

OEA Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes

June 19, 2025

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

Regrets:

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting Opening

- ***Sarah moved, Nikki seconded, and it was carried, to approve the minutes for the OEA Board of Directors meeting of May 15 2025.***
- ***Sarah moved, Sam seconded, and it was carried, to approve the agenda for the meeting of the OEA Board of Directors on June 19, 2025.***

2. President's Report

The President advised the BOD that EC is developing programs whereby a certain percentage of the EC Eventing levies will be available to organizers of sanctioned horse trials for approved expenditures. These Organizers will be able to apply through the OEA, under certain spending baskets such as "jump building" Safety issues and Officials, for example. Details of the program will be released in the coming weeks. It will apply equally to all the PHTAs across Canada. The BOD will have an opportunity to develop criteria by which to assess applications that come in from Ontario's organizers.

3. Treasurer Report

- The Treasurer confirmed that the applicants for the Officials' Bursary have been reimbursed.
- One director asked for additional details on the budget. The Treasurer offered to provide a breakdown and walk the director through the accounting to help clarify the budget as necessary.
- The Treasurer reported that the budget will be revised based on what has been approved and that the OEA is currently running a deficit of about \$20,000 a year, which means it is using its accumulated cash.

Bernadette put forward a motion to approve the 2025 budget, Doug seconded. All voted yes and the budget was approved.

4. Communications

- Doug has been updating the rider development days on the website and the section for the Bradley Mark Johnston bursary.

- He is sharing the U25 garden party and raffle on social media for the U25 riders.
- The U25 grant applications updates are available to post.

5. Emerging Athletes

- The Bradley Mark Johnston bursaries reminder posts will be posted on social media.

6. Leaderboard

- The Leaderboard is operational, aided by AI. There have only been a few corrections need so far.
- A U25 leaderboard will be developed next.

7. Adult Riders

Not discussed.

8. U25

- The U25 riders are hosting a garden party to fundraise for NAYC
- Applications are coming in for travel grants.

9. Clinics

- **Stadium and Cross-Country Clinic with Peter Gray.** Registration Going well so far.
- **Dressage Clinic Peter Gray** - Registration going well so far.

10. Officials and Rules

Rules

- Steph walked the BOD through a potential rule change suggestion for possible submission to EC. This was a useful exercise although all agreed that there was nothing of weight that the BOD felt required an official rule change proposal at this time.

Officials

- Four officials bursaries have been awarded so far this year.

11. Rider Development Days (formerly Schooling Days)

- There was a very positive response on social media for the Stevens Creek OEA Rider Development Day. Overall, the day was a success.

12. AMM & Awards

- Sarah reported that a room has been booked the room for the AMM at the Royal Winter Fair for this year, as a precaution, to ensure we have something for it. Sarah will bring a motion to the next meeting about this.
- There was 'nothing to report' for Organizers, and Volunteers.

13. Other Matters

Coaching. One director raised the possibility of developing a coaching database for OEA members.

OEA Members' Survey. Sarah introduced the summary she prepared of the responses to the survey, which had been circulated to Board members before the meeting. This document was discussed and the BOD was in agreement with the contents, and highlighted a few key takeaway issues:

- Communications is an important matter that was brought up across the board.
- Support for adult riders, clinics and schooling opportunities.
- Promoting safety and volunteers were important.
- Help for the upper-level riders stay and compete in Ontario.

The July newsletter will include the survey summary.

OEA Community Facebook Page. There was a comment to support the OEA community Facebook group more active and become a forum where anything Eventing-related can be shared between members and between members and non-members. Xavier offered to be an administrator. It was agreed that further discussions could ensure to define the nature of the content.

Meeting adjourned 8:54 PM by Sarah, Sam seconded.