

**General Meeting
January 14, 2006
UMECRA Convention
Clock Tower Resort
Rockford, Illinois**

Meet was called to order by President Peggy Brush.

The Treasurer's report was read. \$17,516.23 in the checking/savings account. Long-term liabilities includes: -\$647.09 for the banquet fund, \$1496.86 for the ICF Competition fund and \$1984.66 for the trail fund. Total equity = \$14681.80. Motion was made by Rick Nelson to accept treasurer report as read, seconded by Roberta Harms.

Copies of the secretary's report were passed out the members present at the meeting to read and review.

New Business:

- Peggy made a motion to allow one vote per ride day. For one-day rides, only one vote would be given to the ride manager, for a three day ride, three votes would be given. Lynn Hamrich seconded the motion. Motion passes by majority vote.
- Peggy made a motion to allow ride managers to vote all of their votes. This would eliminate the need for proxies. Proxies are still allowed, but in the event none could be found, the ride manager could vote all of the votes (the logistics of how this would happen would be worked out later if the motion passes). Motion was seconded by Dean Peterson. Motion failed.
- Article I by-law changes were accepted as read. The changes in this article reflected the address change of Art Priesz, the UMECRA Attorney at Law.

CHANGES IN *ITALICS AND UNDERLINED* ARE THE NEW PART BEING VOTED ON

- Article VII discusses membership. In Section 1 ELIGIBILITY, (b) *or coupled as significant other* was added to the definition of the family. In Section 4 VOTING PROCEDURES, *AT MEETINGS OF THE CORPORATION* was added. The second sentence was changed to: *Delegates shall be chosen by each ride.* Subsections a & b were also added under section 4:
 - A. *The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives of the corporation shall serve and be accredited as voting delegates of the corporation.*

However, Advisory Positions on the Board may not serve as voting delegates unless otherwise qualified herein.

- B. Each Ride membership shall be entitled appoint a single voting delegate for each ride-day of their ride/ event. For example, for a ride held over a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, that event shall be entitled to three (3) voting delegates, regardless of whether they have multiple divisions or events on a particular ride day. However, the ride must have at least one sanctioned event or division on a day for it to qualify as a ride-day for purposes of assigning voting delegates. Additionally, the Board shall reserve the right to confirm appointment of voting delegate(s) to the spirit of this Section, in order to avoid splitting of days at the same ride location time and place in an effort to increase appointment of voting delegates.
 - C. together as such other powers as may be authorized under these By-Laws was added to this section on the last sentence.
 - Dale Lunde made motion to accept Article VII update, Dean Peterson seconded motion. Motion passed by majority vote.
- Article II discussed NOTICE OF MEETINGS. In Section 5: The president, or in his absence, the vice president, or *in their absence* any other person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all Annual or Special meetings. Section 7 discusses DELEGATES. Each member endurance/competitive trail ride shall submit the names of ~~two~~ its official voting delegates or ~~an~~ its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) to be recorded by the corporate secretary prior to any meeting of members. (See Article VII, herein). The corporate officers (excluding Newsletter Editor(s), Point-Keeper, Sanctioning Director, and Webmaster). Board members, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives also will serve as voting delegates. However, while they may hold more than one of these positions at a time, they may only cast one vote. One voting delegates may vote on business presented at a meeting. Motion made by June Scheunemann, seconded by Dale Lunde to accept motion as read. Passed by majority vote.
 - Article V. Section 3. OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER OFFICERS. The outgoing President shall remain on the Board of Directors as an additional director-at-large. Section 5. OTHER POSITIONS. An Executive Committee of the Board (made up of its President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Immediate Past President) will nominate (a) proposed volunteer Newsletter Editor(s) for a two-year term, commencing in 1997/ The Executive Committee will also nominate a proposed volunteer Sanctioning Director and a separate Points-Keeper for a two-year term commencing in 2004. The executive committee will appoint a volunteer webmaster for a two year term commencing January 2006. The above shall be subject to an approval

vote by a majority of the Board. The Newsletter Editor(s), Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Coordinator and Webmaster shall be invited to attend all Board or committee meetings. Duties of these positions are as follow, but are not limited to:

- A. Newsletter Editor(s) will edit, author and publish at least 10 newsletters per year (both electronic and by hard copy).
- B. The Points-Keeper will keep track of season rider points and division standings and provide them to the Newsletter Editor(s) for publication. Points-Keeper will also keep track of horse and rider mileages seasonally and for lifetime records. The Points-Keeper shall be responsible for record-keeping related to awards at season end, as approved by the Board.
- C. Sanctioning Director will work with the AERC Sanctioning Director to sanction and coordinate scheduling recommendations to the Board for UMECRA rides and shall edit and coordinate publishing of the yearly UMECRA ride book.
- D. The Webmaster will edit, author, and publish the website in a timely manner.
- Generally, these positions are advisory and administrative Board positions, and are non-voting. These positions are also subject to the requirements of the traditional duties and standards of responsibility expected of these positions within UMECRA, subject to the authority of the UMECRA Board and as related needs arise with their areas of responsibility.
- Dale Lunde made motion to accept Article V as read, motion was seconded by June Scheunemann. Motion passed by majority rule.
- Elinore made a motion to also update the by-laws under memberships to say “exceptions by Board of Directors”. This is in regards to Louise Reidel’s lifetime membership status. Motion was seconded by Rick Nelson. Motion passed by majority vote.
- Peggy made a motion and Rick Nelson seconded it. The motion was about a “rude rider” rule. Good conduct is expected at rides, however if rude behavior is exhibited, the ride manager, with a witness, can approach the rude person and ask them to refrain from the behavior. If the behavior continues, the person’s entry fee can be doubled or the person can be disqualified. Discussion followed. Motion was defeated by majority vote.
- RULE CHANGES: UMECRA RULES
 - ~~Riders~~ Ride Managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA secretary at least 7 days before the annual meeting; otherwise, they received the same mileage as the previous year. Motion made by Tony Troyer to accept rule wording change. Joyce Mocilan seconded. Motion passed by majority vote.
 - Current: No points will be given for any mileage other than that applied for or for which notice of change has been made 60 days in advance. NEW: Rider points will only be given for mileage which

the ride applied for, or for which notice of mileage change has been made 60 days in advance. Motion made by June Scheunemann to accept rule wording change, seconded by Joyce Mocilan. Motion passed by majority vote.

- AERC (ENDURANCE ONLY) current wording
 - o A. Riders are responsible to apply for sanctioning in AERC. Sanctioning requests should be sent to the regional sanctioning director 120 days before the ride for approval, and the approved application must reach AERC 90 days prior to the ride. The basic sanctioning fee for a new ride is \$25 and \$15 for re-sanctioning. There are additional cost for added mileages. The post-ride fees are \$4.00 per starting rider. There is also a surcharge of \$10.00 for each non-AERC member entering a ride. (Limited distance riders accepted).
 - o B. Rides must be at least 50 miles per day, but not more than 150 miles. Limited distance rides (at least 25 miles, but not more than 35) may also be offered but must be held in conjunction with an AERC ride.
 - o C. The manager and alternate manager (if there is one) must be AERC members. The veterinarians must also be AERC members (a special non-voting membership for veterinarians is available- cost \$20).

Proposed new wording

- o A. Ride managers are responsible to apply for sanctioning in AERC. Sanctioning requests should be sent to the regional sanctioning director a minimum of 120 days before the ride for approval, and the approved application must reach AERC 90 days prior to the ride. Current sanctioning fees and forms can be found on the AERC website at www.aerc.org. There is also a surcharge for each non-AERC member entering a ride. (This includes limited distance riders.)
- o B. Endurance rides must be at least 50 miles per day, but not more than 150 miles. Special event rides (pioneer and multi-day rides) are series of rides on consecutive days—a minimum of three days and at least 155 miles. Special Qualification rides are rides with entry qualifications other than those contained in AERC rule #3. Special event and special qualification rides shall require approval of the AERC Board of Directors for sanctioning for the first two years. These rides must contact the AERC office with their request. The online sanction form may be used, plus the ride manager must inform the AERC office that this is a Special Event or Special Qualification Ride request. Limited distance rides (at least 25 miles, but not more than 35) may also be offered but must be held in conjunction with an AERC endurance ride, if AERC sanctioning is sought.

- o C. The manager and alternate manager (if there is one) must be AERC members. The veterinarians must also be AERC members (a special non-voting AERC membership for veterinarians is available).
- o Joyce Mocilan made motion to accept the new wording, Sheryl Levin seconded it. Motion carried by majority vote.
- MISCELLANEOUS RULES (at the end of Competitive Drive Rules)
 - o A ride committee may make minor variations to rules if changes are approved by the UMECRA Board of Directors. Any deviation from UMECRA rules shall be advertised in an approved manner and posted at the ride secretary's area.
 - o Ride managements shall abide by the rules established by the association. The board of directors shall adjudicate any infractions and take such action as it deems necessary.
 - o These rules were NOT reworded, but were moved under the "General Rules" section. This section was then 'relettered'. Linda Mower made the motion to accept this change, Rick Nelson seconded it. Motion passed by majority vote.
- SPIRIT OF RULES: (put before General Rules and After Reporting section)
 - o It is impossible to predict and write rules to cover every situation that might arise at a UMECRA event. At times, the underlying UMECRA philosophy of the rules must be used in order to accommodate acts of nature, vandalism or accidents. In dealing with such situations and implementing and applying the existing rules, UMECRA depends on the good intentions of its membership to interpret the rules honestly, fairly and in the spirit with which they have been written. To help in these situations, please remember the following:
 - UMECRA places the highest priority on the safety of horses, riders and workers.
 - All contestants should be treated in an equitable and impartial manner to provide a fair competition.
 - The event should be a pleasant, enjoyable experience for horses, riders, and workers.
 - o Tony Troyer made a motion to add this to our General Rules section, the motion was seconded by Jill Feller. Motion passed by majority vote.
- AERC Rider Fee changes: (replaced specific dollar amount with more generic "additional entry fee terminology").
 - o ENDURANCE RIDES: the following rules and regulations have been adopted by the Board of Directors of the AERC. UMECRA rules that are stricter or in addition are underlined. To obtain a full copy of AERC rules, contact AERC, P.O. Box 6027, Auburn, CA 95604. In not an AERC member, a rider must pay an additional

entry fee. Motion made by Maxine Bernsdorf to accept the word change, seconded by Dale Lunde. Motion passed by majority vote.

- o LIMITED DISTANCE: the following rule and regulations have been adopted by the Board of Directors of AERC. UMECRA rules that are stricter or in addition are underlined. To obtain a full copy of AERC rules, contact AERC, P.O. Box 6027, Auburn, CA 95604. If not an AERC member, a rider must pay an additional entry fee. Limited Distance Rides may be offered, but must be sanctioned and held in conjunction with a UMECRA sanctioned ride and must be advertised as such. If a ride wishes to seek AERC sanctioning it must follow AERC Rule L1. Motion was made by Lynn Reichert to accept the new wording; motion was seconded by Tony Troyer. Motion passed by majority vote.
- ENDURANCE RULE 9A1 change: all horses must stand **for** a mandatory post ride evaluation within one hour of finishing. Riders may present their horses for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the one-hour period. A horse that does not meet the established criteria within one hour of crossing the finish line shall be disqualified. Once a competing horse has passed the post ride examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons. (AERC only). No horse will be certified for UMECRA completion if it needs or receives treatment ~~or for~~ **for** metabolic reasons ~~before leaving the grounds~~ **within 2 hours of finishing**, regardless of whether it has passed its final check. Such horse/rider combination may still receive AERC points and mileage credit.
- LIMITED DISTANCE RULE 13: all equines must stand for a mandatory post ride evaluation within one half hour of finishing the course. Riders may present their equines for the final examination at a time of their choosing during the one half hour period. An equine that does not meet the established criteria within one half hour of arrival time shall be disqualified. Once a completed horse has passed the post ride examination, it may not be removed from completion for veterinary reasons (AERC only). No horse will be certified for UMECRA completion if it needs or receives treatment for metabolic reasons before leaving the grounds **within 2 hours of finishing** , regardless of whether it has passed its final check. Such horse/rider combination may still receive AERC points and mileage credit.
- COMPETITIVE RULE 6B3: have not required and/or received medication for any metabolic reasons ~~before leaving the grounds~~ **within 2 hours of finishing**, (to include colic, tying up, thumps, etc). any medication administered on the grounds must be under the supervision of a veterinarian.
- Motion made by Dale Lunde to accept these changes to the above rules; motion seconded by Joyce Mocilan. Discussion followed. The reason for the rule changes was this: if a person rides on a Friday ride and

completes the ride successfully and then rides other horses on Saturday and Sunday, but on Sunday afternoon the “Friday” horse is treated for choke (even though it had nothing to do with the Friday ride), the horse and rider would be disqualified from the Friday ride. The discussion covered the topic of what would best for the horse; some riders may not treat a horse because they don’t want to be disqualified. Grace Ramsey made a friendly amendment to the original motion: change the ***within 2 hours to within 1 hour***. The amendment was accepted. The new rule changes passed by majority vote.

- Peggy Brush made a motion for UMECRA to offer insurance for competitive rides since AERC does not cover that entity. Tony Troyer seconded the motion. There will be a charge for ‘additional insured’ this year. Motion passed by majority vote.
- The tentative ride schedule was presented. There were some minor changes in dates or ride lengths noted. The ride schedule with the changes was passed by majority vote.
- Dean Peterson gave an update about the morning meeting of the ride veterinarians who were able to attend. The veterinarians discussed topics such as lameness, metabolics, etc. There is a survey that was composed by Mona Radke and Joyce Mocilan that discussed many topics of our rides. Dean suggested that this survey be sent out to all the vets who work at UMECRA rides to get a better feel for what is needed at a ride. This survey also addresses pay and ride accommodations for the vets.
- Joyce made a presentation about USRider insurance coverage. There were flyers in our convention packets. This is road service to help equestrian people if they encounter problems while traveling with their horses. It offer roadside assistance, horse transportation, vet services, boarding help, etc. They are offering to donate \$10 to UMECRA for every person from our organization that joins. Joyce provided information on how to apply for this service and to put “UMECRA” in the area of “how did you hear about us” on their website.
- Roberta Harms reminded ride managers to get her the ride flyers for the ride booklet by the end of January. If you put a zip code of the nearest city of the ride on the flyer, our Webmaster may be able to link the flyer to mapquest to get directions. Managers are also to get electronic copies of their flyers to the Webmaster so they can put on the UMECRA website.
- The new rider reps are: Bettina Koehn, Maxine Bernsdorf, Kathy Schauer and Paula Rapp. Congratulations!
- VOTE FOR OFFICERS:
 - o President: Rick Nelson & Sheryl Levin--- Rick Nelson won
 - o Vice President: Tony Troyer & Mary Mott--- Mary Mott won
 - o Secretary/Treasurer: Dianne Schmidt & Jill Feller--- Jill Feller won

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jill Feller, UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

BOD UMECRA Meeting
March 11, 2006
Olive Garden Restaurant
Madison, WI
11:00 am

Present: Rick Nelson, Lori Windows, Joslyn Seefeldt, Bettina Koehn, Joyce Mocilan, Dawn Haas, Theresa Meyer, Paula Rapp, June Scheunemann, Mike Bernsdorf, Howard Ketover, Wayne Gastfield, Maxine Bernsdorf, Kathy Schauer, Jill Feller

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Nelson.

Secretary's report was circulated and all members were given time to read it (it was also in the February newsletter). Dawn made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Wayne seconded the motion. Approved. *There is one correction: \$250 for trails was also approved for SE MN at the BOD meeting on January 14, 2006. Corrections to the November meeting were also discussed- these corrections will be forwarded to Jill by members who have them and the November minutes will be corrected.*

Treasurer's report was given.

\$19253.16 in the checking account

\$4921.56 in ICF savings account

\$2805.36 in trail fund savings account

Mary made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Max seconded it- approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Rick assigned board members to several committees that he wants to work with throughout the year. The following committees were formed:

- Ride Manager/Vet Handbooks: Theresa Meyer, Jill Feller, Roberta Harms
- Mentorship: Paula Rapp, Kathy Schauer, Maxine Bernsdorf, Bettina Koehn
- Trails Advisory: Joann Gernant (chair) and Tony Troyer
- Mileage Awards: Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Jacobson, Joyce Mocilan
- Audit Committee: Wayne Gastfield (chair), Mary Mott, Rick Nelson
- Finance Committee: Jill Feller, Rick Nelson
- Ride fees/Vet Committee: Howard Ketover, Elinore Tonsor, Lori Windows, Jill Feller
- Protest Committee: Mary Mott (chair), Tony Troyer, Charles Phillips
- Rules Committee: Theresa Meyer (chair), Tony Troyer, Joyce Mocilan
- Legal & By-laws: Art Priez, Theresa Meyer, Jill Feller
- Membership Media/Advertising: Peggy Brush, Mike Bernsdorf, June Scheunemann, Joslyn Seefeldt
- Sponsorship Committee: John Sturm, Rick Nelson
- Points Committee: Joyce Mocilan, Tony Troyer
- New members packets and ride book: Roberta Harms, Theresa Meyer, Lori Windows, Jill Feller
- Insurance: Peggy Brush (chair), Rick Nelson, Jill Feller
- Education & Publicity: Lynn Reichert (chair), Elinore, Roberta Harms, Jill Feller, Lori Windows
- Executive Committee: Rick Nelson, Mary Mott, Jill Feller, Peggy Brush
- Awards Committee: Joyce Mocilan, Dawn Haas, Dianne Schmidt
- ICF/Silent Auction: Elinore Tonsor (chair)
- Technology: Peggy Brush, Dale Lunde, Mike Bernsdorf, Joyce Mocilan, Joslyn Seefeldt

- Budget committee: Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Howard Ketover

A suggestion was made by Lori Windows that we get more people on these boards that are not on the BOD. The committees will be listed on the UMECRA website and any interested members can contact the chairperson for more information. Committee reports will also be published in the newsletter.

Rick Nelson reported that John Sturm is working on getting sponsorship with serious money who would sponsor our completion awards for all UMECRA rides. John will be the chairperson for the Sponsorship Committee.

Discuss was held on the purpose of these committees. Goals and objectives will need to be created for each one.

Theresa Meyer reported on the Bylaw update from January. There was discussion about the approved bylaws where it states "Louise Reidel was granted a lifetime membership". Since Louise is no longer with us, we should be able to just remove this from the by-laws without the general vote. Rick was going to call Art to discuss this. *Rick did talk to Art and Art agreed that this could be removed without vote because the person involved is not longer alive.*

Theresa also has the ride manager/vet handbooks with her and handed them out after the meeting.

Mileage Committee report:

They did not have any information from 2005 as Joyce had a computer crash and couldn't retrieve the information.

The 1000 mile horses and top ten mileage horses are now corrected and are listed on UMECRA website.

Maxine reported on a plaque for the 1000 horses. The place where the originals ones were bought is no longer available. Maxine will shop around and get some ideas to present to the board for approval. The cost is approximately \$12-13 @

Maxine also suggested purchasing vests with the UMECRA logo. These vests could then be used to sew chevrons on. Max had several sample vests from both Dianne Schmidt and Joyce Mocilan for the board to review. The vests cost approximately \$40 each. The idea would be to give a vest out to new members when they get their first chevron. The vests would also be available to other members if they want to purchase one. June made the motion to award a vest with the first chevron, Lori seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Joyce is going to chair a committee to study what this program would cost UMECRA. She will look at past years and get an estimated cost. This was tabled until the fall meeting.

Restricted mileage for Juniors:

This award was not given out for the past three years by error. There were nine juniors who would have been eligible for this award. Theresa made a motion and Mary seconded it to go back and give out these awards. Passed. The awards committee will review the past awards and come up with an award within the price of \$25-35.

Vi Bradl – the senior high point award is named after Vi and this was not announced this year when the award was given out. This needs to be announced at future awards.

The family award should also be the **Jan Scott family award.**

Insurance update:

The cost is \$3076 for 48 dates and 29 additional insured at \$20 each. Theresa reported that MN rides were able to get a cheaper rate and they were told that smaller groups might get a better rate as there is less liability. Joyce reported that Diane Leshner from Equisure was going to see if UMECRA could piggy back on the AERC policy. *Joyce has heard since the meeting that this is not possible.*

It was noted that ALL rides that are not using the UMECRA insurance need to be sure the UMECRA is covered by their policy. **Each ride needs to send 'proof of insurance' to Jill Feller before their ride or the UMECRA sanctioning will be pulled.**

Sanctioning Report:

The ride booklets were sent out by March 10th. There will be a note in the newsletter to contact Jill Feller if you did not get a ride book so one can be sent.

Audit Committee Report:

Tony said the audit committee was finished with the books. In the future, the audit committee will do an audit every year at the convention. The committee will choose 5- 6 checks that will need to be reviewed for accuracy.

Top Ten Mileage Award:

Dr. Beecher and John Sturm would like to sponsor the top ten mileage awards in honor of Louise Riedel. Motion was made by Mary and seconded by Dawn to allow Dr. Beecher and John Sturm to sponsor these awards. They will be named "Louise Riedel Top Ten Mileage Awards". Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Several people donated money in memory of Louise. Do we want to establish a memorial fund or put this money in the general fund? Motion made by Mary and seconded by Max to establish a memorial fund. Motion passed. A memorial fund committee was created to oversee this account. The committee consists of: Mary Mott (chair), Dawn Haas, Kathy Schauer, Rick Nelson and Howard Ketover. The money will be put into a savings account.

Newsletter costs will increase, as a new printer was needed; however the new printer does more of the work (folds and stamps).

AHA sanctioning was discussed. Each event would cost \$20/event; each rider fee is \$100/year. Shows only pay \$75/weekend. This money all gets put into a fund. If there is money at the end of the season after expenses, the money is split between riders. The AHA website has the full story on why this sweepstakes program has changed. Joyce will be the representative for AHA and AERC- all decisions will have to go through Joyce. Joyce suggested that Tony Troyer be the UMECRA representative since he is aware of the situation. This will give UMECRA two voices on the AHA committee. Anyone with good suggestions for the new sweepstakes program should talk to Joyce or Tony.

UMECRA Brochure:

Theresa reported that she talked to someone about doing the artwork for a brochure and the cost was around \$500 to set it up. If any UMECRA members have this type of knowledge and are willing to help, they should contact the education and publicity committee. Lynn Reichert is chairperson.

Elinore passed around the MDDA handbook for the BOD to review. This was in a small three-ring binder with pictures and lots of information. It was very nicely done. The committee will look into different ideas. Any members with ideas should contact this committee: Lynn Reichert is chairperson.

Jill Feller suggested creating a form that would cover UMECRA insurance and sanctioning. Currently there is no sanctioning form so it is easy to forget to do this. This form would be in the newsletter in fall for ride managers to use in the 2007 season. Approved.

A discussion was held about advertising costs for the website. Should members pay less than nonmembers? Several prices were discussed. Joslyn and June will do some more investigating into prices on other websites and send the information to the BOD website for approval.

According to the 2000 minutes, no grants from the trail funds can be awarded unless there is over \$2500 in the fund. Discussion was held as to why this amount needs to be maintained. Motion was made by Wayne and seconded by Dawn to lower this amount to \$500. Grants can be awarded as long as \$500 remains in the fund. Motion passed.

Howard asked why a budget was not created for the organization. Joyce made a motion and Kathy seconded it to create a budget. Howard, Jill and Rick will create one.

2007 Convention:

A request was made to spend \$700 on the speaker for the convention. We will need to put \$200 down now to reserve the speaker. June made motion, Bettina seconded to approve speaker. Passed.

The entire hotel is reserved for the convention. Vendors will be available also.

2008 Convention:

Joyce Mocilan and Tony Troyer volunteered to do the 2008 convention in Rockford, IL. Approved.

Wayne Gastfield asked permission to have more than 20 miles between vet checks on his Shore-to-Shore ride. Wayne is holding a 50-mile competitive ride and he will not be able to have 20 miles or less between checks. Wayne said there will be water provided on the trail which will be considered 'natural' and can be used for sponging and drinking. This is approved for the 2006 ride only.

A discussion was held about providing Art Priez with a lifetime membership for his legal advice to the organization. Other ideas were also discussed, such as a gift certificate. Rick will call Art and discuss this with him. Not action was taken at this time.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

Call to Order by President
Reading of minutes of spring BOD meeting
Financial report (copies distributed to members)

Old business:

- Committee Reports
 - Insurance update
 - Ride manager/vet handbooks (proof of receipt needed?)
 - Ride manager training/mentoring
 - Budget for UMECRA
- John Sturm's sponsorship for completion awards update
- Louise Reidel's 'lifetime membership' mention in by-laws
- 1000 mile awards update – Maxine Bernsdorf
- UMECRA memorial fund- define purpose & use
- AHA sweepstake update – Tony Troyer
- Newsletter costs
- UMECRA brochure – Theresa Meyer
- Thank you letter to Art Priez
- Update on hand-held heart monitors at competitive rides – Tony Troyer
- Move secretary/treasurer position to 2-year term – Tony Troyer

New business:

- Thank you letters for donations
- Trail Master class
- State horse councils- should regional directors be the state contacts?
- Procedure for moving ride date:
 - RM contacts Sanctioning Director (SD)
 - SD checks available dates & contacts affected RMs
 - SD contacts BOD with above info and their approval/disapproval
 - BOD responds
 - SD contacts original RM with answer
- Letter from insurance carrier regarding accident at Rock River ride
- UMECRA accident report and procedure
- Procedure for refunding sanctioning costs when ride is cancelled
 - Refunded in full 1st year
 - Refunded 80% second year
 - No refund 3rd year- ride date lost
- Angel Okker (15 yrs in April) is requesting to ride unsponsored as jr in competitive rides
- Jordanne Bruns (15 yrs) requesting to ride 4 yr old stallion in LD rides
- Financial reports in NL- balance sheet listed quarterly
- Convention fund
- BOD email decisions- what should be decided? What % of responses are needed?
- Handwritten ride results should be required to pay an additional .50/entry
- Competitive ride rules:
 - Buddy horses
 - Hazing

- o 2-mile marker
- o Tentative ride schedule for 2007
- o UMECRA pays insurance on all clinics and the Louise Reidel Memorial ride
- o Secretary/treasurer position be divided into two different ones
- o UMECRA pays insurance premium for all competitive rides
- o NL editor position
- o Multiday rides: riders/horses should get mileage for the days they completed if they do not finish the ride
- o Trail grant request for Ukarydee Equestrian Campground
- o Procedure for sending flowers/memorials to UMECRA members
- o Use PP for annual meeting to avoid cost of copies
- o Election of BOD members: should nominees have to put article in NL so members know up front who is running for office?
- o Rider reps nominated

Other business:

Adjourn meeting

Board of Director Meeting
November 11, 2006
HoChunk Casino
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Present:

BOD Members: Howard Ketover, Dawn Haas, Bettina Koehn, Paula Rapp, Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Mary Mott, Peggy Brush, Maxine Bernsdorf, Dianne Schmidt, Theresa Meyer, Joslynn Seefeldt.

Non-BOD Members: Sheryl Levin, Elinore Tonsor, Tony Troyer, Jeremy Olson, Ellyn Rapp, Linda Jacobson, Sharon Hahn.

President Rick Nelson called meeting to order.

The minutes from the spring BOD meeting had been emailed to all board members the week before the meeting to read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the meeting minutes as presented.

Several different reports from the treasurer were presented; these included detailed expense and income reports. A motion was made and seconded to accept the reports as they stand.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

- o A report on insurance costs for 2007 was presented. Three companies declined coverage due to the events being open to anyone and that it was a competition. Equisure provided a quote of \$7800 and Horse Insurance Specialists (HIS) provided a quote of \$4200. HIS is the current company that UMECRA insures with. If these costs were broken down into cost per day and additional insured the costs would break out as follows: \$53/day and \$20/additional insured. This is a \$3.00/day increase over the 2006 insurance costs. A motion was made by Dianne and seconded by Theresa to go with the HIS insurance for the 2007 season; motion passed.
 - o Dianne made a motion and Peggy seconded it, that the cost of the insurance would be paid out of the UMECRA general fund and no costs per ride would be incurred. Howard pointed out that this would be ¼ of UMECRA's entire operating funds. This motion passed and will be presented to the voters at the annual meeting at the UMECRA convention.
 - o Jill Feller presented a form and a proposal that accidents happening at rides would be reported to the BOD for review. Jill spoke to Art Priez (our advising attorney) about tracking ride accidents, looking for patterns and the need to report them to our insurance carrier. Art and Jill created a form to use for ride managers to complete and send to the Secretary/Treasurer. The executive committee would review these accident forms and decide what accidents get reported to the insurance company. Art will also be an advisor on these matters. These accidents would be for horseback riding accidents only that happen at the rides. Howard proposed a friendly amendment that *ALL* accidents get reported for a one-year basis to see if we are missing anything that we should be tracking. The friendly amendment was accepted; motion passed.

- o Theresa Meyer reported on the Ride Manager books. There was discussion at some rides about ride managers not receiving their books. A sign off acknowledgement sheet may need to be included in future mailings. This book is also available on the www.umecra.com website for the general membership. The rules for rides are also posted on the website and are included in the ride booklets that are sent out each year. The head ride veterinarians are required to return their acknowledgement of receipt of their book into the secretary/treasurer within two weeks before the ride they are vetting. *Any acknowledgements not returned will cause the ride to be placed on probation for the following season.*
- o Theresa Meyer mentioned that UMECRA should provide some ride manager training to new ride managers. Jill Feller has a document prepared for DRAW ride managers that she will modify and pass around to other BOD members to add to. Once this is completed, the document will be put onto the UMECRA website for access to anyone. *Although this document will be a good guideline, it is the BOD opinion that the best instruction for a perspective new RM is to attend a ride and assist the RM all weekend.*

Rick Nelson discussed the update of John Sturm obtaining a sponsorship for UMECRA completion awards. John and Rick are still working on this project.

A motion was made and seconded to remove the *Louise Riedel was granted a lifetime membership* out of the by-laws; motion passed.

Maxine gave an update on the top ten awards. John Sturm and Dr. Beecher sponsor these awards. Maxine will be purchasing these awards once she gets the names from Joyce Mocilan.

At the springboard meeting, a UMECRA memorial fund was established with funds donated in Louise's name. No purpose or guidelines were established for these funds at that time. After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded to divide the UMECRA memorial fund and put half into the scholarship and half into the trail fund. In the future, any funds sent to UMECRA without specific designation, will be divided equally between these two funds. Currently there is \$170 in this fund: Jill Feller will take care of getting the funds divided correctly. Motion passed.

Tony Troyer gave an update of the AHA sweepstake process. Ride results from these rides can be sent to AHA using the AERC formatting, no stewards will be needed at these rides, lifetime membership for horses will be established regardless of the owner and to promote rides, AHA may waive the sanctioning fee for 2007 rides, however, they may limit the number of rides in each region. More on this topic will be presented at AHDRA meeting Sunday morning at the annual convention.

A UMECRA brochure was discussed at the spring meeting. Both Lynn Reichert and Theresa Meyer would work on this. Theresa reported that this project has not been very active, but she will revisit it and work on getting some information to move forward.

Tony Troyer gave an update on using hand-held monitors for competitive rides as his Rock River ride held a test program. Tony created a chart to track points accurately to fit into the competitive scale. There were no problems at the ride, no one complained and the flow of horses moved along well. This process would only be used at rides that have minimal help. Stethoscopes are still the

preferred method of checking pulses at competitive rides. This discussion will be brought to the annual meeting in January.

A motion was made by Mary and seconded by Peggy to make the secretary/treasurer position to a two-year term. A discussion followed with a new motion being made: The entire executive board would be elected to a two-year term. The president and vet rep would be elected on even years while the VP and Secretary/Treasurer would be elected on odd years. This motion passed and will be presented at the annual meeting.

A discussion was held about rider reps. Dianne proposed that the riders reps should be from each state and be voted upon at the annual convention for a two-year term. There are currently four rider reps on the BOD; this number was increased when the UMECRA membership increased over 400 members. After a discussion, it was proposed that the rider reps would be a two-year term, but they would not be regional. This will be discussed at the annual meeting.

Dianne made a motion and Theresa seconded to divide the secretary/treasurer position into two offices. This motion failed.

The Hall of Fame nominees were discussed. Due to the nature of this subject, no names will be provided in these minutes.

New Business:

Thank you letters were read from the American Cancer Society and the Wisconsin EMS Association for donations from UMECRA. UMECRA members for donation purposes gave these donations; no money was depleted out of the UMECRA general fund.

A letter was read from Lucy Bagot about hosting a "Trail Master Class". This is the class that is mentioned in Endurance News; it instructs students in how to create and maintain trails. Lucy Bagot is hosting this class in June in Illinois and is hoping UMECRA members will be attending. If a UMECRA member is interested in attending this class and needs financial assistance, a letter of request should be sent to any UMECRA BOD member for consideration. Lucy will be providing information about this class in the newsletter.

The regional directors will be the contact person for each of the state horse councils. All horse council information will be sent directly to these individuals.

Clarification of the steps to move a ride date was discussed. The steps are as follows:

1. Ride manager (RM) contacts the Sanctioning coordinator (SC) about moving the ride
2. SC checks on available dates & contacts any RM's on those dates that the new ride could affect.
3. SC contacts the UMECRA BOD with the information from step 2
4. BOD responds to request
5. SC contacts the original RM with approval or denial of ride date.

These steps were approved.

A discussion was held on how or when to reimburse RM's when a ride is canceled. The following was approved:

- o The \$40 sanctioning fee can either be used for the next year sanctioning fee and date reservation or it can be refunded and the ride date will be lost.

The insurance company with proper notification will refund any insurance costs.

A motion was made by Peggy and seconded by Paula to change the rule of competitive rides to say "500 accrued miles in competition" will qualify for a junior to ride unsponsored. The current rule says "500 competitive" miles. This will allow juniors who have accrued 500 miles in *any* discipline (endurance, LD or competitive) to ride unsponsored. This motion passed and will go before the members at the annual meeting.

A request was made to the BOD for a junior rider to ride a 4-year-old stallion in LD competition in the 2007 season. A discussion followed. There is no rule in UMECRA to prevent this situation, however there are some states and 4-H groups that do specify that any stallion needs to be handled by a person over the age of 18. Each state could be different. Art Pierz will be providing some guidelines for this situation also and a letter will be sent to the junior rider with an explanation of the findings.

A discussion was held on how often the balance sheet for UMECRA should be published in the UMECRA newsletter. Howard commented that in other organizations that he is an officer in, it has been recommended that financial reports should be not made public and members are able to get this information by request. A motion was made and seconded to publish the balance sheet quarterly in the newsletter (January, March, June & September). Motion passed.

A convention fund was discussed. Should a fund be started to assist with the costs of the UMECRA convention? Currently, there is no such funding and the convention manager charges a convention fee to recover costs incurred with the speaker, renting rooms, etc. In the past, the convention manager has kept the convention records of expenses. This year and in future years, all financial expenditures will be run through the secretary/treasurer for tracking purposes. Developing a convention fund may be visited at a later date when more information is available.

Throughout the year, decisions need to be made by the BOD. When this happens the BOD group email is used. To make a decision with this format, the by-laws will be followed:
At all meetings of the Board, a majority of the Directors shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of the directors present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

It has been requested that ride managers send in their ride results to the points keeper using electronic format as hand written results are very time consuming to enter. Joslyn Seefeldt stated that there is some free software on the AERC website that ride managers could use.

Some competitive rules were discussed: buddy horses, hazing horses and the 2-mile marker. These rules are all in place at this time and no changes are being made; however it was noted that ride managers need to **enforce** these rules.

Roberta Harms, the UMECRA sanctioning coordinator, provided a tentative ride schedule. The schedule was approved as presented. *Note: not all rides have responded to Roberta with confirmation of their ride dates.*

A request was made that on a multi-day ride, horses and riders receive mileage for the days that were completed, even if the *all* days are not completed. Example: a three-day 100-mile competitive ride is entered but the horse is lame on day three. The horse and rider would receive the mileage for days one and two, but not day three. No motion was made to take action on this request.

A discussion was held as to when to send flowers to a UMECRA member for a tragedy in their lives. Although it would be nice to send flowers to any UMECRA member, it would be impossible to be consistent due to the wide geographic area of our organization. The smaller organizations within UMECRA (MNDRA, DRAW, etc) would be better able to provide that service to their members. A motion was made and seconded to send flowers only to UMECRA BOD members. Motion passed. A limit of \$50-60 was set.

The following UMECRA members have been nominated for rider reps for 2007: Kathy Schauer, Sharon Hahn, Bettina Koehn, Paula Rapp, and Maxine Bernsdorf.

Sharon Hahn has expressed interest to be the UMECRA Newsletter editor for the next two years. If any other UMECRA member is interested, they should send their request to President Rick Nelson.

Other new business:

A letter was presented concerning the UMECRA sanctioning coordinator. This position is due to be appointed this year for a two-year term. Roberta Harms expressed her interest in retaining this position. Any other UMECRA member interested in this position should express their interest to President Rick Nelson.

The UMECRA BOD requests that if any UMECRA member sees any issues with a BOD member or an appointed member of the board, they should bring those issues forward immediately to a member of the board where it can be investigated and solved as soon as possible.

The Points Keeper position is also up for reassignment this year. Any UMECRA member interested in this position should send their request to President Rick Nelson.

The rules for drives states that the distance must be no less than 10 miles and a maximum of 25-miles. A request is made to eliminate the maximum distance. This will be brought to the annual meeting.

Theresa brought forth two requests for *competitive* rule changes. One change was related to completion criteria. The rule change is as follows:

- o Competitive horses shall be certified for completion if they: have met the pulse *and* respiration criteria of 68 within 20 minutes of the final 10-minute p/r check. NOTE: Ride

managers should remember to score the final 10-minute p/r check and recheck (30 point deduction) if applicable. The change requested is in *italics*. No motion was made on this rule change.

- o The second item would be adding a new rule. The rule requested is :
No ponying allowed. Ride committees may make exceptions in dangerous areas. If a horse & rider team is ponied during competition in areas beyond those deemed dangerous by the ride committee they will receive mileage credit only. A discussion followed. *Several BOD members feel* that ponying is the safest way to start a younger child into the sport. No motion was made- this rule will not be brought forward to the annual meeting.

Paula Rapp started a discussion as to why more drug testing is not done in our region. Several concerns were brought to her this past ride season with suspicions of riders using illegal substances on their horses. Dr. Howard pointed out that the cost of these tests are quite high and the time involved to collect them properly would not be fair to the ride vet. AERC already does random testing and has a system set up. Should UMECRA push AERC to conduct more tests in our area? This subject was tabled to the next meeting, as several members will conduct additional research to bring for further discussion. *If ANY UMECRA member suspects a horse is being drugged at a ride, they are strongly encouraged to go directly to the ride manager, a board member and/or the head vet and voice their concerns. An investigation can be conducted in the most confidential manner as possible. These type of concerns need to be addressed immediately.*

A request was made to not raise junior ride prices as to make them cost prohibiting to these riders. It was pointed out that rides are not making money on junior riders and it would be difficult for rides to lower prices for the 2007 season. The 2006 ride season did see lower rider numbers at rides and many ride managers may be raising prices for 2007 to make ends meet. It was suggested that if several juniors come to a ride from a ride clinic, the ride manager could be approached *before* the ride for a discount for multiple riders; this would be a ride-by-ride decision made by the ride manager of that ride. The AERC fees will still be required if the junior will be riding LD or endurance.

Sheryl Levin was assigned to work with Peggy Brush on a membership committee.

The awards committee presented several ideas for year-end awards: the UMECRA jacket, blankets, picture frames and a glassware set that could be added to yearly. The awards committee will decide what the awards will be offered.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:
Jill Feller, UMECRA secretary/treasurer

BOD Meeting
January 20, 2007
7:00 am

President Rick Nelson called meeting to order.

Roll call was taken: Rick Nelson, Mary Mott, Jill Feller, Peggy Brush, Howard Ketover, Maxine Bernsdorf, Wayne Gastfield, June Scheunemann, Roberta Harms, Paula Rapp, Dawn Haas, Dianne Schmidt, Joyce Mocilan, Bettina Koehn, Theresa Meyer, Kathy Schauer, Elinore Tonsor, Barb Gardner, Sheryl Levin, Sharon Hahn, Wes Elford and Tony Troyer.

Secretary minutes, as were emailed to all BOD members prior to the meeting, were approved as written.

Treasury report was approved as presented. The balance sheet reflected a total of \$27,999.23 in assets. The breakdown is: \$3100.23 in ICF Fund; \$21841.73 in checking; and \$3056.94 in Trail Fund.

Old Business:

- Drug testing: A discussion was held on drug testing within UMECRA. It was pointed out that this has seldom been done by AERC. Guest Wes Elford, a member of the veterinarian committee with AERC, explained that AERC drug testing is going through some changes right now. His recommendation was that UMECRA ride managers, officers and members in general should contact AERC with their concerns and ask that UMECRA rides be tested more frequently. This recommendation was accepted by the BOD and will be passed on to all UMECRA members.
- Vests for chevrons: At the spring 2006 BOD meeting, Maxine Bernsdorf presented an idea to award a vest to riders earning their first chevron. At that time, Maxine presented several vests created by two separate vendors, all with the UMECRA emblem but in various colors and materials. Maxine has requested that new chevron winners be presented with a \$15 certificate to be used to purchase a vest of their choice to put their chevrons on. It was also suggested that the awards committee investigate the cost of these vests to other UMECRA members and, if an interest were shown, a choice of vests would be offered to purchase at the next convention. The BOD accepted both of these ideas.
- Insurance costs: Another discussion was held concerning the cost of insurance that UMECRA will be providing to competitive rides. The motion going to the floor is to have UMECRA pay all the cost of the UMECRA insurance for the 2007 season. The projected cost of the insurance is \$4200; however this cost is based on *only* the rides that have expressed interest in using the UMECRA insurance. The cost will increase if more rides are added or if more additional insured are added to the list. If all rides under the

UMECRA umbrella were added, the cost could escalate up \$1000 - \$2000. After discussion, it was decided to keep the motion going to the floor as previously voted on in the November meeting: UMECRA pays 100% of the cost.

New Business:

- Awards committee: UMECRA is privileged to have many talented members who are willing to provide excellent quality awards to our members each year. Each year, members will be allowed to submit their bids for embroidery work on the year-end awards to the awards committee. This work is open to all UMECRA members and the lowest bid will receive the awards work for that year. No member who submits a bid for his or her services will be allowed to serve on the awards committee due to a conflict of interest.
- High Point Award: UMECRA BOD members discussed the award that is currently given for our senior and junior high point recipients. Although in the past several years, this award has been a monetary award, to maintain a fair and consistent awards process, beginning with the 2007 ride season, the high point award will be an award that is presented at the annual awards banquet and will be selected by the UMECRA awards committee.
- Dr. Wes Elford has expressed his concern regarding the release form signed by all riders at a UMECRA ride. In the past ride season, there has been a legal case brought against a ride vet and some vets are providing their own release forms. The release form provided by Dr. Elford has been sent to Art Priesz, UMECRA's legal advisor for review. This subject will be discussed in further details at the spring BOD meeting.
- Trail Master Class: At the fall BOD meeting, a decision was made to consider paying tuition for the Trail Master classes being offered by Lucy Bagot in June of 2007. This is a program through AERC, which offers instruction on the construction and maintenance of horse trails. The December newsletter contained this information; it also stated that any interested parties needed to contact a member of the BOD for consideration for the monetary assistance. Only two UMECRA members expressed interest in attending the class. The BOD voted to pay the tuition for both members (a total of \$222). The money would come out of the trail fund and the members will report back to UMECRA and be available to assist other UMECRA members with trail issues.
- Trail Grants: Two organizations requested a trail grant from UMECRA; Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Riders and the Castle Rock Trails. The BOD approved a grant for \$250 each; the money will come from the trail grant fund.

- Sheryl Levin, Peggy Brush and Tony Troyer presented an overview of a proposal to increase membership in UMECRA. The proposal was based on mailing to non-members, packets available at all rides and the creation of a Novice division. This division would encompass riders who only want to ride 12 or 15-mile distances. The riders could ride an unlimited amount of novice rides throughout the year with points being awarded. Awards would be given for first through fifth place. The membership committee asked for a budget of \$750 to work with to complete these mailings. The breakdown of these expenses was presented in detail to the BOD. A discussion followed.
 - The picture on the flyer that the membership committee wants to use is in color. It was pointed out that the cost to print that picture could be quite expensive. Sheryl stated that she would use her own printer to save these costs.
 - Theresa Meyer also presented a brochure that she is working on to use to distribute.
 - Each state hosts a horse fair and currently UMECRA pays up to \$250 for members to host a booth to advertise our sport. It was suggested that the cost of these booths remains separate for the membership proposal.
 - MNDRA pushes UMECRA membership already by requiring all MNDRA members to also be UMECRA members. They also promote the sport and the organization throughout the year.
 - Novice Division: The creation of this division is part of the membership plan. The idea is to create a situation to get new people hooked into the sport by starting them out slowly and then encourages them to move to the longer distances. An amendment was discussed and approved that the novice riders can ride as many novice rides as they choose to ride and they can ride at least one 25 or 30-mile ride during the year. They will still be eligible for “Rookie” status the following year if they move up to the longer distances. Five year-end awards will be presented for this division.
 - The Novice division will consist of one-horse/one rider teams who must compete in at least 75 miles to be eligible for awards. The rides will run under the current competitive rules.
 - The cost of awards will also be an additional cost to the organization. Mary Mott volunteered to pay for the first place Novice award.
 - Bettina suggested that the Novice be a one-year proposal and re-evaluated next fall.

Sheryl

Comment [1]: delete

- Dianne suggested that the state organizations should do a project such as this and not UMECRA.
- Kathy suggested that we promote rookie and mileage awards better to encourage people to work toward those goals.
- It was also suggested that each State, WI, IL, MN and MI, be budgeted for \$100 advertising fees. Approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a budget of \$1150 (this includes state money listed above) for the membership committee to work with. The creation of the Novice division will be presented to the voting membership at the annual meeting.

- AERC may possibly be moving to a 30-minute final check for endurance horses in place of the one-hour check. Joyce, our AERC representative, stated that there has been lots of mail and emails sent to AERC about this subject and we as endurance riders are strongly encouraged to contact AERC with our opinions on this subject.
- A member has requested that the purchase of back miles for a horse should be a flat \$15 fee. Currently, the cost is \$15/year to purchase these miles. Joyce pointed out that many of the mileage records are still manual and it is time consuming to sort through the miles with some of the horses. No action was taken on this request.
- A member also requested that UMECRA move to three weight divisions. After a brief discussion, no action was taken.
- A discussion on creating a convention fee was initiated. There had been some complaints about the cost of the convention fee for the current convention. It was mentioned that previous guidelines stated the convention fee should not be more than \$7.00. A committee was organized to create some guidelines to convention managers and to help govern the costs of the convention. The committee consists of Dianne Schmidt, Kathy Schauer and Jill Feller. A motion was made and seconded to take \$500 out of the general treasury and set up a convention fund. This motion was passed.
- Using Hand-held heart monitors for competitive rides: Tony Troyer experimented with using hand-held monitors for competitive rides. Although stethoscopes are the preferred method of checking a pulse for competitive rides, hand-helds could be used when ride help is at a minimum. Tony created a chart that can be used to make the scoring consistent with stethoscopes. It was pointed out that there is NO rule right now in UMECRA that forbids the use of hand-helds to be used for competitive rides. The proposal from Tony that will be presented at the general meeting is to adapt the scoring system created by Tony.

Sheryl

Comment [2]: Add

- Theresa Meyer presented several ‘housekeeping rule changes”.
 - For competitive rules under section 2 Management Requirements, part D number 2) Juniors under the age of 16 as of the beginning of the UMECRA ride season shall be accompanied by a sponsor. EXCEPTION: If they are between 13 and 16 and it can be validated by the UMECRA ~~secretary~~ *points keeper* that they have completed at least 500 ~~competitive-mile in competitive, limited distance or endurance.~~ They must have the approval of a parent. (Changes are in italics).
 - Under Competitive Driving Rules; General Rules, point B: Mileage of Distance Drives shall not be less than 10 miles ~~nor more than 25 miles.~~ Mileage can graduate in increments of 2.5 miles. (Strike the maximum miles).
 - UMECRA By-Laws:
 - Article III: Board of Directors; Section 1: *Louise Riedel is granted a lifetime board membership.* This sentence was removed from the by-laws
 - Article III: Board of Directors; Section 1: ~~Each year~~ *In even numbered years* four rider representatives will be elected by the membership for ~~one~~ *two*-year terms.
 - Article III: Board of Directors; Section 1: *The Veterinarian Representative will be elected to a two-year term commencing at the January 2008 convention.*
 - Article V; Officers: Section 1: *Commencing at the January 2008 convention, the President will be elected to a two-year term. Commencing at the January 2007 convention, the Vice President and the Secretary/Treasurer will be elected to a two-year term.* Said officers shall hold office ~~until the next annual meeting of the corporation or~~ until their successors are elected and qualified.
 - Article III; Vacancies; Section 2; Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors may be filled by vote of a majority of the remaining directors or by election at a meeting of the corporation. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office. *If an opening occurs on the Board of Directors because of an election to another position at the annual meeting, an election shall be held at that meeting to fill the unexpired term of the previous office.*
- Future UMECRA conventions: 2008 convention will be in Rockford, IL- managed by Joyce Mocilan and Tony Troyer. 2009 convention will be in Wisconsin Dells managed by Dianne

Schmidt. Dianne Schmidt also accepted the 2011 convention to be held in Minnesota (this is the next one to be held out of the 'corridor').

- Newsletter Editor: Sharon Hahn presented quotes for printing the newsletter. Three quotes were presented; one was accepted. Sharon was also appointed the new newsletter editor for 2007 & 2008.
- Barb Gardner was appointed as the new points keeper for UMECRA.
- Two UMECRA members showed interest in the sanctioning coordinator position; Elinore Tonsor and Roberta Harms. The BOD took a vote; Elinore Tonsor was appointed the new sanctioning coordinator.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

UMECRA secretary/treasurer

BOD Meeting
March 17, 2007
HoChunk Casino
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Present: Sheryl Levin, Mary Mott, Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Tony Troyer, Joyce Mocilan, Bettina Koehn, Sharon Hahn, Theresa Meyer, Wes Elford, Barb Gardner, Maxine Bernsdorf, Dawn Haas, Wayne Gastfield, Joslyn Seefeldt, Dianne Schmidt.

Guests: Linda Jacobson

President Sheryl Levin called the meeting to order.

Roll call was taken.

Secretary's minutes from convention meetings were sent to BOD members before the meeting to read. Theresa made two small changes. Minutes were approved with the two changes.

Treasurer's report was presented by a Balance sheet and Profit & Loss report. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as given.

Reports of Officers:

- President Sheryl Levin thanked all BOD members for coming to the meeting and putting their time in to help serve with UMECRA activities
- Sheryl also thanked Sharon Hahn for the production of her first newsletter

Committee Updates:

- Membership/Media/Advertising Committee:
 - 1000 mile horses are now being put on the UMECRA website. Joslyn Seefeldt is the contact person for this activity
 - The UMECRA brochures that Theresa produced look great! Egerers in Minnesota can print these for \$.76 each. These brochures will be used at Horse Expos/Fairs and rides to get the name of UMECRA out in the public eye. The extra copies will be kept with Secretary/treasurer Jill Feller- contact her if you need some.
 - A new UMECRA banner is being created by Jack Dewese; it will be silver writing on maroon background. This banner will be available to use for Horse Expos/Fairs and any other activity where we want UMECRA advertised. The cost of this banner is \$50. Motion made, seconded and approved to purchase this banner. After the spring fairs, the banner will be sent to Secretary/treasurer Jill Feller for storage until needed again.
 - Elinore has put the UMECRA ride schedule in several publications and will also contact a few more. If you know of a publication where the schedule can be posted, contact Elinore Tonsor with the publication contact info.
- Mileage Awards Committee:
 - All awards are completed for the year and delivered to riders. New Endurance chevrons are needed. Motion was made, seconded and approved to purchase these chevrons from Dianne Schmidt who makes them at a cost of \$.50 each.
 - 14 UMECRA members were first time chevron winners for 2006.
- Legal & By-laws Committee:
 - In the process of reformatting the UMECRA rules for the ride book, several inconsistencies were found; one of which was the way ties are handled. The "tie" rule did not exist in the 1999 rules, but is listed in the 2004 rules. There is no documentation on when these were accepted. **The following was found in past meeting minutes after this meeting: January 26, 2002 Dale**

Lunde proposed that we change our system of averaging endurance ride ties to the system used by AERC whereby the scores of those tying are added and divided by the number of riders tying. Katie Ruckel moved to accept this concept. Tony Troyer seconded. Motion carried.

- **CURRENT:** Rule 11. Ties: In the case of ties, the points to be awarded shall be the sum of the positions divided by the number of people who tied. Example: two lightweights tie for first place endurance. First and second points are totaled and divided by two and each person gets those points. $22 \text{ pts} + 20 \text{ pts} = 42/2 = 21 \text{ pts}$ each.
- **PROPOSED:** Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1st, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc). **Points for year-end awards shall be awarded in an identical manner.** An example: if two riders tie for 1st place endurance lightweight; each gets awarded first place with the first place points (22 points each). The next lightweight across the line will be awarded third place.

Joyce Mocilan reported that ties have been awarded the same points every since she become points keeper (as the proposed rule states). After a tied vote to leave the rule as is stated with dividing the points vs each getting full points, the tie was broken by vote of the president to go with the PROPOSED rule for the 2007 ride season. Discussion will be held at the annual meeting next January.

- Under Competitive Rules: 2. Management Requirements
 - **CURRENT RULE:** A. The maximum riding speed shall average 5.5 to 7 mph. In figuring whether competitive ride time falls within this speed, spot check time of **at least** 10 minutes per check must be included.
 - After rule “B”, a chart is listed showing spot check times according to miles. Above the chart it states: ABSOLUTE MINIMUM TIMES- FOR EACH SPOT CHECK ADD AT LEAST 20 MINUTES. The 20 minutes is a typo and should say 10 minutes to be in accordance with rule A listed above. The BOD approved the correction of this error.
- Under Endurance Rides: **CURRENT RULE:** Rule 1: The ride must be at least 50 miles in length per day, ~~up to a maximum distance of 150 miles in three days.~~ The BOD voted to eliminate the last part of this sentence which will allow a Pioneer ride to be conducted with UMECRA sanctioning. *A pioneer ride holds a three-day ride of 155 miles in length (one day is 55 miles).*
- Under Sanctioning Requirements: **CURRENT RULE:** 1. UMECRA RULES; A. Rides are to be sanctioned by approval of the BOD at least 90 days before the date of the ride. **CHANGE TO:** Rides are sanctioned by approval of the BOD at least 90 days before the start of the ride *or at the annual meeting.* Approved by vote of BOD.
- Under Sanctioning Requirements: **PROPOSED RULE:** Ride managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA Secretary and UMECRA sanctioning coordinator at least 7 days before the annual meeting; otherwise they receive the same mileage as the previous year. Approved by vote of BOD.
- Technology Committee:
 - Joyce Mocilan reported that in order to build a good database that will last and not be outdated soon, the cost would be \$2000-3000. No action was taken at this time. The technology committee will look into the costs again and come back in fall with a proposal.
- New Members Packet/Ride Book Committee:

- Sheryl Levin reported that 10 of the “new member packets” would be given to each ride manager for rides. The cost of paper and printing is \$612; a \$700 budget was set-aside for this committee in January.
- Ride Book: **CURRENT RULE:** Under Sanctioning Requirements: Ride managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA Secretary and UMECRA sanctioning coordinator at least 7 days before the annual meeting; otherwise they receive the same mileage as the previous year. Only a few rides this year announced their ride mileage before the annual meeting, thus *the ride schedule was approved without consideration to the mileage involved with each ride. As a result; there are four-100 mile rides in the month of September in 2007.*
 - Since the ride schedule with the dates was already approved at the annual meeting, the BOD voted to approve the miles per each ride as is stated in the ride flyers. *The Ride Book committee will discuss some guidelines to present at the fall meeting.*
- Ride Manager/Vet Handbook Committee:
 - The ride managers/vet handbook was printed this year at a cost of less than \$1.00 each. They will be sent out in the ride manager’s packets with the veterinarian sign off sheet to be returned to Jill Feller before the start of the ride.
- Convention Committee:
 - The committee presented some guidelines for managing a UMECRA convention. Some discussion followed; contact some veterinarians within UMECRA, as they might be able to find guest speakers at a minimum cost or to get money to host activities. Discussion also included hosting a trade show yearly instead of every other year to spark more interest in attending the show. No action was taken.
- Website Update: Joslyn Seefeldt is now putting the 1000-mile horses on the site; contact her with any information you have for the site.

Unfinished Business:

- Veterinary Release Form: this will be sent out in the RM packets. This is to be sent to the head ride veterinarian to sign off on and return to Jill Feller before the start of the ride. This is just an acknowledgement that the vet has read and understands the UMECRA rulebook
- Insurance Costs: The insurance will be \$45/ride and \$20 for each additional insured. Jill Feller will let each ride know the cost of their ride insurance and it can be paid with ride fees after the ride. A discussion was held concerning the cost of MI ride insurance and having UMECRA pay ½ of their costs. This was tabled but will be discussed again at the fall meeting.
- UMECRA Hall of Fame Nominee: A discussion was held as to what the proper procedure is to get a UMECRA member inducted into the Hall of Fame, the costs involved and how those costs are paid. One member was nominated at this time. If anyone has a person to nominate to the Hall of Fame, they should contact one of the BOD members with their nomination; the nomination needs to be in writing. **The following was found in past meeting minutes after this meeting: November 3, 2001 minutes: Wes moved to establish a UMECRA Hall of Fame award with money from the general fund not to exceed \$500- Roberta seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The funds are available per year of the award.**
- AERC Drug Testing Policy: Sheryl and Wes passed out the AERC drug testing policy to all BOD members. Any UMECRA members wanting a copy of this policy should contact either Sheryl or Wes for a copy. *At this time, UMECRA is not going to be doing any drug testing at their rides, but will be following the AERC testing program.*
- Trail Master Class: At the annual convention it was voted to pay the tuition for two UMECRA members to attend the Trail Master class. Since that time, one of those members withdrew from the class. Another UMECRA member has expressed interest and will be going to the class if it is not full yet. Motion was made, seconded and approved to send the alternate UMECRA member if room is still available.

- Internet Communication: Sheryl Levin discussed this topic. The Internet communication should be used to discuss a topic and provide feedback. All opinions will be respected. No voting on issues will be done via the Internet. If a vote is needed by the BOD between meetings, a vote will be conducted via phone with the Executive BOD members calling members for their vote.
- UMECRA Brochure: *see Membership/Media/Advertising Committee*

New Business:

- 2006 Junior Award: Larissa Sprecher was missed in the awards at the annual meeting. A jacket for her was made and will be sent to her by the end of the month.
- Motion was made, seconded and approved to send \$250 to MNDRA to sponsor a booth for UMECRA at the MN Horse Expo.
- Sanctioning Request for New Ride: Ride on the Canal. Joann Gernant has put in a request to hold a one-day competitive ride on June 24th for a special event down in Illinois. This will be a one-year only ride. Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept this new ride.
- Sanctioning Rules needing housekeeping: There are several sanctioning rules that need to be discussed with the ride managers to see if they are feasible and worth adhering to or just eliminating. These rules will be put on the UMECRA web page to create discussion. All BOD members should provide discussions at rides this summer to get feedback from the membership. This topic will be discussed at the fall meeting after getting feedback from RM and other members of UMECRA.
- Website email address: The UMECRA website does have several email addresses that could be used for ride managers if they want an address for their ride: EXAMPLE: Northernhighlandride@umecra.com could be an address for the ride manager at this ride so riders could remember the address easier. If any ride manager is interested, they should contact Joslyn Seefeldt.
- Newsletter dates and postage: Sharon Hahn did an excellent job on editing her first UMECRA newsletter. The delay in receiving the newsletter was due to the postage; it was sent presorted instead of first class. Because of the time it took for members to receive their newsletter, future ones will be sent out via first class postage. Sharon provided the UMECRA BOD with a 'draft publication schedule' with newsletter publication dates and deadlines. This schedule will be posted in the next newsletter.
- Committee realignment: President Sheryl Levin realigned the committees from 21 to 11. They are as follows:
 - Membership Committee: *To increase UMECRA membership by 15% in 2007.* Responsible for: membership, media/advertising, education/publicity, new members packet/ride book. Members: Sheryl Levin (Chairperson), Theresa Meyer, Elinore Tonsor, Joslyn Seefeldt, Dianne Schmidt, Sharon Hahn, Dawn Haas, Tony Troyer
 - Mentorship Committee: *To seek out new riders at UMECRA rides, promote friendliness and help where it is needed.* Responsible for: mentoring. Members: Maxine Bernsdorf (Chairperson), Paula Rapp, Bettina Koehn, Sharon Hahn
 - Points/Awards Committee: *Promote all of UMECRA awards including mileage.* Responsible for: all awards promotions, selection, bid process, etc. Members: Maxine Bernsdorf (Chairperson), Linda Jacobson, Barb Gardner, Dawn Haas.
 - Finance Committee: *Work to achieve a workable budget for UMECRA.* Responsible for: finance, audit, budget, and insurance. Members: Mary Mott, Sheryl Levin (Chairperson), Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Wayne Gastfield, Dawn Haas, Tony Troyer and Barb Gardner
 - Rules Committee: *To clarify rules and housekeep current rules and recommend procedures. Work on written procedures between officers, sanctioning coordinator and point's keeper. Be the 'go to' people at rides if questions regarding rules come up.* Responsible for: legal, rules and by laws submission of changes to BOD, housekeeping and knowledge of rules at rides. Protests go the

- VP of UMECRA and not to this committee (per by-laws). Members: Theresa Meyer (Chairperson), Tony Troyer, Joyce Mocilan, Paula Rapp, Wes Elford DVM, Bettina Koehn, Wayne Gastfield, Art Priez (advisor).
- Protest Committee: *Promote UMECRA rules and fairness at rides.* Members: Mary Mott (Chairperson), Tony Troyer, Dawn Haas, Dianne Schmidt
 - Ride Manager/Vet Committee: *To promote and offer support and knowledge of our sport and help new ride managers and vets become familiar with UMECRA.* Responsible for: ride fees and vet committee, ride managers/vet handbook. Members: Jill Feller (Chairperson), Elinore Tonsor, Theresa Meyer, Wes Elford DVM.
 - Technology Committee: *Create a web-based database for horse/rider mileage.* Members: Joyce Mocilan (Chairperson), Joslyn Seefeldt, Sheryl Levin.
 - Trails Advisory Committee: *Promote and encourage other members to be trail advocates.* Members: Tony Troyer (Chairperson), Wayne Gastfield, Elinore Tonsor.
 - Sponsorship Committee: *Promote UMECRA to interested personal/business contacts to promote sponsorship of costs of rides.* Members: Rick Nelson (Chairperson), Mary Mott, Dianne Schmidt, John Sturm, Wes Elford DVM.
 - Convention Committee: *Create guidelines for convention organizers.* Members: Jill Feller (Chairperson), Dianne Schmidt, Kathy Schauer.
- Other: a request was made by Elinore Tonsor for \$250 from the trail fund: \$200 to go to the Clark County Department of Parks and Forestry and \$50 to the Town of Seif. These are the trails used for the Wildcat rides. Motion was made, seconded and approved to award the money.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

Annual Meeting
January 20, 2007
UMECRA Convention
Manitowoc, WI
1:15 pm

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Nelson.

Roll call was taken- there were 73 voting delegates present.

The secretary's minutes of the last meeting were approved as were written in the newsletter.

A balance sheet with an explanation of funds was provided to the membership.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report as provided.

Report of committees:

- Membership committee: committee members Peggy Brush, Sheryl Levin and Tony Troyer presented a proposal to attract new members to join UMECRA. Part of the proposal was the creation of a Novice division for a one-year trial. Five awards will be presented for this division at the annual meeting in January 2008. Mary Mott volunteered to donate the first place award. The committee also will be mailing out membership info to AERC members in the Midwest who are *not* UMECRA members and providing information packets to all ride managers for their rides. **More of the specifics of this presentation can be found in the minutes of the morning meeting from 1-20-07.** The proposal was presented for a vote to create a Novice Division for a one-year trial and five year-end awards. Passed.

New Business:

- UMECRA Insurance: A motion was made for UMECRA to pay 100% of insurance costs for the competitive rides for 2007 ride season. A discussion was held. Jill Feller, chairperson for the insurance committee, presented the costs of the insurance; these costs are based on the information from rides that were submitted for the quote. If additional rides or additional insured are added, the costs will increase. Based on this information, a friendly amendment was added that UMECRA pay for 50% of the competitive ride insurance costs. A vote was taken and the motion passed. *Each ride will be billed for their costs as the cost will vary from ride to ride depending on the number of additional insured.*
- A Ride manager's help list will be posted on the UMECRA website. This is a guideline for ride managers to use to assist them in planning a ride. Comments about this list should be directed to any UMECRA BOD member.
- Changing BOD terms to a two-year term: A discussion was held to move the BOD terms to a two-year term to create consistency among

members. The VP and Secretary/Treasurer position will be voted on in odd years while the President and Vet Representative positions will be voted on in even years. This will eliminate a complete turnover in positions the same year. This motion was passed by the voting members of UMECRA.

- Riders reps: A motion was presented to also move the rider representatives to a two-year term. This will not happen until 2008 as the rider reps for 2007 have already been voted in. Motion passed.
- Competitive rule changes: A motion was made to make the following change: For competitive rules under section 2 Management Requirements, part D number 2) Juniors under the age of 16 as of the beginning of the UMECRA ride season shall be accompanied by a sponsor. EXCEPTION: If they are between 13 and 16 and it can be validated by the UMECRA ~~secretary~~ *points keeper* that they have completed at least 500 ~~competitive-mile in competitive, limited distance or endurance~~. They must have the approval of a parent. (changes are in italics). This motion passed.
- The tentative ride calendar was discussed. There were several minor changes to dates that were presented. The Wildcat Ride moved their date for one-year only due to another change in the calendar. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 'changed' calendar. Motion passed.
- A motion was made and seconded to change the Drive Competitive rule to eliminate the maximum miles. Under Competitive Driving Rules; General Rules, point B: Mileage of Distance Drives shall not be less than 10 miles ~~nor more than 25 miles~~. Mileage can graduate in increments of 2.5 miles. (strike the maximum miles). Passed.
- Tony Troyer presented a chart to be used to ensure consistency when using hand-held heart monitors for competitive rides. This chart does the conversion factor to keep the numbers consistent with the stethoscope numbers. A motion was made to accept this chart as the method to use when using hand-held monitors for competitive rides. Motion failed.
- The proposed ruling changes in the by-laws were presented by Theresa Meyer to reflect the two-year officer terms. Motion was made, accepted and approved to accept these changes.
 - UMECRA By-Laws:
 - Article III: Board of Directors; Section 1: ~~Each year~~ *In even numbered years* four rider representatives will be elected by the membership for ~~one~~ *two*-year terms.
 - Article III: Board of Directors; Section 1: *The Veterinarian Representative will be elected to a two-year term commencing at the January 2008 convention.*
 - Article V; Officers: Section 1: *Commencing at the January 2008 convention, the President will be elected to a two-year term. Commencing at the January 2007 convention, the Vice*

President and the Secretary/Treasurer will be elected to a two-year term. Said officers shall hold office ~~until the next annual meeting of the corporation or~~ until their successors are elected and qualified.

- Article III; Vacancies; Section 2; Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors may be filled by vote of a majority of the remaining directors or by election at a meeting of the corporation. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office. *If an opening occurs on the Board of Directors because of an election to another position at the annual meeting, an election shall be held at that meeting to fill the unexpired term of the previous office.*
- A motion was made, seconded and approved by vote that nominees for a UMECRA office must be present at the meeting to be voted into office.
- Subjects from the morning BOD Meeting were discussed:
 - The membership committee proposal.
 - Drug testing at UMECRA rides,
 - Trail Master class tuition.
 - AERC ruling about 30-minute final checks for endurance horses verses the 60-minute checks.
 - Creation of a convention committee.
- Voting for officers:
 - President: Rick Nelson & Sheryl Levin: Sheryl won.
 - VP: Mary Mott & Tony Troyer: Mary won. (this is two-year term)
 - Secretary/Treasurer: only nominee was Jill Feller (two-year term)
 - Michigan Delegate: only nominee was Wayne Gastfield.
 - Illinois Delegate: Tony Troyer & Roberta Harms: Tony won
 - Vet Representative: Dean Peterson & Wes Elford: Wes won
 - Director at Large: Linda Mower & Theresa Meyer: Theresa won.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

UMECRA Annual Convention
BOD Meeting
January 12, 2008
7:00 am
Clock Tower Resort- Rockford, IL

Present members: Maxine Bernsdorf, Tony Troyer, Rick Nelson, Sheryl Levin, Jill Feller, Bettina Koehn, Joyce Mocilan, Elinore Tonsor, Paula Rapp, Sharon Hahn, Joslyn Seefeldt, Barb Gardner, Dawn Haas, Wes Elford

Guests: Barry Saylor, Lucy Bagot

The **Secretary's minutes** from the Nov. BOD meeting and the year-end **financial reports** had been sent out to board members before the meeting to read and review. Rick made a motion and Tony seconded it to approve all reports as were presented.

Secretary/Treasurer Jill Feller presented an idea to consider moving the fiscal year of UMECRA to a April 1-March 31 year due to the date of the annual convention. When the fiscal reports are run at year end, part of the 'income' is designated for the upcoming convention. The costs of the convention are reflected in one year while some of the income for those costs are in the previous year's reports. Jill will run some reports with the suggested dates for the spring meeting to review and see if moving the fiscal year is feasible.

Old Business:

- **Novice Division:** several of the novice riders have joined UMECRA and have expressed their excitement in the program. The comments were all favorable and encouraged UMECRA to continue the Novice program. Motion was made and seconded to continue the Novice Division for the 2008 ride season and revisit it at the fall BOD meeting. Motion passed.
- **Sanctioning guidelines:** Theresa handed out the guidelines for sanctioning guidelines that were discussed at the fall BOD meeting. A short discussion followed as the guidelines had been discussed in November. Sharon motioned, Rick seconded that the new guidelines be accepted. Motion passed. Guidelines are:
 - Rides are to be sanctioned by approval of the Board of Directors at least 90 days before the date of the ride ***or at the annual meeting.***
 - Ride Managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA secretary ***UMECRA sanctioning coordinator*** at least 7 days

before the annual meeting; otherwise, they receive the same mileage as the previous year.

- The names of official delegates to the annual meeting must be submitted in writing to the UMECRA secretary prior to the meeting (cut-off date to be announced.)
 - **The current year's ride schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year.**
 - Once the schedule is finalized at the annual meeting, no new rides may be scheduled except ~~on an open date and/or~~ with board approval. **Any ride seeking approval by board vote must either be on an open date or have the approval of the ride manager(s) of any ride already scheduled on the proposed date. The current year's schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year.** Changes to a scheduled ride ~~should~~ **must** be made 60 days in advance.
 - New rides will be given priority in order of application. A ~~change in a ride date will constitute that ride as a new ride.~~ **The \$10 surcharge for new rides will be in effect.**
 - The Board will attempt to limit the number of rides to three per weekend. No ride may be **scheduled or** rescheduled for any reason on the same date as another ride without the approval of the originally scheduled ride/rides.
 - No more than one 100-mile one-day ride will be scheduled on any one weekend closer than 800 miles apart. Preference will be given to the existing 100-miler.
 - Rider points will only be given for mileage which the ride applied for, or for which notice of a mileage change has been made 60 days in advance.
 - "Reject rides" or other "fun" rides shall not be considered point eligible rides.
 - If a UMECRA sanctioned ride offers novice classes, all fees and rules shall be observed. Novices are not eligible for year-end awards, but mileage shall count.
 - Yearly fees per ride are \$40, with a surcharge of \$10 for a first year ride. This includes ride supplies and a prorated share of printing and mailing of the ride brochure. If a ride organization **or manager** sponsors more than one event per year, the \$40 fee applies to each ride. There is also a fee of \$1.50 per starting rider.
- **REPORTING**
 - UMECRA ride results, **"per rider" reporting fees, and insurance fees** must be sent to the secretary postmarked within 14 days, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty

is not paid. Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior). Riders who have signed up as AERC featherweights, lightweights or middleweights must be assigned to either UMECRA lightweight or heavyweight divisions. DO NOT list UMECRA weight divisions on AERC report forms. The AERC weight division must be determined at the time of entry.

- **NSF/unpaid fees:** After discussion, the BOD made adjustments to the rule that was approved in November. The new wording is: “Anyone having outstanding debts to UMECRA or a UMECRA ride and not paid within 30 days of the check date (including all bank fees), will be disallowed from receiving points, year-end awards or mileage accumulation until all fees are paid”. Tony motioned to approve and Rick seconded the motion; motion passed.
- Theresa presented changes to the driver’s rules. Motion made by Dawn, seconded by Paula to accept rules are presented; passed. The rules are:

COMPETITIVE DRIVING RULES

- **General Rules**
 - The pace for a drive is between 5 and 8 7 mph. The pace will be determined by the drive management. Factors determining the pace will be heat, humidity, difficulty of the terrain, conditions of the trail.
 - Mileage of Distance Drives shall not be less than ~~10 miles~~. ~~Mileage can graduate in increments of 2.5 miles.~~ **5 miles, but may be any greater distance that provides a safe and practical venue for driving. Longer distances are encouraged.**
 - Rules for Drivers
 - L. ~~Pneumatic tired vehicles are not allowed.~~ **L. Bicycle type wheels are not allowed. Traditional wood or metal wheels are recommended. Pneumatic tires on automobile or heavy duty spoke wheels, such as those used on motorcycles, are acceptable.**
- **UMECRA insurance** was discussed. At the fall meeting, a motion was made that UMECRA would pay for ½ the cost for the insurance premium for UMECRA rides; UMECRA would not pay for the additional insured costs. If the ride was cancelled and there were additional insured already paid for, the ride that is cancelled will be required to pay the costs of the additional

insured. A motion was made in November by Dianne but never moved forward at that time. Motion was now made by Sharon, seconded by Rick; motion passed. This will be carried to the annual meeting.

- An **advertising program** was presented to assist with costs of the annual ride book. This program presents several options for advertising. Elinore will move forward with recruiting advertisers for the ride book.
- **T-shirts** for newbies: postcards will be created to be included in the Ride Manager's packets that are mailed in spring. These postcards will be given to any rider completing their first 25 mile or longer ride. The postcard will be addressed to Dianne Schmidt who will then create a t-shirt to mail to the rider saying "I did my first 25-mile ride at *****". Elinore and Jill will work on the postcards.
- Sheryl Levin presented information about creating a **membership database** to use for points. Sheryl found a person at "rent-a-coder" who is creating a database for a cost of \$100. Rick motioned and Joyce seconded that UMECA pay the costs of this service: passed.
- **Membership cards** were discussed: a sample of UMECRA cards was passed around for BOD members to review. Membership numbers will be randomly picked for all members. Dawn made a motion, Tony seconded to create membership cards: motion passed. *The cards will be mailed to members.*
- BOD had previously discussed creating a **versatility award**. GLDRA presented documentation to sponsor this award. "GLDRA would like to sponsor a versatility award starting in 2008. The award would be called the Charles Phillips Versatility award in honor of Charles and his horse J. Dalmaar Sharri+ / who have enjoyed competing for and receiving the AHDRA versatility award in the past. The award would be open to all UMECRA members. Qualifications would be same horse/rider team, must do a minimum of 2-50 mile endurance, 2- competitive rides and 2- limited distance rides. There will be a Grand Champion and Reserve Champion, no divisions." Theresa moved to accept the MI award, Rick seconded: motion passed.
- The **ride schedule for 2008** was presented. Dawn motioned, Rick seconded to accept the schedule as presented: this will move to the annual meeting for a vote.
- Barry Saylor presented an idea to **recognize the 100-mile horses**. Joyce, Bettina, Joslyn and Dawn will work with Barry to set up a program presentation for the March BOD meeting.

- Lucy Bagot gave a brief presentation on her research as to the ride **schedules** in the Midwest vs. other areas of the country. Lucy will be presenting her ideas at the Ride Manager's forum meeting.
- Wes brought forward a motion from a ride manager that the secretary/treasurer position does not have to be filled by a ride manager, but could be nominated from any active UMECRA member. Paula seconded the motion: motion failed.
- A discussion on **communications** was held. In fall, several deadline dates in the NL were past due by the time members received their newsletter. The following guidelines will help to alleviate these problems in the future. All newsletter articles need to be to Sharon by the end of the month; Sharon will complete the newsletter by the 10th of the month. The newsletter will go to the printer and be mailed by the 15th of each month.
- A discussion was held on the BOD discussing topics and voting between meetings on issues using the Internet. Voting by Internet may be more workable with the new database program. No action was taken on this subject.
- Sharon Hahn would like to sponsor an **award for Senior Horses**. This award will recognize the older equine athletes in our sport. Max motioned, Rick seconded to accept this award; motion passed. More information on this award will be in the newsletter.
- Three **trail grants** were presented:
 - Forrestville Campground in MN
 - The Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Association in WI
 - The Northern Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Association in WI
 - Grants were granted for \$250 for each request

Motion made by Rick and seconded by Bettina to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller
 UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

UMECRA Annual Convention
General Meeting
January 12, 2008
1:00 pm
Clock Tower Resort- Rockford, IL

The meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Levin.

Roll Call: 87 voting delegates were present at the meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer report: The minutes from the November BOD meeting were already approved in the morning meeting. No questions from any delegates were fielded on the past published minutes. The annual balance sheet and P&L report was presented (one addition error was corrected). The higher cost of insurance was explained to the delegates (the cost of paying additional insured and not getting this cost back if the ride is cancelled). Jill Feller explained the idea of moving the fiscal year to April 1- March 31 to get a better view of our 'real' expenses (see morning meeting minutes). Rick Nelson motioned to approve reports; Linda Mower seconded; motion passed

Old Business:

- **Novice Division:** President Sheryl Levin explained that in the morning meeting of the BOD, the BOD had approved to run the Novice division for one additional year and revisit it in fall of 08.
- **Insurance costs for 2008:** Jill Feller explained the cost of the insurance from 2007 season. The motion from the BOD meeting was brought forward for discussion. The motion was: *UMECRA will pay ½ the insurance premium cost for a sanctioned ride; the additional insured costs will be paid by the ride and if the ride is cancelled, the ride/ride manager is responsible to reimburse UMECRA for the cost of the additional insured.* A discussion followed. Dale Lunde motioned, Dawn Haas seconded to approve this action; motion passed.
 - The cost of MI insurance was also discussed. MI rides get their insurance through GLDRA and pay less than the insurance offered by UMECRA. A motion was made by Dawn Haas and seconded by Rick Nelson that UMECRA should pick up the cost of the 'additional insured' certificate to cover UMECRA for MI rides. Motion passed. Lisa Germann will get the cost and reimbursement information to the secretary/treasurer. *(In a note from Lisa after the convention, it was discovered that there was no additional cost to GLDRA to cover UMECRA with the insurance; no reimbursement is needed).*

New Business:

- **Hall of Fame procedures:** The 'approved' Hall of Fame procedures was presented to the delegates. In the past, this procedure has been unclear; these procedures just clarify that process and will be placed on the UMECRA website for easy access:
 1. UMECRA Hall of Fame nominations will be accepted at the fall BOD meeting in November.
 - a. Nominees must have contributed to UMECRA. This should include an extra ordinary volunteerism given to the organization. There are no requirements that the nominees must be a rider or ride manager.
 2. All nominations must be presented to the BOD in written form in one of the following formats.
 - a. A presentation at the fall BOD meeting with documentation to be handed to all present BOD members
 - b. A letter sent to all BOD members
 - c. An email sent to all BOD members
 3. All BOD members vote on the nominees in one of two ways:
 - a. Voting at the fall meeting
 - b. Voting by telephone administered by calls from the executive BOD members
 4. The person submitting the nomination will be notified by a member of the executive BOD member with the results of the vote.
 5. The person submitting the nomination will be responsible for obtaining the award.
 - a. UMECRA will contribute \$500 each year for one Hall of Fame award. Any costs beyond this amount will need to be raised by the nominating person.
 - b. The recommended award should be a picture or painting of the recipient enjoying distance riding.
 - c. The award will be given by the nominating person at the UMECRA Annual Awards Banquet.
- **Points database:** Sheryl Levin explained the new points database that is being developed for UMECRA. UMECRA riders and nominated horses will be assigned membership numbers with the new system. Riders will receive a membership card and the number will need to be put on their entry forms and ride cards for recording purposes.
- **Ride book advertising:** UMECRA will be pursuing advertisements for the ride book to assist with the costs involved with printing and mailing. The program is as follows:
 - UMECRA Advertising Bronze Package:
 - Half page in the UMECRA ride book: \$50

- Half page in the UMECRA directory: \$50
- UMECRA Advertising Silver Package:
 - Half page in UMECRA ride book: \$100
 - Half page in UMECRA directory: \$100
 - 5 ads in newsletter: \$50
- UMECRA Advertising Gold Package:
 - Half page in UMECRA ride book: \$100
 - Half page in UMECRA directory: \$100
 - 10 ads in newsletter: \$100

20% discount on Gold and Silver packages if order is accompanied with a donation to the silent auction for 2008 or 2010. Monies and layout must be received no later than March 1, 2008 by the secretary/treasurer of UMECRA. Only 10 packages will pay for the entire ride book!! This package was approved by the BOD at the morning meeting and will go into effect immediately. The information will be placed on the UMECRA website for easy access.

- **Communications:** In fall, newsletters were received with expired deadlines for items which resulted in confusion with ride managers. To rectify this problem, the following NL deadlines have been established:
 - NL entries must be to NL editor by end of the month
 - NL editor will compose NL by 10th of month
 - NL will be sent to printer and mailed out by 15th of each month
- **Sanctioning guidelines:** The sanctioning guidelines were discussed and approved in the morning BOD meeting (see minutes of that meeting for those guidelines). These guidelines will be published on the UMECRA website for easy access.
- **2008 ride schedule:** The 2008 ride schedule was presented to the voting members of UMECRA. There were several minor changes such as mileage changes or adding a third date to an exiting ride. A discussion followed about the amount of rides on the schedule and the low attendance at rides. President Levin pointed out that those subjects were the topic of the RM forum meeting that was held earlier in the day; no action was taken on this subject at this time. Motion made by Jill Feller, seconded by Rick Nelson to accept the ride schedule with the minor changes; motion passed.
- **New rider t-shirt:** This subject was discussed and approved at the morning BOD meeting (see minutes of that meeting for more info).
- **GLDRA versatility award:** GLDRA will be sponsoring a versatility award for one horse/rider combination in UMECRA (see minutes of the morning BOD meeting for more info on this award).

- **High point senior equine award:** UMECRA Sharon Hahn is sponsoring this award. There will be more information in an upcoming NL.
- **100 mile horse recognition program:** Barry Saylor presented an idea to recognize the 100-mile horses in our region at the morning BOD meeting. Joyce Mocilan, Bettina Koehn, Joslyn Seefeldt and Dawn Haas have all volunteered to work with Barry on this subject and present some ideas at the spring BOD meeting in March.
- **Rule changes:** the following rule changes were discussed and passed:

1. UMECRA RULES

- Rides are to be sanctioned by approval of the Board of Directors at least 90 days before the date of the ride ***or at the annual meeting.***
- Ride Managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA secretary ***UMECRA sanctioning coordinator*** at least 7 days before the annual meeting; otherwise, they receive the same mileage as the previous year.
- The names of official delegates to the annual meeting must be submitted in writing to the UMECRA secretary prior to the meeting (cut-off date to be announced.)
- The current year's ride schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year.***
- Once the schedule is finalized at the annual meeting, no new rides may be scheduled except ~~*on an open date and/or*~~ with board approval. ***Any ride seeking approval by board vote must either be on an open date or have the approval of the ride manager(s) of any ride already scheduled on the proposed date. The current year's schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year.*** Changes to a scheduled ride ~~*should*~~ ***must*** be made 60 days in advance.
- New rides will be given priority in order of application. ~~*A change in a ride date will constitute that ride as a new ride.*~~ ***The \$10 surcharge for new rides will be in effect.***
- The Board will attempt to limit the number of rides to three per weekend. No ride may be ***scheduled or*** rescheduled for any reason on the same date as another ride without the approval of the originally scheduled ride/rides.
- No more than one 100-mile one-day ride will be scheduled on any one weekend closer than 800 miles apart. Preference will be given to the existing 100-miler.
- Rider points will only be given for mileage which the ride applied for, or for which notice of a mileage change has been made 60 days in advance.
- "Reject rides" or other "fun" rides shall not be considered point eligible rides.
- If a UMECRA sanctioned ride offers novice classes, all fees and rules shall be observed. Novices are not eligible for year-end awards, but mileage shall count.

- L. Yearly fees per ride are \$40, with a surcharge of \$10 for a first year ride. This includes ride supplies and a prorated share of printing and mailing of the ride brochure. If a ride organization **or manager** sponsors more than one event per year, the \$40 fee applies to each ride. There is also a fee of \$1.50 per starting rider.

2. REPORTING

- A. UMECRA ride results, **“per rider” reporting fees, and insurance fees** must be sent to the secretary postmarked within 14 days, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty is not paid. Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior). Riders who have signed up as AERC featherweights, lightweights or middleweights must be assigned to either UMECRA lightweight or heavyweight divisions. DO NOT list UMECRA weight divisions on AERC report forms. The AERC weight division must be determined at the time of entry.

COMPETITIVE DRIVING RULES

General Rules

- A. The pace for a drive is between 5 and ~~8~~ **7** mph. The pace will be determined by the drive management. Factors determining the pace will be heat, humidity, difficulty of the terrain, conditions of the trail.
 - B. Mileage of Distance Drives shall not be less than ~~40 miles. Mileage can graduate in increments of 2.5 miles.~~ **5 miles, but may be any greater distance that provides a safe and practical venue for driving. Longer distances are encouraged.**
2. Rules for Drivers

- L. ~~Pneumatic tired vehicles are not allowed.~~ **L. Bicycle type wheels are not allowed. Traditional wood or metal wheels are recommended. Pneumatic tires on automobile or heavy duty spoke wheels, such as those used on motorcycles, are acceptable.**

ENDURANCE RIDES

- 1. The ride must be at least 50 miles in length per day, ~~up to a maximum distance of 150 miles in three days.~~

General Rules

1. Eligibility

- D. Anyone having outstanding debts to UMECRA or a UMECRA ride **and not paid within 30 days (including bank fees) from notification in writing of the incident** will be disallowed from receiving points, year-end awards or mileage accumulation.

- The General rule that failed to pass was:
 - 5. Awards
 - C. Horses that tie will receive identical placings and the next placing will be omitted. (i.e. 1st, 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc.) ***Points for year-end awards will be awarded in an identical manner.***
- **UMECRA ride entry form:** The UMECRA ride entry form has been modified to include the 'legal language' that is required for most Midwest states to ensure coverage under the state's equine liability laws. A disclaimer from the following states is now part of the ride entry form: WI, IN, MI and IL. MN does not require any specific language on an entry form. It was pointed out to that ALL rides in ALL states need to be posting the equine liability signs to be covered under this law. These signs can be purchased through the state horse council organizations.
- **Illinois Horse Fair:** A request was made by Linda Mower that UMECRA pay the entry fee for a booth at the IL Horse Fair. MN also asked for a grant to pay their fee. Katie Bachhuber motioned, Joslyn Seefeldt seconded; motion passed. The cost of the booth at both the Illinois and Minnesota Horse Fair will be paid by UMECRA (the same cost as was given last year was approved).
- **Election of officers:**
 - President: nominated- Sheryl Levin (no other nominations were given- Sheryl was re-elected to a two-year term)
 - VP- the current VP submitted her resignation in December- she was serving a two-year term. The election for VP is for a one-year term. The VP and Secretary/treasurer position are currently serving a two-year term with elections for these positions to be in 2009. Nominated was Tony Troyer (no other nominations were given- Tony was elected to serve a one-year term)
 - Vet Rep: Wes Elford was nominated (Dean Peterson was also nominated, but was not present at the meeting and the nomination would not be accepted). No other nominations were given- Wes was re-elected to serve a two-year term.
 - WI Regional Director: nominated- Dawn Haas (no other nominations were given- Dawn was re-elected to a two-year term).
 - MN Regional Director: nominated- Dianne Schmidt (no other nominations were given- Dianne was elected to a two-year term)
 - Director at Large: nominated- Elinore Tonsor and Lynn Reichert; Lynn Reichert won the vote- elected to a two-year term

- IL Director (to replace Tony who moved to the VP role). This is a one-year term to complete the two-year term elected in 2007. Nominated- Linda Mower (no other nominations were given- Linda was elected)
- Rider reps: the following rider reps were elected for a two-year term by general membership vote: Sharon Hahn, Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Hamrick and Julie Jackson.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller
UMECRA secretary/treasurer

UMECRA Board of Directors Meeting
March 15, 2008
Antiqua Bay Resort
10:00 am

The meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Levin. In attendance were: Sheryl Levin, Jill Feller, Tony Troyer, Julie Jackson, Elinore Tonsor, Sharon Hahn, Theresa Meyer, Linda Hamrick, Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Mower, Wayne Gastfield, Joslyn Seefeldt and Dawn Haas. Guests: Barry Saylor and Linda Jacobson.

Treasurer's Report was presented in the format of a balance sheet. Dawn made the motion to approve the report as presented, seconded by Wayne; approved. A discussion was held on a cost comparison of the annual convention. Since there were no costs paid yet for the 2008 conventions, no report could be given. Once these costs are received, a report will be presented; the current treasurer database only has accurate records dating back from the 2007 convention, only two years worth of information will be presented.

Secretary's reports from the annual convention was previously sent to all BOD members to read. No corrections or additions were indicated. Tony motioned, Dawn seconded to accept reports as presented; motion passed.

UPDATES:

- Points data base: Sheryl reports that some of the deadlines have been missed and the last deadline is on March 16th or the program will be scraped and we will start over with a new program and new programmer.
- Membership cards: these are on hold until a database has been completed; cards may not be available to members until 2009 season
- Advertising in Ride book, website, and directory: we currently have one advertising customer. Elinore and Joslyn will work together to get more vendors to advertise. It was noted that some vendors wanted to see what a *ride book* and *member directory* were and would have advertised had they been approached at an earlier date. The advertising committee will pursue more vendors for the 2009 books.
- New Ride Entry Form: the new ride entry form is on the website. Ride Managers need to be sure their riders have the new form. Ride Mangers must also POST THE EQUINE LIABILITY signs at their rides.
- Discussion of moving fiscal year: this has been put on hold due to the convention expenses not being available at this time.

- Clinic packets; new members, etc: A discussion was held on creating some 'standardized' packets of information that UMECRA members can request for clinics that they will be managing. Several BOD members had clinic booklets from previous clinics that were reviewed by the BOD. Theresa Meyer and Jill Feller will work on creating a booklet for UMECRA members to use for clinics. Jacque Deweese has volunteered to assist in formatting the booklets for UMECRA (*Jacque was contacted after the meeting and he volunteered to assist as needed*).
- Ride manager packets: these will be sent out soon and will contain the following: t-shirt letter, non-member sign up sheets, rule books, statement for reporting ride results and a novice packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Louise Riedel Versatility Award/Charles Phillips Versatility Award: In the November BOD meeting a Louise Riedel Versatility Award was discussed and approved to be presented at the annual general meeting. In the morning BOD meeting in January, GLDRA presented the Charles Phillips Versatility award to the board. At that time, the BOD approved the Charles Phillips Versatility award in place of the Louise Riedel award. To provide clarity to this situation, the Louise Riedel Versatility Award will NOT be an annual award, but the Charles Phillips Versatility Award will be presented annually. Dawn motioned to not take the Louise Riedel award to the general meeting, Tony seconded the motion; passed. The criteria for eligibility for the Charles Phillip Versatility Award:
 - One horse/rider team must complete the following:
 - Two endurance rides of 50 miles or more in length
 - Two open competitive rides (25 or more miles) or two competitive drives (20 or more miles in length)
 - Two limited distance rides of 25 miles or more in length
 - Points will be accumulated in the following manner:
 - 1st place = 7 points
 - 2nd place = 6 points
 - 3rd place = 5 points
 - 4th place = 4 points
 - 5th place = 3 points
 - 6th place = 2 points
 - Completion = 1 point
 - Riders must notify the UMECRA points keeper (Barb Gardner) before the beginning of the last ride of the season that you want to be considered for this award. UMECRA members that do not notify the points keeper prior to the last ride will not be eligible for the award.

- Senior Horse Award: this award will be sponsored by Sharon Hahn. The criteria to win this award will be the total points accumulated throughout the year and the miles ridden. The newsletter contains more information on this award.
- 100-mile horse award: Barry Saylor presented a proposal for this program. Dawn motioned, Wayne seconded to take this program to the general meeting in January; motion passed.

100-mile Horse Program

Goal: To increase participation in current 100 mile events
To increase the number of UMECRA sanctioned 100 mile rides.

Enrollment: One time fee of \$50/ horse/rider team.

Year End Awards:

1. Recognition of completion of first one-day 100 mile ride will be a plaque with picture of horse/rider team doing the ride
2. Bronze level- same horse/rider team completion of 3- 1-day 100 mile rides
3. Silver level- same horse/rider team completion of 6- 1-day 100 mile rides
4. Gold level- same horse/rider team completion of 10- 1-day 100 mile rides
5. Platinum- same horse/rider team completion of 15- 1-day 100 mile rides
6. Triple Crown Award- completion of any three UMECRA sanctioned 1-day 100's by the same horse/rider team in a single year, ties to be split by best placements
7. 100-mile Horse of the Year- horse that has completed the most UMECRA sanctioned 1-day 100's that year, ties to be split by best placement.

Other aspects of the program:

1. Add on to web page a 100-miler section with past 100-mile horse/rider teams listed with their pertinent information
2. Make a presentation at the 2009 annual meeting to introduce and kickoff the program
3. Work with ride managers to encourage some 75 mile rides to make it easier for riders to make that jump up in mileage and/or have some elevator rides
4. Mentor program- included as part of the 100-mile section of web page listing people that would be open to mentoring 100 mile newbies
5. Have ride managers state on ride flyer how many riders they would require in order to hold a 100-mile ride

6. Have riders commit 2-weeks ahead to the ride managers that they would be doing the 100-mile ride so ride manager has sufficient time to mark the extra trail
7. Encourage ride managers to give better completion award to 100-mile riders
8. Only UMECRA sanctioned rides count towards annual awards.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Top Objectives of the Board of Directors: committees do not seem to be working well in this organization as only a few of them have been able to show any results of their work: rules/by laws, finance, and convention committees. The other committees are being discontinued at this time. The BOD needs to put their focus onto our customers: ride managers and riders. We need to simplify paperwork for them. We currently have several different people that ride managers and members must mail information to and they are getting confused and frustrated. A motion was made by Tony, seconded by Julie that going forward and starting immediately, **ALL paperwork** concerning UMECRA will be sent to the secretary/treasurer and she will forward it on to the appropriate person. Motion passed.
 - Newsletters; due to a computer breakdown, the February newsletter was not mailed out by the deadline of February 15th. In order to prevent further newsletters from missed deadlines, a new procedure is being put in place. Sharon Hahn will send the electronic newsletter to Elinore for printing. Once received, Elinore will send an acknowledgement back to Sharon stating she has received the newsletter. In the event Elinore does not contact Sharon within a two-day period after sending the newsletter, Sharon will call Elinore to see if there is an issue. Sharon does have printers near her that she can use should Elinore's computer malfunction again. Future newsletter deadlines are *not* to be missed.
- Trail grants: a trail grant request for \$250 has been received for the Wildrock Campground in Neilsville, WI, home of the Wildcat ride. This money will be used in conjunction with money raised by the Neilsville Saddle Club for improvements in the campground. Dawn motioned, Jill seconded to approve the grant; motion passed.
- President and Secretary/treasurer election criteria: a request was made at the January BOD meeting to change the criteria for eligibility for the President and secretary/treasurer position; they

don't need to be a ride manager. This motion was not approved in January based on the way the motion was presented. A new motion has been presented with stricter criteria. The following is the new proposal: Under Article V, Officers, Section 1, the following will be added: *The office of president must be held by an elected delegate, ride manager or former ride manager who has been a ride manager during at least five seasons in the past decade or who has been an elected delegate in the preceding five years, and who must be present at the time of the election. The office of secretary/treasurer may be held by a non-delegate, though they must be present at the time of the election and have been a ride manager for at least five years. Once elected, these officers will have one vote.*

A discussion followed. The BOD has tabled this topic until the November meeting as the term 'delegate' needs to be better defined in the bylaws.

- Limited Distance Restricted Mileage Awards: what happened to these? Jill will look back into the old minutes to see when they stopped and if there is any documentation about why. *Jill looked at the minutes of the convention from 1995 forward and there is no record of UMECRA ever awarding a 'restricted mileage award for limited distance rides'. The restricted mileage awards were formerly called limited distance competitive and limited distance endurance. Once AERC instituted the Limited Distance rides, UMECRA changed their awards to 'restricted mileage' to avoid confusion.*
- Junior Restricted Mileage Awards: what happened to these? Jill will investigate these in the minutes also. *In 2001, UMECRA awarded junior restricted mileage awards for endurance and competitive rides; they disappeared from the records after 2001.*
- November meeting: the next BOD meeting will be held on November 8th at 10 am at Antiqua Bay resort.
- Summer Conference call meeting: the BOD may hold a conference call in summer to touch base on some issues. Time and day will be announced at a later date.
- Ride date changes: any ride manager that needs to change the date of a ride or cancel a ride due to weather or personal issues needs to contact Elinore ASAP to inform her.
- There is no one to run the 2010 convention. Elinore has volunteered to run it and will contact Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc for dates.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Feller, secretary/treasurer

Annual Fall Meeting
November 8, 2008
Antiqua Bay Resort
Wisconsin Dells, WI
UMECRA BOD Meeting

Members present: Sheryl Williams, Rick Nelson, Linda Mowrer, Linda Hamrick, Wes Elford, Wayne Gastfield, Maxine Bernsdorf, Sharon Hahn, Lynn Reichert, Barb Gardner, Joslyn Seefeldt, Dawn Haas, Elinore Tonsor, Tony Troyer, Theresa Meyer, Dianne Schmidt, Jill Feller

Guest: Don Hamrick, Aaron Mowrer, Barry Saylor, Vanessa Vanderbeek

Meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Williams.

Secretary's report was distributed via email before the meeting. No corrections were made. Motion made by Dawn to approve, seconded by Wes: approved.

Treasurer's report was distributed in the form of a balance sheet and P&L. The current balance in the check book is: \$13730.45. Tony motioned to accept the report as provided, Dawn seconded it; approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **President and Secretary/Treasurer election criteria:** the following items are proposed changes to the UMECRA bylaws. The *italic* portion is the change. The changes that passed will be presented at the annual meeting for final approval.
 - ARTICLE III Section 7: DELEGATES: Each manager of a an endurance/competitive trail ride shall submit the names of its official voting Delegates or its authorized alternate voting Delegate(s) to be recorded by the corporate secretary prior to any meeting of members. (See, Article VII, herein). The corporate officers (excluding Newsletter Editor(s), Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Coordinator, and Webmaster), board members, Veterinary Representative, *Ride Managers*, and Rider Representatives also will serve as voting delegates *of the organization. Each Delegate may only vote once, whether or not they hold more than one position at a Meeting. A Ride receives as many Delegates, as it has days. (See Article VII, Sec 4b, herein) if a Ride's Delegate is also serving as a Board-member or Officer, that Director is also voting as one of the ride's Delegates.* Only voting delegates may vote on business presented at a meeting. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Tony; failed to pass.
 - ARTICLE III Section 5. PRESIDENT: added *(d) To be eligible to be elected a nominee for President: must be present and a Delegate to the meeting at which the election is held, must be a current UMECRA Ride Manager or*

former UMECRA Ride Manager who has been a UMECRA Ride Manager during at least three (3) seasons in the past five (5) season or who has been a Delegate in the preceding two (2) years. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Wes; motion passed and will be presented at the annual meeting.

- ARTICLE III Section 7: SECRETARY/TREASURER: added Due to the requirements and nature the position of Secretary-Treasurer may be filled by either a current Delegate or a current UMECRA Member with a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the five (5) years preceding election as a UMECRA Ride Manager. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Lynn; motion passed and will be presented at the annual meeting.
- ARTICLE III. Section 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS: The property and business of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. Only Delegates may be elected as Officers or as Directors, with the following exceptions: the Board position of Veterinarian Representative will be composed of an endurance or competitive ride veterinarian, President (see, Article II, Section 5) and Secretary-Treasurer (see Article III, Section 7). Authorized alternate voting delegates shall not be eligible for election for the purpose of this section. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Sharon; motion passed and will be presented at the annual meeting.
- **Junior Restricted Mileage Awards:** This was a reminder that these awards are not forgotten this year at the awards ceremony. The points-keeper pointed out that for the 2008 ride season, there were no junior riders that qualified for this award.
- **Insurance Costs for 2009:** Jill has been in contact with our insurance company and the message was that they do not see any significant price increases for 2009. No quote can be provided until Jill provides them with our ride schedule and the insurance needs for UMECRA for 2009. The form for ride managers is on the website and will be in the November newsletter; the form needs to be completed and returned to Jill by December 15th.
- **100-Mile Horse Program:** Barry Saylor presented some follow up ideas on this program (this is a carry over from the spring meeting). Barry is working on getting a sponsor for the program. A discussion was held on how to break ties at the end of the year (should that happen) and the possibility of hosting some elevator rides in UMECRA (it was pointed out that elevator rides are against UMECRA rules at this time). Barry will be presenting this program at the general meeting in January.
- **2010 Convention:** Elinore Tonsor and Dawn Haas will be hosting this convention with date and location to be determined at a later date.
- **Points Database:** Sheryl reported that this is on HOLD for now, but the coder is still working on the program. She will be able to present more in January.
- **Signs for Rides:** Elinore has contracted a Graphic Artist to touch up or UMECRA logo. Elinore presented some logo designs to show how the touch up looks. She

also presented an idea for signs for each ride with the UMECRA logo on a plastic sheet with metal posts (like an election type sign) that rides could use to help get riders to the rides. The cost of these signs is: \$2.36 @ for 24" x 12" or \$2.63 for 24" x 16". Theresa motioned that UMECRA purchase 100 of these signs on a yellow background (the 24 x 12 size for \$2.36 and a reasonable shipping cost) and provide each ride with two signs; seconded by Wes. Motion passed. The signs will be purchased and distributed at the convention in January. There will be extra signs and any ride manager wanting more than two signs can purchase them at the convention for cost.

- **Novice Division:** In January, the BOD voted to extend the Novice Division for the 2008 ride season. Motion made by Jill; seconded by Dawn to make the Novice Division a 'regular' division within UMECRA. The current guidelines will continue. Motion passed.
- **Motions going to the Annual Meeting:** it was noted that when motions go before the voting members at the annual meeting, the person who originally presented the proposal needs to be the one presenting it to the voting members so 'friendly amendments' can be accepted or denied.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Secretary/Treasurer position split:** A motion was made to split the position of Secretary/Treasurer into two separate positions. A motion was made by Theresa with new wording in the bylaws; seconded by Dianne. Motion failed.
- **Rotating the Annual Meeting:** A discussion was held on eliminating the 'corridor' range for the annual meeting and moving it from state to state again as it was years ago. The meeting is scheduled for Rochester MN in 2011 (which will be UMECRA's 40th anniversary). As of now, no one has volunteered to organize the 2012 meeting. No action was taken.
- **Competitive Ride Rule Changes:** there were several rule change requests from riders.
 - 3E. *Natural water and/or water provided by Ride Management is allowed on the trail for the purpose of drinking and/or sponging. It is at the discretion of Ride Management to provide water on the trail, placed at designated location. Horses may drink water, natural and/or provided, at any time on the trail and at any vet check. Horses may be sponged at any time on the trail from natural and/or provided water. Horses may be sponged at any time during all vet checks.* Motion presented by Theresa. There was no second to the motion.
 - 2: *Management requirements: Natural water and water provided by ride management on the trail and water provided by the participant in camp, are allowed for the purpose of drinking and/or sponging. Water provided by ride management must be available at the same spot and similar quantities for all competitive riders.*
Rider Requirements: During the competition all riders are required to care for their own mounts except having a horse held during a rest break.

Other assistance in the care and grooming to mounts *including applying of water* is prohibited unless the ride committee determines that assistance is needed.

Natural water and water provided by ride management is allowed on the trail and in camp for the purpose of drinking and/or sponging. A horse shall not be denied drinking water from a bucket and/or other approved source at a scheduled vet check. Riders may apply water to their horse with a sponge or scoop before pulse and respiration checks. Pour jugs and hoses are prohibited. Water for sponging may not be artificially heated or cooled. This is all one motion made by Theresa; there was no second to the motion.

- Under Veterinary Requirements for Competitive;
- 2) Pulse and respiration
 - A) Normal criteria for advancement are a pulse of 68 and a respiration of 68
 - B) There will be a minimum of two pulse and respiration readings taken during the day's ride.
 - C) Not less than 5 ±10 minute nor more than 8 ±15-minutes shall be allowed before the recovery pulse and respiration are taken. This information shall be collected precisely and uniformly so as to aid in making an evaluation of condition.

3) Spot Checks: A 5 ±10-minute hold check shall be used. The location of a spot check shall be uniform for all riders. An assistant placed several hundred yards down the trail will tell the rider to trot from that point to the judges. If the horses are badly bunched when they reach the assistant, he will hold them and let them go at 5-second intervals. Horses shall be checked for p/r's 5 ±10-minutes after arrival. Horses do not have to meet the 68/68 criteria at spot checks. A horse shall not be held at a spot check. If in the veterinarian's opinion the horse is critical, the horse should be pulled. Time held at spot checks will be included in the day's riding time. (See Ride Manager's Manual for minimum allowable times). This motion was made by Theresa; not second to the motion.

- A discussion was held on Competitive rides and the reasoning these proposals were presented. At times, it can be hard to separate the horses and a 5 minute hold may make a difference with doing that. This idea was done years ago as an experiment and it was found that there was no difference in the results. The top horses that do well at 10 minutes also do well at 5 minutes. It was mentioned that if the score card is used correctly with manners and fatigue being graded more accurately, there would be more separation in the scoring. It is the RM's responsibility to discuss these issues with their head veterinarian.
- **Nominations for appointed positions:** The following UMECRA members have expressed an interest in the following appointed positions:
 - **Pointskeeper:** Joan Thiel and Angie Mikkelson

- **Newsletter Editor:** Peggy Pasillas and Michele (Shelly) Sentyrz
- **Sanctioning Coordinator:** Shelly Sentyrz and Elinore Tonsor
- **Webmaster:** Joslyn Seefeldt and Shelly Sentyrz
- **Tentative Ride Schedule:** Elinore presented the tentative ride schedule to the BOD. There were several changes made. Elinore will be sending out emails to the RM's to get their schedule for the 2009 season. The revised schedule will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:
Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

January 24, 2009
BOD Meeting

BOD Present: Max Bernsdorf, Wayne Gastfield, Lynn Reichel, Linda Hammrick, Julie Jackson, Dawn Haas, Barb Gardner, Jos Seefeldt, Elinore Tonsor, Theresa Meyer, Dianne Schmidt, Linda Mower, Rick Nelson, Tony Troyer, Sheryl Williams

Guests: Mary Mott & Barry Saylor- guests

Called to order – secretary & treasurer report presented and accepted. Audit was done and accepted on 1/23

Old Business:

- **Ride Schedule**-a tentative ride schedule was presented. A second sheet with miles was also presented. Elinore suggested that the four-day ride for DRAW be sanctioned separately. Several minor ride corrections were made for mileage and moving novice rides to Sunday vs Saturday. Rick motions to move the schedule to general meeting- Tony 2. Angie M contacted Elinore about putting on a ride- no further contact was made
- **Insurance**- Dianne motion, Rick 2- keep as is with paying ½ of base & no additional insured.
- Appointments for open positions:
 - **Pointskeeper:** Joan Thiel and Angie Mikkelson= Angie Mikkelson
 - **Newsletter Editor:** Peggy Pasillas/ Shelly Sentyrz= Peggy Pasillas
 - **SC:** Shelly Sentyrz/ Elinore = Shelly Sentyrz
 - Webmaster: Jos = Position is not up for election
 - Discussion was held concerning the experience of some of the people who are interested in the positions. Technical skills may be a big help, but the experience may not help us. Call was placed to Shelly- she expressed her biggest interest into the SC position. She has the technical skills to help. She said she would be willing to assist someone else with a position.
- **Points Database:** huge database-all mileage through 2007- mileage is from UMECRA and AERC. Will eventually be web assessable in the future.
- Wes gave us an update on the vet. Meeting. Only one other vet showed up for the meeting of the 20 that were invited. Marnie and Wes have

looked at the scoring sheet for the competitive to change it and make it better.

- **Elevator rides:** Theresa Meyer presented the bylaw change that would be needed to allow elevator ride. A brief discussion was held. Motion made by Max, Rick 2- move this motion to March minutes

NEW BUSINESS:

- **President criteria** is changed to: both criteria must be met. Moved from OR to AND- clarification of rule- will go forward to general meeting. Motion/Wayne, Tony/2- passed
- **Novice Rules:** tightened rules up to define Novice and criteria. Theresa and Sharon will be changing the update to take to the general meeting. Motion Tony, Max/2- to general meeting.
- **Sanctioning Rule:** updating the criteria in item **K:** Tony/motion; Max/2- this section will be written in both places; sanctioning guidelines and competitive novice division. **M:** Motion/Jill; 2/Tony- as written
- **Driver Rule:** Motion/Tony; 2/Theresa- as written
- **Restricted Mileage awards:** oops in the program or awards. Need clarification on wording. Cannot place in two weight divisions within same discipline. May need some additional awards to correct error.
- **Horse nomination fees:** increase from \$10 to 15 and prior years 15 to 20- failed. Motion/Rick 2/Dianne
- **High point Senior Equine Award:** some proposal changes. Sharon presented two options to prevent issues. A junior won the award this year with fewer miles due to the criteria. Sharon thought out some options to present. Discussion was held as to how to do it more fairly. Option 2 was decided as best option. Rick/motion; 2/Julie- passed
- **Rider Fee:** raise rider fee from \$1.5 to \$2.00 awards. Motion/Rick 2/Julie- table to March
- **Trail Fund:** do we want to put money into the trail fund? Motion/Jill 2/Linda- tabled to March.
- **Awards:** two juniors made awards by doing two rides; we need to put 3 ride minimum back in rules.

- **Back up:** 2010 convention; printing costs; CD for ride book? Dianne will do convention in 2010 as back up. Motion/Wayne 2/Julie- passed.

**January 24, 2009
Annual Meeting
Wisconsin Dells**

Votes: 79

Treasurer Report: Motion made and seconded to accept report as presented: approved
Secretary: minutes of 2008 BOD meeting were printed in the February NL. Motion made and seconded to accept as printed: approved.

Old Business:

- **Points Database:** \$100 for database- all mileage through 2007. Will run a beta site in 2009. Intro of what will happen. Horses names must be correct.
- **Insurance cost:** should stay the about the same. Jill will update BOD and RM's through the NL about the costs.
- **New Rider T-shirts:** Kathi Macki- RM can send them in- excellent
- **Vest Coupon:** Max has 13 to present tonight at awards; Dianne did not cash in many
- **1000-mile Horse Recognition Program:** Barry Saylor presentation as was laid out at BOD meeting. A plaque with horse/rider team will be presented at the end of the first 100-mile ride. Only UMECRA rides count. What can be done to encourage RM's to offer 100-mile rides? This program will be going forward in 2009. All nominations will be sent to Secretary/Treasurer with names of horse/rider teams sent to Barry Saylor.

New Business:

- **Ride books:** February 15th is absolute deadline for getting the ride flyers to SC. Book must be out in mail by first part of March as first ride is beginning of April.
- **Sanctioning Rules and Guidelines:**
 - Blue sheet: Motion/Theresa 2nd/Tony: approved- cancelation of the ride two years in a row
 - Rider fee increase in "L" does not pass BOD- will not change; stays at \$1.50
- **By Law change: Secretary/Treasurer:** change to wording passed by BOD. Motion made & seconded. Discussion held on the difference between a delegate or current UMECRA members with RM experience.
 - (Orange sheet) Article III, Section 7: **SECRETARY/TREASURER:** 45/39 passed. Roll call vote called for.
 - Article III Board of Directors Section 5: **PRESIDENT:** delegate at meeting or RM. Motion made Theresa & seconded Tony; discussion followed. Passed by majority vote
 - Article III. Section 1: Election of directors: Theresa motions; Julie seconded. Passed by majority vote
- **Senior Horse Award:** Sharon explained a change for the senior horse award. The new criteria will be based on points and miles. There will be a complete explanation in the newsletter.
- **RULE CHANGES:**

- **NOVICE DIVISION:** Tightening up on the Novice program. Any horse/rider team could enter the novice division and win an award. Clean up language will allow more true novices to win year-end award. Experienced novices will only earn miles instead of earning points toward year-end awards. Motion made by Tony, seconded motion Wayne: passed
 - **K-** Eligibility on getting awards. Passed: Motion/Theresa 2nd/Tony
 - DRIVES:** shared division for points/awards for drivers; Motion/Tony, Seconded/Sharon H
- **Ride Schedule:** Elinore presented the tentative ride schedule for the next few years. She presented the schedule with the miles for review. Several changes from the morning meeting were communicated. Several changes made: Elinore made motion/ Tony seconded: approved.
- **Appointed positions:** from morning meetings minutes
- **Elections:**
 - **President:** complete one-year term from Sheryl resigning. This will be for one-year term.
 - **VP:** Tony serving final year of one year term to replace Mary Mott who resigned as VP in 2007. This is a two-year term.
 - **IL Rep:** replace Linda Mower serving a one-year term replacing Tony who moved to VP slot to fill in for Mary Mott. This is for a two-year term.
 - **Secretary/Treasurer:** regular two year term due
 - **MI Rep:** regular two-year term is due
 - **Director at Large:** regular two-year term is due
- **PRESIDENT:** nominated; **Rick Nelson (won)** & Tony Troyer (Peggy Brush will return to BOD as past-president) to fill in for Rick Nelson who moved to President. Sheryl is not eligible to be past president due to her resignation so it defaults back to before Rick Nelson to Peggy Brush.
- **VP:** nominated; **Theresa Meyer (won)**, Bill Suskey, Tony Troyer
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** nominated; **Jill Feller** and Dianne Schmidt
- **IL Rep:** nominated: **Linda Mower** no other nominations
- **MI Rep:** nominated: **Wayne Gastfield**
- **Director at Large:** **Marty Powers**, Carmen Stueck, Tony Troyer, Bill Suskey

Discussion on Ride Book on CD's instead of a hard copy. Membership form on 2010- choice of CD, PDF or hard copy.

Discussion was also held on the 2011 convention; it will be the 40th anniversary of UMECRA. Anyone knowing past members to invite should contact Dianne with names and addresses.

Respectively submitted:
 Jill Feller
 Secretary/Treasurer

UMECRA BOD MEETING
March 14, 2009
Ho Chunk Casino, Wisconsin Dells

In Attendance: Wayne Gastfield, Angie Mikkelson, Lynn Reichert, Sharon Hahn, Peggy Pasillas, Shelly Sentyrz, Dawn Haas, Linda Mowrer, Marty Power, Julie Jackson, Maxine Bernsdorf, Theresa Meyer, Peggy Brush, Rick Nelson, Jill Feller

Guests: Tony Troyer

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Nelson.

Secretary report:

Minutes from the January meetings were printed in the February newsletter so copies were not distributed at the BOD meeting. Rick presented a member's concern that the bylaws were not followed when during the general meeting in January. The bylaws state there needs to be a 2/3 majority vote to change a bylaw. During the meeting, the vote to change the secretary/treasurer criteria was a vote of 45 yes out of 79 votes. This is not a 2/3 majority. The minutes from January 24th general meeting will be amended to reflect this change. The bylaws will remain as is for the secretary/treasurer criteria. Motion was made by Wayne to accept the minutes with this change; seconded by Theresa; motion passed.

Treasurer report:

The treasurer's report was presented in the form of a balance sheet and a profit & loss statement from January 1- March 7, 2009. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Max to accept report as presented: passed.

Agenda:

- **Convention update:** Dianne Schmidt, convention manager was not in attendance at the meeting; no update was provided.
- **Convention guidelines:** The convention guidelines were reviewed by the BOD.
 - Section 8 of the guidelines reads: *All expenses and income need to be recorded and turned in to the UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer at the end of the convention. Communication with the Sec/Treasurer should be done prior to the convention to establish the 'hows' and whys of how expenses will be handled. An experienced convention manager may want to track all expenses/income on his/her own and just submit a final report while an inexperienced convention manager should work closely with the secretary/treasurer.*
 - After discussion by the BOD concerning the tracking of expenses and keeping records centralized, this section was changed to: *All money for the UMECRA convention will be put into the Convention Fund by the Secretary/Treasurer and all expenses for the convention will be paid through this fund. Convention managers are not to manage the money transactions of the convention individually; all money transactions are to be done through the UMECRA Secretary/treasurer. Convention managers will need to work closely with the Secretary/treasurer to arrange for payment of all bills concerning the convention.* Motion made by Peggy Brush, seconded by Sharon Hahn; passed.
 - Section 14 of the convention guidelines states: *Waive convention fees for the convention manager ~~and assistants~~. UMECRA should pick up the cost of the convention manager's*

hotel room for two nights. After discussion of this section, the 'and assistants' was eliminated. Motion made by Max, seconded by Julie; passed

- **Standard Operation Procedures (SOP):** a discussion was held as to where items such as the 'convention guidelines' is and why is it not available to members? There are several items that would fall into a SOP type document. Motion made by Julie, seconded by Marty to write up any SOP's that UMECRA has going forward and place them on a section of the website for all members to view. Motion passed. Jill has a SOP format and will put the convention guidelines in that format. Jill will also talk to Joslyn (UMECRA webmaster) about the web page.
- **1000-mile horse program:** A motion was made by Theresa, seconded by Angie to cap the 'buy-back-miles' at \$50. The nomination fee of \$10 will stay as it currently is and the miles per year will remain at \$15/year with a cap of \$50 total for the miles (\$10 fee is still required before a rider can purchase the past year miles). A discussion was held as to the reason for the fee; in past years it was a lot of work to go back to past years to figure up the miles of horses as the records were not electronic. Due to technology, this backtracking may not be hard to do. This discussion was tabled until fall. Angie (new points keeper) will work with the point's database to see how much work is involved with this process. (Note: miles from years before the technology may not be assessable to purchase as the whereabouts of those records is unknown). No further action was taken on this subject at this time.
- **Rider and horse numbers:** Motion made by Peggy B, seconded by Theresa that all horses and riders in UMECRA have a number for tracking of points. Angie would assign the horse numbers and Jill would assign the rider number. Jill and Angie will work together to set up a system and report back at the fall meeting. No other action was taken on this subject at this time.
- **Trail fund:** this subject was tabled from the January meeting. How can UMECRA fund the trail fund to be sure there is money available for trail requests? The fund it given money from the silent auction; 75% is ICF, 12.5% is trail, 12.5% is scholarship money. This only puts money in the fund every other year. UMECRA is registered with Country Supply (now Horse.com). When members go on this site and order products, they can register to have points awarded to UMECRA. After so much in sales, UMECRA will be sent a check based off of the member's purchases. A discussion was held about who benefits most from all the different funds in the UMECRA treasury. A committee was formed: Jill, Peggy B., Dawn and Sharon. This committee will look at how UMECRA money is being generated and spent, look at trends and if any fees such as membership, rider fees, sanctioning fees, etc need to be increased in 2010. The money in UMECRA is decreasing slowly over the years and this committee will provide a report in fall.
- **Elevator rides:** a discussion was held about changing the UMECRA rule which bans elevator rides. There was discussion concerning how this rule change would affect endurance and competitive rides, what extra things a manager would have to do, the fact that some trails would not allow an elevator ride to work, etc. This topic was tabled until the fall meeting so more thought can be put into the wording the rule.
- **Appointed position:** a member expressed an idea that the appointed positions should be appointed in the fall meeting instead of in January. This time change would allow for a better transition period with the outgoing and incoming personnel. The positions would be appointed in November at the fall meeting, but would not take on the duties until January. Motion made by Jill, seconded by Wayne; approved.
- **Database:** Angie asked for permission to purchase Access 2000 from Amazon.com. She needs the program to work with the new database that was developed for UMECRA. The cost of the program is \$65. Motion made by Theresa, seconded by Peggy B; approved.

- **Awards:** Maxine expressed concern about the cost she has to work with for the awards for the 2009 season. The amount allowed for awards is based on the ride entries from the previous season. In 2008, the ride entries were down over 400; this gives the awards committee an amount of \$19.70 & 39.40 to work with. Several board members expressed an interest in being on the awards committee and helping 'shop' for awards. These members are: Angie, Lynn and Dawn. They will work with Max to find some awards within this price range. If no awards can be found by June, the amount for awards will be reconsidered by the board for an increase. The increased cost would come from the general treasury.
- **Novice Division:** Tony Troyer brought a concern to the board about some senior, experienced riders who would like to ride in the 12-15 mile rides, but receive awards. Can a senior division be started? Tony stated that just a champion and reserve champion could receive awards and he was looking for a corporate sponsor for this. There were several comments and questions about this topic. Is a 15-mile ride really endurance? Should UMECRA support the shorter distances? The novice is a starting point; should there be an ending point for riders? Should an open division be started? Could these riders be the leaders of the novice groups? Ride managers could contact one of these riders and provide free camping for the weekend and a free ride entry if he/she leads the novice division. The miles would count, but no awards would be given. Some of the breed organizations only consider a competitive ride as 25 miles or higher so the lower miles would not count toward breed awards. No action was taken at this time.
- **Membership committee:** Marty Power will be chair of this committee. Members include: Linda M, Julie, Angie and several UMECRA members (non board members) who have expressed an interest.
- **ICF funds:** Julie proposed an idea to use the ICF funds to assist UMECRA ride managers hold FEI rides. By using these funds for this purpose, more UMECRA members would benefit than just providing money for one rider to go to an international ride. FEI rides in the Midwest could be very educational for all riders and keep our riders here. FEI riders are forced to leave the region to qualify at FEI rides. By going outside the region, they are missing UMECRA rides and not contributing to their support. The ICF members will be contacted about this proposal.
- **Fall and spring meeting locations:** Should we move these meetings to different locations? Julie put some numbers together to show the distance of the various board members to several locations, including Rockford, IL. Theresa explained that several years ago, the area for this meeting was decided to stay between Madison and Wisconsin Dells in WI- it seemed to be the most centralized locations. No further discussion on this topic. The next meeting will be on November 14th in Madison, WI- no location was provided at this time.
- **New ride:** Shelly presented a new ride to be held in Bismarck ND. The ride is Prairie Smoke on June 20 & 21 managed by Deb Kolegraf. Deb had previously managed the Chimney Butte rides. Shelly stated that Dianne Schmidt had been contacted by Deb about the ride as it falls on the same weekend as SE MN ride. Dianne gave her approval for Deb holding the ride; the BOD approved the addition of the ride based on this information.
- **UMECRA Brochures:** Theresa will be printing up 100 new UMECRA brochures for the MN horse fair.
- **2010 Convention:** the next convention will be on January 22-24th in Oconomowoc, WI- just off of I94. Elinore Tonsor is the convention manager.
- **Novice Ride Criteria:** Sharon Hahn expressed her concern if ride managers will remember to ask novice riders if they still fit into the new 'criteria' of being a novice rider. Sharon volunteered to prepare a checklist for managers to use so riders are true novice riders. Sharon will write up the checklist and work with Shelly to get the information out the ride managers.

- **Mentors:** Marty asked about the mentor program. Mentors are still listed on our UMECRA website and are still available to riders.
- **Trail Fund:** Linda Mowrer requested \$100 for the Stephen Forest State Park barn renovation (both Dead Dog Creek and Lincoln Trails will be held on this trail in 2009). Linda's trail group, White Squirrel Saddle Club will match the funds. Motion by Dawn, seconded by Wayne; passed.
- **Committees:**
 - **Rules:** Tony, Theresa (chair), Wes
 - **Financial:** Jill (chair), Peggy, Dawn, Sharon
 - **Auditor:** Wayne (chair), Rick, Sharon
 - **ICF:** Jill, Elinore (not sure of other members – an researching this)
 - **Convention:** Julie (chair) Jill, Dawn, Lynn
 - **Awards:** Max (chair), Dawn, Angie, Linda Jacobson, Lynn R.
 - **Membership:** Marty (chair), Linda M, Julie, Angie, several non board members to be names later.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller

UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

**BOD Meeting
Madison, WI
December 5, 2009**

Attending Meeting:

Rick Nelson, Peggy Brush, Sharon Hahn, Wayne Gastfield, Max Bernsdorf, Joslyn Seefeldt, Angie Mikkelson, Lynn Reichert, Dianne Schmidt, Tony Troyer, Linda Jacobson, Dawn Haas, Julie Jackson-Biegert, Marty Powers, Wes Elford, Jill Feller

Meeting called to order by Rick Nelson.

Secretary report: was previously distributed via email. Motion made by Wayne to accept, seconded by Peggy; motion passed

Treasurer's report: balance sheet and profit & loss information was presented. Motion made by Dianne to accept report as presented seconded by Wayne; motion passed

Rick recently attended the awards meeting for MDDA. At the meeting MDDA presented UMECRA with a check for \$300 for the scholarship fund. The money will be sent to the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin (the organization who manages the UMECRA scholarship program).

Old Business:

- **Elevator rides:** Tabled from spring meeting: Theresa did not have any time to work on this since spring so no action was done. There does not appear to be any interest in allowing elevator rides at this time, but the BOD will pursue this issue again in spring of 2010.
- **Membership committee:** Marty is the chair of the committee; she explained what she had done such as articles in the NL, asking members what they want, having a rider at each ride accepting memberships, etc. Should we have a day-member membership similar to AERC? The fees won't help to increase membership; we need more education on the sport to attract members. Angie said that for points it would not be a problem to have every rider be a member vs. some are and some are not members; in fact she feels it might be easier. Will we need a membership card? Is there a reminder system to remind members to renew at this time? Yes- the newsletter will have a *** on the address label if the members renewal is still outstanding.
 - Should we do a novice kit for novice leaders so they understand what they should be doing when leading the rides? There seems to be some confusion on with leaders.
 - We could put some information in the RM packages that are sent out- this may be a good start for increasing memberships.
 - UMECRA could sponsor some clinics: Most state organizations do this right now. WI ran at least four clinics last year. Do we have a publicity committee to do the advertising? Let's bring ideas to the January BOD meeting with ideas on how present clinics in the different states.
 - Should we have a go-to person at each ride to educate new people? This idea was discussed, but no action was done.
 - **Membership cards:** Do we need/want these? What will they be used for? This may make it easier to track points, but we will also need horse numbers. Motion made by Wes to make membership cards with numbers; seconded by Julie Jackson-Biegert. Motion passed.
- **SOP-Standard operating procedures.** There has been no action on this subject. It would take a lot of time to go back through all of the old minutes to find procedures to write up. It was decided that we only do new procedures going forward and make a page on our website so the procedures are available to all members.
- **Finance Update:** no finance update at this time other than the profit and loss report and balance sheet that was previously presented.
- **Awards:** anyone wanting a jacket this year is paying an additional \$20.00 to help cover the costs of the award. First time winners would receive jacket without cost but this was not done this year. Most award winners have already paid the extra money and it may be hard to go back now and change it. Going forward, a motion was

made by Dawn, seconded by Wayne, that first time award winners would receive a UMECRA jacket at no additional cost to the award winner. Motion passed.

- **Insurance:** Jill communicated that the insurance company does not have a cost for our insurance yet however they did not foresee any sort of increase for next season. The exact costs for the insurance will not be known until the application is completed and the ride dates and additional insured are submitted to the insurance company. Motion made by Dianne that UMECRA pays ½ of insurance of those rides who accept our insurance and the rides pay all of additional insured costs (same as this past ride season) for the 2010 ride season. Seconded by Dawn. Passed.

New Business:

- **Appointed positions:** A discussion was held that the appointed positions on the BOD, webmaster, NL editor, points keeper and sanctioning coordinator all be appointed in the fall meeting instead of at the convention. The earlier appointment would allow these new members to start working with those leaving the positions and be more involved by the time the new season preparation work begins in January and February. Motion made by Wayne to move the appointed positions to fall, seconded by Peggy. Motion passed.
- **NC- 2011:** Jill presented a proposal from DRAW to host a National Championship ride in fall of 2011. The ride would be the last weekend in September and there could be an impact on several rides in the Midwest. DRAW would like UMECRA's assistance and sanctioning of the ride, but would need an answer now and not wait until next year. Motion was made by Peggy, seconded by Marty to have UMECRA step up and help DRAW with organizing the NC ride in 2011 and then split the finances (losses or gains). Any money gained from this ride will be put into the trail fund. Motion passed. Several members of the BOD offered to assist with finding sponsorships for the ride: Peggy, Julie, Wes, Tony. Motion made by Dawn, seconded by Peggy to allow UMECRA to sanction this ride in 2011; Motion passed.
- **Rookie issue:** two riders want to be rookies this year but did not nominate themselves until the end of the year. These riders were never in the standings all year and never asked anyone about nominating. The Rookie information is not in the ride book but it is on the website and all the nominated rookies did find the information. There were three people who nominated for competitive rookie; this would add two more to the people if their nominations are accepted at this late date. The standings were in the NL and online so all members could view them. Motion was made by Wes and seconded by Dianne to accept these late nominations for Rookie-of-the-Year. Motion was defeated. A motion was made and seconded to create a 'certificate of achievement' to present to them at the awards ceremony sent to them. This motion passed.
- **Convention updates:**
 - **2010-** No updates to report; Elinore has not gotten back to Rick with any information. Speakers will be Dr. Beecher's- ethics of endurance ride. Dean Peterson, Tracy Busalacchi and Wes Elford will talk also and hold an open discussion. The convention is January 23 & 24 in Oconomowoc at the Olympia Resort. A call was put into Elinore to respond with information on convention; as of the end of the meeting, our call had not been returned. *Information regarding the convention in 2010 has been distributed to members since this meeting.*
 - **2011-** The convention will be held at the Ramada Inn on January 13 & 14th in Rochester, MN: Dianne will be the convention manager.
 - **2012-** Tony Troyer and Rick Nelson will be hosting the 2012 convention in Rockford, IL on the second or third weekend in January (the exact date has not been set yet). Discussion was held as to when the 40th anniversary of UMECRA really is in 2011 or 2012; the final word is that we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of UMECRA at the 2012 convention in Rockford, IL.
- **Discussion was held** as to where the conventions should be held. Years ago, a corridor was created so the conventions remained in the most central location for all members. This corridor is between Rockford, IL and Wisconsin Dells, WI. Dianne made a motion which was seconded by Sharon that the convention site should be decided by merit and not by location. Friendly amendment: needs to be approved two years ahead of time. This means that anyone who wanted to host the convention would put in a bid at least two-years in advance to the BOD for approval. There would be corridor and the convention could be held at any location. Motion passed. This motion will be presented at the annual meeting for approval by the voting members.

- **Year end award updates:** Awards have been ordered. Any member who wants a jacket for an award is required to pay an additional \$20. Maxine Bernsdorf has worked on the awards along with Angie and Lynn who have worked hard on the awards and came up with some new ideas to stay within the awards budget.
- **Trail request:** JoAnn Gernant has requested that UMECRA pay \$300 for a full-page ad in the Illinois Trail book for advertising. All profits from the selling of the books goes into the Illinois trail fund. Motion made by Dianne, seconded by Maxine to get an ad for \$300 to JoAnn for the IL Trail book. Motion passed; the money to pay for this ad will be provided from the general fund and not the trail fund since this would fall under advertising. Angie volunteered to create an ad to send for the book.
- **Sanctioning changes:** (attachment A)
 - Ride Sanctioning Guidelines: Shelly presented the ideas that both her and Theresa put together for the new sanctioning rules. The handouts were color coded to show the suggested changes. Motion- Peggy: 2nd- Marty- to readdress this at the morning meeting at the move this to annual meeting so we all have time to read through the documents and consider the changes.
- **By-laws:** (attachment B)
 - The by-laws were not being changed, but information was being moved from one area to another within the by-laws. There is a section in the by-laws that refers to 'standing committees' and this is where some of the reorganizing is going. Motion was made by Marty, seconded by Dawn- to accept the proposed bylaw changes to reflect the standing committees consisting of Executive, audit, grievance, international, bylaws committee. Motion passed. There were a few other minor housekeeping items that need to be fixed: Theresa will work on these before the convention in January.
- **Rule Change:** (attachment C)
 - Some of the suggested rule changes do not need to be voted upon as it is just incorporated into rules as we follow AERC rules.
 - **Rest breaks:** One rule that was discussed was the definition of rest break- is it the whole hold or just a rest room break? Other organizations have the exact wording of restroom break vs. rest break. Motion was made by Dawn and seconded by Wes to take these proposed changes the general meeting in January for a decision. Motion passed.
 - **Boots:** Motion made by Julie, seconded by Dawn to accept wording as written in the proposed rules: 2nd- Dawn. Passed
 - **Drivers:** Motion made by Peggy, seconded by Julie to accept new rule as written. Passed.
- **General Rules:** (attachment D)
 - **Measuring trails:** Motion made by Jill, seconded by Peggy to accept rule about measuring trails as presented. Passed
 - **Rider requirements:** Motion made by Jill, seconded by Peggy to accept rule as presented. Passed.
 - **Protests:** Motion made by Dawn, seconded by Wes to raise cost of protest from \$25 to \$50. Motion failed.
- **LD Weight Divisions:** should we make weight division for Limited Distance? Is this tied to keeping members in the sport as more members/riders would get ribbons and points? Motion made by Peggy, seconded by Wes to accept weight divisions in LD. Motion defeated 6/4.
- **Rider fee:** The money used to purchase year-end awards is based on the number of riders who rode in UMECRA rides the previous year and the amount of rider fees that were collected. If UMECRA wants to continue to award nice awards, this amount of money needs be increased. A motion was made by Dianne, seconded by Dawn to raise the rider fees for rides from \$1.50/rider to \$2.50/rider. Motion passed. *Note: AERC will also be raising the rider fee; their increase will be \$3.00/rider.*
- **Ride Managers:** The agenda for the annual meeting needs to be posted BEFORE the meeting to allow ride managers and voting delegates time to discuss any issues before having to vote. The minutes from this meeting will be posted on the website for all members to access. The agenda will also be posted on the website and available before the annual meeting.
- **High Point AHA:** AHA has presented a UMECRA member with this high point award. According to AHA, the points should include rides outside of UMECRA. Should we include any rides outside of UMECRA for points? Regional AHA ride is in UMECRA so the rider gets UMECRA points; if ride is outside of UMECRA- rider should not get points towards this award? Problem is that our UMECRA riders want UMECRA points. Tony Troyer stated that he talked to a representative at AHA and they said we do not need to follow 3rd rule of AHA which states that rides outside of UMECRA would get points for miles only, as far as using any ride. UMECRA can use the

same points system as we do for ALL other awards. Tony suggested that UMECRA apply for award and keep it coming in to our organization. Motion made by Peggy, seconded by Rick that if we only do UMECRA sanctioned rides we accept this award. There would be an award for both pure bred & Part-bred high point awards. Passed.

- **Ride schedule:** Shelly presented the tentative ride schedule for 2010 for review. Motion was made by Dawn and seconded by Jill to accept changes to ride schedule and bring to annual meeting. Passed.
- Motion made to adjourn meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer

Attachment A

Sanctioning Guidelines

Summary of proposed Guideline changes

- Convert the following guidelines into rules:
 - Sanctioning and scheduling of rides should shall be conducted in a fair and equitable manner.
 - A ride proposed for an “open” weekend on the schedule is placed on the proposed schedule for approval by the Board and consequent delegate vote at the annual meeting
 - A proposed ride 301 miles or more from an existing ride (as measured by Mapquest.com) is placed on the proposed schedule for approval by the Board and consequent delegate vote at the annual meeting
 - A proposed ride less than 301 miles (driving, as measured by Mapquest.com) from an existing ride moves on to delegate vote after one of the following:
 1. Existing ride manager(s) give written approval, or
 2. The Board approves the ride for inclusion on the proposed schedule at the fall meeting
 - Agreements between ride managers on sharing/alternating a weekend or a 100-mile event should be submitted in writing to the Sanctioning Coordinator
 - In case of ride cancellation, a ride manager should contact the Sanctioning Coordinator and/or Secretary as soon as possible. These UMECRA positions will disseminate information to the Board and membership
 - Ride managers may receive a refund and/or not be billed for their base group insurance costs if the Secretary receives notice seven (7) or more days before the ride takes place
 - Ride managers canceling for one year retain their delegate vote at the next annual convention
 - Ride managers canceling two years in a row forfeit their second year's delegate voting rights
 - Guidelines for 100 mile rides-remove from guidelines and rules?

Summary of Rule Changes

- The UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator shall act as the primary contact for all correspondence regarding ride sanctioning.
- Add Sanctioning Coordinator duties
- Replies between the Sanctioning Coordinator, Board, and membership regarding Sanctioning issues shall occur within seven (7) days of the initial correspondence.
- Repeal the \$10 new ride fee?
- Publish sanctioning fees in a schedule at end of document so they are easy to find and edit?
- See converted guidelines above

BOLD items have been added from guidelines or for clarification.

Yellow items require further discussion by the Board.

SANCTIONING REQUIREMENTS

1. UMECRA RULES

General Duties of the Sanctioning Coordinator

The UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator shall act as the primary contact for all correspondence regarding ride sanctioning.

Sanctioning and scheduling of rides should shall be conducted in a fair and equitable manner.

Replies between the Sanctioning Coordinator, Board, and membership regarding Sanctioning issues shall occur within seven (7) days of the initial correspondence.

The duties of the Sanctioning Coordinator shall include: facilitation of sanctioning correspondence between The Board, ride managers, and the membership, organization and communication of the ride schedule, and publication of the annual Ride Book.

Ride Sanctioning

D. The current year's ride schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year, **using Memorial Day and Labor Day as the scheduling anchors.**

Generally, rides will be given the same weekend as the past year. If these dates do not work, it is up to the ride manager's responsibility to notify the Sanctioning Coordinator immediately.

~~The ride manager and alternate manager(s) (if there is one)~~ must be AERC members. The veterinarians must also be AERC members (a special non-voting AERC membership for veterinarians is available.)

For rides previously on the schedule, In November of each year, the Sanctioning Coordinator shall contact ride managers with the following: 1) the proposed ride ~~date~~ calendar schedule for the next ride season, 2) ride insurance forms, 3) order form for ride supplies, 4) confirmation of ride manager contact information, 5) sanctioning fee information, and 6) a timeline for creation of the upcoming year Ride Book.

B. Ride managers must announce their mileage to the UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator at least seven (7) days before the annual meeting; otherwise, they **will** receive the same mileage as the previous year.

The names of official delegates to the annual meeting must be submitted in writing to the UMECRA Secretary prior to the meeting (cut-off date to be announced).

E. Once the schedule is finalized at the annual meeting, no new rides may be scheduled except with Board approval. Any Rides seeking approval by Board vote must meet one of the following criteria:

- **either Be proposed for an open date**
- **Be 301 miles or more from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com)**
- **If less than 301 miles from an already scheduled ride (as measured using Mapquest.com), have written approval of those ride manager(s)**

Rides are to be sanctioned by approval of the Board at least 90 days before the date of the ride or at the annual meeting.

Changes to a scheduled ride must be submitted to the Sanctioning Coordinator for Board approval made 60 days in advance of the ride start date.

Sanctioning votes by the Board can be taken via email. Members without email will be contacted by the UMECRA President.

F. New rides will be given priority in order of application. **The \$10 surcharge for new rides will be in effect.(discuss-remove?)**

G. The Board will attempt to limit the number of rides to three per weekend. ~~No ride may be scheduled or rescheduled for any reason on the same date as another ride without the approval of the originally scheduled ride/rides.~~

Two or more rides held on a regular schedule in alternate years shall be considered a single ride for purposes of determining scheduling precedence and delegate voting. ~~The Board and the Sanctioning Coordinator must be informed in writing that their rides will rotate. The Sanctioning Coordinator will then inform the Board of this agreement.~~

Ride managers wishing to add a 100 mile ride to their schedule should consider contacting the existing 100 mile ride manager and working out an alternating schedule. ~~Any agreement arrived upon should be put in writing and submitted in writing to the UMECRA Board and the Sanctioning Coordinator for future reference. The Sanctioning Coordinator will then inform the Board of this agreement. The Board does not need to approve the agreement.~~

100 Mile Rides. The Board hopes that there be 3 weekends before or after an existing 100 mile ride within 400 miles radius of the existing 100 mile ride.(discuss-remove?)

The 100 mile ride must be offered on a consistent basis to be considered an existing 100 mile ride. A ride offering a 100 mile ride on either even or odd years will be considered offering the existing ride on a consistent basis.(discuss-remove?)

H. **No more than one 100-mile one-day ride will be scheduled on any one weekend closer than 800 miles apart. Preference will be given to the existing 100-miler.(discuss-remove?)**

I. Rider points will only be given for mileage which the ride applied for, or for which notice of a mileage change has been made **at least** 60 days in advance.

J. Reject rides or other fun rides shall not be considered point-eligible rides.

K. If a UMECRA sanctioned ride offers novice classes, all fees and rules shall be observed. Novices are only eligible for year-end awards in the competitive novice division or other awards where the criteria specifically states that novice rides shall count. Novice mileage shall count for chevrons and horse mileage, but shall not be considered in determining eligibility for Restricted Mileage awards.

Fees

Yearly fees per ride are \$40, with a surcharge of \$10 for a first-year ride (place in appendix so more easily found?). **These fees entitle ride managers to** ~~This includes~~ ride supplies and a prorata share of printing and mailing of the ride brochure.

If a ride organization or manager sponsors more than one event per year, the \$40 fee applies to each ride. (Make its own bullet? Place \$40 in appendix?)

There is also a fee of \$1.50 per starting rider. (Make it own bullet and place in appendix?)

Ride Cancellations

In the event of a forced cancellation, the ride manager is asked to : shall report the cancellation to the UMECRA President, Vice President, Sanctioning Coordinator or Secretary as soon as possible.

The Sanctioning Coordinator or Secretary shall notify the UMECRA Board, Newsletter Editor and the UMECRA Website Editor in writing as soon as possible.

The Sanctioning Coordinator or Secretary shall notify the AERC office as soon as possible, if applicable.

Ride managers who are forced to cancel their ride shall not receive a refund on sanctioning fees, but they may receive a refund on their base group insurance fees if sufficient notice was received seven (7) days or more before the start of the ride. Fees for "additional insureds" will not be refunded.

Ride managers of canceled rides shall retain voting rights for one year.

Ride managers who are forced to cancel their ride two years in a row will be asked by the UMECRA President to give up their ride date (unless significant reasons are presented to retain that date.) Ride managers canceling two years in a row shall forfeit their ride's voting eligibility for the second year.

2. AERC (ENDURANCE and LD ONLY)

A. Ride managers are responsible to apply for **AERC** sanctioning. ~~in AERC~~. Sanctioning requests should be sent to the regional sanctioning director a minimum of 120 days before the ride for approval, and the approved application must reach AERC 90 days prior to the ride. Current sanctioning fees and forms can be found on the AERC website at www.aerc.org.

There is also a surcharge for each non-AERC member entering a ride. (This includes limited distance riders.) (make own bullet?)

B. Endurance rides must be at least 50 miles per day, but not more than 150 miles. Special event rides (Pioneer and multi-day rides) are series of rides on consecutive days -- a minimum of three days and at least 155 miles. Special Qualification rides are rides with entry qualifications other than those contained in AERC rule #3. Special event and special qualification rides shall require approval of the AERC Board of Directors for sanctioning for the first two years. These rides must contact the AERC office with their request. The online sanction form may be used, plus the ride manager must inform the AERC office that this is a Special Event or Special Qualification Ride request. Limited distance rides (at least 25 miles, but not more than 35) may also be offered but must be held in conjunction with an AERC endurance ride, if AERC sanctioning is sought.

3. REPORTING

A. UMECRA ride results, per rider reporting fees, and insurance fees must be sent to the **Secretary** postmarked within 14 days **of the completion of the ride**, with a penalty of \$50 for non-compliance and denial of re-sanctioning the following year if the penalty is not paid.

Every rider who starts will be reported according to divisions (heavyweight, lightweight and junior). Riders who have signed up as AERC featherweights, lightweights or middleweights must be assigned to either UMECRA lightweight or heavyweight divisions. **DO NOT list UMECRA weight divisions on AERC report forms. The AERC weight division must be determined at the time of entry. (Make own bullet?)**

B. AERC results ~~will~~ **shall** be sent directly to AERC headquarters on forms provided (provided by who?).

C. Both sets of results must be accompanied by the respective UMECRA sanctioning fees as specified (say see appendix?).

~~Strikeout text will be removed. Most strikeout text is being moved to Sanctioning Rules . . .~~

Bold text is added.

Proposed changes to Ride Sanctioning Guidelines

~~For rides previously on the schedule, In November of each year, the Sanctioning Coordinator will give notice to the ride managers of the proposed ride date calendar for the next ride season. Generally, rides will be given the same weekend as the past year. If these dates do not work, it is up to the ride manager to notify the sanctioning coordinator immediately.~~

~~The current year's schedule will be the precedent for the succeeding year, using Memorial Day and Labor Day as the scheduling anchors.~~

Annual scheduling by the **Sanctioning Coordinator** must take a variety of factors into consideration, including: holidays, scheduled national championships, ride lengths, the changing calendar, and personal ride manager situations.

~~Sanctioning and scheduling of rides should **shall** be conducted in a fair and equitable manner.~~

Ride managers are encouraged to work out "one time only" changes with other ride managers. The UMECRA Sanctioning Coordinator ~~as well as~~ **and** the UMECRA Board of Directors are ~~also~~ encouraged to accept "one time only" changes that have been worked out equitably between ride managers without setting a scheduling precedence.

"Open" weekends should be carefully considered before they are assigned as ride dates, as those weekends are not always available from year to year.

~~Sanctioning votes by the Board can be taken via email. Members without email will be contacted by the UMECRA President.~~

New rides should contact the **Sanctioning Coordinator** with a proposed new ride and date(s) as soon as possible. The **Sanctioning Coordinator** will fit them into the schedule using the UMECRA and AERC sanctioning rules if appropriate. ~~Generally speaking, rides within UMECRA taking place on the same date should be at least 300 miles apart.~~

~~Two or more rides held on a regular schedule in alternate years shall be considered a single ride for purposes of determining precedence and delegate voting. The Board and the sanctioning coordinator must be informed in writing that rides their rides will rotate.~~

~~100 Mile Rides. The Board hopes that there be 3 weekends before or after an existing 100 mile ride within 400 miles radius of the existing 100 mile ride.~~

~~The 100 mile ride must be offered on a consistent basis to be considered an existing 100 mile ride. A ride offering a 100 mile ride on either even or odd years will be considered offering the existing ride on a consistent basis.~~

~~Ride managers wishing to add a 100 mile ride to their schedule should consider contacting the existing 100-mile ride manager and working out an alternating schedule. Any agreement arrived upon should be put in writing and submitted to the UMECRA Board and the sanctioning coordinator for future reference — Board does not need to approve this agreement.~~

Ride Cancellations:

Scheduled rides may have to be canceled for a number of reasons, including but not limited to ~~the following~~: trail conditions, trail availability, weather, ride manager health, and family deaths.

~~In the event of a forced cancellation, the ride manager is asked to : report the cancellation to the UMECRA President, Vice President, Secretary or Sanctioning Coordinator as soon as possible.~~

~~2. The Sanctioning Coordinator or Secretary shall notify the UMECRA Newsletter Editor and the UMECRA Website Editor in writing as soon as possible.~~

~~3. The Sanctioning Coordinator or Secretary shall notify the AERC office as soon as possible if applicable.~~

~~4. Ride managers who are forced to cancel their ride shall not receive a refund on sanctioning fees, but they may receive a refund on their insurance fees if sufficient notice was received. Fees for "additional insureds" will not be refunded. Ride managers of canceled rides shall retain voting rights for one year.~~

~~5. Ride managers who are forced to cancel their ride two years in a row will be asked by the UMECRA President to give up their ride date (unless significant reasons are presented to retain that date.) Ride managers canceling two years in a row shall forfeit their ride's voting eligibility for the second year.~~

Attachment B

By-Law Changes

BY-LAWS OF UPPER MIDWEST ENDURANCE AND COMPETITIVE RIDES ASSOCIATION, INC.

A non-profit corporation duly organized under the Laws of the State of Minnesota
The original copy of these By-Laws dated 1986 and the Articles of Incorporation are to be found in
Volume I (1973-1989) of the UMECRA minutes
Amended January 18, 1997, January 26, 2002, January 15, 2006, January 20, 2007, January 25, 2009

ARTICLE I OFFICES

Section 1. For purposes of notice and/or publication or service of documents or legal notices; either governmental, administrative, legislative or judicial, the Registered Office of the Corporation shall be c/o Arthur W. Priesz, Jr., Attorney at Law, 1824 – 320th Street, in the City of Ivanhoe, County of Lincoln, State of Minnesota, 56142, and the Corporation shall have other such places as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine. (1/26/02 & January 15, 2006.)

ARTICLE II PLACE AND TIME OF MEETINGS

Section 1. PLACE. All meetings shall be held in the city of Minneapolis, or at such other locations as are designated in the Notice of Meeting.

Section 2. TIME. An annual meeting shall be held in January of each year commencing in 1986. Election of directors and other general business shall be transacted at such meeting. The first election of directors shall be at the Annual Meeting of the corporation in 1986, with the present board, as provided in the Articles of Incorporation, serving until that time.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Section 3. ANNUAL MEETINGS. Written notice of the Annual Meeting shall be published in a report to the members at least five days prior to the meeting.

Section 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Written notice of a Special Meeting of the corporation stating the time, place and object thereof shall be published in a report to the members at least five days before such meeting. Special Meetings of the Corporation may be called at any time upon request of the president, vice president, or a majority of the members of the Board of Directors, or upon written request to the president, vice president or the Board of Directors by twenty (20) or more members.

Section 5. QUORUM. The presence in person of twenty (20) or a majority, whichever is the lesser amount, of the delegates to a meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum any meeting may be adjourned from time to time. The delegates present at a duly called or held meeting may continue to do business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum. The president, or in his absence, the vice president, or in their absence any other person designated from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors, shall preside at all Annual or Special meetings.

Section 6. TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS. Business transacted at all Special Meetings shall be confined to the purposes stated in the call to the Special Meeting.

Section 7 DELEGATES. Each manager of an endurance/competitive trail ride shall submit the names of its official voting delegates or its authorized alternate voting delegate(s) to be recorded by the corporate secretary prior to any meeting of members. (See, Article VII, herein.) The corporate officers (excluding Newsletter Editor[s], Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Coordinator, and Webmaster), board members, Veterinary Representative, and Rider Representatives also will serve as voting delegates. However, while they may hold more than one of these positions at a time, they may only cast one vote. Only voting delegates may vote on business presented at a meeting.

ARTICLE III BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS. The property and business of the corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. Only Delegates may be elected as Officers or as Directors, with the following exceptions: the Board position of Veterinarian Representative will be composed of an endurance or competitive ride veterinarian, and President (see, Article III, Section 5, below.) Authorized alternate voting delegates shall not be eligible for election for the purpose of this section. (1/25/09)

The Board shall not be less than three in number and not more than sixteen. The Board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, immediate Past President, two members elected at large, or more as may be determined by majority of the Board of Directors up to a maximum of six, a Veterinarian Representative and four geographic board membership and **four rider representatives**. The Veterinarian Representative will be elected to a two year term commencing at the January 2008 convention. Each state, or foreign country which maintains a minimum of 25 UMECRA memberships (individuals to count as one and families to count as two) and which hosts a minimum of five sanctioned rides in the preceding season, shall be eligible to have an official delegate from that state or foreign country nominated and elected by the official delegates to the general meeting to a two-year term as geographic board member. If more than four states or foreign countries qualify, the number of rides shall be the first qualifier for determination of which four geographic areas are eligible, followed by the number of memberships within that state or country. If still tied, the state or foreign country with the largest number of rides over the history of UMECRA shall be given priority.

One, two, or three directors at large will be elected each year for two-year terms, to stagger their service, or until their successor shall have been elected at the annual meeting by majority vote of the attending delegates at the convention. Commencing at the 1997 convention, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota will initially qualify for geographic board members. Commencing at the 1997 convention, Illinois, Michigan's geographic board

members will be elected at the convention, together with one at-large board member. The geographic board positions will be filled for 1997 by current Directors at Large, Monna Radtke and Dianne Kuhn. Their geographic positions will come up for election at the 1998 convention, together with the second at-large board position. The geographic board members will be nominated by delegates from their respective states and elected by the voting delegates at large at the general meeting.

In even numbered years four rider representatives will be elected by the membership for two-year terms. They will have voting rights and any other privileges pertaining to Board membership. (1/26/02) (1-20-07)

Section 2. VACANCIES. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors may be filled by vote of a majority of the remaining directors or by election at a meeting of the corporation. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office. If an opening occurs on the Board of Directors because of an election to another position at the annual meeting, an election shall be held at that meeting to fill the unexpired term of the previous office. (1-20-07)

Section 3. MEETINGS AND NOTICE. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each year immediately prior to the annual meeting of the corporation and at the same place as the annual meeting. No notice either to old or new members of the Board of Directors shall be required for such annual meeting or for any regular meeting of the Directors fixed from time to time by resolution of a majority of the Board of Directors. Other meetings of the Board of Directors may be held upon three days written notice, upon the call of the president of *or* other Director. Notice may be waived in writing before or after the time of such meeting, and attendance of a Director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice thereof. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of any meeting need be specified in the notice of such meeting.

Section 4. QUORUM. At all meetings of the Board, a majority of the Directors shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the act of a majority of the directors present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board of Directors. Provided, however, that if any vacancy(ies) exists for any reason, the remaining Directors shall constitute a quorum for the filling of such vacancy(ies).

Section 5. PRESIDENT.

(a) The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation; s/he shall preside at all meetings of the members; s/he shall have general active management of the business of the corporation, and s/he shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect.

(b) S/he shall execute all bonds, mortgages and other contracts.

(c) S/he shall be ex-officio a member of all standing committees, and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the office of president of a corporation.

(d) To be eligible to be elected, a nominee for President: must be present and a Delegate to the meeting at which the election is held, must be:

1. a current UMECRA Ride Manager or former UMECRA Ride Manager;
2. who has been a UMECRA Ride Manager during at least three (3) seasons in the past five (5) seasons, or who has been a Delegate in the preceding two (2) years. (1/25/09)

Section 6. VICE PRESIDENT. The Vice President shall, in the absence or disability of the president, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President, and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors shall prescribe.

Section 7. SECRETARY/TREASURER. The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all sessions of the Board of Directors and of all meetings of the members and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book kept for that purpose; and shall perform like duties for the standing committees when required. S/he shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or President, under whose supervision s/he shall be. S/he shall keep in safe custody the seal of the corporation, if any, and when authorized by the Board, affix the same to any instrument requiring it. S/he shall have the custody of the corporate funds and securities and shall keep full and accurate account of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the corporation and shall deposit all monies, and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the corporation, in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors. S/he shall disburse the funds of the corporation as may be ordered by the Board, taking the proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the President and Directors, at the regular meetings of the board, or whenever they may require it, an account of all her/his transactions as Secretary/Treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. S/he shall give the corporation a bond if required by a majority of the Board of Directors, in such amount as they may determine, and with one or more sureties satisfactory to the Board, for the faithful performance of the duties of her/his office, and for the restoration to the corporation in case of her/his death, resignation, retirement or removal from office, of all books, papers, vouchers, money and other property, of whatever kind in her/his possession or under her/his control belonging to the corporation. Costs of such a bond shall be borne by the corporation.

Section 9. NOTES OR BONDS. None of the officers of said corporation shall sign any notes or bonds for others without first securing the written consent of the other officers of the corporation.

Section 10. VACANCIES. If any office becomes vacant by reason of death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, removal from office or otherwise, the Directors then in office, although less than a quorum, by a majority vote, may chose a successor or successors, who shall hold office for the unexpired term of such office.

Section 11. SEAL. The corporation shall have no seal.

~~Section 12. AUDITING COMMITTEE. The President may, upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors, designate two or more persons from the membership of the corporation to constitute an auditing committee, which, to the extent determined by the President, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the auditing of the accounts of the corporation and shall have full access to all books of the corporation in the possession of any of the officers of the corporation. The Secretary/Treasurer shall submit her/his accounts to the auditing committee and any time at their request.~~

Section 13. *12.* ORDER OF BUSINESS. The Board of Directors may from time to time determine the order of business at their meetings. The usual order of business at such meetings shall be as follows:

- (1) The meeting is called to order by the president at the time and on the date of the meeting.
- (2) Roll call-quorum being present, the meeting proceeds with business.
- (3) Reading by secretary of minutes of previous meeting and their consideration and approval.
- (4) Report of officers.
- (5) Report of committees
- (6) Consideration of communications.
- (7) Unfinished business.
- (8) New business.
- (9) Motion to adjourn.

ARTICLE IV POWERS OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. **POWERS.** In addition to the powers and authorities conferred upon them by these by-laws, the Board of Directors shall have the power to do all lawful acts necessary and expedient to the furtherance of the purposes of this corporation that are not conferred upon the members by these By-laws or by the Articles of Incorporation, or by statute. Such powers shall include, but not be limited to the following: to make such interim rules and the corporation as it may deem reasonable to remove any existing ambiguity, to rule on protests duly presented before it, to investigate and confront management, veterinarians, participants or attendees whose acts or failures to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests), to construe rules which may from time to time present an ambiguity.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1. **ELECTION.** When a quorum of the delegates is present at the annual meeting, a simple majority shall elect a president, a vice president, and a secretary/treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the Board. Commencing at the January 2008 convention the President will be elected to a two year term. Commencing at the January 2007 convention the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer will be elected to a two year term. Said officers shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. (1-20-07)

Section 2. **OTHER OFFICERS** The Board may appoint such other committees, officers and agents as it shall deem necessary, from time to time, who shall hold their offices for such terms and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board.

Section 3. **OUTGOING PRESIDENT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER OFFICERS.** The outgoing President shall remain on the Board of Directors as an additional director-at-large. Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole Board of Directors, with cause.

Section 4. **SALARIES.** No member of any committee, officer, or agent of the corporation shall receive a salary.

Section 5. **OTHER POSITIONS** An Executive Committee of the Board (~~made up of its President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Immediate Past President~~) will nominate (a) proposed volunteer Newsletter Editor(s) for a two-year term, commencing in 1997. The Executive Committee will also nominate a proposed volunteer Sanctioning Director and a separate Points-Keeper for a two-year term commencing in 2004. The executive committee will appoint a volunteer webmaster for a two year term commencing January 2006. The above shall be subject to an approval vote by a majority of the Board. The Newsletter Editor(s), Points-Keeper, Sanctioning Director and Webmaster shall be invited to attend all Board or committee meetings. Duties of these positions are as follow, but are not limited to:

- a. Newsletter Editor(s) will edit, author and publish at least 10 newsletters per year (both electronic and by hard copy).
- b. The Points-Keeper will keep track of season rider points and division standings and provide them to the Newsletter Editor(s) for publication. Points-Keeper will also keep track of horse and rider mileages seasonally and for lifetime records. The Points-Keeper shall be responsible for record-keeping related to awards at season end, as approved by the Board.
- c. Sanctioning Coordinator will work with the AERC Sanctioning Director to sanction and coordinate scheduling recommendations to the Board for UMECRA rides and shall edit and coordinate publishing of the the yearly UMECRA ride book.
- d. The Webmaster will edit, author and publish the website in a timely manner.
- e. Generally, these positions are advisory and administrative Board positions, and are non-voting. These positions are also subject to the requirements of the traditional duties and standards of responsibility expected of these positions within UMECRA, subject to the authority of the UMECRA Board and as related needs arise within their areas of responsibility.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. **INSPECTION OF BOOKS.** Members shall be permitted to inspect the books of the corporation at all reasonable times.

Section 2. **NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS.** All checks and notes of the corporation shall be signed by the Secretary/Treasurer or the President or Vice President or by such other officers or agents as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the Board of Directors. All expenses in excess of \$2000 shall be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors before being paid.

Section 3. **FISCAL YEAR.** The fiscal year of the corporation shall be from January 1 to December 31 each year.

Section 4. **AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS.** These By-Laws may be amended or altered by two-thirds majority of the delegates present at any annual meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose.

ARTICLE VII MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. **ELIGIBILITY.** Membership in this organization shall be limited to active members only. Such active memberships shall be granted to individuals, to families and to endurance and/or competitive trail rides.

- (a) All persons shall be eligible for an individual membership.
- (b) Family memberships shall consist of one or more related ,or coupled as significant other, adults and/or children of such adults who are less than 18 years of age, all of whom reside in the same household.
- (c) Endurance and/or competitive rides shall be granted a membership on proper application approved by the Board of Directors.
- (d) Each member shall abide by the rules and regulations established by the corporation. ~~The Board of Directors may adjudicate any infraction of such rules and take such action as it deems necessary in relation to that infraction.~~

Section 2. DUES. No endurance or competitive trail ride, individual, or family shall become an active member of this organization unless or until it/s/he shall first pay to the corporation the annual dues which shall be set by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 3. RIDER REPRESENTATIVES. Individual members and family memberships of the corporation shall be entitled to vote for the four rider representatives who shall serve as delegates to the annual or special meetings of the corporation. Ride managers are not eligible to be elected as rider representatives. Family memberships shall be entitled to as many votes, up to a maximum of two per family membership as there are adults within the family unit.

Section 4. VOTING PROCEDURES AT MEETINGS OF THE CORPORATION. Delegates shall be chosen by each ride as follows:

a. The members of the Board of Directors, Officers, Veterinary Representative and Rider Representatives of the corporation shall serve and be accredited as voting delegates of the corporation. However, Advisory Positions on the Board may not serve as voting delegates unless otherwise qualified herein.

b. Each Ride membership shall be entitled to appoint a single voting delegate for each ride-day of their ride/event. For example, for a ride held over a Friday, Saturday and Sunday, that event shall be entitled to three (3) voting delegates, regardless of whether they have multiple divisions or events on a particular ride day. However, the ride must have at least one sanctioned event or division on a day for it to qualify as a rideday for purposes of assigning voting delegates. Additionally, the Board shall reserve the right to confirm appointment of voting delegate(s) to the spirit of this Section, in order to avoid splitting of days at the same ride location time and place in an effort to increase appointment of voting delegates.

c. Although one person may serve in a combination of the above positions, s/he may exercise only one vote as a delegate. Said delegates shall elect the officers and directors of the corporation and shall, by majority vote of the delegates present at any such meeting, approve rule changes proposed by the Board of Directors or decide whether to permanently adopt interim rules previously made by the Board of Directors, together with such other powers as may be authorized under these By-Laws.

Section 5. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors may by a majority of the entire board vote to terminate the membership of any member who has been shown to have conducted himself in a manner which is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the organization. Thereafter such terminated member shall not be entitled to participate in any corporate functions or other corporate activities in any manner whatsoever.

ARTICLE VIII

Standing Committees

Section 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. An Executive Committee of the Board will be made up of its President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

Section 2. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FUND COMMITTEE.

A. A permanent committee is established to fully administer, maintain, guide and keep an international competition fund for fund-raising to assist in supporting UMECRA members who may be selected to participate in international endurance or competitive ride events sanctioned by the FEI.

B. Committee members: The committee shall be made up of five persons as follows: a current UMECRA officer and four members at large to include a chairperson and three others. Preference shall also be given to appointing UMECRA members who are acting as Chef d'Equipe for time zone teams, generally the East or Central teams. The committee will be appointed by the UMECRA president.

C. Committee responsibilities:

1. To prepare guidelines for administration and dispersal of the fund, to be approved by the Board;
2. To prepare plans for fund-raising, to be approved by the Board;
3. To implement Board approved guidelines and plans; and
4. To furnish an annual report to the Board and membership at the general meeting, to include; financial report, fundraising report, activity/use report.

Section 3. GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE. The Grievance committee shall be comprised of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may adjudicate any infraction of such rules and take such action as it deems necessary in relation to that infraction.

Section 4. AUDIT COMMITTEE. The President may, upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors, designate two or more persons from the membership of the corporation to constitute an auditing committee, which, to the extent determined by the President, shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the auditing of the accounts of the corporation and shall have full access to all books of the corporation in the possession of any of the officers of the corporation. The Secretary/Treasurer shall submit her/his accounts to the auditing committee and any time at their request.

ARTICLE IX

The corporation may be wound up and dissolved either voluntarily or involuntarily. If the proceedings are voluntary, they may be conducted either out of court or subject to the supervision of the court. If involuntary, they shall be subject to the supervision of the court.

Voluntary proceedings for dissolution may be instituted whenever a resolution therefore is adopted by at least two-thirds

of the delegates of the corporation present at a meeting of the corporation duly called for that express purpose. The resolution may provide that the affairs of the corporation shall be wound up out of court, in which case the resolution shall designate a trustee or trustees to conduct the winding up, and may provide a method for filling vacancies in the office of the trustee; but such appointment shall not be operative until a certificate, setting forth the resolution and the manner of adoption thereof, signed and acknowledged by the President or Vice President and by the Secretary/Treasurer shall be filed for record with the secretary of State. Upon dissolution, property and assets shall be distributed in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 317.57 and acts amendatory thereto. The Articles of Incorporation shall be amended in accordance with Minnesota statutes 317.27 and acts amendatory thereto.

Attachment C Rules

ENDURANCE RULES

7. The normal criterion for advancement shall be a pulse of 68 to be met at all regularly scheduled vet checks within 30 minutes. Respiration shall be taken and recorded but shall not normally be used as a criterion for advancement; however the setting of veterinary parameters including but not limited to pulse and respiration shall be determined by the head veterinarian. Since the ambient conditions are of prime concern in the setting of parameters, these parameters should not be finalized more than 24 hours prior to ride start.

7. The setting of judging parameters, including but not limited to pulse and respiration, shall be determined by the head control judge. Since the ambient conditions are of prime concern in the setting of parameters, these parameters should not be finalized more than 24 hours prior to ride start. Respiration should be evaluated on its own merit.

8. The "gate into a hold" type check is mandatory at all vet checks.

A. A rider entering a vet check may **must** present his horse for p/rs at any time within 30 minutes

B. Horses passing the P/R parameters shall remain at the check area for the time specified, but a minimum of 20 minutes.

13. There shall be weight divisions as follows: Lightweight - 179 pounds and under; heavyweight - 180 pounds and over WITH TACK. All heavyweight riders must **may** be weighed with tack prior to the ride.

LIMITED DISTANCE RULES

14. The normal criterion for advancement shall be a pulse of 68 bpm to be met at all regularly scheduled vet checks within 30 minutes. However, the setting of veterinary parameters, including but not limited to pulse and respiration, shall be determined by the head veterinarian. The minimum pulse rate criteria shall be 60 bpm. Respiration should be evaluated on its own merit. Ambient temperature and humidity effects need to be recognized and their effects considered.

- 14. The setting of judging parameters, including but not limited to pulse and respiration, shall be determined by the head control judge. Since the ambient conditions are of prime concern in the setting of parameters, these parameters should not be finalized more than 24 hours prior to ride start. Respiration should be evaluated on its own merit. The maximum pulse criteria for completion is 60**
- **beats per minute.**

COMPETITIVE RULES

1. Eligibility

- A. A. Novice divisions may be offered. ~~Novices are not eligible for year-end awards, but mileage shall count.~~ **Novices are only eligible for year-end awards in the competitive novice division or other awards where the criteria specifically states that novice rides shall count. Novice mileage shall count for chevrons and horse mileage, but shall not be considered in determining eligibility for Restricted Mileage awards.**

((lifted directly from sanctioning segment at beginning of rules 1.K UMECRA Rules – should have been changed last year.))

3. Rider Requirements

- A. During the competition all riders are required to care for their own mounts except having a horse held during a **restroom break or vet stop. The handler may do nothing more than hold the horse.** Other assistance in the care and grooming of mounts is prohibited unless the ride committee determines that assistance is needed. **At the discretion of the veterinary staff or the ride management, the trot out may have a handler other than the rider.**

OR

- A. During the competition all riders are required to care for their own mounts except having a horse held during a **rider's restroom break. The handler may do nothing more than hold the horse.** Other assistance in the care and grooming of mounts is prohibited unless the ride committee determines that assistance is needed. **At the discretion of the veterinary staff or the ride management, the trot out may have a handler other than the rider.**

- B. If boots, bandages, or wraps are used, the horse shall be penalized two points per leg per day. **Boots designed to protect the sole of the hoof are permitted, and shall not be penalized.**

COMPETITIVE DRIVING RULES

2. Rules for Drivers

- A. ~~Removal of the bridle while a horse or pony is attached to a carriage is cause for instant elimination and the driver will be excused from the grounds.~~ **No equine shall be hitched to a vehicle without a bridle and reins. Violators will be subject to immediate elimination and excluded from further driving at the event.**

Attachment D

General Rules

GENERAL RULES – (Apply to both endurance and competitive rides)

2. Management Requirements

A. The ride MUST BE an accurately measured distance **by GPS or odometer**.

4. Rider Requirements

J. All riders and mounts must be physically present, accounted for, **entered and vetted in** at the start of the ride.

6. Protests

A. A protest must concern an infraction of the rules, must be received in writing within 7 days of the ride, and must be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$25~~ **\$50**. The Board may also investigate and confront management, veterinarians participants or attendees whose acts of failure to act are contrary to the spirit and responsibilities of participation or attendance in this sport (in the same manner and procedures as with protests). If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the complainant. The protest will be sent to the UMECRA president and will be adjudicated at the next board meeting. The president will notify all concerned parties and the Board members within 14 days of receiving the protest. Concerned parties will be given 14 days to submit their opinions.

In the case of a protest which is disallowed the board members shall state their reasons and the protestor so informed, without specifying board members names.