

## USDF EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB) MEETING

Teleconference – February 17, 2025

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### **Members Present:**

Kevin Reinig, President	Lisa Gorretta, Vice President
Debra Reinhardt, Secretary	Lorraine Musselman, Treasurer
Bettina Longaker, Region 1 Director	Charlotte Trentelman, Region 3 Director
Anne Sushko, Region 4 Director	Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director
Noah Rattner, Region 6 Director	Regina Antonioli, Region 7 Director
Bess Bruton, Region 9 Director	Susan Mandas, Activities Council Director
Sue McKeown, Technical Council Director	Anne Snipes Moss, Administrative Council Director
George Williams, Past President	

**Members Absent:** Debby Savage, Region 2 Director; Helen van der Voort, Region 8 Director; Susan Mandas, Activities Council Director.

**Staff Attending:** Stephan Hienzsch, Sarah Delahanty, Melissa Schoedlbauer

**Guest in attendance:** None

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. EST by Zoom teleconference.

### **Determination of quorum, roll call and conflicts of interest**

Heather Petersen and Noah Rattner stated conflict with the manager change for the 2025 Region 5 championships topic on the agenda and will leave the meeting for that item. Debra Reinhardt stated that due to conflict she will be leaving the meeting for 2026-2027 NAYC hosting bids agenda item.

### **Approval of agenda**

Anne Moss moved and Noah Rattner seconded **to approve the agenda**. 13 approved, 0 disapproved, and no abstentions. Motion carried.

### **President's remarks**

None

### **Executive Director's remarks**

None

### **Convention 2026 Management Committee recommendations for EB approval**

Heather Petersen moved and Lisa Gorretta seconded **to approve the convention be held in Lexington, KY for 2026**.

Discussion: Because of COVID our rotation is a bit off. Keeping the convention in Lexington for 2026 would give us time to evaluate the convention format, cost structure, and rotation, utilizing the spring EB meeting to regroup and strategize on the convention going forward.

13 approved, 0 disapproved, and no abstentions. Motion carried.

Lorraine Musselman moved and Regina Antonioli seconded **to approve the loss from the 2025 convention be covered by general operating investments fund.** No discussion. 12 approved, 0 disapproved, and Sue McKeown abstained. Motion carried.

Lorraine Musselman moved and Bess Bruton seconded **to approve the loss from the 2026 convention be budgeted from the general operating investments fund.** There was discussion about doing this at the time the EB approves the preliminary budget. Lisa Gorretta moved and Noah Rattner seconded **to table the motion until the budget discussion.** 13 approved, 0 disapproved, and no abstentions. Motion carried.

Heather Petersen and Noah Rattner left meeting.

#### **Manager change for 2025 Region 5 championships**

The licensee hosting the 2025 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships has requested that the competition manager be changed from Simone Windeler to Noah Rattner. Noah managed the show last year and the licensee felt he did a great job. Noah is eligible to manage a level 4 dressage competition. This request is supported by the Region 5 Director.

Bess Bruton moved and Anne Moss seconded **to approve the manager change from Simone Windeler to Noah Rattner as manager for the 2025 Great American/USDF Region 5 Championships.** There was no discussion. 10 approved, 0 disapproved, and Lisa Gorretta abstained. Motion carried.

Heather Petersen and Noah Rattner returned to the meeting.

Debra Reinhardt left the meeting due to conflict with the next topic, 2026-2027 NAYC hosting bids. Staff member Sarah Delahanty will take minutes for this topic.

#### **2026-2027 NAYC hosting bids**

The FEI Youth Committee's recommendation to the EB is that the Traverse City Horse Show venue in Traverse City, MI be the venue for the 2026-2027 FEI North American Youth Championship.

Anne Sushko moved and Bess Bruton seconded **to approve recommending the Traverse City Horse Show venue located in Traverse City, MI for the 2026-2027 FEI North American Youth Championship to USEF.**

Discussion: Traverse City has really bought into the idea of making their venue a positive NAYC experience.

Stephan Hienzsch reminded the EB that USEF will be receiving feedback from USHJA and USEA and the location of the 2026-2027 NAYC will be formally announced by USEF once determined.

9 approved, 0 disapproved. Lisa Gorretta and Noah Rattner abstained. Motion carried.

Debra Reinhardt returned to the meeting.

**New Business/Miscellaneous**

Noah Rattner brought up that many of the officials and staff members that are placed on the regional championship application bids should be secured in writing and/or have a contract. Named parties, i.e. manager and secretary, should be secured. The Regional Championships Committee should reexamine the application. The show manager and show secretary must be secured in writing at the time for the bids, but other staff, i.e. stable manager or awards coordinator, possibly do not need to be named.

Heather Petersen moved and Charlotte Trentelman seconded **to recommend to the Regional Championships Committee to look at the process and streamline the application with highlights of no duplication of show managers and show secretaries from region to region on the same dates, but same manager and show secretary in the same region on same date and multiple bids is acceptable.** 13 approved, 0 disapproved, and no abstentions. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Reinhardt, USDF Secretary

Sarah Delahanty, USDF Youth & Education Administrative Manager