

Minutes from Region 14 Meeting
August 23, 2020 @ 7:00 PM
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Director Jeff Caldwell called the meeting to order with First Vice Director Dave Daugherty, Second Vice Director Jennifer Tucker, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Joe Hull in attendance. Ten clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS and SAHIBA. This meeting was held virtually via ZOOM in order to comply with COVID restrictions on meetings. It was well received and was viewed by 27 regional members.

Secretary's Report: Cindy Clinton moved and Cindy Ryan seconded a motion to accept the January minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported that there has been very little activity this year to the region's finances with the cancellations of our Awards Banquet, Equine Affaire, and Breyerfest. Dave asked if all the clubs' regional dues were paid. Joe said all except two (2) clubs have paid their dues. He has spoken to those clubs. Deneb Thompson moved and Duane Esser seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. It passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Jeff provided the meeting with a thorough accounting of the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting that was held August 7th. *[He has compiled a detailed report of that meeting. It is available on our regional website, www.aha14.com as a PDF under the Regional Info tab]*

- As of July 1st, Stan Morey assumed the duties of Interim Executive Vice President for AHA after the retirement of Glenn Petty June 30th. Stan will be working with the staff as they operate through this pandemic. At this time the majority of the 33 employees are working from home.
- Registrations numbers for 2020 have changed little for Purebreds with 1129 registries as of June 30th vs. 1133 from last year at the same time. Half Arabian registrations are up with 402 compared to 336 last year at the same time. The Amnesty Program was due to end March 31st, but the commission extended it until June 30th and this had been successful. Registry Services also handles the support of DATA SOURCE.
- AHA memberships have declined 11% compared to 2019 – currently we have 14475 members, with 8216 having competition cards (a decline of 15%). The youth memberships have declined 20%. Some of this decline appears to be the result of so many shows canceled due to COVID. An Ad-Hoc committee is investigating if clubs are getting automatic mailings about their memberships. We need the membership chairs of our clubs to reach out to their members when their membership is expiring to encourage renewal.
- Senior Director of Competitions and Convention is Leslie Lockard and there have been staff changes. It was noted that of the numbers for 2020 regional shows 1, 2, 6, 9, 11, 14, 15 and Pacific Slope, Region 14 has had the most with 558.
- Judges and Stewards Commissioner Stan Morey reported to the board the effects of COVID-19 on the 2020 show season. He is working on how this is affecting the licenses of new judges and upgrading the 'r' to 'R' judge status. He estimates that it will take 2-3 years to get this back on track. They are also working with USEF to grant automatic one-year extension of continuing education requirements for Arabian judges.
- Plans are underway to set-up the AHA Convention to operate in the virtual world. Watch for more news on the way this will work.
- Other topics included Competitions Advisory's discussion of qualifications for 2021, Value shows and their governance (these account for 30% of AHA shows), reviewing the possible Ranch Horse Nationals for 2021 and the cancellation of the National Distance Ride.
- **YOUTH and MID-SUMMER NATIONALS:** these combined shows were a great success with 1204 horses and 4487 entries. COVID protocols were strictly enforced but this venue was well received. AHA launched a new app that will be used for the national shows. Also the AHYA held a virtual convention and elected their new president and vice-president.
- **SPORT HORSE NATIONALS:** they extended the COVID-19 scratch date to September 17th. The show will be held in Nampa, Idaho September 22nd – 26th. For 2021, the Sport Horse commission will be visiting the World Equestrian Center (WEC) in Wilmington, OH as a possible venue since the 2019 location, Balmoral in Illinois, was sold. Cost will be an issue in choosing a new site.

- **U.S.NATIONALS:** The Breeder Sweepstakes commission announced nine (9) new classes for this year's show. Each Arabian class will award \$25,000: \$5000 for champion, \$3200 for reserve and \$2100 for Top Ten. The Half Arabian classes will award \$15,000: \$4000, \$3000 and \$1000 respectively. Also the Canadian National Futurity classes will be held at Tulsa and will be separate of the U.S. National Futurity classes.
- The Arabian Horses Galleries at the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) is now 10 years old. The Purebred Arabian Trust is working with KHP to identify improvements, especially in technology.
- The new USEF president is Tom O'Mara. Their Annual meeting will be held online.
- **Budget Committee:** Jeff appointed the following members to the budget committee – Joe, Jennifer, Duane Esser, Dave and Debbie S. This committee usually meets at convention, so an alternative will need to be found. Joe will send out an email at joe.hull43@gmail.com prior to convention. Any request for items to be added to the 2021 budget should be sent to Joe (the convention runs November 18th – 21st).
- **Change of venue for Region 14 Hunter/Jumper show:** The Elmira Fall Finale, to be held October 9th – 11th, has requested permission to hold our regional Offsite Over Fences classes for 2020 only. Our usual venue – the Region 12 Palmetto show was cancelled due to the pandemic. Cindy Clinton moved to approve this venue change for 2020 only and Joe seconded, as well as amended it to confirm with the Elmira show management that they are responsible for the costs and AHA requirements. This passed. Linda Laufer suggested that this be added to the regional AHA Insider e-blast.

First Vice Director's Report: Dave reported on the U.S. Nationals and that the “hard” deadline for entries is August 25th with any late entries having to petition for acceptance and post-entry fees will be applied. Due to the pandemic, strict protocols will be in place for the show. Move-in will be allowed starting Saturday, October 17th at 7:00 AM and early arrivals MUST be pre-registered. They will be charged \$25 per stall for those that come in from Saturday through 7:00 AM Monday, October 19th. Dave also reported on the Awards Banquet and that it was a hard decision to cancel it. The ZOOM announcement of the winners was well received and most picked up their awards at Region 14. He wanted to thank all the sponsors.

Awards Banquet: Jeff asked whether the region should continue to hold the Awards Banquet in 2021? Debbie Glasener moved and Dave seconded a motion to continue this event. This passed. They have reserved the Holiday Inn for March 13, 2021. The committee that was formed to discuss any changes moving forward will meet via ZOOM at a TBA date and then report at our next meeting. Dave commented that this was never set up to be a for-profit event and Debbie G affirmed that this is a way for the region to give back to the members. Dave noted that the Silent Auction helps to defray costs. Joe stated that the banquet has never had a deficit. If you have any suggestions, feel free to send them to either Dave at ddaugh1@insight.rr.com or to Debbie G. at notr2469@yahoo.com

Second Vice Director's Report: Jennifer reported that our promotion of the Arabian breed has been on hold this year with the cancelation of Equine Affaire and Breyerfest, as well as the local “Meet An Arabian” events. She has talked with Jeff about the importance of maintaining our local level involvement, and to that end, Jennifer is now on that AHA Task Force. Our region has set a great example. Also if you want to be listed as a Discovery Farm with AHA, it is now FREE (AHA has waived the \$35 fee). Jeff added that there is a lot of discussion on getting involved at the grass roots level.

Regional Show Update: Cindy reported that we had a wonderful show and were up by 80 horses from 2019. Despite COVID-19, it was a very successful show. Due to restrictions, there was no Bistro, so we saved money. The revised schedule worked well and more classes were entered per horse. Tony Reid was the Dressage and Sport Horse coordinator. His help included his friend Bonnie and Debbie S. The dates for 2021 are June 30th – July 4th.

Election of Officers: Cindy, chair of the nominating committee listed the slate of officers and the candidates for those positions:

Jeff Caldwell – Director
 Dave Daugherty – First Vice Director
 Jennifer Tucker – Second Vice Director
 Debbie Swigart – Secretary
 Joe Hull - Treasurer

All are incumbents. She proceeded to ask for nominations from the floor, following protocol of asking three (3) times for each office. Since there were no additional nominations made, Cindy moved and Sherry Hull seconded a motion to close

the nominations. This passed. Then Joe moved that the vote to affirm this slate of officers be made by a “snail” mail ballot sent to each regional delegate. Sherry seconded and this passed. Also Joe made a second motion that, since these are uncontested positions, the ballot can be sent to the delegates via email but it must be “snail” mailed back to Cindy. The deadline will be September 30th. Sherry again seconded this motion and it was passed.

Old Business: none

New Business: Jeff reported that we got a thank you card from Youth Nationals that was hand written, acknowledging our sponsorship of 12 classes (these were listed as well). Brenna Whitlock of AHA has asked that we appoint a new Youth Director for Region 14. He asked that clubs submit names and that an adult who could volunteer to be a mentor and help this young leader succeed.

Martha Rattner reported that after a long process with the state of Kentucky and the bank, KAHA has been re-established as a viable non-profit horse club. It has been limbo due to the death of its long-time president Tony Conner almost two (2) years ago. The AHA club liaison was also a great help and she wishes to thank Glenn Petty for all his help. Martha and others wanted to see this club continue out of respect to Tony and to the Arabian breed.

Debbie S reminded club presidents that, if that they haven’t done so, need to send in their delegate/alternate form to AHA for this year’s convention. She also asked that they forward the AHA acknowledgment form to her for regional records.

Dave asked about how the region can help support its clubs due to the cancellation of shows this year. Maybe we can use the Region 14 Distress Fund to either give each club back their regional dues or give each a \$100 stimulus check. Joe thinks we should discuss it at the budget meeting and implement a new line item for 2021. Discussion continued as to whether any clubs need this financial help, since most didn’t have any show expenses and can roll over their budgets for 2021.

Jeff also wanted to acknowledge that our long time member, steward and USEF liaison Shirley Nowak was able to attend this virtual meeting. She has been greatly missed by all of us of Region 14!

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Swigart

Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary