

**Minutes from Region 14 Annual Meeting and Election**  
**August 5, 2018 at 1:00 PM**  
**Windy Meadows Equestrian Center, La Grange, KY**

Director Duane Esser called the meeting to order with First Vice Director Jeff Caldwell, Second Vice Director Debbie Glasener, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Joe Hull in attendance. Nine of twelve clubs were represented by 18 of the 24 eligible delegates. Those clubs were BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KARABS, NEOAHA, OAATS, OHAHA, OVAHA and SAHIBA. Thanks to Ellie Troutman and her staff for hosting this meeting.

**MINUTES:** Jeff moved and Donna Kitchel seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Joe reported that he has changed some the captions on the treasurer's report for clarification, like receipts vs. assets, etc. Debbie G moved and Sherry Hull seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. This passed unanimously.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Duane reported on the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting held August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

- The AHA vs. PAT lawsuit is now in the hands of the judge and the verdict should be out by Labor Day. The judge seemed very understanding of both sides.
- Region 14 is the largest regional championship show in the U.S.
- There is discussion again about re-structuring the regions – the pros and cons. A SWAT study (an analysis tool) will be done to see if that will help struggling regional shows. They talked about the concept of a “Super Regional Show” which would be two (2) regional shows coming together as one show – not concurrent. It may help to minimize costs, etc.
- The Competitions Advisory Committee (CAC) is also looking into the concept of a “Super Regional Show.” There was discussion of past ideas and how this could help struggling regional shows as well as how the finances would be handled. Participation would be voluntary and this would just be for the show – not combining the regions.
- The CAC also discussed how to handle an AHA Competition card that is mandatory for a judge, outside of our breed who would be judging our specialty classes (dressage, sport horse, reining, ranch horse, etc.) They reduced the cost by making it just a basic AHA membership. Also AHA judges who don't show can now just have the same basic membership – no competition card is needed. Many were unaware that as of January 2018 the competition membership was mandatory. Judges being AHA members provides us a way to insure that they are judging our breed based on our Code of Ethics.
- A resolution is being drafted that for regional specialty classes (dressage, sport horse, ranch riding, etc.) it would be possible to hold those as concurrent classes.
- The subject of how easy it is to qualify for Regionals and Nationals will be a forum at convention conducted by a three-member committee (Duane, Cathy Gage and Mimi Gaffey). Also the discussion will include the effects of concurrent shows, two-year qualification and the East/West rotation of Sport Horse Nationals and how this affects participation at local shows.
- They are also looking at allowing having the same ‘specialty’ judge for both the pre-show and regional classes.
- The BOD also made a motion to allow Half Arabian stallions in Performance Halter, showing under saddle and a halter class (no whips) at the same show. This is a newer division.
- Youth National entries were down this year. Duane has asked CAC to consider adding Academy horses and classes in the future. Canadian National entries appear to be up, with many parents and children showing the same horse(s). This may explain why Youth Nationals was down.
- CAC is also looking into recognizing small offsite value shows for the specialty classes.
- AHA is continuing to build and update the website.

- They are also looking into assistance in helping to collect indebted accounts by suspending members for unpaid show fees.
- Membership is down by 4%. Registrations are down as well, 7.3% for Purebreds and 9% for Half Arabians. Duane estimates that about 1500 have been registered so far this year. AHA is also asking that membership chairs remind folks when their membership is about to expire.
- Convention is November 13-16 at the Hyatt Regency in Tulsa, OK. Reminder to club presidents to send in their delegate/alternates to AHA by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, note that the 2020 convention will be hosted at the Silver Legacy in Reno, NV.
- USEF offers a course for all licensed officials, including show managers, etc. It is called Safe Sport and it is meant as education for those dealing with amateur sports, not just horses. There is no statute of limitations on allegations. This program is based on federal laws, not just USEF, AHA, etc.
- The AHA BOD is changing the structure of the trustees on the Breeders Sweepstakes board. In the past, it consisted of the 29 directors of AHA acting as trustees. Now that number will be reduced to seven (7). Three (3) will come from the commission and the other four (4) will be appointed by the AHA BOD. Also, the BOD reserves the power to dissolve this structure if needed. It is hoped that it will make it easier to make decisions concerning the sweepstakes program.

Duane also reported on the status of our Arabian Horses for Humanity horse. The design has been finalized and they are in the process of getting the paint. This will be donated to the Cincinnati Childrens Hospital auction. It will depict a child making a wish by blowing on dandelion seeds and they will become an Arabian running across the desert, with the child riding the horse. Karen Kasper created a template that can be used to create the design on the horse. The Art Institute of Cincinnati students were recruited to come up with the design for our Region 14 horse.

Marketing Development and Promotion (MDP) is working with Lisa Blackstone to have a horse painted by former president George W. Bush and then auctioned off to benefit Wounded Warriors. This came about when Lisa was judging with Liz Shatner (William Shatner's wife).

Remember that resolutions are due to AHA by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Duane appointed the Budget Committee: Joe, Debbie S, Duane, Jeff and Debbie G.

**FIRST VICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Jeff reported on an upcoming event, an Arabian race on September 29<sup>th</sup> as part of the event "Churchill Downs after Dark." It will have a \$100,000 purse.

Southwest is offering discount airfares to Tulsa for U.S. Nationals via the AHA website, under Member services.

The Judges school this year will be held in Tampa, FL, November 29<sup>th</sup> to December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

He also reported on some new classes that are being added to the 2018 U.S. Nationals: open Yearling halter, Ranch Riding, Trail Derby and a Reining Rookie Primetime non-pro class.

The Canadian Nationals are also adding two (2) new maturity classes for the Arabian Western Pleasure Association (AWPA).

In 2019, Sport Horse Nationals will be moving to Balmoral Park, near Crete, Ill. All venues will be held outside. This is former racetrack that is now a national level show facility.

The Ethics Committee has a resolution that the delegates will be voting on at convention.

Again, Jeff reminded us that resolutions are due to AHA by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Joe clarified that resolutions can be submitted by clubs, regional boards of directors, AHA level commissions, and the AHA president but not from individuals. He also reminded the meeting anything that is handled via a resolution, can only be changed in the future via a resolution.

Duane spoke to the fact that the Ranch Riding division is new to our breed, so we are still learning to have a better understanding of the division. There was discussion as to the learning curve for judging.

**SECOND VICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT / AWARDS BANQUET:** Debbie G thanked all who helped make this year's Awards Banquet one of the best with 128 attending. This event was not started to be profitable for the region, but rather a way to gather together to recognize members of the region as a social event. We made \$1329.41. She wants to encourage clubs to offer incentives for their members to attend. The same location has been reserved for next year, March 9, 2019.

**YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Brinley Swears thanked Ellie for being our host. She challenged the folks at the meeting to get youth involved in the region. We need involvement beyond Breyerfest and Equine Affaire.

**EQUINE AFFAIRE:** Jennifer Tucker wants to thank everyone that helped with Equine Affaire this year. They made some changes and it was successful. This venue is not like Breyerfest, a lot of these are folks own horses, etc. Goldie was a huge hit and also they ran the short video by Horse Fly Films – "O, Arabian." We had no raffle or give away, but we need to have one in the future. She had a jar for visitors to put in a piece with their idea of what an Arabian horses means to them. The comments included "endurance, majestic, intelligent, spirited, warm and loving, powerful, high-spirited, elegant, versatile" and more. One of the negative comments was "expensive." This was a great tool to see what is the perception of our breed. As to the handouts, there are never enough from AHA and they cost us the postage, which is a negative incentive to participate in these events. We need the horse markings sheet (most popular), the map of the horses and the coloring sheet. We had seven (7) horses that stood in the stall attached to our 10 x 20 booth. The owners of these horses opted to pay for their premium stalling (\$150 per stall). Volunteers need to be willing to reach out and talk to the visitors. Jennifer presented statistics that Equine Affaire provided.

Cindy noted that Scottsdale has Scottsdale but Region 14 has Equine Affaire and Breyerfest, which is more promotional of the Arabian horse.

Carl Malicote feels that AHA should discontinue the magazine and put that money into promo events like Equine Affaire and Breyerfest.

Duane noted that at the BOD meeting, we have gotten AHA's attention with these two (2) events.

Jackie MacLaren moved and Joe seconded a motion to continue to budget \$4,000 for this event. This will not include what the clubs also donate. Ellen Patterson reminded us that our IRS not-for-profit status includes promotion. Joe also noted that he would bring to the budget meeting at convention a new category to the budget and fund it with \$5,000-10,000 from our savings for Promotion.

**REGIONAL SHOW REPORT:** Cindy reported that we had a wonderful regional show. Thanks to everyone that made it possible. Exhibitors had fun even though we made adjustments for all the rain.

For 2019, Cindy is working on having the preshow be concurrent for the Youth and main ring – 80 classes.

She is willing to give the Dressage and Hunter type splits for the Sport Horse in Hand classes one more year. She wanted to thank all the volunteers that stepped up to make the rings and classes work.

All TBA classes will now be at the end of the show. There will be some changes in center ring. It would be nice to get a few more volunteers to help spread out the work. Bistro costs went up but to change how we feed the judges and volunteers as well as trainers and exhibitors could cause logistical problems.

Duane commented that at CAC meeting, he was asked what does he attribute the success of our Region 14 show to and his comment was “it is Cindy and her army.” He also thanked Jennifer for her work on Equine Affaire.

**BREYEREST:** Lori Henderson recapped the event. The average age of attendees is 8-15. There were around 15,000 attending – the biggest ever. Very few own real horses – they have a plastic horse and a dream. Her volunteer base was up too this year plus we had 16 horses that showed (in multiple divisions), including a four (4) year old that was presented on leadline. We posted on Facebook live every day. We had Goldie at the end of our stall row at barn 6 and that was a big hit for photo ops – like having a giant Breyer horse. Empress ++++// was also a big hit. He came from Canada, a three (3) day trip. He was a new model this year. [*Jeff noted that it was mentioned at the BOD meeting that, in 2019, Breyer will be looking at adding two (2) more Arabians to their models.*] Empress ++++// was first in our demo, shown at liberty and then finished the demo in native costume. On Sunday, Ellie rode her Ranch Riding horse with the flag as part of the opening ceremony.

We used the booth display panel from Mary Trowbridge that showed children with Arabian horses. The promo items we gave out included 3000 gift bags, 5000 wristbands, 3200 trading cards and countless literature and magazines. Most everything was gone Saturday. Each day we had a raffle for a horsehead bust that Cindy donated from Region 14. We also raffled an Arabian horse head pencil drawing donated by one of the vendors.

The horses that were in the stalls were available to be petted and information cards were there for each, including their color and discipline. The “meet and greet” after our demo was huge, it would last up to two (2) hours. Most of the other demo groups don’t do this.

We get our stalls for free, as Breyer, Inc. pays for them. We spent \$500 for the booth space and \$950 was donated by individuals and clubs for printing plus the bags and wristbands. The total spent was about \$1900. It would be nice if we could increase to a 10 x 20 booth and getting more printed material would be a big help. Jeff commented that we may hear more at convention. Deneb Thompson feels that AHA should go through Lori if they want to help promote this event. Neil would like to see us double the budget for this event. Lori moved and Deneb seconded a motion to continue to participate in Breyerfest and to budget \$4000 from the region and then also ask clubs to donate as they have in the past. This passed. At the end of this meeting, Lori played a video of the event. It will also be posted on YouTube.

Duane was presented with his first Breyer horse – Empress ++++// (signed). He thanked Lori for all her hard work.

**BY-LAWS UPDATE:** Joe presented the changes that we need to make to our By-Laws to bring them up-to-date with the changes that AHA has made in the allocation of delegates per club membership. The motions include:

1. Change the regional dues DUE DATE from July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup> (amount is based on club membership count as of June 30<sup>th</sup>.)
2. Change so that no matter how many members per club, that club is entitled to at least one delegate at our regional meetings.
3. Change the allocation of delegates from 50 to 35 full AHA members per club. AHA allows clubs with membership of 10-35 to have one delegate and 35-70 to have two (2) delegates.

Sherry H seconded a motion to make these changes to our By-Laws. Sherri Lewis asked why the clubs have to pay dues to the region, especially since the membership no longer gets the Corral. It was noted that the dues never were used to pay for a subscription to the Corral – that came through the club level. Cindy commented that



are supposed to scan the horses. And almost all vets have a scanner. There is an equine protection registry that also records the microchips for a fee.

Of the geldings they have recently given away, they have proven themselves – one was National Champion Sport Horse last year and five (5) geldings are on the short track to becoming part of the World Equestrian Games team for junior riders.

Mark was asked if a pamphlet could be created that would explain the registry process and also the steps on how to register an unregistered horse. This could then be given out to those asking the questions at Equine Affaire and Breyerfest. He will take this request back to the commission.

He also related a story of when they moved horses from their farm in Brazil to the U.S. Two (2) fillies were not eligible to be registered as their parents had not been DNA typed. They were unsuccessful for 20 years. Then this past year, they presented pictures of the sire and dam and DNA on the full siblings living in Brazil. Through perseverance, they were able to register the surviving 20 year olds filly.

Duane wants to include Mark on our meeting agendas in the future.

Duane thanked Brinley for all her work as Region 14 Youth Director. The reins are being passed to her sister – McCartney Swears. She is 16 years old and has been riding all her life.

The region's trailer that stores many of the things we use each year at the show needs some cosmetic work – new paint and logo. The regional show budget will handle this expense.

Sherry L noted that this year's Dayton Horse Show was a value show, meaning no USEF fees, etc. It has moved to Springfield for now, since the Montgomery County fairgrounds has closed. She was wondering how to get permission to add Arabian classes to this show. She was advised to go to the Dayton Horse Show's management and that she doesn't need regional approval for this process.

Deneb noted that John Morici's wife, Betty had asked SAHIBA for help in selling a lot of the tack that John had accumulated over the years. That tack sale will be September 21-22.

Cindy moved and Jeff seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart,  
Region 14 Secretary