



## WE UNITED Board of Directors Conference Call

Date:	June 21, 2017	Time:	5:00 pm PDT
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Acting Chair in Attendance?  President Julie Alonzo  
 Secretary?  Secretary Bruce W. Menke

President Julie Alonzo called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm PDT

### Members in attendance at roll call

### Members Absent

Last Name	First Name	Title	Last Name	First Name	Title
Alonzo	Julie	President	da Silva	Kimberly	Director R6
Menke	Bruce W.	Secretary	Perez	Ruth	Director R7
Luoma	Donna	Treasurer			
Schwartz	Cari	Director R1			
Limond	Polly	Director R2			
Stanko	Chris	Director R3			
Atkinson	Doreen	Director R4			

Current strength of body was 10. Minimum # for quorum was 6.

Members in attendance was 7.

Quorum Achieved

### Members in attendance after roll call

### Members Absent

Last Name	First Name	Title
Price	Barbara	President Elect

### *ELECTION POLICY*

- President Alonzo had previously sent out a v2 of the document which incorporates two timelines, one for electronic balloting, one for paper balloting.
- Secretary Menke had offered an amended version to add a timeline for this year's election only to avoid the potentially untoward impression that the current Board is extending their own term.

## ELECTIONS POLICY

- President Julie Alonzo made a motion to:

**MOTION**      *The modified version 2 of the draft elections policies be adopted (document appended to these minutes).*

- The modification was a separate timeline for 2017 only which does not extend the term for the currently elected board.
- ✓ Voting strength of the body was 7. By voice vote the motion carried.

## AWARDS PROGRAM

- President Julie Alonzo made a motion to:

**MOTION**      *Beginning in the 2018 Competition Year, add the split between Novice A and B and Intermediate A and B to the WE United Leaderboard and Year End Awards programs.*

*Beginning in the 2018 Competition Year, change the requirement for the Lifetime Rider Medalist program in the following way:*

*For Bronze Medals require that a minimum of 2 Dressage and 2 Ease of Handling Scores of 62% or higher be earned while competing in Novice B. The remaining scores needed may be earned in either Novice A or Novice B.*

*For Silver Medals Require that a minimum of 2 Dressage and 2 Ease of Handling Scores of 62% or higher be earned while competing in Intermediate B. The remaining scores needed may be earned in either Intermediate A or Intermediate B.*

- Secretary Bruce W. Menke made a motion to amend:

**AMENDMENT**      *Amend the language regarding the medals that scores must be earned in the B level and that scores earned prior to the rule change to split into A and B sub-levels will be counted as B sub-levels.*

- ✓ Voting strength of the body was 8. The vote on the motion to amend was 3 ayes, and 5 nays: Motion to amend failed.
- President Alonzo explained that those earning scores in the 2017 year will have any score with either sub-level to count toward the award requirements, e.g. all four scores may be earned in either the A or B level or any combination of the two levels.
- ✓ Voting strength of the body was 8. By voice vote the main motion carried.

## CLARIFICATIONS TO STATEMENTS REGARDING TWO MATTERS

*There was discussion regarding two statements released by the Confederation. The first was regarding course set up, the second regarding conflict of interest criteria.*

- President Elect suggested not issuing a formal document of guidance, as the original message did not come from WE United. But, an informal guidance message could be issued to WE United members if the Board believes it is necessary.
- Several directors suggested that the best course of action was to ignore the statement and not address the matters at all.
- President Alonzo explained that the dual carded judges have received the communication regarding course set up. She questioned how WE United addresses this to our judges.
- President Elect Barbara Price suggested that a unified rule book be solidified before WE United clarifies any points in the rules or address the statements issued by the Confederation.
- Secretary Bruce W. Menke stated the Confederation has effectively made a rule without making a rule. We have received inquiries about it and it is our responsibility to address the course set up. Regarding the conflict of interest, he was involved in the rules process when the subject language was brought into the rules from which the current rule derives. At that time, it was understood and discussed what the meaning of the rule was which is contrary to the interpretation being given by the Confederation.
- President Julie Alonzo stated she will not issue a formal statement, but will simply inform the judges that have inquired that the course set up statement is not a rule.
- As a follow up, President Elect Barbara Price was asked about the current representation of the Rules Committee. She replied that currently there are four representatives of the Confederation and one from WE United. She commented that at the last committee meeting (call) the sentiment among the other four committee members, not necessarily her, was that they would like the committee to function as a stand-alone group, not associated with any particular organization.

## RULES

- President Elect Barbara Price made a motion to:

<b>MOTION</b>	<i>Approve version 0.6 of the US Rules for Working Equitation to be provided by Jeanne Bond per her email communication with the WE United Board.</i>
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- Secretary Menke warned of the danger of approving something that does not yet exist and is to be provided by another organization in the future.
  - President Alonzo stated that if the version 0.6 deviates from the email communication at all this approval is void.
  - President Alonzo thinks it is poor form for us to hand over our responsibility for the rules in this way with the people as consists on the rules committee so she is voting no. She does, however, support the concept of uniform forms between the organizations.
- ✓ Voting strength of the body was 7. The vote on the motion was 5 ayes, and 2 nays: Motion carried.

*ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES*

The minutes from the May 8, 2017 and May 21, 2018 were accepted as previously distributed via email.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm PDT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce W. Menke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce W. Menke, Secretary

## V2 DRAFT ELECTIONS POLICY DOCUMENT TO BE DISCUSSED / REVISED BY BOARD

Whenever the term “Voting Member” is used in relation to WE United elections, it shall refer to U.S. Adult members of WE United who have met the deadline for membership established by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall provide an online mechanism by which Voting Members can nominate people for open seats on the Board (e.g., Google Forms, online survey, etc.). A link to the online nomination mechanism shall be distributed via email, sent to all Voting Members. This link will **not** be posted on the WE United website or on any Facebook pages to limit nominations to those eligible to nominate. Concurrent announcements shall be made announcing the nominations are open (to all members).

To provide transparency in the process, a link to a list of all people nominated for office shall be provided on the WE United website throughout the Elections process. This list will be updated to indicate who has accepted the nominations once the nomination window has closed and shall remain posted and publicly viewable until the results of the election have been announced. The name of the WE United member making a nomination shall be listed, along with the person they are nominating for office. Anonymous nominations shall not be permitted.

The Board of Directors shall contract with an independent elections firm (e.g., Simply Voting) to conduct the actual election (distribution of ballots and counting of votes).

Each Voting Member may cast one vote for each Regional Director position being voted on in their region and one vote for any Officer positions being voted on. Those receiving a plurality of votes cast in their respective election category shall be declared the winner.

Voting can be conducted through online or paper ballots. Voting shall be conducted anonymously. Complete results (including total number of ballots cast, and number of votes received by each candidate) shall be shared on the WE United website.

Odd-Numbered Regions will have directors elected in odd-numbered years; even-numbered regions will have directors elected in even-numbered years.

Odd Numbered Years (2017, 2019, etc.)	Regional Seats to be Filled: 1, 3, 5, 7
Even Numbered Years (2018, 2020, etc.)	Regional Seats to be Filled: 2, 4, 6

The positions of Secretary and President Elect will be included in every year’s election ballot.

There is no limit on the number of terms a Director may serve.

The following timeline will apply for the 2017 election conducted by **online** voting.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Last date to join WE United in order to run for a seat on the Board	July 1
Nomination Announcement sent to all U.S. Adult members	July 15
Nominations window closed	August 15
Candidate Acceptance & Candidate Statements due	September 1
Last date to join WE United in order to receive a ballot (vote)	September 1
List of candidates and candidate statements posted on WE United website and provided to independent elections firm for distribution to voting members.	September 15
Ballots sent out to all U.S. Adult members.	October 1
Voting closes.	October 15
*Results announced; those elected take office	October 16

The following timeline will apply for elections conducted by **online** voting for the 2018 and elections thereafter.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Last date to join WE United in order to run for a seat on the Board	September 1
Nomination Announcement sent to all U.S. Adult members	September 1
Nominations window closed	September 15
Candidate Acceptance & Candidate Statements due	October 1
Last date to join WE United in order to receive a ballot (vote)	October 10
List of candidates and candidate statements posted on WE United website and provided to independent elections firm for distribution to voting members.	October 15
Ballots sent out to all U.S. Adult members.	November 1
Voting closes.	November 15
*Results announced; those elected take office	*December 1

\*Note: If this deadline falls on a weekend, the deadline moves to the next Monday.

The following timeline will apply for elections conducted by **paper** ballots sent through the postal service for the 2018 and elections thereafter.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Last date to join WE United in order to run for a seat on the Board	August 1
Nomination Announcement sent to all U.S. Adult members	August 1
Nominations window closed	August 15
Candidate Acceptance & Candidate Statements due	September 1
Last date to join WE United in order to receive a ballot (vote)	September 10

List of candidates and candidate statements posted on WE United website and provided to independent elections firm for distribution to voting members.	September 15
Ballots sent out to all U.S. Adult members.	October 1
Voting closes. All ballots must be post-marked by this date and received no later than November 20 to be counted in the election.	November 15
*Results announced; those elected take office	*December 1

\*Note: If this deadline falls on a weekend, the deadline moves to the next Monday.

The timelines above coincide with the membership and competition year, to avoid a situation in which people are members (and eligible to vote) at the start of the election process but their membership expires while the election is being conducted, and they therefore lose their legal right to participate in the election. The timeline for elections conducted by paper ballots is extended one month, when compared to the timeline for elections conducted by online ballots to account for the time needed to print, assemble, and mail ballots, and for ballots to be returned in the mail.