

OEA Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes

April 17, 2025

Present: Tori Pengelly, Steph Shatilla, Kaileen Millard-Ruff, Bernadette Johnston, Doug Topalovic, Ann Neal, Gabrielle Turcotte, Xavier Traisnel, Sam Pritchard

Regrets: Sarah Richardson, Jamie Kellock, Nikki Maclellan

Call to Order: 7:07 PM by Doug

1. Meeting Opening

- *Steph had changes requested for the minutes. She went over the changes needed and will email them to Tori also to update.*
- *Doug moved to approve, Gabi seconded, and it was carried, to approve the minutes and changes to the minutes of the BOD Meeting on March 18, 2025.*
- *Doug moved, Ann seconded, and it was carried, to approve the agenda for the meeting of April 17, 2025.*

2. President's Report

Sarah is away tonight and Doug is expecting an update on the Lucinda Green clinic from her soon with the final numbers. Nothing further to report from Sarah.

3. Treasurer's Report

Bernadette advised our expenses on the Lucinda clinic have covered the cost of the clinic.

Bernadette advised the U25 awards and missing envelopes have all been sorted out. There is no more payments to be sent to riders for previous years.

Bernadette mentioned we are behind on the number of U25 memberships so far this year compared to years past.

Regarding the Zara Buren awards, Bernie is still waiting for EC to remit the \$18,000 they owe us for the awards. EC says they are waiting for approval to release the funds.

Bernadette will continue to work with them to access the funds for the recipients as soon as possible.

We have received applications for funding for TD/Stewards from 3 people so far this year. Sam and Ann are taking care of this and will report further.

4. Committee Reports

Communications

Doug advised the updates for the awards have been put on the website, along with the volunteer posts posted on social media and on the website.

He has on his list of updates to add the past meeting minutes to the website.

Steph advised the survey is doing great. Kaileen advised WhatsApp has had a great response for directing people to the survey.

Education

Doug asked if Sam had any updates on a Peter Gray clinic. Sam advised it may not be cost effective to have it at Stevens Creek. She advised Wesley Clover would cost us \$1,000 a day to use the facility. She is going to confirm the dates available for Peter and if it could work. We also discussed other options of coaches for this clinic. Sam also suggested running it alongside an FEI prep clinic.

Potential dates: July 15/16, August 19/20

Doug asked about the status of the Jessica Phoenix clinic, Ann advised she is waiting on dates from Jessie for the summer.

Xavier asked why our policy is to only use sanctioned facilities for xc clinics. Ann explained the safety reasons and to support our current organizers. We discussed the challenges on both sides.

Emerging Professionals and High Performance

Schooling/OEA Rider Development Days

Steph presented the proposal for Rider Development Days.

XC only rider development days; 1 at Caledon on July 23, and one at Glenarden

Stevens creek wants to try a XC Plus which would be 2 discipline schooling days.

Doug proposes we run this as a pilot project for the year. Motion

Steph put forward the following four motions;

1. Motion to change the name of the OEA Schooling Days to OEA Rider Development Days and to adopt the Purpose, Format and Funding for the Program as written herein.

Gabi Seconded.

2. For 2025 only: Motion to approve up to \$1,300 (each), to cover the costs of running two OEA Cross-Country

Rider Development Day's at:

a. The Caledon Riding Club on Wednesday, Jul 23'd (Pippa Hambly as Coach – TBC)

b. Glenarden Farms on Wednesday, July 19 th (Pippa Hambly as Coach –

Confirmed)

3. For 2025 only: Motion to approve up to \$1,300 to support an OEA Rider Development Day: Cross-Country

Plus at:

a. Stevens Creek Farm on Sunday, June 1 st (Teddie Laframboise as Coach –

Confirmed)

Bernie seconded.

4. For 2025 only : Motion to cover the following, as required:

*In addition, by prior arrangement with the Organizer/host, a coach who brings two or more students to a Development Day to school with the OEA-designated clinicians, may opt to participate in the Rider Development Day by riding themselves. Where this happens and the OEA is satisfied of an individual's status as a coach, the OEA will cover the cost of their entry fee. *Note - EC Licensing is not required for Coaches who are riding as a participant.*

Adult Riders

Tori advised she is working on updating the team challenge guidelines and awards for this year and planning on organizing a few clinics for adult riders which would focus on galloping position and pace, and a championship prep day type of clinic. She will present a proposal at the next meeting.

U25

Sam advised there are a few riders qualified for NAYC. Sam thinks the separate awards are not enough to draw people in. They need to think about other options in how to draw people in. Sam thinks the program might need a rework.

Sam advised Kendal is working closely with the riders who are prepping for qualifying for the NAYC.

Gabi advised there will also be good data from the survey to help us make plans going forward.

Organizers

No updates.

Volunteers

No updates.

Officials and Rules

Steph advised she sent around an email to see if anyone has any EC rule change suggestions that we can send in as a group. Members should have them submitted to Steph before the next meeting.

We have received 3 applications for official's bursaries. Ann is currently reviewing them and once the decision is final, Bernie will release the funds.

Steph asked if we could pay the officials out first, then receive the proof they attended an official's clinic. The consensus was that it is to be refunded after the fact. Ann and Bernie suggested the wording be tightened up to spell that out more clearly.

Ann advised the EC course builder clinics are on at both Grandview and Wesley Clover. There is good attendance so far.

Coaching

Sam has no updates.

Other Matters –

Ann suggested we start a fund for emergencies for members/organizers. She is going to look into further, and asked board members to send around ideas/limitations they think of as we go forward with this idea.

5. Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on TBD, 2025. Tori will email board members to confirm the next dates.

- *Doug moved, Ann seconded, and it was carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm.*