

NAR Board of Trustees conference call, September 4, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 PM Eastern Time.

Present: Carol Marple, Vice President; Mark Wise, Secretary; Kevin Johnson, Treasurer; Randy Boadway; Becky Green; Ed LaCroix; Lynn Thomas; Jim Wilkerson.

Absent: John Hochheimer, President.

Carol chaired the meeting in John's absence.

Junior Level 1 Written Exam

Jim has drafted a written exam to be used as part of the Junior Level 1 high power certification. He sent it out to the other Trustees, the Level 3 Coordinating Committee, and John Thompson (the new HPR committee chair). He's received some comments from the L3CC.

Jim proposes requiring a written exam before a Junior Level 1 certification flight. This would align NAR's certification program with Tripoli's junior L1 program so that both organizations can cross-certify members. (An adult member of NAR can receive high power certification upon showing proof of TRA certification and vice versa, but this does not currently hold true for junior members.)

Ed asked whether we should write more than 20 questions in order to align the NAR exam more closely with the TRA exam. Jim said that some of the TRA members he's consulted think that their exam is too difficult, and that 20 questions is adequate.

The entire question pool will be posted to the NAR website with answers and supporting documentation. Carol asked if a practice test would be available, and if the NAR question pool matched TRA's question pool. Jim suggested that Carol check out the mentoring section of TRA's website. He added that he wanted to avoid explicit duplication of TRA's test, but that some questions would be similar.

Jim moved that NAR add a written exam to the Junior Level 1 certification process. Lynn seconded.

Randy requested an amendment to include an effective date for the change. Jim suggested October 15th. Carol suggested November 1st in order to involve Chuck Neff (who can inform Section leaders through their newsgroup) and allow John to include the information in the October issue of *The Electronic Rocketeer*.

Carol asked Jim to write up an article for the *E-Rocketeer*. Carol will also post an announcement to the Facebook page at the appropriate time. Jim will type up the motion, submit text to John for the *E-Rocketeer*, to Carol for Facebook, and to Chuck Neff for the Section newsgroup. The text will explain that this motion is for the purpose of allowing NAR Junior Level 1 members to fly at TRA events.

Subsequently, Jim submitted an updated version of his motion via e-mail:

I move that the NAR amend its Junior L1 certification process to include a written test. This test –

- **Will be twenty questions**
- **Will consist of a master question bank available (with answers) for study**
- **Will be distributed to NAR sections**

- **May be administered by Section officers or Jr L1 certification team members (L1 or higher)**
- **Will be taken and passed prior to the certification flight**
- **May be re-taken immediately in case of a failure but may only be taken twice in a seven-day period**
- **Will comply with any other details and processes as the L2 test**

Details will be announced to the NAR membership through the September *E-Rocketeer*, section news, highlight on the website, NAR Facebook page announcement, and other means.

The requirement will be enacted for Jr L1 certification attempts occurring on or after November 1st, 2019. Certification paperwork without the accompanying test certification completed after that date will be returned as incomplete.

The motion will be voted on during the October conference call.

Treasurer's Report

Kevin updated the Board. He needs to find time to meet with John Hochheimer and Anne Heacock to get going on the transition. He is working with John to obtain the necessary account accesses, and he will reach out to Tom Ha.

Kevin is considering what processes need to change, and has contacted Ed Chess regarding the respective roles of the Treasurer and the Comptroller.

Kevin expects to receive a thumb drive from John with relevant information. Carol asked about transitioning to online storage, and said that she'd discuss it with John.

Miscellaneous

John sent some updates via e-mail before the meeting. At the end of August, we stood at 201 sections and 7534 members, both of which are all-time high numbers. The trend is still going strong as we lead into our best months for new members. Ed asked Kevin if we could get a monthly update on number of A and B division members gained or lost each month, so that we can get a better sense of the level of youth participation.

Becky asked about free Junior memberships – where does one find that information on the website? Kevin suggested that she contact Chuck Neff, sections@nar.org. Randy said that participation has been mediocre, but this year's level (>20) is already more than last year's total.

Ed discussed National Events briefly. Bill Clune, MaryBeth Clune, and Dan Wolf have been appointed to manage NARAM-62. An ad for the 2020 National Sport Launch will appear in the next issue of *Sport Rocketry*.

Randy reminded us to make sure that NAR members are affiliated with Sections in NAR database so that points are credited appropriately for the Section championship. He also mentioned that every state but Mississippi currently has at least one Section.

The next call will be on October 2 at 9:00 PM Eastern Time.

Call adjourned at 10:03 PM.