

2023 OQHA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 4th 2022 – 10:00 a.m.
Online Via Zoom

Current President and Chair of AGM – Shari Irwin
Recording Secretary – Haley Clark

Directors Present – Andrew Dewar, Sherrill Tisdale, Corey Taylor, Valerie Love, Mallory McKewen, Janna MacMullin, Holly Robinson-Kress, Todd Laidlaw, Andrew Dewar, Jessica Lange, Sheryl Chillson, Carrie Farr.

Past Presidents Present – Dan Patterson, Pete Hammer.

AQHA Director Emeritus – Kathy Patterson

OQHA Attendees – Danielle Bannerman, Lorraine Sandrelli, Lindsay Allen-McDougall, Kristy Beck, Tracy Beck, Sandra Duhamel, Paul & Jo-Anne Straus, Greg Dubiel, Sharon Hammer, Darcy Woods, Jacqueline Woods, Brent Tupling, Susan Robinson, Mike Rapley, Jodi Mallette, Jackie Ruccolo, Blair Woodley, Judi Woodley, Lucas Alcock, Jenna Woodley, Shelley Thomson, Lindsay Grice, Brenda Lothmann, Janet Dawson, Leanne Karoles, Deb Knapton, Darrell Godlien, Joanne Vandergunst

Call to Order: Shari Irwin called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. and advised all present the meeting was being recorded. A quorum was established.

Motion to approve agenda: Holly Kress motioned, Leanne Karoles seconded. Carried.

Review of 2022 Minutes: The members present received the 2022 AGM minutes one day prior to this meeting. No of errors or omissions were identified.

Motion to approve 2022 AGM Minutes: Janet Dawson motioned, Carrie Farr seconded. Carried

President – Shari Irwin

Was honored to be elected in 2022 as President and thanked the diverse board of directors for their hard work. Happy to have some services available online and look forward to automating other forms to better support our membership.

Finance Report

Carrie: finished paying the accounting fees for the 2020 year and we have to abide by some government regulations that were proposed in 2020. If we receive more than \$10,000 in revenue in a single financial year, we either have to have an audit or a review engagement. I

went through what we collected for 2022 and the total was \$9000. If we include youth and amateur, it will be over the \$10K threshold. Therefore, we'll have to complete a full audit at a cost of \$5600. Taxes are up to date. OQHBF accounts are closed and all hold-back monies paid out to individuals. We have been working on fundraising and we lowered the awards budget. The question was asked if OQHA has \$10,000 or more in public funds, can we get clarification of what public funds means?

Carrie: Funds from CQHA and sponsorship money that are not from members in our association. And if they are income from membership, that is not public funds.

Question was asked about public funds - thought it had to come from federal corporations?

Carrie: Public funds are listed as any monies received including donations from anyone who is not a member, director, etc. The statement was made that if we give a membership to our sponsors we don't need to do this.

Carrie confirmed the BOD agreed to increase fees for memberships and reserve back number by 20% and \$5 for show approval fees. We have a lot of fixed expenses that we can't change so we have to look for ways for OQHA to be self-sufficient.

Clarification on fixed expenses; 3 tendered positions (Treasurer, Secretary, and Webmaster) auditing costs and basic expenses such as Zoom, and insurance.

Motion to approve Finance report: Holly motioned, Sandra seconded. Carried.

Committee Reports

Banquet

Janna MacMullin provided an update of Awards Ceremony/Banquet. Based on feedback through the membership survey, we are going to run it in conjunction with the Area 2 show held in May. We will have a social event held on the Friday or Saturday. Details are still being finalized. After this awards ceremony, the Board can decide on how they want to proceed for future Awards Ceremony and/or Banquet.

Motion to approve Banquet report: Judi Woodley motioned, Paul Straus seconded. Carried.

Awards

Jessica explained that they had to drastically reduce the awards budget from the usual \$20K down to \$10K. They have been in contact with all the award winners and provided options for awards. The youth has sponsored \$1000 and have done their own highpoint and reserve highpoint winners.

Shari: Jessica Lange and Sheryl Chillson did an amazing job sourcing a list of wonderful award ideas to give to the award winners. No one will be disappointed.

Motion to approve Awards report: Janna MacMullin motioned, Kathy Patterson seconded. Carried.

Amateur

Mallory McKewan stated they had 13 people on the board this year – the largest board in a long time. Their biggest event was the challenge series classes; qualifying classes held at Area Promotional Club shows and the finals held our Finale show held at Ancaster. Overall, had really good feedback and CQHA provided sponsorship. We will be working on something bigger and better for 2023. Fundraisers and other good ideas coming for 2023 now that we laid the foundation for the challenge so more capacity for more things.

Motion to approve Amateur report: Janet motioned, Corey seconded, Carried.

Summer Finale:

Andrew Dewar asked if there were any questions regarding this report. Dan Patterson asked what was the Breeders show expense? Carrie Farr explained that was closing out the Breeders account balances.

Motion to approve Finale report: Corey Taylor motioned, Leeanne Karoles seconded. Carried.

Youth

Mallory explained that it was a great year for the youth. There were 11 members on the NYATT team and represented Ontario well. One goal is to be more proactive and diversify what the funds generated are used for; the NYATT congress team is important but some other items of interest should be investigated to build opportunities. Working on the 3 pillars: learning and development, community building, competition and recognition. Another goal is to keep the Youth engaged through the winter.

Motion to approve Youth report: Holly motioned, Val seconded, Carried.

Queen

Mallory explained that her time was limited with Queen activities this year so hopes someone is interested in joining the board and taking over the role. Janine Domingo continues to volunteer with the queen contest and recognizes her efforts. Darcy was the most recent OQHA Queen and she upgraded to be the Congress Queen. Darcy had nothing further to add but wanted to thank OQHA for support and would love to talk about the experience with anyone.

Motion to approve Queen report: Val motioned, Lindsay seconded. Carried.

Hall of Fame

Val Love asked if there were any questions regarding her report. No questions.

Motion to approve Hall of Fame report: Carrie Farr motioned, Jodi Mallette seconded, Carried.

Show and Contest

Carrie explained every promotional club show pays OQHA approval fees for their shows. Area 1 had to cancel one set of shows so we owed them a refund or they can apply it to this year. In 2022, show and contest made \$2,800 profit. We increased fees for this year to \$120 plus hst per judge. Jane Cryderman explained that the Northern Ontario Quarter Horse Association are hoping to put on 5 AQHA shows and have been discussing to obtain OQHA approval. Would it be a benefit to them?

Val: I don't think you will get members traveling to your show to make it valuable to them.

Shari: feels differently. The north is not represented well, but if those shows did choose to be OQHA approved, there could be increased exposure via OQHA website, etc and possible increase to membership. We know we have Quarter horse owners in the north, by taking out a membership and driving closer to home to OQHA shows could make them eligible for year-end awards. Think we need to do a better job with connecting with all horse owners in Ontario and support collaboration.

Mallory: agree we need to encourage new people and merge communities.

Brent Tupling : They are part of Ontario and they are a Promotional Area. I think we need to help promote this.

Jane confirmed Dryden will have 3 shows and Fort Francis will have 2 shows.

Jodi: I think it could have good benefits for the youth in terms of the Youth World Cup and NYATT team and more leadership opportunities.

Motion to approve Show and Contest report: Jane motioned, Jodi seconded. Carried

Past Presidents

Sherrill asked if there were any questions regarding this report

Motion to approve Past Presidents reports: Val motioned, Carrie seconded. Carried.

Level 1 Show

Due to low response and limited stall bookings and we had to cancel to avoid a financial loss. Shari had several discussions with open All-breed clubs in Ontario and the response was strong. Need to look at ways to increase OQHA membership and show participation. Some people find that AQHA is too expensive. Maybe we need to look at hosting the Level 1 show like a All-Breed - 1 day format. ORHA would like to support and Ontario Paint just couldn't get something worked. Recommend new 2023 board investigate these options.

Leeanne: I have to say I think it is a good idea to offer open classes and some clubs would be open to it. Good start.

Shari: Clubs may not be able to afford to rent Ancaster but if OQHA worked together to split costs, All-Breed clubs would be interested because it provides great facilities to their members.

Motion to approve Level 1 Show report: Lindsay motioned, Janet seconded, Carried.

Fundraising

Holly confirmed they raised over \$12,000 and all went back to exhibitors in added money to classes at the Finale show. The other fundraising event is the OQHA swag available to order on the website and it is very nice quality. Last fundraising event is the auction and a friendly reminder it closes today at noon so get your bids in.

Shari: We also had donated products that we were able to provide random exhibitor prizes each day at the Finale show.

Leanne: confirmed she bought a shirt online and the product is very nice.

Motion to approve the Fundraising Report: Paul Straus motioned, Carrie seconded. Carried.

Grants

Sheryl asked if there were any questions regarding this report.

Judi: Clinic was great and very well attended and I think people would have put in some money for this quality of clinicians.

Mallory: there was a stipulation in the grant that it had to be free

Shelley: As a spectator, the clinic was awesome

Motion to approve Grants report: Val motioned, Lindsay seconded. Carried

Drug testing

Sherrill asked if there were any questions regarding this report. No questions.

Motioned to approve Drug Testing Report: Val motioned, Carrie seconded. Carried.

Disciplinary report

Dan asked if there were any questions regarding this report. No questions.

Motion to approve Disciplinary report: Kathy Patterson motioned, Susan Robinson seconded. Carried.

Reserve Back Numbers

Nice fundraiser for the organization. Fees have increased for 2023. No questions.

Motioned to approve Reserve Back Number report: Val motioned, Janet Dawson seconded. Carried.

Membership

Carrie asked if there were any questions regarding this report. Since making the membership available through the website, the majority of 2023 membership have been purchased online.

Memberships are down and we did have some membership rolled over from previous year because of no shows offered due to Covid. However, we have some new memberships so far in 2023 so things are looking good.

Val: we should have OQHA membership forms available at all area shows.

Jane: I am active in CQHA and I think it is free for AQHA members so everyone should join CQHA and get some of the incentives they offer. They can support shows in the future

Mallory: OQHA could do more to promote CQHA membership. It's free, and provides value.

Jodi: CQHA course is really good and once you get it is quite user friendly, and the content is great. More cross over between the organizations. Maybe a chart for new members to show them what everything does.

Motion to approve Membership Report: Janna motioned, Val seconded. Carried.

Website

Mallory said she took over the website after the 2022 AGM. The focus was trying to make it as user-friendly as possible. We can build the website into much more and hopefully drive more traffic to the website. The auction is doing well and we have not been able to raise this much money in the past. Whoever is part of the new board can look into ways to utilize the website better to generate funds.

Janet: I bought my membership on the website and it worked really well. The website has a lot of information on there and is easy to find. Linking Area websites might help streamline some admin functions.

Shari: Thanked Mallory very all her hard work and automating online payments. Looking forward to automating some other items like show and stall entries and possible income maker by selling ads.

Val: Mallory did a great job and she is really thinking out of the box and is really valuable.

Motion to approve Website report: Janet motioned, Val seconded. Carried.

New Business

Current Page 4:

- To act as the official liaison between AQHA and Ontario quarter horse industry
- To provide beneficial services for its members that enhance and encourage quarter horse ownership and participation in OQHA events e.g., Breeders' Futurity, OQHA year-end awards, etc.

Proposed change:

To provide beneficial services for its members that enhance and encourage quarter horse ownership and participation in OQHA events e.g., OQHA Special Event, Education Seminars, etc.

Dan: Asked why OQHA year-end awards was removed?

Shari: I think that was an oversight.

Amendment: To provide beneficial services for its members that enhance and encourage quarter horse ownership and participation in OQHA events e.g., OQHA Special Event, Education Seminars, OQHA year-end awards, etc.

Motioned by Val, Andrew seconded. Carried

Motion does anyone oppose. Carried.

Dan: To act as the official liaison between AQHA and Ontario quarter horse industry. This point appears that say that we are the only liaison.

Brent: I think we remove this point.

Motion Val: To act as an official liaison between AQHA and Ontario quarter horse industry. To provide beneficial services for its members that enhance and encourage quarter horse ownership and participation in OQHA events e.g., OQHA Special Event, Education Seminars, OQHA year-end awards, etc.

Seconded Andrew. Carried.

#2 CURRENT RULE

SR·S&C·C·102·6 Walk Jog/Trot Equitation/Horsemanship

Youth Exhibitors, 13 years & under as of January first of the current year must wear a properly fitted approved safety helmet in all riding classes and in the warm-up area while on the back of

a horse. The helmet must comply with the requirements under the Ontario Horse Riding Safety Act 2001 – Bill 12.

PROPOSED CHANGE

REMOVE

~~Youth Exhibitors, 13 years & under as of January first of the current year must wear a properly fitted approved safety helmet in all riding classes and in the warm-up area while on the back of a horse. The helmet must comply with the requirements under the Ontario Horse Riding Safety Act 2001 – Bill 12.~~

Jenna: This rule is listed under walk jog category and does not apply to those who are in loping classes.

Kathy Pattern: No this rule was to apply for all youth 13 & under.

Sherrill: it is impossible to manage in the office and who is going to enforce this role

Judi: I just want to clarify are we asking them to enforce for walk-jog or the AQHA all age loping classes. This rule was enforced under walk jog and lope.

Shelley Thomson: Many facilities and Open organizations are now requiring all youth riders 18 and under to wear an approved helmet. Just as a point of information.

Darcy: What are the insurance implications? Before we remove rules as such what are the insurance implications?

Jodi: Is this the small fry or is this the AQHA novice level 1 youth walk jog horsemanship? Back when this rule came into place this is principle behind the rule is meant to be for safety and I don't know when we decided 13 is the number. I think these other facilitates it is 18 and under that is the provincial rule and I just always felt 13 was put us in a point of compromise.

Mallory: The board should not need to interpret rules. The rule isn't doing it's job if it's open to interpretation. Due to the inability to consistently police, interpret, and enforce, I don't feel this rule should exist.

Shari: This rule has been a logistical nightmare. Many classes are All-age Youth classes, so how do you enforce for those 13 and under in those classes?

Kathy: When the rule was brought forward it was meant a long discussion to the age and many wanted 18 and under at the time and I was not in support of that because membership would not go for it. Yes, it was going to be. Very full support and was meant for all classes and if they wanted OQHA points.

Jenna: I understand that may have been the interpretation at the time and but when I go to the rulebook it doesn't read like that.

Val: I understood it was just for 13 and under and now the walk jog is 13 and under.

Corey: As I thought it was supposed to be 13 and under in all riding class and I thought that was the rule we put into class, it is a safety issue and a liable issue. If there is a head injury we can all get sued and it was forgotten about and show management is for OQHA rules and there is someone that is going to say something. I am sad we have to police it in the first place.

Mallory: We are focusing on member attrition and in the US they follow AQHA rules and they look the same as the other kids. We may

Todd: What does the OEF rule state?

Shari: The OEF rules has Section 5 that horse shows are except.

Lorraine Sandrelli: If your skill level is walk jog I agree with it being written that way. If we want to police this properly and we make it all 13 and under and if it is all age we don't have to police it at this point .

SR·S&C·C·102·6 Walk Jog/Trot Equitation/Horsemanship

Youth Exhibitors, 13 years & under as of January first of the current year must wear a properly fitted approved safety helmet in all riding classes and in the warm-up area while on the back of a horse. The helmet must comply with the requirements under the Ontario Horse Riding Safety Act 2001 – Bill 12.

Greg: Is it possible to put motion to remove it- we are talking around it and act on it can I put forward a motion and add something release of liability waiver

Greg motion, Mallory seconded, carried. Corey opposed.

Pete: I just have a question for us to pass a rule like this without consulting a lawyer or insurance in case they won't cover us or its not legal.

Greg: To make some progress, I think we need to move it forward.

Amendment: Add waiver to Youth entry form;

Parent/guardian must sign a liability waiver for all children 18 and under if they opt to not wear a helmet on the show grounds. The parent/guardian takes all reasonability and releases liability from OQHA.

Greg: Consult standard wording and a lawyer to look it over to make sure we are covered. It is not very complicated.

Dan: The question is who is going to manage the form and ensure the form is signed for OQHA when these forms are made. Specific forms for each shows- this form would have to be a waiver from OQHA and that would have to be managed and who ensures these are signed on our behalf.

Greg: I think we make things so complicated I don't see it being hard to add an extra page and it is there for every show? I think this is some frustration that we want to be progressive but we don't see it being that difficult.

Dan: Through would come from show management and includes this in the approval package.

Lindsay: Could we add this to the youth membership form for OQHA? That parents have to sign off on this when youth get a membership?

Greg: one signature and is covered for all OQHA approved shows.

Shari: This is pertaining to show and competitors and those who are not members

Mallory: Just add it to the entry package. It's not a mountain to climb.

Jenna: Wouldn't the rule only apply to OQHA members anyway and it would only be towards members and not those who are not.

Amendment: Parent/guardian must sign a liability waiver for all children 18 and under for the safety of their child. This includes if they opt to not wear a helmet on the grounds of the show. The parent/guardian takes all responsibility and releases liability from OQHA.

Greg motioned, Val seconded. Carried.

iii OQHA SPECIAL EVENT

GENERAL RULES

- SR-CH-GR101 The purpose of the Ontario Quarter Horse Special Event is to promote and showcase AQHA, APHA, PtHA and ApHC horses resulting from Ontario breeding programs.
- SR-CH-GR102 The Ontario Quarter Horse Special Event may be offered each year in conjunction with the OQHA/AQHA Summer Finale Show.
- SR-CH-GR103 All classes will be judged by qualified AQHA/NSBA-approved judges, and horses are to be shown under the show and contest rules and regulations from the official handbook of the AQHA, except where otherwise specified.
- SR-CH-GR104 All horses entered must be eligible for AQHA, APHA, PtHA or ApHC registration.

- SR-CH-GR105 All owners and exhibitors must be either paid members for the current year of the Ontario Quarter Horse Association or obtain a 1-day Special Event OQHA Membership
- SR-CH-GR106 There will be an office and drug testing fee the same as current show fees, for each OQHA Special Event entry.
- SR-CH-GR107 All entries are subject to random drug testing.
- CLASSES
- SR-CH-C101-1 Class offerings may change from year to year. Factors in deciding what Special Event Classes are offered should be; does it promote growth in OQHA memberships, support Ontario breeders, and encourage recreational riders to compete. Classes will only run with 3 or more entries.

Paul: Rule SR-CH-GR105 Remove membership fee to avoid more amendments.

Motion : All owners and exhibitors must be either paid members for the current year of the Ontario Quarter Horse Association or obtain a 1-day Special Event OQHA Membership

Motion: Val, Andrew seconded. Carried.

Standing Rules - Year-end Awards

Suggestion to reduce % or shows to qualify for year end awards.

Mallory: Top 25 judges only 27 judges in 2023. When 25 were chosen there was 40 judges In the year. Change it to a % of judges in a year. Maybe 60-65%

Shelley: Could be 60 % rounded up if not even

Corey: Round up if not even

Kathy: Top 60% and round up

Val motioned: Exhibitors for year-end awards will take 60% of judges rounded up to the next highest whole number.

Kathy seconded, Carried.

Election of Directors 2023:

Area 1: 4 positions available.

Todd is in 2-year term from 2022

Lindsay MacDougall and Jackie Roccolo

Area 2: 5 positions available

Holly in 2-year term from 2022

Darcy Woods- Jacqueline Woods motioned, Val seconded. Darcy will stand.

Greg Dubiel- Mallory motioned, Shari seconded. Greg will stand.

Mallory- Greg motioned, Sheryl seconded. Mallory will not stand.

Jenna Woodley- Greg Dubiel motioned, Sheryl seconded. Jenna will stand.

Mike Rapley- Andrew motioned, Val seconded. Mike will stand.

Greg will stand in 2-year term. No one opposes

Area 3: 3 more positions available

Janna is 2-year term from 2022

Corey Taylor- Val motioned, Sheryl Chilson seconded. Corey will stand.

Andrew Dewar, Val motioned, Corey seconded. Andrew will stand.

Andrew and Janna in a two year, Corey one year term.

Area 4:

Shari in 2-year term from 2022

Val Love- Corey motioned, Sheryl seconded. Val will stand.

Area 5:

Sheryl Chilson in 2-year term from 2022

Leeanne Karoles- Shari, Val- will stand

Area 6: two positions available

Sandra Duhamel-Jenna motioned, Val seconded. Sandra will stand

Judi Woodley- Sheryl motioned, Brent seconded. Judi will not stand.

Blair Woodly- Shari motioned, Val seconded. Blair will stand

Area 7: two positions available

Jane Cryderman- Shari motioned, Val seconded. Jane will stand.

Appointment of Auditor: quotes are all the same and Fame and Co. know our information.

Carrie motioned, Val seconded. Carried.

Ratifications for actions of 2022 actions. Val motioned, Andrew seconded. Carried.

Thank you for a great turnout for our first Online AGM. Meeting Adjourn-1:06pm