

Final 8/25/08

IEA Zone 5 Region Realignment Plan

To: IEA National Board of Directors

From: Gwen Arrigon, Zone 5 Director

Date: REVISED 7/14/08 – 8/6/08 – 8/21/08 FINAL 8/25/08

After more than a year of input from Zone 5 coaches, endless consideration and discussion, and stacks of maps, charts and diagrams, following is the realignment plan for creation of Regions within IEA zone 5. All other IEA Zones are unaffected.

Background Growth within Zone 5 has caused many problems of which we are all too well aware, not the least of which is a Zone finals that has grown beyond manageable scope. We all have agreed that Zone 5 needs to be split into smaller regions of competition, similar to the IHSA format. The simplest solution would be a Cleveland/Columbus/Cincinnati split; but the map illustrates the overcrowding problems are most noticeable in the Columbus area, requiring a reorganization plan that divides Columbus in some way.

Following is the solution discussed at forum in Wilmington and Morehead, and hereby proposed to the IEA Board of Directors for approval. All Zone 5 coaches have had the opportunity to have input and be actively involved and **all are in agreement and support of this plan.**

We ask for the Board to approve these changes immediately, to be implemented in the season immediately following Nationals 2008.

Problem In meetings during the past year, coaches and the Zone 5 Director set the objective of realigning Zone 5 into regions of competition that would:

- Assure teams a guaranteed entry in shows within their regions. Teams should not have to spend hundreds of dollars per year on express mail on a hope that they will be accepted to a show within their own organization.
- Balance the regions in size of enrollment as closely as possible, in a range between 100 and 125 individual hunter members, respectively.

Secondary objectives included:

- Reduce travel time of the majority of teams.
- Reasonably balance the membership numbers for both varsity and future divisions in each region.
- Encourage growth in areas of potential growth, namely northern Kentucky, Lexington, Louisville, Indianapolis.
- Create a fair and equitable means for qualifying regional riders to Zones, in a way that would reduce the burden of expense and resources for the Zone 5 Championships and allow the Zone Chair to plan more effectively.

NOTE: Western membership numbers were not considered, as the recommendation is for western to continue competing as a zone.

- **Average zone hunter enrollment = 250**
- **Current Zone 5 hunter enrollment = 341**

Realignment

First, we propose to realign Zone 5 as follows...

- Region 1 will be Northeastern Ohio, defined as northeast of US Rt 250 – basically, all of Ohio north of a line from Steubenville to Sandusky. This includes the populous areas of Cleveland /Akron /Youngstown /Canton /Wooster/ Sandusky.
- Region 2 will be Southeastern Ohio, defined south of Rt. 250, east of I-71, and east of US Rt. 23 – eastern Columbus and the southeastern quarter of the state of Ohio.
- Region 3 will be western Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky – that’s all of Ohio west of Rt. 250 from Sandusky to Wooster, west of I-71 from Wooster to Columbus, and west of Rt. 23 from Columbus to Portsmouth.

The result...

Zone 5 Region 1

Andrews Osborne
Hinkley
Holly Parks
Hudson
Little Glen

North Coast
Stoney Ridge
Tuscarawas
Western Reserve

NOTES: Existing IEA Directors: Roxanne. Proposed Regional President: Roxanne, Megan, Kim, Caroline or Jennifer.

Available Hunter Shows: Andrews, Hudson, North Coast, Stoney Ridge

Zone 5 Region 2

Baycrest
Brookside
Dare
Foxridge
Grenoble

Hunters Creek
Mid Ohio Valley

West Licking
Bookmark (new for 08-09 season)

(120 riders)

NOTES:

- Existing IEA Directors: None, but Nancy was formerly Zone Director and currently serves on the National Rules Committee. Proposed Regional President: Nancy, Linda, Bev.

- To leave room for growth in Region 3, we needed a team to be misplaced in Region 2 – Dare volunteered because they historically host shows in cooperation with West Licking.

Available Hunter Shows: Sylvan, Mid Ohio, West Licking, Dare and Bay Crest

Zone 5 Region 3

Autumn Rose	Culver
Bay Hill	Hancock
Beckett Run	Limerick Lane
Childress Rogers	Olentangy
Sylvan	

(110 riders)

NOTES:

- Existing IEA Directors: Wayne, Gwen, Ollie. Proposed Regional President: Gretchen, Wayne, Gwen.
- Region 3 was intentionally left a little smaller because they will be actively recruiting new teams from the fringes – northern Kentucky, Lexington, Louisville, Indianapolis.
- Bay Hill and Hancock had only western entries in 2007-08.

Available Hunter Shows: Beckett Run, Olentangy, Culver, other outside venues

ZONE 5 ENTRY GUIDELINES

1. Guaranteed entries Regular Zone 5 point shows must be able to accept *at least 1 rider per division for all teams in that region in accordance with IEA rule 4.D.2.....*

- Providing there is additional room, shows may accept additional entries from regional teams as long as all teams are given the same opportunities for additional entries.
- If there is still room, entries can be extended to teams from outside the region but within Zone 5.
- Space permitting, shows can open entries to teams from outside Zone 5.

2. Qualification for Regionals Individual riders and teams will qualify for Regional Championships under standard IEA qualification guidelines.

- Qualified teams and riders will compete at a Regional Championship show to earn the opportunity to compete at Zones.
- Regionals should be held no later than two weeks prior to Zones
- Regional finals will be funded in a similar fashion to zones, \$2 added per ride and set aside for Regional Finals. The maximum allowed entry fee for a regular point show may only be charged to the rider. If the EHC sets their entry fee at the maximum allowed the \$2 regional dues will come from the EHC show profits/budget. Additional funds may be raised for the regional final show through sales of ads etc. Following a regular point show, the EHC will provide an official program to the zone chair within the same time frame as required by the Membership Secretary in the current IEA rulebook. The zone chair will count entries and will bill the EHC \$2 per ride for the regional fund. Should there be a counting discrepancy between the zone and official

count of the National Membership Secretary, the lower count will be used. This collection will be held in the Zone 5 account and given to the Regional President (or leader) to be used for the regional championship show. Each region will be allotted the monies collected for all regular point shows where the EHC (based on the show application approved by the National Membership Secretary) is a member of that region. Co hosting teams will NOT be considered in the allocation of the regional funds even if they are not members of the same region as the EHC. The Zone chair will report to each region president regarding the balance of that region's show fund on December 15th and March 15th of each year for planning purposes. There will be no \$2 per entry collected for the Regional Championship show itself. However, any national dues per entry as declared in the current IEA rulebook will be required for the Regional Championship show.

3. Qualification for Zones Individuals and teams will qualify for Zone 5 Championships as follows:

- a. To determine the number of individual and teams showing at the Zone Championship show, the current rule in the official IEA rulebook will be used. For the 2008-2009 season rule 4.C.2.Regional Split Guidelines. Zone Finals will be used. See below

Zone Finals

1. Teams and individuals will qualify for Zone finals under the IEA Rule 4.C.3.
2. There will be no more than 12 riders per class at the Zone Finals and no more than 12 teams at Zone Finals. Rider positions and team positions for Zone Finals will be proportionately divided among the regions of the zone based upon the number of members in each region as determined by IEA membership on December 31st of each year.

4. Further Growth Issues

- a. Once a region reaches fifteen (15) teams a mandatory review to split is required the following year.
- b. A region that was established but has less than three (3) teams registered by October 15 should be absorbed back into existing regions.
- c. Teams will still be required to host / co-host within their regions as is currently required.
- d. See IEA, Rule 2.C.1.e, all hosted/co hosted shows in fulfillment of this rule, must be done WITHIN a team's own region. However, additional shows may be co hosted across regional boundaries...

Conclusion

The preceding proposal was created out of ongoing discussion amongst coaches of Zone 5, formalized in two structured coaches meetings late in the year, and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY at the IEA Zone 5 Coaches meeting held in Crawfordsville, Indiana on March 28, 2008.

Note: Some changes were made to the original proposal to stay in accordance with the new rules for the 08-09 season on July 14, 2008.

Additional changes made following review by the IEA Executive Committee on July 17, 2008. Those noted in red were made upon IEA Executive Committee requests. Those in blue are revisions seeking additional reconsideration.

Following the 8/4/08 notations made by National Steward, Sue Wentzel all changes have been made but Zone 5 is still requesting consideration in the Regional show dues guideline.