

USIHC BOD MEETING  
Aug. 8, 2006  
(July Meeting)

Regional Club Observers:  
Heidi Kline (CIA)  
Dawn Shaw (Cascade)  
Jenny Tuthill (Klettafjalla)

Members present –Andrea Barber, Caryn Cantella, Betsy Covert, Anne Elwell, Ed Hilgaernter, Barb Riva, Judy Strehler, Sandie Weaver, Bernie Willis

Reports

Registry

A free World Fengur.com subscription for one year or 300 uses will be provided to all USIHC members for one year starting in Jan. 2007. This is the world wide database for Icelandic Horses. On this site you can find out what horse is related to what, the scores and sometimes their pictures. There is FEIF news, what is happening around the world with this breed. This subscription is worth more than an annual USIHC membership and it free to members for next year.

Caryn reports that nothing new has been added to World Fengur from the Canadians because they are working on ID numbers. The stallions reports are in progress but will wait until all info. is available before publishing anything. She was not able to negotiate any better price for World Fengur for the congress. However, we will be able to cancel following one year if its found that few people use the service. We would be able to track WF use by members. Each member needs, feif ID number, password etc. Jon Balder may come to the US and demo WF

WF pricing discussion to continue via e mail

Balance \$60,028. We need to determine how much we need for working funds and put the balance to earning something.

Tulsa evaluations are about to be entered into WF. Need to find measurements. We have the scores. Subsequent to this discussion the measurements have been located.

Promotion

There has been one request for the display from Brian Putin. Andrea received a sample of the new member packet from Sara Conklin. What should be done with it? Martina has been away but will work on new brochure soon.

## Treasury

Balance \$19540. Bills due \$1863 Balance will be \$17677.69  
Non profit status has been submitted over a week ago.

## Pleasure Riding

Currently 68 members. That's an increase of 21, 18 adults, 4 junior in the Western division and 20 adults and 5 juniors in the central and 17 adults and 4 juniors in the Eastern. Amy is preparing survey about improvements. 4 have logged 1000hrs. What should next our next goal be? She proposes that we have an iron butt division, most numbers of horses and driving division. For therapeutic riding a division could be for most hours riding in a certified program as well as hours volunteered in a certified program.

## Website

Changes continue to be made as they come in. Doug Smith is working on getting rid of the aol service. Doug and Mike Boggess are working on a tracking program for congress committee programs. It was suggested that there be a temporary email address change when the secretary is on vacation. Mike and Doug need a mission statement so they know what their limits are. Barb has authorizations to give this direction. Ed suggested that Mike and Doug make a user friendly system then the congress pay someone to keep it up.

## Newsletter

June Quarterly came out on time. There were a couple complaints. They have been dealt with. There were many compliments. The teaming is working well. The Sept. issue is going out on time and is at the printer now. There is a continuing need for quality high definition photos. There has been some difficulty sorting out the advertising. Barb has estimated the cost per page based upon the annual meeting financial report. Working on better numbers based upon the last issue provides the following; Income for 18 pages of ads was \$1275. Costs were \$119 postage, \$1000 design, other items bringing a total to \$2764. So there was a short fall of about \$1500. 450 copies were printed, 388 mailed. A plan is under development that will have the ads paid for before going into Quarterly. Ed asks if the ads should pay for quarterly? Andrea, doubted they ever will. Some advertisers are dropping out as bills go out for past ads. There is hope to hit a new market in the future. Andrea will remind regional clubs to send updates. At this time some articles coming in will have to wait for future issues.

## Education

The Sport Judge training program has 9 participants for WI and 6 for CA.

Anne asked about Ice test soft ware. Asta will help on it, according to Betsy. But those entering it should practice well before the show. Intern judges can enter numbers in Ice test but it could be someone else. Interns should learn how to do it and perhaps it could be part of their training.

### Regional Clubs

Its been fairly quiet, very little friction compared to last year. The results for Schooling shows and other non sanctioned competitions will show placing not scores. Insurance – Andrea wants a list of RC that have sent in an activity list. This has been done.

### Breeding

Dave Kline and Bernie have been working on which microchip to use for the ID required for International breeding shows. Steve Barber needs to write up a procedure for the Spavin X ray procedure to go out with the application. The requirement for a vet to attend the breeding shows is very expensive. Perhaps it would be enough to have a vet do a routine medical exam during the measuring part of the evaluation. Dawn Shaw is listening in and is asked to determine what this will cost. Nothing has been heard from NEIHC about evaluations. The Breeding Evaluation Handbook is on hold waiting upon microchip, spavin requirements

### Competition-

Three sanctioned shows coming up, Dillsburg, Flugnir and CIA.

### Youth

YC horse selection policy approved via e mail. It is included below.

#### **FEIF Youth Cup Horse Selection Policy**

The FEIF Youth Cup is an international Icelandic horse competition held in Europe every second year. It is held on alternative years to the Icelandic Horse World Championships. The Youth Cup competition is held in a different country each time. Youth riders from the United States participated in 1995 (the first Cup) and again in 2002 and 2004.

Because the Youth Cup is held in Europe, it is unlikely that American youngsters would be able to ride their horses. Participants usually must borrow or lease horses.

Participants are responsible for obtaining horses. They should contact importers and trainers for leads to farms that would lease horses. Parents are responsible for paying for

the lease, transportation of borrowed horses, shoeing, horse feed, and border-crossing vaccinations.

The USIHC wishes to avoid the appearance of supporting private transactions when it comes to recommending farms for horse rentals. Congress members, however, have been willing to put participants in contact with farms that they know. The USIHC Youth Director provides a list of farms that have leased horses in the past, of parents whose children have participated in the FEIF Youth Cup, and of new contacts that become available. In addition, a distribution list of present Cup participants and parents is set up so answers to all questions are sent to everyone involved. That way, parents can network on travel and horse leasing arrangements.

Because the US is such a large nation, it is not possible for the USIHC Youth Director to be acquainted with all the US riders going to the Youth Cup. Therefore, it is the policy of the USIHC to not give recommendations to farms about youth riders who wish to borrow or lease horses from the farms. The USIHC will provide only try-out scores.

The USIHC does not accept any liability for the selection of horses. Parents need to accurately assess their child's competition riding abilities. To do this, they should refer to their child's competition scores in Icelandic horse shows. If their child is consistently scoring from 4.0 to 5.0, their child is a Beginner Competition Rider. If the scores are 5.0 to 6.0, their child is an Intermediate Competition Rider. If the scores are consistently 6.0 or higher, their child is an Experienced Competition Rider. In addition, the parents can compare their child's try-out scores with those from the last FEIF Youth Cup at: [http://www.feif.org/pdf/youthcup\\_2004.pdf](http://www.feif.org/pdf/youthcup_2004.pdf). This will give information that will accurately convey to a European farm owner the level at which their child rides.

US riders have matters to deal with that European riders do not. US youngsters are dealing with jet lag, languages they do not understand, strange food, different methods of taking care of horses, being far away from family and friends, showing on a legal FEIF track in front of three judges at a time, etc. These are important things to consider when

choosing a suitable horse. If youth riders are also dealing with a horse that is above their abilities, that will add to the stress.

Spaejari award – John Parke has a new secretary and is still working on it. Sandie suggests that plaques be made for two years and so next years can be sent more promptly.

There were 5 US teens at Youth Cup, 78 from 12 feif countries. Gillian Fitzgerald made the finals in special 4 gait.

A special meeting will be held at 7 PM eastern Sunday to discuss the youth leadership concerns brought to the attention of the board by parents of youth at the 2006 event.

A proposal to stream line discussion and the voting of issues was proposed by Bernie Willis. It is as follows:

1. General discussion takes place.
2. Someone thinks a decision needs to be made so they make a motion by saying, “I move that such and such be done.”
3. Another person in agreement with the motions says, “ I second the motion.”
4. Formal discussion can now follow. The secretary keeps track of what is said.
5. Decision time – The chairperson can call for a vote, any person can call or say “question” and a vote must be taken or the person who made the original motion can withdraw it and no vote is taken.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

World Championship team eligibility

**Proposal #1 Youth and Adults must compete in a minimum of two (2) shows with a FEIF International judge between the World Championships (2 years) and compete in a minimum of two of the following disciplines: either Four Gait or Five Gait and either Tolt 1 or Tolt 2.**

Ed moved to make this a **recommendation** instead of a requirement. Seconded by Anne.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

**Proposal #2 Youth and adults must score 5.5 or over in each discipline at the WC tryouts.**

Caryn,” we need a min. score to show riders are safe.” Ed, “we need some kind of min. to show they are safe 5.5 is an average score so if you can’t do it why go at all.” Anne, “It’s better to send a full team then have a min. score.” Betsy, “ The scores should not be a problem in the future, in the past the problems were with riding the program not with the horses and their riding.”

Vote - Yes, Betsy, Sandie, Ed, Barb, Caryn, Bernie, Andrea – No, Anne. Prop.#2 Passed

### Proposal #3 **Youth riders must have attended the FEIF Youth Cup**

The wording was modified to – It is **recommended** that youth riders attend the FEIF Youth Cup.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

#### Proposal #4 Recommendations:

1. Locate a riding teacher educated in the gaits of the Icelandic Horse either here in the US, Iceland or Europe where you can travel periodically and take a week or so of training during the 2-year interim period between World Championships.

2. Locate a competition horse. If you do not have a quality competition horse, there are a number of Icelandic Horse owners/breeders here in the US and also in Iceland and Europe who would be willing to let you borrow or lease one of their competition horses (and also share in the expense) in order to send their horse so that it can be seen at the World Championships. This arrangement is one that must be arranged strictly between the rider and horse owner.

3. Competing in Icelandic shows in Europe and Iceland: During the two years between WC, try and compete in shows in Europe due to the fact that there are not many shows here in the US. Getting used to the show atmosphere inexorably assists in making showing less stressful. Learning to ride under pressure is critical. We cannot create the same high stakes circumstances here in the US that exist when riding in the shows in Europe and at the WC.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

#### Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be March 23, 24, 2007 The meeting room will be available on the 23rd, for RC meetings etc, the 24<sup>th</sup> for the Annual meeting.

Election committee – Andrea moved to appoint Martina Gates as chairperson, members to be Nikki Esdorn, Amy Goddard and Karlene Oosterwal. Seconded Caryn.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Board member travel expenses – Caryn, moved that we review the finances available to send a rep. to the feif meeting by a reasonable time to determine how may reps can get support from the congress. On a yearly basis.

Second, Andrea,

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Heidi committee proposals #1 **There should be limits as to how many people are on any particular committee. 15 people maximum.**

Caryn - Its too hard to keep track when new folk keep entering the discussion. It got organized better as we went along as Andrea led out and kept track of things, It can't be a place only to educate people we need experienced people as well. Anne, I agree, limiting the number limits information, experience people speak up. Number is not the issue but management of the discussion is the issue. Andrea, the committee chair needs to set their own parameters.

Vote- No, Unanimous

**#2 If any member of a Committee is inactive for 6 months they should be removed from the committee by the committee chairperson in order to make space for someone committed to do the job at hand. This is provided that the Committee is active at that time. This is at the discretion of the chairperson. If they wish to they can appeal this decision to the Board of Directors.**

Amended to read: **If any member of a committee is inactive for 6 months they may be removed from the committee by the committee chairperson with a 30 day notice. The decision to remove a member from a committee may be appealed to the board of directors.**

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

**#3 If anyone on a committee is rude or disruptive in any manner they should receive a warning from the chairperson and upon the second offense be removed from the committee by the committee chairperson, or by his or her designated representative (like a moderator).**

Amended to read: **If anyone on a committee is rude or disruptive in any manner they should receive a warning from the chairperson and upon the second offense may be removed from the committee by the committee chairperson, or a designated representative such as a moderator. The decision to remove a member from a committee may be appealed to the board of directors.**

Vote- Yes, Unanimous

**#4 To join a committee an application must be sent directly to the chairperson of that committee. In it should be the reasoning behind why they wish to join and what they bring to the table. The decision about the application is at the discretion of the chairperson. If they wish they can appeal this decision to the Board of Directors.**

Amended to read: **To join a committee a written request must be sent directly to the chairperson of that committee. The letter should give reasons why the person**

**wants to join the committee and a brief description of their background pertaining to the work of the committee. If the request to join a committee is denied it may be appealed to the board of directors.**

Vote- Yes, Unanimous

Caryn - Moved that if a board member has a problem with another board member that they bring it to the board via a conference call.

Vote - Yes, Unanimous

Adjourned 12 midnight Eastern time