

Region 14 Meeting Minutes
July 30, 2023 @ 1:00 PM
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Director Duane Esser called the meeting to order, with First Vice Director Dave Daugherty, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Joe Hull in attendance. Eight (8) clubs were represented: BAHAA, DBDR, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OAATS, OHAHA, and SAHIBA.

Minutes: Pepper Proffit moved, and Cindy Ryan seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported income from credit card rewards redeemed and a donation from Region 13. He has paid all the sponsorships to the national shows. He congratulated the Awards Banquet committee on another successful event, netting almost \$6000. Pepper moved and Danny Thompson seconded the approval of the treasurer's report. This passed unanimously.

Joe also received a check from SAHIBA for their 2023 regional dues. However, we passed a motion last year to waive the payment of regional club dues for 2023. With that in mind, Joe moved, and Dave seconded a motion to waive payment of regional dues moving forward until reinstated by the Executive board. This passed.

Joe reminded the meeting as to the qualifications for delegate convention packet reimbursement. Based on the 2019 guidelines, the delegate must attend either two (2) regional meetings or a regional meeting and volunteer at a budgeted regional event. Then they must attend all convention sessions and the regional caucus meeting at in-person conventions. Since this convention is virtual, they only have to attend the caucus meeting and the final general session. This reimbursement is for the Early Bird packet fee of \$180 (deadline September 15th). Joe moved and Dave seconded a motion to follow this guideline for virtual meetings. Debbie will verify that she can get an accounting from AHA of who is logged in as attending the general session. Hopefully we can get that verification soon after convention and Joe will send out the checks. He has also requested that they be cashed before December 31st to help with end-of-year bookkeeping.

Joe also led a discussion as to what additional sponsorship we can do for Sport Horse Nationals since it is being held within our region and is contracted at WEC through 2026. We've paid the \$300 arena banner sponsorship. Other options would be \$8500 for the Welcome Party or pay a split of \$500. The Dressage Happy Hour (during awards presentation) is \$1500 per day. Danny suggested having a Wine and Cheese reception. Pepper thought about providing a backdrop for photo ops – Dave would have to check if that is feasible. We will pursue other options and report to the delegates.

Director's Report: Duane reported that things have quieted down at AHA since the resolution of the lawsuit. He said that registrations and memberships are basically unchanged so far for 2023 and our association's finances are strong. Currently AHA is negotiating with USEF to have our affiliate license signed. The delay stems from finalizing an agreement over their "Lite Show" format (similar to our Value Shows). Tentatively we will be allowed to have our Value Shows that will include "perks" like having the judges covered by liability insurance, electing to include drug testing, and having a steward or an apprentice steward. Cindy R noted that there have been discussions as to learner judges being able to train at the USEF Lite Shows. Duane doesn't know if this has been addressed, so more to follow. Deneb Thompson also commented that the Lite Show designation can only be applied to new shows and not to established ones (AHA lets you change to Value Shows and back). Duane will check on that too.

Duane reported that Youth Nationals numbers were down. Statistics suggest a lot of the west coast exhibitors are attending Mid-Summer vs. Sport Horse Nationals. When the Youth/Mid-Summer surveys are sent out, one consideration is to shorten length of the shows.

Resolutions that are being worked on:

- Addressing the AHA sanctioning of the Canadian Championship show as the Canadian Nationals.
- The shoeing and tongue-tie rules were voted down by USEF. The Arabian Rules Committee voted them down initially since parts were not enforceable. At this point, this may come back to the delegates at convention to see if they can be clean-up the rules. Duane noted that one thing we can do is to see what has been approved by the other breeds. Dave reported that the tongue-tie was referred to committee and the shoeing rule was disallowed. One issue

is that there are leaded pads available, and this can only be verified with x-rays. He thinks that may be checked by USEF vets at U.S. Nationals.

The topic of the Region 13 shows (their Sport Horse show, Pre-show, and Regional show) was reviewed. Cindy Clinton noted that our August date is working well so we are not affected by their show. Duane noted changes will be discussed at AHA since so many local shows are no longer being held. Some of the impact has come from our qualifications being “too easy.” Pepper moved and Cindy Ryan seconded the motion to approve Region 13 shows held within our region for 2024. This passed. Dave noted that we must stay on top of this to protect our Region 14 shows. Duane noted that there is a possibility that the Medallion and Region 13 Sport Horse shows may collaborate in the future. But he feels the August date for the Region 14 Sport Horse classes is perfect timing because it is closer to the Sport Horse Nationals (mid-September).

Region 14 Horse for Humanity – “Believe”: Duane was pleased to report that our statue is part of the Karen Kasper art exhibition at the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) Museum [*through January 2023*]. It arrived there as part of a June fund raiser, held by **Daisy Fasig-Tipton**, and was on display to show what can be done with a “blank canvas.” The Purebred Arabian Trust (PAT) purchased an undecorated model that was included in the event’s Live Auction. This statue will be on permanent display at the Louisville Children’s Hospital. It will be decorated by a team of artists put together through the efforts of Duane, Karen, and Mary Trowbridge. It should be the best one yet because of the artists that will be working on it.

One of the activities that “Believe” is part of by being on exhibit at the KHP museum is that kids can imagine their own horse and create it on paper using the template handout they’re given. These are posted and then there will be a monthly drawing which will provide a free lesson at an AHA Discovery Farm in the winner’s area.

First Vice Director’s Report: In reference to our earlier discussion, Dave couldn’t find any more information about sponsorship options for Sport Horse Nationals. He reported that the early arrival fee has been waived this year for Sport Horse Nationals, however, no one can arrive before 6 AM on Saturday.

At U.S. Nationals, there will be no tent in front of the commercial area – a savings of \$36,000. AHA is now in negotiations for the future location of this show as this is the last year on the current Tulsa contract. Other locations they are looking at include WEC in Ocala, the Las Vegas facility (which doesn’t have enough infrastructure), the future facility in Kansas City (ground has been broken for construction which includes only 2200 stalls), a facility that is planned for Weatherford, Texas (the land has been purchased) and Ft. Worth, Texas but it is not viable. They have a new vendor for the green shavings, and it will be used throughout the show. Last year there were issues - it was hard to get it worked up. The cost for four (4) loads trucked in from Louisville, Kentucky was \$60,000. Luckily AHA does have great sponsors. Costs are going up with everything. As to future developments at Tulsa, they are working on fund raising to pay for a cover for the make-up arena of the Ford Arena. The cost starts at a minimum of \$1 million.

Dave also noted that Region 14 is still the biggest regional show. Duane thanked Dave for all his work.

Awards Banquet: Dave reported that the contract is signed for March 9, 2024. We had a great event this year. The committee will meet before the end of the year to discuss the event. The Silent Auction really helped make the profit that was put into the Region 14 Scholarship fund. Pepper thanked Dave, Debbie Glasener, Jeff Caldwell, Carl Malicote and all the others that make this event possible. The Bingo games are a big success.

Second Vice Director’s Report: Jennifer is not present, so Danny reported on Breyerfest. It was huge and they had lots of help at the booth. This year they had hand fans that were a huge hit. The new batch of 1500 bags arrived late so they will be used in 2024, but they had other 1500 bags that they gave out along with printing 5000 pages that included a puzzle, two (2) coloring pages, word search and explanation sheets. Only 200-300 pages were left. We had more information to give out than a lot of the other breed booths and there were lots of compliments on our booth. Lorie Henderson got the bracelets. Next year’s theme will be “Against All Odds.” For next year, Danny has some ideas like a brochure with information including bios on three (3) Region 14 Arabian / Half Arabian horses; There will be discussions of ideas for next year. As part of the Celebration of the Horse on Friday and Saturday, there was the Sylvia Zerbini Liberty Group (Arabians). Deneb commented that she was told that since they had that Liberty Group, they didn’t need any other Arabians, yet they had miniatures and Friesians at both the Celebration and in the covered arena. Jackie Ferris MacLaren noted that since the theme for this year was driving horses, she felt like that was why the emphasis was on the miniatures, Draft horses and Standardbreds. She noted there were no Quarter horses or Paints there either. She thought they did a great job with the booth and there were great model Arabians this year so she didn’t feel like it was a snub. Duane thanked Danny and the whole group that took part and good Facebook posts.

Youth Director Report: Rachel Vaughn gave her report as to what is planned for the youth presence at the upcoming Region 14 show. She is planning an Ice Cream Social on Friday afternoon and the Egg and Spoon Contest Saturday evening. She will continue to have the Golden Horseshoe Hunt that Kate Bonafede (past Youth Director) started last year. She was considering the movie and popcorn night but that may be postponed until next year. Duane noted that Rachel was elected as the incoming AHYA treasurer. She also had approached Duane about having Region 14 Youth t-shirts this year, but since it was last minute and they couldn't find them for less than \$15 per shirt, she decided to wait until next year. Pepper said that she can order 150 from Cloud Nine for \$10.50 and we can get them in under a week's time. Duane said he can help get sponsors for that if she wants. Joe reviewed and conferred with Cindy C that they will have the Three (3)-Year Old English Jackpot class again which raised \$3400 last year that was ear-marked for the Youth. He also noted that we have \$500 budgeted for the Youth Director, \$255 for Youth Nationals T-shirt sponsorship, and a \$100 gift card from Bingo that was donated it back to regional Youth fund. Therefore, there seems to be funds available for these activities.

Regional Show Report: Cindy reported that the show is going to be really big. So far 1191 stalls have been reserved but the facility only has 1100, so she will be working on seeing what she can do to trim down the tack stall requests from the bigger farms to make it happen. She feels she has a great panel of judges and that the change of dates is working well. She has a lot of volunteers. Rachel asked for space in the vendor village during the show for the Youth activities.

Region 14 Youth Scholarship Report: Jeff reported that we only received one applicant. Kate Bonafede is planning on attending Jefferson Community College in Louisville, KY. She will not receive the money until she starts in the fall. After discussion with the meeting attendees and the scholarship committee, Jeff moved, and Cindy C seconded a motion to award Kate a \$3000 scholarship. Hopefully next year we will get **move more applicants**. Danny suggested they present her a presentation cardboard check at the show. Danny and Jeff will take care of ordering the check.

Joe and Cindy clarified that the English Jackpot class is also for the scholarship fund, which means Rachel has a more limited budget for this year's activities. But Dave asked that Rachel work with Joe and we will find sponsorships and funds so she can proceed and then the budget committee can review the Youth programs budget for next year. Cindy asked that they announce the sponsors during English Jackpot class.

Old Business: Duane noted that the display of "Believe" at the KHP, has a sign that explains the theme behind the design on the horse as well as the name of the artist and credit to Karen as sculptor.

New Business: none

Pepper moved and Dave seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Thanks for everyone's time.

Duane will follow-up with AHA and verify when we will schedule our regional Caucus meeting. It will be a ZOOM meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary

**** Amended items are highlighted***