

**Minutes from Region 14 Caucus Meeting**  
**November 19, 2020 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Virtual ZOOM Meeting**

Director Jeff Caldwell called the meeting to order with First Vice Dave Daugherty, Second Vice Jennifer Tucker, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Joe Hull. Seventeen (17) delegates and eleven (11) guests were present on-line, representing the following ten (10) clubs: Bluegrass Arabian Horse Association (BAHA), Buckeye Arabian and Half Arabian Alliance (BAHAA), Daniel Boone Distance Riders (DBDR), Kentucky Arabian and Half Arabian Breeders Alliance (KAHABA), Kentucky Arabian Riders And Breeders Society (KARABS), Northeastern Ohio Arabian Horse Association (NEOAHA), Ohio Arabian and All-Breed Trail Society (OAATS), Ohio Half Arabian Horse Association (OHAHA), Ohio Valley Arabian Horse Association (OVAHA) and Society for Arabian Horses In the Bluegrass Area (SAHIBA). The Kentucky Arabian Horse Association (KAHA) club's delegate was not in attendance and the Ablackhorse Arabian Horse Association (ABHAA) club was not eligible for delegate representation (club has <10 members).

**Minutes:** Joe moved and Dave seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joe noted that the Budget committee will meet the first week of January 2021, so he is giving those who want to request regional funding a deadline of December 15<sup>th</sup>. The form will go to the club presidents and Joe asked that Debbie S put it on the website. There was also discussion as to changes to the amounts the region plans to donate. Cindy Clinton moved and Jeff seconded a motion to increase our donation to the Arabian Horsemen's Distress Fund (AHDF) from \$500 to \$1000. This passed unanimously. Dave moved and Duane seconded a motion to donate \$500 to the Arabian Horse Foundation (AHF) general fund and an additional \$1000 to the AHF fund in support of the Bill Pennington Scholarship This passed unanimously. Joe asked about a sponsorship at U.S. National's for a class and our Region 14 banner hung – did this happen? Dave, Cindy and Duane all agreed they didn't see any banners and Joe noted that we haven't gotten an invoice either. Joe also reported that we did sponsor Reserve Ribbons at Youth Nationals and we spent \$100 (four (4) \$25 Amazon VISA gift cards) for door prizes at this year's convention.

**Director's Report:** Jeff reported on the discussions that transpired at the Board of Directors meeting (BOD) that was held virtually at this convention. He sent all delegates an extensive report that he compiled. *[A copy of this report will be attached to these minutes for the record and will also be posted on the Region 14 website.]*

**First Vice Director's Report:** Dave gave a report on how the U.S. National (USN) show went in this year of COVID. There was great teamwork and this was one of the better shows in years, with over 1800 horses. This year they finally got the "right" green shavings for the arena from Feeders Supply in Louisville, Kentucky. Cindy added that it was the best we have had in Tulsa. The quality of the footing is as good as we can have when they lunge horses in the ring. She noted that Dave went down early this year to Tulsa to supervise the dirt that was being put down. The fact that there was no Oklahoma State Fair this year helped get this done for the quality of the footing. She will not be running for the USN commission. There was a discussion about her leaving that commission. Pepper Proffitt thanked Dave and Cindy for all the efforts and hard work at this show. Cindy thanked Pepper for her efforts to get \$100,000 worth of prizes donated for the show.

**Second Vice Director's Report and also Equine Affaire, Breyerfest & Equitana:** Jennifer reported that all three (3) events were cancelled this year, in response to the COVID pandemic. They are hopeful for 2021: April 8-11 for Equine Affaire, July 16-18 for Breyerfest (theme is "Horse of a Different Color") and October 1-3 Equitana. Our 2020 reservations for all of these have rolled over for 2021.

Jennifer is also the Region 14 representative to what was an Ad Hoc committee and is now a "permanent" committee, the Local Level Task Force. This is the group that is promoting the Meet the Arabian events national wide as well as virtual hippology sessions and the Discovery Farms. Appointment to this committee is through the AHA president.

Jennifer is struggling to get information for the monthly AHA Regional Insider e-Blasts. If anyone has information, she needs to submit the info by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month ahead of the email. She has sent this information to our club presidents, so hopefully there will be more the report in 2021. She will set up a form through Google to make it easier.

**Introduction of Youth Director – Ashley Staley:** Ashley wants to thank the region for this appointment and for the donation of a \$50 gift card for Youth National's Auction. She wants to start having meetings with the region's youth in 2021 and maybe even establishing contests to encourage participation, pending what is allowed due to the pandemic. She plans on using social media to get connected to our regional youth. She noted that Bella Vista Equestrian Center (Danny and Deneb Thompson) will host an event for military and their families to about the learn about the fun and therapeutic aspects of being

involved with the Arabian horse, including her Purebred gelding, Pasa Doble. Jennifer also noted that we've seen some growth in the lesson programs at farms in Kentucky and Ohio. And Jennifer and Jeff are helping Ashley revive our regional youth Instagram site and do what are called "take-overs" to show "A Day in the Life of..." segments.

**Awards Banquet Report:** Debbie Glasener and Dave presented a report on what is ahead for our awards banquet, which we had to cancel this year. An Awards Banquet Committee was established and included: Dave, Debbie G, Carl Malicote, Jennifer, Duane, Larry Kinneer, LaDon Donahue and Deneb. This group has met about six (6) times, working on some restructuring the award's categories, etc. Dave presented a Power Point to show how they plan on reorganizing. These changes will take effect in 2021 for the 2022 awards. They have the following concerns, the lack of participation of the region's membership: 20% don't return the nomination forms, <50% of those eligible members (adult and youth) vote and 30% of the nominees don't participate (don't return bios, vote or attend the banquet). Dave has also worked with Jennifer to develop an on-line format for getting the nominations, presenting the bios and photos of the nominees and voting (however, paper forms and ballots will be accepted, if so requested). This will be done through **Google Forms** at no cost to the region (Jennifer put this together). The committee has tested the nomination process, the bio and the photo submission processes – it is simple and easy. After convention, they will be testing the voting process to verify that all the correct info is coming through. Dave wants to get more involvement from the membership. Dave moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to proceed with the electronic nomination, submission of bios and photos and the voting for the 2021 awards. Jennifer clarified that the changes in the categories will be for next year's awards. Duane also added that these category changes will be more inclusive of the Region 14 membership and their activities with their horses. This passed unanimously.

Debbie G reported that our date for 2021 is March 13<sup>th</sup> at the same location – Holiday Inn at the Cincinnati Airport. Danny and Deneb will handle sending out the postcards. We will have a block of rooms at a cost of \$99, however reservations must be made by the first week of February, which may be before the postcards are sent (mid-February). We still have most of the items that were for the 2020 Silent Auction, but new items can be added. There was a discussion as to how we should handle any profits from this event. Debbie G would like to move, that for 2021, we designate any profits be donated to the AHF Bill Pennington Scholarship fund. She would like to see us market it as youth scholarship fundraiser (could add to postcard). Danny suggested that maybe if we pick certain items (like the set of 4 tires), that would go to that scholarship fund to boost participation. Joe commented that we could do both. Carl noted many have commented to him that they would give more if we have the proceeds going to something that involves our Region 14 youth vs. going into the region's general fund. The auction is vital to the banquet breaking even or making a profit. Carl would like to be able to use this as an incentive when he requesting items for the auction. Dave asked Debbie that she amend the motion to use the **profits** from the banquet to be split for regional youth programs and the Bill Pennington scholarship fund (AHF). Duane agrees that we should market this as a fundraiser. There was more discussion, including getting more youth involvement through this. Duane seconded the amended motion and it passed unanimously. Debbie G reminded all that any questions and comments should be directed to the committee members. Duane and Debbie G both feel we can get the Pennington family more involved.

**Regional Show Report:** Cindy reported the show was fantastic and successful thanks to the best group of volunteers, judges, etc. She was concerned about not having the Patron's Lounge but it worked well without it. More information will be presented at the January meeting.

**Arabian Horses for Humanity – Region 14's horse "Believe:"** Duane had made a connection with the Dragon Fly Foundation who handles many of the details of the Cincinnati Children's Hospital fund raising. Unfortunately COVID interfered with his plans, so we are on hold at this time with this charitable endeavor. He was glad he held off, to see where things would go due to the pandemic, as he was not sure an on-line format would be as successful as in-person auction. He will be following up for 2021.

**Regional Reimbursement of Delegate Packet Motion:** Joe made a motion Debbie S seconded it to amend our usual requirements (like attending two (2) meetings, etc.) for the delegate packet reimbursement for this 2020 convention. The motion would recognize all the delegates that purchased the packet and are attending this caucus meeting will be reimbursed. This passed unanimously. Joe noted that we budgeted \$2000 for delegate reimbursement and \$800 for the caucus dinner. If all 19 delegates qualify for this, we will spend approximately \$3000.

**Election of 2021-2022 Regional Officers:** Cindy reported that there were no problems with the vote that was conducted pursuant to our August Annual meeting. Joe wanted to make sure this was included in the record since it was our first "virtual" election. The elected Region 14 officers are as follows:

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

- Treasurer – Joe Hull

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** Cindy lead a discussion as to the decision to not require qualifications for the 2021 regional and national shows. This was decided due to the state of the ongoing pandemic as well as the restrictions that USEF has put out for the 2021 show season. However, the qualifications from open shows remain in place for divisions like Dressage, etc. Cindy noted that this is a time to look at trying new ways. In 2022, they are looking at just requiring show participation vs. placing points. At this time, they are looking at for regionals, you need to show at one show, and for nationals, you need to show at two shows or get a regional Top 5. The participation qualifications would not be applied to a specific region, so they could use at any of the regional shows. By not putting this in place until 2022, they can get changes made in show reporting, etc. Joe asked about the charts that were presented at the BOD meeting for 2022 and 2023, but Cindy is only showing the 2022 at this meeting. So what about 2023? Duane clarified that the BOD voted to shift from points to participation but not the specifics in these charts. Debbie G asked who is going to track these points and how they will be applied? Cindy says they need to work on how the show program will work to track this. Cindy also noted that this could affect our local shows and we will need to look at the class schedules. There was a discussion as to how this impact our shows and bring back the “fun” – and the elimination of the marathon show schedules.

Jeff brought forward a request from Nannet Reid (thru Duane) who is asking for the approval of a show to be a Region 14 qualifier. It will take place in Ocala, Florida August 13-15, 2021. It is an Arabian Value Show (AVS – an unrecognized USEF event) and Gypsy Vanner show. Duane moved and Cindy seconded a motion to consider this show. Cindy commented that they are looking to hold this show at the new World Equestrian Center (WEC) in Florida. This motion passed. Dave noted that we didn’t approve a 2020 AVS show – pre-COVID. Jeff will reach out to that AVS show we disapproved last January - Cheryl Van Deusen (Companion Arabians) and let her know that the delegates decided that we will consider her show (scheduled for April 11-12, 2021 in Daytona Beach, Florida) for approval.

There was discussion that we will review the 2022 and 2023 qualifications at our January meeting.

Jeff also noted the passing of our former director Frank Gaddie on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Joe moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to donate \$100 to the AHF in Frank’s memory. This passed.

**Resolutions:** There was discussion of the first three (3) resolutions being presented this year. The first one is needed so that we will be allowed to conduct this Virtual Convention and electronic voting and, if necessary, in the future. The second one also grants power to the AHA Executive board to cancel or postpone a convention if there is a national emergency, etc. Both of these are in response to the COVID pandemic. The third one changes the title of Executive Vice President to Executive Director. Duane notes that almost all the resolutions are housekeeping and are not controversial. There was no discussion as to any other resolutions.

There are multiple candidates for the AHA officers:

- President: Deborah Johnson and Mark Himmel
- Vice President: Duane Esser and Lisa Blackstone
- Secretary: Becky Nash and Jan Decker

There was discussion as to the candidates for these positions and other elected positions. Also there was some discussion as to those elected to the national show commissions.

For our next meeting, we approved Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM meeting. This will be a ZOOM virtual meeting format.

Duane moved and Jennifer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart  
Region 14 Secretary