

OEA Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes

September 11, 2025

Present: Sarah Richardson, Bernadette Johnston, Sam Pritchard, Ann Neal, Gabrielle Turcotte, Jamie Kellock, Stephanie Shatilla, Tori Pengelly, Nikki Maclellan, Kaileen Millard-Ruff

Regrets: Jamie Kellock, Xavier Traisnel, Doug Topalovic

Call to Order: 7:09 p.m.

1. Meeting Opening

- *Sarah Richardson moved, Bernie seconded, and it was carried, to approve the minutes for the OEA Board of Directors meeting of July 10, 2025.*
- *Sarah Richardson moved, Steph seconded, and it was carried, to approve the agenda for the meeting of the OEA Board of Directors on September 11, 2025.*

2. President's Report

The President opened the discussion for bringing new board members on and proposed a process that would have the Executive Committee serve as a Nomination Committee. She noted that the Committee would review a list of potential candidates that are brought forward to the President, with the goal of finding candidates for the vacancies. A list of potential nominees for the Board to review would be sent out prior to the next Board meeting.

The President has scheduled an Organizers' meeting the following week to look at issues related to the EC levies, Organizers' rights, and the 2026 calendar. Equestrian Canada has advised the 2025 levies collected are ready to disperse to organizers for jump building projects. They will also use the money to bulk order MIM Clips and prizes for the National Ranking Leaderboard. The question was raised whether if organizers are receiving the levies, they would they still qualify for the bursary through our CIP program for the same reimbursement of work/materials. The Board agreed that they would still qualify where they applied to different work or materials.

It was reported that Wit's End posted that they will not run an EV115 this year. They also need help deciding whether to run the EV105 or EV110.

The AMM is coming up soon and will become the focus of our work over the next month. Invitations will go out in the next few days, the room is booked at the RAWF and a sandwich 'picnic' lunch is planned, similar to what we offered last year.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer advised the clinics ran this year came in under budget or made money. All of the rider development days came in under budget.

Most U25 year end awards have been paid to winners. Awards have been well received this year.

4. **Communications.** The Board was advised the Zara Buren Foundation will be posting a daily 'countdown' on social media to mark the fifth anniversary of the death of Zara and that these posts could be shared on the OEA's social media platforms.
5. **Emerging Athletes.** The winner of the Bradley Mark Johnston Working Student Bursary should be selected next week.
6. **Leaderboard.** Work is underway on the leaderboards to determine the Annual High-Point awards, and the regular leaderboard is being updated in anticipation of the end of season.
7. **Adult Riders.** The Treasurer will advise the Directors responsible of the funds set aside for the Team Challenge Finale so that plans and prizes can be arranged.
8. **U25.** The second round of travel grants has not been announced yet but should be announced soon. The deadline for the grant is October 15, 2025.
9. **Clinics** The Peter Grey clinic at WCP was a success.
10. **Officials and Rules** N/A
11. **Rider Development Days** N/A
12. **AMM & Awards.** It was decided that Year-End ribbons would be dispersed for pick up at a certain locations and if not picked up, we will mail them for a small fee. We will add wording about this on the invitation to the AMM.

The idea of a photo booth and photographers for the awards ceremony was discussed and the possibility of balloons was suggested.

13. Other Matters

- One director asked about the ICE program. The ICE Program is not run through OEA but through OE and EC, PHTA membership is not required for ICE competitions. It was noted that there were no ICE competitions in Ontario in 2025. If and when there

are, the OEA is to manage the calendar to avoid conflicts with EC sanctioned competitions.

- One director requested we discuss the payment options with Event Entries. It was explained that organizers are free to use any payment system they wish and the OEA does not dictate that to organizers.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m. by Sam Pritchard, seconded by Bernie.