Ontario Horse Trials Association Board of Directors Meeting
March 14, 2016
By Conference Call

Present on Call: Deb Welna, Peta Christen, Pat Frewen-Lord, Kate Farrell, Amber Anderson, Amy Jackson, Helen Richardson, Roseanne Corbett, Cristina Barbour, Sarah Irving, Lisa Thompson
Regrets: Katie Holman, Sylvia Dixon

1. Call to Order: 7:00pm

2. Meeting Opening

On a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the agenda, for the March 14, 2016 Board of Directors meeting was approved.

On a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes from the February 8, 2016 Board of Directors meeting were approved.

Housekeeping Items:

Membership:
As of March 14, 2016, there were 668 members as follows: 461 Senior, 177 Junior and 30 Associate. This is an increase of 20 members over the same period in the prior year.

3. Matters for Discussion

President’s Report
Prior to the meeting Katie distributed a newsletter from Peter Gray, Chair of the Canadian Eventing Committee of Equine Canada. It was noted that the dressage and eventing committees of Equine Canada have been streamlined down to smaller committees but the show jumping committee did not change.

After the last meeting, there was an email vote on the Heather Wellman Bursary.

On a motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously carried the Board agreed to continue to support the Eventing Canada’s Heather Wellman Youth Bursary by contributing a membership to the Ontario Young Rider Program and entries to 2 non-championship horse trials (not including levies, stabling, etc...).

Pat reported that nominations are open for the 2016 Equine Canada national awards as follows:

- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Junior Equestrian of the Year – The Gillian Wilson Trophy
- Horse of the Year – The Hickstead Trophy
- Canadian Breeder of the Year
- Builder of the Year
- Boehringer Ingelheim Equine Canada Health & Welfare Award

The nomination period ends March 31, 2016.
Treasurer’s Report
Roseanne distributed the financial statements for the period ending February 29, 2016 prior to the meeting. The statements were discussed and the only thing of note is that the omnibus ad sales are down this year.

Strategic Planning and Governance Manual
Nothing to report.

Funding
Pat reported that applications for funding will likely start to come in soon.

Growing the Sport
Amber has been discussing a plan to expand the program to include other associations such as the OHJA and will be preparing a proposal that will be presented to the Board soon.

Competitions
The organizers’ meeting has been set for Monday April 11, 2016 at 6pm in the OEF Boardroom. The OHTA directors attending the meeting are Katie Holman, Deb Welna, Pat Frewen-Lord, and Lisa Thompson and Roseanne Corbett will attend as Treasurer. Conference calling will be available for those unable to attend in person. There will be 2 guest speakers that will be discussing changes to several aspects of eventing expected over the next year. Peta is putting together a list of rule changes for 2016 to be presented at the meeting, and is also working on the March blog for the organizers.

Championships
Deb is drafting a questionnaire for the organizers that will ask for their opinions on what format championships should take going forward from 2016. Once drafted, it will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to being distributed to the organizers.

Young Riders
Cristina reported that Teddie Laframboise is working on finding a date to run a YR clinic in Ottawa and will let Cristina know when one has been chosen. The YR coach contract still needs to be signed by Momo Laframboise but to date, Momo has not provided any services so far in 2016.

Banquet, Awards and Leaderboards
Deb reported that she is still waiting for final figures from the Nottawasaga Inn regarding the food price increase. There may have to be a $5 increase in the ticket price and Deb will have the information prior to the start of the 2016 show season. Deb has been receiving input from the Nottawasaga on how to save money by downsizing the speaker size and changing the background. These changes could result in a $200 to $300 savings.

RAWF
Deb and Ian Gilmour will be having another meeting regarding the 2016 RAWF. Deb’s drawing for the revised Spirit of the Horse area has been submitted to the RAWF organizers for approval and all agree that the design is the best for safety and flow of the visitors. She is waiting to hear if it will be the final design that is going to print. Deb received a revised invoice from RAWF, which corrected their error and cut the amount owing in half. The invoice has been paid.

Volunteer Incentive Program
Nothing to report.
Officials, Safety and Rules
Kate has updated the officials’ bursary application form for 2016.

Communications
Amy reported that she has the new website done in beta format. Roseanne will be sending Amy a clean version of the OHTA logo for the website. Amy will be contacting Andrew Bailini for more photos.

4. Meeting Finalization

Action items
None

Next Meeting: April 18, 2016 at Schomberg Community Centre

Meeting Adjournment: 8:00pm.