

# OEA Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes

## April 16, 2024

**Present:** Tori Pengelly, Sarah Richardson, Doug Topalovic, Gabrielle Turcotte, Stephanie Shatilla, Kaileen Millard-Ruff, Xavier Traisnel, Veronica Low, Bernadette Johnston, Nikki Maclellan, Sam Pritchard. **Regrets:** Jamie Kellock.

**Call to Order:** 7:02 p.m.

### 1. Meeting Opening

- *Sarah moved, Bernadette seconded, and it was carried, to approve the minutes of the BOD Meeting on March 19, 2024.*
- *Kaileen moved, Stephanie seconded, and it was carried, to approve the agenda for the meeting of April 16, 2024.*

### 2. President's Report

Sarah reported that Wesley Clover Parks has changed the date of their first Horse Trials back to June 23 from June 29.

Sarah reported on the "I Can Event" (ICE) Series, which will be introduced by EC and OE in 2024 to sanction combined tests in Ontario and other eventing-related activities, at the provincial level. This will be placed on the agenda at an upcoming Organizers meeting so that they are familiar with the initiative.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

Bernadette presented the financials, which do not yet include the U25 membership fees and the Annual Budget for 2024. She reported that the financial awards associated with the Zara Buren Award in 2024 have been dispersed and the budget also includes everything that was approved at the last meeting of the BOD.

In terms of large expenditures, the EV105 incentive (Part D of the Competition Improvement Program) for Organizers will be phased out at the end of 2024 and the frangible program – Part C of the CIP – will be reassessed for next year and might be rolled into Part B of the CIP.

*Sarah moved, Stephanie seconded, and it was passed to approve the OEA Budget for November 1, 2023-Oct. 31, 2024 as written.*

### 4. Committee Reports

#### **Communications**

Doug presented progress on designing and building the new website and presented details on pages/categories that will be included.

*Sarah moved, Doug seconded, and it was carried to set aside up to \$1,000 to cover the costs of any extra creative and other work required to update and transfer material from [www.ontarioeventing.com](http://www.ontarioeventing.com) to WIX, including any incidental costs that arise post-launch of the new site to ensure that the platform is running smoothly.*

### **U25**

Veronica reported that the U25 program is generating interest from riders in attending the NAYC in July and she has been in touch with potential sponsors in an effort to start fundraising.

### **Emerging Professionals and High Performance**

No updates

### **Schooling Days and Adult Riders**

Kaileen reported that the first Schooling Day initiative, a partnership with Wits End in a pre-season preparation and schooling event on April 27-28 is generating strong entries.

### **Organizers**

Reassessing the EV60 level. Sarah went over the guidelines that have been agreed to by Organizers, which focus on issues of timing the XC and a decisions to time but not to score the timing at that levels. Further minor adjustments were made to the obstacles allowed, including, for example the possible addition of a swale, and/or a small bank permitted with a mandatory option. It was agreed that the Organizers would be encouraged to build the EV60 courses to size for consistency across the province and to prepare new riders to a move up to EV75, when the time comes.

Organizers have agreed to amend the level EV78 to EV75 to keep it consistent with new stadium technology and with other provinces.

*Kaileen moved, Nikki seconded, and it was carried to approve in principle, subject to agreement among Organizers, the OEA EV75 Division Guidelines as written in the document updated on April 15, 2024 which replace the EV78 Guidelines. The maximum height for stadium jumps in this division is .75m, as of May, 2024. All jumps on existing EV78 cross country courses are grandfathered for 3 years, after which time they will all have to measure to a maximum of .75m.*

*Sarah moved, Nikki seconded, and it was carried to approve in principle, subject to agreement among Organizers, the updated OEA EV60 Guidelines as written in the document dated April 15, 2024, which reflect the OEA's assessment of the first year of running the division, in 2023.*

### **Volunteers**

Kaileen reported that the swag for the volunteer awards have been ordered and will be ready for the first Horse Trial in May. Each venue will receive a branded Yeti travel mug that can be raffled off to the volunteers.

### **Officials and Rules**

Stephanie reported that she is working with Veronica and Peggy Hambly on the next "Rule of the Month".

### ***Education & Coaching***

Kaileen reported on the initiative to make available to our members OE resources and assistance with coaching certification as required by EC. She advised that the next webinar on Coaching Resources and the coaching certification program, led by OE's Helen Richardson, will be held on May 5, 2024.

### **5. Other Matters**

*Sarah moved, Doug seconded, and it was carried, to approve as written, an updated OEA Social Media Policy dated April 15, 2024.*

### **6. Next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2024 unless an additional meeting is required in May, in which case it will be scheduled.

*Sarah moved, Doug seconded, and it was carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 pm.*