judging by utilizing one way headsets for LOs to listen to judging from the side of the ring in real time
- Hold Hot Topics Seminars
- Update the LOC section of the USAWE website
- Accumulate videos and create modules for WEERC site. Revise, update and conduct the 2022 Rules test via the WEERC website.

And, what would you like to see? Please send comments and suggestions to, loc@usawe.org



# Membership Committee Summary Information

We ended 2021 membership year with 1082 members

As of February 4, 2022, USAWE has:

**539** members

2895 recorded horses

This means that just two months into the new membership year, we already have 50% of the membership numbers we had at the end of last year.

The membership committee processes about 10 memberships each day.

# **Awards Committee Report**

# 2021 Awards Wrap-Up

The Awards Committee is pleased to report that the 2021 Leaderboard Results are finalized, and our 2021 Breed Awards are posted, with closure date for corrections being 2/7/2022.

The 2021 season included nearly 2000 rides from a wide variety of riders, and we are incredibly excited to celebrate all of the great achievements from our competitors. We have sent out congratulatory emails to all of our leaderboard winners, and awards ordering and shipment is in progress. All awards (including breed awards) will be sent out by the end of March.

## Lessons Learned from Year 1

- Data Management: 2021 demonstrated to us just how easy it is for rider names to get misspelled and rides to be lost. Throughout the year we worked hard on developing better scrubbing and calculation processes that we now have a dedicated team to support.
- Show Manager Guidance: Together with the Competitions and Rules Committees we
  have put together extensive guidance on how show managers should submit their
  results to streamline the results process. We will also be more actively communicating
  with show management where we notice errors to avoid it impacting riders for the
  remainder of the season.
- Web Pages: With the help of several committees and our web administrator, we are working to streamline our web pages to make it easier for competitors and show managers to see their
- Results File Size: Towards the end of the year we had increasing issues with our regional leaderboards being sluggish due to their size and the additional processing required to split results into regions. We are looking into solutions for this issue, including other hosting platforms if absolutely necessary.

# Looking into 2022

We anticipate having the 2022 leaderboards up and running by mid-February, as we will soon have enough show results for riders to begin populating onto those leaderboards. As a reminder, leaderboard calculation has CHANGED. It is now calculated from a rider's top four scores, and at least two of those scores must come from different judges. We have an excellent team of people on board to assist in what we hope will be an even bigger season. We also have many breed awards available for sponsorship, so if you would like to support your favorite breed's participation in this sport, please contact us at <a href="mailto:awards@usawe.org">awards@usawe.org</a>. Thank you for your patience and support of our efforts in 2021, and we are so excited for another great year!