

The meeting of the Judges Committee was called to order by Committee Secretary, Jerrika Mumford, at 7:01 PM CST on January 25, 2024. Nick Hauptly, Fran Soukup, Jerrika Mumford, Tami Lash, and Tor Sorensen were in attendance.

Fran motioned to approve the agenda, Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

*Minutes for the December meeting were approved via email and are posted on the ILR website.*

Nick nominated Jerrika Mumford as Secretary for the Judges Committee. Fran seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Nick nominated Fran Soukup as Chair. Jerrika seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Fran will connect with Steve Auld to transfer access to the judges files.

### **Old Business:**

The committee discussed the upcoming open book test. Nick sent out a draft of the exam to the committee on Tuesday for review. There were a few changes, which Nick implemented. Jerrika motioned to approve the open book test and send it out to the judge's list. Nick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Jerrika provided an update to the On-Demand Judges Training. Curriculum is moving forward with additional judges committing to provide materials. The article for the program, The Exhibitor's Perspective on Judges, was also discussed. Nick shared that the article was a great reminder to judge's and presented the results from the survey well. Tami expressed some concerns regarding both the on-demand training and the survey. The committee discussed Jerrika's role as the project manager and provided context. Jerrika will send additional information on the training program to the committee for review.

Rob Knuckles was approved as an ILR-SD HPYF judge by the ILR Board. His dues have been paid and he has been added to the website.

The committee discussed the Apprentice Reflection form & guidelines change. It will need to be brought to the Governing Board at their next meeting.

The committee discussed a newsletter to send out to judges. There was a draft that the former chair put together. We will review each section. Tami suggested we add a section welcoming new judges/apprentices and thanking retiring judges. The committee discussed performance concerns regarding obstacle safety and agreed it needed to be addressed in the newsletter. Nick will update the wording on the safety concerns. Nick is going to set up a google doc where all committee members can review the draft and modify sections of the newsletter.

The committee discussed performance concerns regarding scoring off course, refusals, faults, and incompletes. Nick suggested sending out a survey asking questions around performance scoring. Nick suggested sending it out with the open book test for judges who are certified in performance to take. Tami discussed performance scoring guidance that used to be available on the ILR website. She will check to see if those are still available. Cathie had sent out possible questions for the performance survey. Tami will add some situations and variations for the survey and send them to Nick.

### **New Business:**

Susan recently sent a list of Judges/Apprentice who have not paid their dues. A few judges and apprentices have not paid. They were contacted via email on January 23rd. A few have paid since. We will continue to reach out to judges/apprentices as needed.

Mark Smith requested approval to hold a judging clinic at his farm in Indiana on May 17th-19th, 2024. The committee discussed the instructors and curriculum outline. The committee agreed the instructors were well qualified and Mark has held successful clinics in the past. The committee will provide a copy and link of the open book test to Mark to share with the attendees. Nick motioned to approve the ILR-SD HPY Judging Clinic held at Mark Smith Farms in May. Jerrika seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Fran will bring the clinic to the Governing Board for approval.

The next meeting was set for February 29th at 7 pm central standard time. Nick motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tami seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Adjourned at 8:05 PM CST.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerrika Mumford