Director Jeff Caldwell's Report: August 23, 2020

- 1. AHA Updates, Interim EVP Stan Morey assumed responsibilities on July 1st. His primary focus is the financial health of AHA, the effects of COVID-19 and AHA, determining the short term and long-term effects of loss of income. Planning for 2021 based on uncertain income for reminder of 2020 and into 2021. Formed a restructure committee due to difficult staffing decisions, moving AHA forward with limited resources of 33-total employees, majority of staff are continuing to work from home to encourage social distancing.
- 2. Registry Services, Registered 1,129 Arabians through June 30th compared to 1,133 last year at this time, the number of registrations completed this year compared to last year at this time is relatively the same. This is a significant improvement over the number of registrations completed in 2019 compared to 2018. Through July 26, we have completed 1,257 registrations. We are on track to be flat or a small number ahead at the end of July. Registered 402 Half-Arabians through June 30th compared to 336 last year at this time, 10% increase over this time last year. Through July 26, we have completed 449 registrations, this is 1% ahead of where we were at the end of July 2019. The Registration Commission implemented an Amnesty program that was to run from September 15, 2019 through March 31, 2020. The program offered a reduced registration fee for horses two

years of age and older. The purebred registration fee is reduced from \$350 to \$250, Half-Arabian registration fee is reduced from \$200 to \$150. Revenue for both purebred and Half-Arabian registration was very strong in March because the amnesty was scheduled to end on the 31st. The Commission decided to extend the amnesty through the end of June as a result of the pandemic. We received 550 amnesty registration requests for purebreds and 226 for Half-Arabians. The amnesty was successful in increasing revenue, It also increased the number of completed registrations especially in 2020. Unknown DNA Testing. Identity DNA testing for unidentified but possibly registered horses, we began offering this service in 2016 and over 350 cases have been established since inception. the process has been updated and as a result the wait time for the test is significantly less. Approximately 30% have been identified as a registered horse, the remaining 70% are either not an Arabian or it is an unregistered horse.

3. DataSource, the responsibilities and support for DataSource moved to Registry Services early in 2019. A comprehensive list of suggestions for improvements and changes has been compiled from subscriber feedback. We worked with the IT team to identify the top requests and the product was updated earlier this year. Two of our subscribers are uploading photos from the IAHA Yearbooks and other older periodicals. They have

- uploaded hundreds of photos weekly for the past several months.
- 4. Member Services, Memberships; As of June 30, were 14,475 members compared to 16,535 in 2019, This is a decline of 11% compared to a decline of 6.5% in 2019. 8,216 of the 14,475 members have Competition Cards (including adult and youth). The number of Competition Card holders has declined 15% compared to a decline of 6.3% in 2019 at this time. The Youth Membership has declined 20% compared to a decline of 6% in 2019 at this time. As of July 26th, we have 15,559 members compared to 16,535 at the end of July 2019. The decline decreased to 6% as of July 26th, 8,841 of the 15,559 members have Competition Cards (including adult and youth). The decline in the number Competition Card holders is now 10%. The renewals received during the pandemic mainly came from customers completing registration related work. Competition card holders were not renewing their membership when shows were unavailable due to COVID-19. The decline in Youth members has decreased to 14%
- 5. Ad Hoc Committee Reports Question raised: Are clubs getting automatic mailings about memberships that have expired? Will send a list to all directors. Different regions/clubs do different things to encourage renewal of memberships. We MUST encourage every club's Membership chair to reach out to members whom memberships have expired.

6. Competitions & Convention Senior Director - Leslie Lockard Comments: Staffing Changes, With the recent downsizing of the Competitions Department the list of individuals and their main areas of responsibilities: Abby Carpenter: All Award Programs (Ach., Dressage Rider, USDF All-Breed, Distance and Incentive Programs), Show and Ride Results, Courtney Gibson: Show Approval, back up for Achievement Awards, back up for Convention, Cheryl Holloway: Supervisor, Sweepstakes, Halter Futurity and Performance Futurity/Maturity Programs, back up for EPRB/PCP. All are in the Competitions call rotation and are cross-trained to help each other. In addition, they have assisted Registry Services with Stud Book entry and photo approval for DataSource and National Events Department with various projects.

Regionals Held in 2020

Region 1 offsite – 19 horses

Region 2 – 284 horses

Region 6 – 154 horses

Region 9 – 439 horses

Region 11 – 249 horses

Region 14 – 558 horses

Region 15 – 298 horses

Pacific Slope – 159 horses

Note: Pacific Slope is listed as it holds regional status. We still have several regionals slated for August and

- September and hopefully the horse counts at those shows will further help the lost income we have experienced.
- 7. J&S Commissioner's Reports by: Stan Morey, Effects of COVID-19: Determining the short and long term effect of loss of income. Commissioner's Office funded 100% from 5-90 fee. Cancellations (all originally scheduled for December 2020 Exhibitors/Judges School) Evaluation/testing of 'r' judge candidates Judges' Seminar, Interview for National/Regional judges, licenses/promotion, severely reduced opportunities for 'r' candidates to apprentice, severely reduced opportunities for 'r' judges to officiate, severely reduced opportunities for 'R' judges to officiate. Estimate 2-3 years before we are back on track with new 'r' judges, newly promoted 'R' judges and any additional National/Regional judges **Education & Evaluation Commission, identifying online** potential education modules for our judges. In discussion to align on-line educational modules with sister organizations, Example: APHA and their Horse IQ website. Working with USEF to grant automatic one-year extension of continuing education requirements for Arabian judges. Judges & Stewards Selection Committee, officials for 2020 national events are contracted we met in March to select judges and stewards for 2021. Projects, opportunity to revamp school, evaluation/testing and seminar for 2021. Development of educational PPTs.

- Update the Judges' Notebook Chapters with any rule changes going into effect 12/1/2020.
- 8. Donations received of \$26,000 from clubs and regions and the Mickey Hay estate a past Region 10 member.
- 9. Annual Convention Planning Committee Virtual Convention presentation by: Deborah Johnson, V Voter software for convention delegate registration and voting Training will be scheduled by AHA, Committee meetings can be scheduled. Regional caucuses can be held via Zoom if desired, two rule forums plus plenary session, Voting on resolutions like USEF consent calendar process, Estimated \$155 for delegates, \$50 for guests. Discussion of \$175 proposed but needs more review. Solicit sponsors to help offset expenses. Resolutions pertaining to Convention – changes needed to be made for 2020 only Electronic Voting Resolution, this was. Resolution, suspending certain convention rules for 2020 was approved. Resolution to allow electronic voting – Article 9 Section 2 – Bylaw proposal to be voted on at Convention. If it does not get approved, ballots would be mailed.
- 10. Nominations Nancy Harvey
 Board/Commissions/Committees nominations solicited
 during meeting; can send in nominations up to
 September 1st and then from the floor during Convention
- 11. Competition Advisory Committee, Potential resolutions. Discussions for 2021 and qualifications.

Dressage freestyle score resolution approved – effective 12/1/2020 (Handbook) Discussion regarding Value shows Looking at expanding Value Shows to include regionals. Establish amateur rules and processes within AHA plus Drugs & Medication program.

Value Shows are about 30% of AHA shows. Input from Jim Hitt and Stan Morey on work so far accomplished. Number of people uncomfortable with D&M portion especially. Stan has been talking with some non-USEF organizations about working together to develop a consortium to spread risk and establish solid rules.

- At this point Value Show rules are not controlled by resolution. The Competition Advisory Committee, Stan Morey, Leslie Lockard, Jim Hitt, and others are adamant about keeping it this way. Peter Conway stated: we should be governed by opportunity, not by fear! Many of the questions regarding relationship with USEF were answered in the Task Force presentation last Fall. Will look into USDF schooling shows and how they fit into AHA qualifications, awards, etc.
- Timeline: When do we approve Arabian Value Show rules, when the Competition Advisory Committee are comfortable with answers to all questions that were submitted, but more importantly to get it done right instead of fast.
- 12. Presentation for possible Ranch Horse Nationals in 2021 Needs to go through Budget and Finance before

- moving forward. Various questions but overall concept seems to be supported by at least some of the directors.
- 13. AHA National Distance Commission, many reasons for cancellation: Couldn't wait until last minute when training is a long process with distance riding horses. Oregon not open enough to accommodate crews for social distancing. Meetings could be only 25 people, masks when doing vet checks, and other related issues. In a national park which takes 5% of gross for entries.
- *14*. Youth and Mid-Summer Nationals was very successful from a financial and exhibitor standpoint, with 1204 horses shown & 4,487 entries. Well received and much needed positive event for our members and our industry as a whole. There were many youth programs re-imagined to allow for social distancing, those included crafts to go, sanitary congratulations ponies COVID-19 Protocols established and followed very well, Increase in Social Media and Marketing presence through video, photos, judges' critiques, etc. Looking at options for judging contest The New AHA App Launched, Search Arabian Horse Association in your app store, it was used successfully at the YN/MSN. A virtual convention was held with new board elected, Brooke Backlund 2020-2021 AHYA President, Grace Smith 2020-2021 AHYA Vice President.
- 15. Sport Horse Nationals COVID-19 Scratch Date: September 17th. After that date no refunds will be given.

The Sport Horse Show Commission will be visiting World Equestrian Center in Wilmington, OH a lot of positive discussion on this facility for future Sport Horse Nationals! Was told that the Sport Horse Committee did do a site visit and thought the facility was great, but the cost is a BIG factor, almost double from the previously used facilities!

16. PLEASE NOTE: there has been missed informed information on these classes, so a correction has been made..... The Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Commission is pleased to announce that the following classes will be offered at the 2020 U.S. National Arabian & Half-Arabian Championship Horse Show:

ABS Arabian Stallion AAO Performance Halter

ABS Arabian Gelding AAO Performance Halter

ABS Arabian Mare

AAO Performance Halter

ABS HA/AA Gelding

AAO Performance Halter

ABS HA/AA Mare

AAO Performance Halter

\$25,000 will be available for each Arabian class

Champion - \$5,000

Reserve Champion - \$3,200

Top Ten - \$2,100

\$15,00 will be available for each HA/AA class Champion - \$4,000 Reserve Champion - \$3,000 Top Ten - \$1,000

The only qualifications to compete in these classes are that the horse must be shown & judged in a Performance class at US Nationals and MUST be a Sweepstakes Breeding Entry or Original Entry.

Note: A horse that is co-owned by two distinct nonfamily members *cannot* be shown in the ABS AAO Performance Halter Classes.

Program updates, currently receiving Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby entries, approximately ¼ of the entries have been received to date under the payment option (Note: budgeted for 475 horses) Most entries are received late, as participates would rather pay a late fee knowing that their horse is ready to compete than to make payments and discover they are not ready.

The 2020 Canadian National Halter Futurity Classes have been moved and will be held at the 2020 US National Championship Show in Tulsa, OK. This classes include:

Arabian Futurity Filly Arabian Futurity Colt

Arabian Futurity Gelding HA/AA Futurity Filly HA/AA Futurity Gelding

These classes will be held as separate Futurity Classes from the US National Halter Futurity Classes and will be adjudicated by a different panel of judges than those that will judge the US National Halter Futurity Classes. All associated fees must be paid in order to participate in these classes.

Note: All Half-Arabian horses competing in the Half-Arabian Halter Futurity Program must have DNA type of the horse and the horse's Purebred Arabian parent on permanent record with the AHA Registry and the horse has been shown to qualify as an offspring of the stated purebred parent. The DNA parent verification must be on file at the AHA office in order for the horse to be eligible to compete in the class. All U.S. Nationals Entries are due August 25- FINAL DEADLINE, No entries will be accepted after this date without a petition. Scratches related to COVID-19 related reasons will be accepted until October 9 for a full refund minus the office fee. Details about the show can be found at www.arabianhorses.org/USN

17. Purebred Arabian Trust, Arabian Horse Galleries in Lexington, KY is now 10 years old as of June 2010.

Working with Kentucky Horse Park to identify improvements, especially in technology.

18. USEF Report – New President – Tom O'Mara.

Annual meeting will be online. USEF Board make up will be adjusted for active athletes needing to be 30%.