

Member Feedback -- Competitions

(1)	Public Comments	Work Team Recommendation/Comments	Rationale
2	<p>License Application Process - • No time restriction for requesting a license.</p> <p>I think you need a minimum time (even if just 2 weeks) as it takes time for the association (and volunteers) to process paperwork and the insurance is required by 2 weeks before.</p> <p>Obviously a big show will submit with ample time to get judges, advertise, etc. But a small show, run by volunteers may not.</p> <p>It reminds me of the saying that "A lack of planning on your part, does not constitute an emergency on our part" and yet, without a minimum amount of time specified an immediate turnaround (due to someone elses lack of planning) could be expected.</p>	<p>Changed to indicate a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the event.</p>	<p>Putting a reasonable timeline for submittal makes sense.</p>
3	<p>Great work I like the new blend. Thank you</p>		
4	<p>Thank you, Competitions Team, for all your hard work!</p>		
5	<p>1 and 1a - no suggested edits.</p> <p>2. Where is Lameness Report and Injury Report? Part of TD report? Is the Protest Report not listed since licensed officials are required to use the USA WE Rules Protest Report? What format is the Show Results? GIRA and Show Results excel file must be formatted the same include identical protected data fields formulas. for tracking Awards & Medals. No PDF show results accepted.</p> <p>3. Only live shows can be licensed. Virtual shows may be held for schooling, ride-a-test feedback, getting acquainted with working equitation, etc.</p>	<p>We are not requiring a Lameness Report or Injury Report.</p> <p>The process for handling protests and a Protest form are covered in the rulebook.</p> <p>Show results are submitted in an Excel file provided to the show manager or via GIRA. Specific requirements (e.g., no PDFs) are covered in the Awards proposal.</p> <p>Requirements will be made clear in the Show Licensing Manual given to show managers when licenses are issued.</p>	<p>Reports are required only if the organization intends to use the information gathered on the report for some reason. The org will not track horse injuries or lameness. The TD report may include a notation that a horse was withdrawn or excused for lameness or injury.</p>

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	<p>4, 5, 6 - no suggested edits.</p> <p>7. Are Members given priority over non-members in show registration?</p> <p>Questions - will Horse Recording be included in the Membership Committee proposal? Will current registered horses be grandfathered in (since Horse Performance Awards are dependent upon earned scores)? Will a new horse recording # be given? Or continue with the WE United Horse Recorded# if currently/previously a WE United member? If given a new horse recording#, will there be a cross-reference provided to the Awards & Medals Committee? Will Competitions or Membership or Horse Recording Committee be required to be notified of any change of horse ownership and any breed association membership and horse registry by the horse's owner(s)?</p> <p>8. Show results: 1 week after</p> <p>9. No suggested edits</p> <p>Appreciation to all who are working on WE USA unification. Thank you!</p>	<p>Process now indicates licenses are issued for live shows only.</p> <p>Priority for members vs. non-members would be determined by show management, not the organization.</p> <p>Horse Recording is covered in the Membership proposal.</p> <p>We give show managers 2 weeks to submit results to allow enough time to ensure accuracy.</p>	
6	<p>Looks good. Thanks for the hard work! My only question would be if this document needs to define what happens with existing horse recordings, memberships, licenses, etc, i.e. are they transferable and still valid in the new joint organization? If that's defined or handled elsewhere, that's fine. Thanks again!</p>	<p>Horse Recordings are being addressed by the Membership team. All existing horse recordings will be honored.</p>	

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7	There are two time constraints (Section 3 & 5) about insurance and no constraints about when to apply for a show license. I think these need to sync. Perhaps the first line of Section 3 could say: "Organizers must apply for a show license before submitting the Certificate of Insurance."	Process changed to indicate license must be procured a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the event.	
8	First off, thank you so much for all the work put into this proposal! I really like that the non-member fee was dropped for show entry. It's a very kind thing to do for our competitors. My only question is with regards to the show license fees. If we need to pay \$2 per competitor, are we then suggesting that we charge each competitor that \$2 on the entry form? If so, how is that going to appear? Again, thank you for all your time!	It is up to show management how they handle this fee. It can either be factored into the entry fee or can be identified separately on the entry form.	
9	These look good		
10	Definitely appreciate the effort that has gone into the proposal. Looks like a proposal that will have very positive benefits. My only feedback is that non-members should pay some nominal fee for competitions - just to help offset the costs.	Our goal is to keep fees as low as possible to enable greater show participation. That helps competitors, show organizers, and the sport overall.	Many people join after participating in their first show and are reluctant to become members before they know whether they're going to enjoy the sport or not. We want to be as welcoming as possible to people new to the sport.
11	I have no feedback. I am an exhibitor, not a show organizer so it all looks pretty well organized to me		
12	Great job!!! One thing I love about WE is the simplicity, I like that most proposals took the simplest route. In section 2, I'd like to see some clarification for the Blood Evidence report. I totally agree severely injured animals and abuse should not be tolerated. Spur jabs, mouth bleeding for harsh bits, etc should not be tolerated. However, many people travel long distances to show. Minor things can happen in unfamiliar stalls especially when overnights and long	The Blood Evidence Report will only be required in those cases where blood is caused by the bridle, whip, or spurs, or any time a rider is disqualified or eliminated from the competition due to the evidence of blood. It is not necessary for standard injuries that result in blood showing as long as the Judge determines there was no abuse involved.	

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	<p>weekends. Part of horsemanship is caring for the minor cuts and scrapes that happen and are natural part of horse ownership. I hope the committee can continue to debate this proposal and perhaps come up with a less strict, but still appropriate and humane that allows some leeway for minor wounds receiving proper care. Again, thank you for your hard work.</p>		
13	<p>It seems to me that show organizers and local working equitation organizations should be the ones to nurture and encourage the introductory and novice level competitors by offering those playful DQ cards and other creative approaches to things to help people brand new in the sport feel encouraged to stick with it.</p> <p>I think that as a National Organization we should encourage the local groups to do as much as they can to bring new people into the sport. They will be the ones creating the experience for new people so have the most power to impact the feeling people walk away with. We could even add in the show management resource a list of ideas to encourage people at the introductory and novice levels to stick with it.</p> <p>I think that we should strive toward a level of horsemanship that is on par with the rest of the working equitation world. The national leaderboard standings then should be reflective of this higher level of horsemanship we are striving toward.</p> <p>In the end I think there is a greater satisfaction in achieving an award or a standing based only on performance rather than an accumulation of attempts.</p> <p>Even if our leaderboard ended up with fewer people qualifying than the number of slots available I still think that it is a more legitimate recognition of achievement if the bar is set higher and DQ's mean your entire show</p>	<p>Encouraging local groups to develop the sport is a part of our mission. A schooling show/play day guide would be a nice addition to our library. It has been a goal for some time – hopefully we can identify a volunteer or two to help us put one together.</p> <p>Qualifications for the Leaderboard are addressed in the Awards proposal.</p>	

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	<p>score won't count toward the National leaderboard standings.</p> <p>I'm also seeing this from a big government / small government roles and responsibilities mindset. From this viewpoint I believe the role of the National Organization has a narrower scope. The National Organization recognizes the best of the best with the national leaderboard. The local groups and show organizers have the responsibility of including and appreciating all of the individual members in attendance at a given show. After all, it is their local people who will be their repeat customers if they do a good job and people feel they have a place to learn and grow in the sport.</p> <p>To sum it up I believe the national leaderboard should not allow any DQ impacted scores.</p>		
14	I think it may still be beneficial to charge a non-member fee, but maybe lower it.	Our goal is to keep fees as low as possible to enable greater show participation. That helps competitors, show organizers, and the sport overall.	Many people join after participating in their first show and are reluctant to become members before they know whether they're going to enjoy the sport or not. We want to be as welcoming as possible to people new to the sport.
15	Everything I see looks thoroughly examined and consolidated for easier show management. Well done, Team! Looking forward to seeing more!		
16	<p>Page 2: add lameness report back.</p> <p>Other than that, the proposed changes look awesome. I particularly like the Google Sheets access and the fees. Well done! But please do not take out the lameness report. Way to go, team! You got this! 😊</p> <p>Barbara Caiado</p>	We are only requiring reports in cases where the organization intends to use the information gathered on the report for some reason. The org will not track horse injuries or lameness. The TD report may include a notation that a horse was	

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		withdrawn or excused for lameness or injury.	
17	I totally agree with the proposals and think you are doing a fantastic job.		
18	Looks dandy!		
19	Looks good. Who covers insurance for show? For example if I host an event does WE cover the insurance for this event? OR Does the event host cover insurance. Also if I offer schooling event and it is not a registered show is insurance provided under your organization. I personally think insurance is the biggest problem for hosting shows at personal non boarding facilities that have an obstacle course built up.	<p>It is up to the show organizer to obtain and pay for insurance for all licensed shows. Insurance for schooling shows is not required but is recommended.</p> <p>The team is investigating insurance options in an effort to assist show organizers in meeting this requirement. We will keep everyone apprised on any progress made.</p>	
20	<p>On Page 5 about the License Fees. As a show manager I would prefer to just pay a flat fee each show. Either \$30 or \$40 is fine with me. That is easy to figure out into your expenses. Having each competitor pay \$2 (is that per entry?) but not have "schooling rides" doesn't make sense. Schooling rides take as much time or maybe longer in the ring and could be hard on the obstacles if hit or break. I realize that this fee is for awards but a schooling ride is still part of the show. My opinion is just have a \$30 or \$40 license fee.</p> <p>Page 6. No non-member fee??? Does insurance cover the non-member who show and even the "schooling rides"? I think if you are not a member (hopefully of one combined organization) then you should have to pay a non-member fee to show, use the equipment and time, of the show. I think the show management should also be able to keep that money. Plus it encourages people to join Working Equitation USA or whatever the name may be. My opinion we should have non-member fees of \$15, \$20 or \$30.</p>	<p>Show managers can either factor the \$2 into the overall entry fee or make it a separate line item. It's a pass-through to the organization, with the money earmarked for awards. The organization will submit an invoice once show results have been received. Schooling rides are not tracked, so no awards are applicable.</p> <p>Show insurance covers the facility, the licensing organization and licensed officials, and show management. It does not cover competitors.</p> <p>Show management can charge whatever fees they want, but they should not be classified as non-member fees. Non-member fees belong to the organization.</p>	

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	<p>I think to have a horse recorded, a fee should be attached, \$10, \$15 or \$20.</p> <p>I hope that you can share ALL the common ground rules that you are considering. It makes the membership feel a part of the new organization.</p> <p>I appreciate having a voice in the new set of rules you all are preparing. I also admire you ALL for coming together in trying to create one Working Equitation organization. THANK YOU!!!!!!! ~~Kate Fowler~~</p>	<p>Horse recording fees are being addressed by the Membership team.</p> <p>All proposals will be shared with membership. The input and questions from members are very helpful.</p>	
21	<p>I am not sure what LOC is...? Everything looks really nicely laid out and comprehensive.</p> <p>The only thing I am unsure of is the No Fee for Non Members riding in Competitions. For a B Rated show that makes sense (I would equate these shows to schooling shows), we are trying to encourage new riders to participate and eventually show regularly. (currently in this area there are not many B Rated shows, most end up becoming A rated at or just before the competition.) However for an A Rated show, this becomes a problem. A Rated shows in Oregon (WE United) are full pretty quickly, with a wait list - especially the larger ones, so someone (already a member) doesn't get to ride.... If non members are able to ride, and actually displace a member wanting to ride this is a difficulty that needs to be addressed. I feel that A Rated shows are for members who have taken the time to pay the fees involved to the parent organization, who take the time to read/understand the rules and any yearly changes/updates; and have been actively showing throughout the year collecting points in the process. And allows the organizer to focus on</p>	<p>LOC = Licensed Officials Committee.</p> <p>B-rated shows are expected to be the most common show types offered. They are licensed, while schooling shows are not licensed.</p> <p>Non-members can show in B-rated shows. Competitors must be members to show in A-rated shows and above.</p>	

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	<p>show protocols, not supporting new/interested members in the sport, on the day. I believe there should be "some kind of fee" for nonmembers to participate at this level - A Rated Shows. That would urge them to become members... especially if they choose to do several of these shows repeatedly each year. So that ultimately being a member is cheaper than participating as a nonmember.</p> <p>The same issue is a concern for Championships (Regional and National). As it stands, it looks like Non members can and could participate in Regional and National, or International Shows also.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. C. Martinez</p>		
22	<p>Proposals look good so far! I would just summarize from a "show managers" standpoint that the more simplified the process The better! (less forms, user friendly, less paperwork, more forms provided when needed to fill out, etc).</p> <p>If it's a huge process then it's not worth the effort. We can host a dressage show with less work for example if the process is too lengthy. This is feedback for "marketing purposes" too. The sport has to be user friendly for all involved or other sports will replace this.</p> <p>Also love that B rated shows can have a volunteer (minimum pay) TD. With a licensed one it can add up more than the judges fees and make it not affordable. Definitely would like a "TD job description" page or directions for those volunteering so they understand their responsibility. Rule book or more info if needed?</p> <p>Next: Show fees at \$2 per rider are great and doable. If it's gets costly that has to be passed on to the riders so</p>	<p>We are requiring only those forms that call for data the organization needs to function. We agree, the simpler the better.</p>	

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	<p>not to be absorbed by host of show. Then if the shows add up to be do much riders will pick less expensive sports to be involved in.</p> <p>Last "Sportsmanship": for lack of a better description? Myself and all the riders in my area who fell in love with this sport will stay involved if it stays educational, fun and supportive of each other.</p> <p>There are show circuits out there that riders LEAVE because "they just want to ride better and have FUN." I have heard that from MANY people at the WE booths at expos. This sport HAS to keep that attitude for it to keep growing. It sets it apart from some "intense not so friendly shows".</p> <p>Thanks to all who are working on this end goal! It will be worth it.</p> <p>Karen Rach-St Clair</p>		
23	Looks reasonable and acceptable to me.		
24			
25	<p>I could not find where : First Aid personal was to be present at a "B " sanctioned show and above. As as active show manager; providing templates for prize lists, reporting etc is essential . Thank you for the guidance.</p>	<p>This information can be found in the rules. For B-Rated shows, vets, farriers, and EMTs can be either on call or on site. For A-Rated and Championship shows, they must be on site.</p> <p>The Show Guide provided to show managers when licenses are issued will provide additional guidance.</p>	
26	<p>Thank all of you for your thoughtful effort. This looks good and complete. There should be a reasonably simple way to modify anything that doesn't work over time. Perhaps a monthly review to start then annual?</p>	<p>We have added such a review to the proposal.</p>	

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27	This is progress for sure. It looks good. One thing I've noticed about Confederation rules is that rules are added and changed mid-year. I've never noticed this happen in other horse sports.		
28	I am also a member of WE United and responded to them. Proposal looks great. Wondering if nonmembers should pay some nominal amount to participate in a competition given the effort to organize it or members get a nominal discount. Otherwise why join if you aren't participating in awards.	Our goal is to keep fees as low as possible to enable greater show participation. That helps competitors, show organizers, and the sport overall.	Many people join after participating in their first show and are reluctant to become members before they know whether they're going to enjoy the sport or not. We want to be as welcoming as possible to people new to the sport.
29	Like all org or clubs , the ego needs to be for all..Brainstorming tele conferences often...Records kept...Vol. listing available..if possible..Alternate Nationals not just on west coast..or other side of the Mississippi.East Coast available for National show....Charges limited....come down the basic is money charging....listen to the members!!		
30	<p>Thank you committee team members for the thoughtful work to create the recommended processes. I particularly appreciate the rationale points.</p> <p>I have a question about the cost of the GIRA.io system fee. Is that a cost that will be covered in operational expenses of the new association?</p> <p>I think it is a wonderful idea to have it available to provide a consistent platform for shows and that it helps to easily accommodate large participant numbers and international visibility for US riders.</p> <p>Also, will GIRA.io access only be available to all licensed shows B-rated and above? Would it be available for schooling show managers if they completed a show license application (to have a record of the schooling show and access given for the GIRA.io</p>	<p>The cost of GIRA will be covered by the organization.</p> <p>We will consider use of GIRA for schooling shows that meet specified criteria. Details to follow.</p>	

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	<p>program) or if the show manager had previously managed a licensed B-rated or above show?</p> <p>Wishing you all continued success with all the work behind the scenes! Thanks again, Dawn Swensson</p>		
31	<p>Thank you for the format comparing each organization. It shows thoughtfulness in the recommendations and rational of combining the best of each and recognizing changes with growth.</p>		
32	<p>I have read the documents provided. Agree with the proposed recommendations and rational for each. Looks like a win-win for both organizations as well as both members and non-member competitors. Looking forward to a united single WE organization for simplifying things in the US.</p>		
33	<p>jenkinsds@icloud.com. Thank you for sending the proposals on both organizations. Due to family issues at this time, I will not be participating. I hope that these issues will be resolved so that the friendly competitions can continue.</p>		
34	<p>The only item I disagree with is that non members wouldn't have to pay a fee for competing at rates shows. It is not uncommon for non members to pay a nominal fee to compete in an organization that has membership. If the membership fee is reasonable, that would be an incentive for people to join versus paying the non member fee. But if the membership is rather expensive, people are willing to pay a small fee to compete, especially if they only intend to do a handful of shows. I don't think it's unreasonable to ask non</p>	<p>Minimal non-member fee will be assessed if required for insurance purposes.</p>	<p>Many people join after participating in their first show and are reluctant to become members before they know whether they're going to enjoy the sport or not. We want to be as welcoming as possible to people new to the sport.</p>

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	members to pay a small fee to compete at licensed events, particularly given the cost to run events.		
35	The Proposal looks very thorough and well thought out.		
36	This appears to be well thought out and a good compromise between the two organizations. My question is will the results of an appeal be confidential or public knowledge? I believe that should be specified in the proposal.	The proposal has been modified to include the Appeals Committee process. The results of an appeal will be made public.	
37	Based on "will draw a lot of public interest." in the Rationale for 1A. Appeals Committee within 2. Documentation clear policies and procedures should be developed as to the details of the Appeals Process . Once established and approved by the BOD, and when an Appeal cannot be resolved at the competition and is moved to the Appeals Committee for review, all parties are then provided with copies to review and acknowledge the Appeals Process. This insures guidelines establishing fairness and transparency. The same would apply if there is an Ethics Committee.	The proposal has been modified to include the Appeals Committee process	
38	Looks well balanced, appreciate the time put into this.		
39	All the proposals look good.		
40	It all looks good, except I have concern about non-members being able to show. How would they then be covered by insurance? Usually one must be a member of a group to be covered by that group's insurance. I think requiring membership is reasonable. Thank you for all the work you are doing toward this project. Rebecca Yount	Show insurance covers the facility, the licensing organization and licensed officials, and show management. It does not cover competitors.	
41	I agree with the recommendations. The format used was easy to understand and I especially liked that there was a rational column. I am very excited that		

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	there will be a unified organization and thanks to the volunteers for all of their time and energy to make this possible.		
42	Looks like a pretty thorough work through of the many facets of putting on shows! Although there is not a time requirement for providing a show license, it looks like the insurance is requested 2 weeks prior to the show. I am excited to see so much of the results of your efforts in blending the two organizations and moving Working Equitation forward in the USA. Congratulations.		
43	I think a non-member fee is a good idea, even if only a nominal amount (\$5-10). I believe it encourages competitors to become members instead.	Minimal non-member fee will be assessed if required for insurance purposes.	