

Region 14 Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2023 @ 3:00 PM
Holiday Inn at Cincinnati Airport

Director Duane Esser called the meeting to order, Second Vice Director Jennifer Tucker, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Joe Hull in attendance. Nine (9) clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, KAHA, 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.

Debbie also reported that for past six (6) months to almost a year, she has had some issues with the website program automatically updating and in December, she found that the events calendar had disappeared. She had no luck getting help from web hosting service (Host Gator). Luckily, she was able to track down Jeremy Ball, the original webmaster, and he was able to help, updating the website and retrieving our event information so it could be updated. The membership directory is also updated. Although he is no longer a webmaster, Jeremy is back in Ohio so should be able to contact him if there are any future problems.

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported that not much had happened since the January meeting, just a few payments. Pepper moved and Cindy Clinton seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. This passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Duane noted that he will be attending the "in-person" AHA Board of Directors (BOD) meetings next weekend, with a meeting on Friday and then on Saturday, they will tour the new AHA building and will have lunch with the AHYA Board.

Duane has appointed the following folks to a Region 14 Promotional Outreach Committee, to help coordinate Equine Affaire, Breyerfest and any other outreach projects the region participates in:

Jennifer Tucker – Chair	Carl Malicote
Lorie Henderson	Danny Thompson
Tory Wikel	Jackie Ferris Maclaren

He also reported that the Competitions Advisory Panel will be reviewing how the current qualifications criteria is working. This needs to be right to keep our local horse shows alive and well. Nancy Harvey has commented that the trainers want more qualifications. He asked for input from those present. This launched a discussion that covered the following points:

- Do we need more qualifications or just more "fun" shows – especially cheaper ones like Value shows. But the issue with Value shows is they don't help with the training of new judges and stewards. They must work with judges at shows which are USEF sanctioned.
- The current qualifications are not helping – it can be easy to qualify with a seasoned rider on a mature horse but it's not easy for younger horses or new owners/riders to find the right show for them.
- Safe facility costs and increasing fees aren't helping any of the shows.
- It was noted that when there were no qualifications, that at some of the national events, there were some horses that weren't really national quality.
- Since the end of COVID restrictions, there seems to be no difference in regional show attendance in 2021 and 2022.
- There were also questions on how shows were doing prior to COVID, when you had to qualify by points/placing. Were they affected by that or did the economy also impact our shows?

Duane also noted that they are again looking into whether qualifications should be based on participation vs. points/placing.

First Vice Director's Report: no report – Dave Daugherty not here for meeting.

Second Vice Director's Report: Jennifer passed out an information sheet to provide information as to what is happening.

- She noted that the AHA Regional Insider is now limiting the submissions to only allow five (5) pictures per month per region. Also, AHA will now send out a complimentary eBlast for any events – allow a 2-3 week turnaround time. The Insider information is due by the 15th of the month. Send that information to Jennifer via region14arabian@gmail.com
- To help our region engage and grow each club’s membership, she sent out an email to each club presidents or membership chairs with a list of that club’s expired memberships and direct AHA members that live within Region 14. More will be coming on how to help with this project.
- The Local Level Committee (LLC) has established an Ambassador or Mascot Horse Program, which will include horses that are used for any promotional activities as well as those who are on Discovery Farms. These horses will be promoted through AHA and may receive a special halter.
- In May, we will again have the “Meet an Arabian Horse” (MAH) promotion events and AHA will initiate a pilot program to try and track if there are follow-up contacts, like lessons from these events and from visits to Discovery Farms – what Marketing calls “the second touch.” If they can connect these contacts with lessons, AHA will pay for that first lesson.
- The T.A.I.L. program will be expanded with the LLC working with AHA Marketing.
- Region 14 is offering five (5) \$100 grants to any Region 14 club for May’s MAH. The use of the hash tag **#region14aha** can be used to track who puts posts out on Google and Facebook.
- There is another non-AHA ambassador contest – We Love Arabian Horses. For a team sign-up fee of \$29, you can earn points. Check out their website or contact Jennifer.

For Equine Affaire, she has nine (9) horses set for the demo and for “meet and greets.” She needs help with set-up on Wednesday and with tear down at the end of the event on Sunday. Also, she needs more volunteers at the booth.

For Breyerfest, we will only have the booth space. There will be an Arabian horse representation/demo, but we have no information on who is participating in that.

Jennifer is still researching on the group texting for reminders, etc. to go to members about events. She is checking with The Arabian Horse Times and show secretary Ryan Chambers. More to follow at next meeting.

Jennifer noted that we are all here because of our love for Arabian horses!

Region 14 Youth Scholarship Program: Jeff Caldwell, Chair, reported on the committee that Duane has appointed. The following have been working on getting this off the ground:

Cindy Clinton	Rachel Vaughn (Youth Director)
Carl Malicote	Joe Hull
Donna Lassanske	

They met on February 7th and pulled information from other regional scholarship programs to create our own criteria. There is \$6000 budgeted for three (3) scholarships of \$3000, \$2000, and \$1000. The criteria and application forms were available for those in attendance, as well as a flyer that Rachel prepared. This is open Region 14 club youth who are seniors, age 18 or younger, and they must provide transcript and letters of reference. These must be submitted by May 1st.

Debbie Glasener moved, and Pepper seconded a motion to approve this program and its committee. It passed unanimously. These information sheets will be added to the regional website (as PDF files) under the Info tab. Also, it will be promoted via social media and an eBlast.

Youth Director’s Report: Duane introduced Rachel Vaughn and Pepper noted that Rachel has been reporting to her at least once per week and they have discussed all the ideas she has for the coming year. She has been working through social media and texting our youth in the region. For the regional show, Rachel is planning the following events: an ice cream social, a movie night (selling popcorn and cotton candy) and an egg n’ spoon contest as a fund raiser. For texting, it’s an app called Group Meet. Duane commented on how many kids Rachel has reached through it.

A motion was made by Pepper and seconded by Linda Laufer for \$250 for AHA Youth National t-shirts. This passed.

Awards Banquet: Debbie G wants to thank everyone as we sold out, with 115 reservations for the banquet! They have set up a larger area for the Silent Auction, adding another 6-7 tables. Two (2) items are set for a live auction: the set of four (4) tires donated by S & S Tires (thanks to Carl) and a vintage Lasma tack trunk. The cocktail hour is 6:00-7:00 PM, then the banquet is at 7:00 PM. We will play BINGO and then present the awards. For 2024, the banquet will be March 9th.

Regional Show Report: Cindy C reported that *All Things Equine* no longer supplies ribbons, so she has gone with Cloud Nine for both ribbons and garlands. She needs a lot of help for the Dressage and Sport Horse rings. The show dates are August 16th through 20th. Again, we will have Western Dressage and Ranch Riding classes. Costs for camping, stalls and camping have gone up. Jeff will design the Trail course, but we will need someone with a USEF membership to be the contact present at the show. The following judges are under contract:

Silverama Pre-Show: Jason Daniels (Main Ring)
John Lambert (Trail & Ranch Riding)
Kara Hatzai (Halter)
Judy Downer (Dressage & Sport Horse)

Regional Show: Todd Hickerson, John Lambert, and Rhein Standish (Main Ring)
Jason Daniels (Performance Halter, Trail, and Ranch Riding)
Charlotte Trentelman (Dressage & Sport Horse)

Pepper will be handling sponsorships. Bill Hillsamer (show farrier) is sponsoring the donuts. Again, we will have a BBQ Exhibitor party. The Buckeye show purchased a near full size wire horse statue by Dan Williams and will rent it to the regional show for center ring. Again, thanks to everyone, last year's show was great!

Old Business: Duane noted that he is still working on the how to proceed with publicly showcasing our "Believe" horse statue. Cindy C is checking with WEC in Wilmington to see about displaying it there for one year. It was noted that transporting it to events like Equine Affaire or Breyerfest is risky. It was suggested we could take a picture and then add it to a backdrop for photos. Cindy will check with Cloud Nine.

New Business: Holly Kratzenberg reported that the BAHA Spring Blast horse show will be held in Shelbyville, KY on April 29th and 30th with a variety of classes including Sport Horse. They are planning on having at least four (4) Legion presentations and a party on the 29th at about 3:00 PM. Roxana Reed also reviewed a handout that lists all the trail rides BAHA is planning for this summer, including three (3) overnight trail rides. This is a good venue to promote our breed to others.

Our next meeting will be scheduled for Sunday, July 30th at 1:00 PM via ZOOM.

Cindy C also wanted to thank Jennifer, Rachel, Debbie G and Carl for all the work they did on the Awards Banquet.

Jeff moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary