

Minutes November 30, 2104
Stoneridge Inn
AGM

In Attendance: Katie Bond, Sarah Firth, Melissa Hillis, Mallory McQueen, Dave Longo, Marion Rutledge, Karissa Dawdy, Kevin Prior, Kate Fowler, Lorien Patterson, Kathrin Beauchamp, Vimy Henderson, Michale Pegg, Emily MacLeod, Melody McKinnon, Susan Evans (recorder) Julie Claus, Deriree Hallman, Sandy Reeves, Andrea Young, Yvonne Busby, Rachel Baresich, Halina Bain, Yvonne Chong, Jen Lyons, Cindy Ballantyne, Lee A. Ross-Hayton, Alya Webb, Emma Williams, Carla Paxton, Anne Marie Thompson, Janet Dwyer (chair) Jessica Ziltener, Martha Worts.

1. Call to Order: Janet called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.
2. Establishment of Quorum: yes
3. Approval of the Agenda: approved by Lorien Paterson, 2nd by Sarah Firth
4. Appointment of Scrutineers: The scrutineers are Cindy Ballantyne and Marion Rutledge
5. Declaration of any conflicts of interest: There were no conflicts of interest
6. Adoption of the minutes of the previous annual meeting: Sarah Firth and 2nd by Yvonne Chong
7. Board and Committee Reports: Janet reported on Champs which was hosted and run well by the North East Zone. In 2015 Champs will be run from Sept. 2 – 6 over Labour Day but unsure at this time if it will continue in future years.

The show managers were asked to combine the Trillium & Prelude shows if they were going to continue to have Trillium as 1-day shows, but decided it was not a good idea.

Consideration for hosting a Derby to the program was discussed, Michael Pegg has the specs and the costs.

The Schooling Pony division will possibility be gone

At the Show Managers meeting costs were discussed and some of the costs for 2015 have dropped.

The show dates for 2015 were given by Janet, with Michael Peggs show called the Mane Event, and Kate and Rachels show being called the K& R show, both shows have been approved by the board and will be hosted in Ilderton at the fair grounds.

A discussion was held regarding capping the number of shows being held in the Southwest Region. (will discuss later)

At the Board AGM the 2' 6", 2' 9" will now be an Open Division. The 2' 6" Child and the 2' 6" Adult will be judged together but the points will be separate.
The Modified Junior Amateur Division is now eliminated, with the Trillium Hi/Low still in effect.

A proposal of a new pilot Division, the Modified Pony Hunter, has been discussed at the Board level, but not finalized. 5 out of 7 zones need to host this division to be offered at Champs. The specs need to be sorted out, but if run might look like this. Smalls would jump 2' 3", Mediums would jump 2' 3", and Larges would jump 2' 6".

Julie Claus questioned is the division going to be restricted like the shorties with the rider not eligible for any other divisions except for the equitation under saddle for their age group. With the specs not completely worked out everything is quite loose and very difficult to vote on when you do not have all the information.

If offering the division the lines need to be set on stride not at 72 feet, the kids need to learn to ride lines as this division is more of a rider moving up.

Martha suggested to run in our region to help boost the numbers at the shows. Yvonne asked if the coaches were interested in this division. Carla Paxton said not if it was not going to Champs, as her students goal was to get to Champs. At this time most agreed there were too many unanswered questions.

Marion Rutledge made a motion for the Modified Pony Division to have it run 3 inches lower / then the respective height and changing the distance for the Small, Medium and Large and make it a restricted horse rider combo. A show of hands 15 – yes, 29 in attendance.

Michael Pegg gave a history on the background of a Hunter Derby. He proposed running a Hunter Derby with an Year End Final, not all shows have to participate. The final date for this Year End Final to be determined. He also gave the requirements to run a Derby and suggested that the Derby be run both days of the show with multiple heights starting at 2' 3" and going up, with different jumps added in. It is up to the shows when to run the Derby. The finals will need 2 judges. The locations of the finals will be determined at a later date.

The entry fee is 10% of the prize money, i.e. If the prize money is \$1,000 the entry fee is \$100. The entry fee will be higher for those who do not participate in the rest of the show on that day Short Stirrup riders will not be allowed to enter the Derby. The Derby is open to all, but points will be deducted if you are a pro. A horse may only go in the Derby once per day. A vote showed 21 in favour a Derby. At a sanctioned show you must have all your memberships and passports, choose the height you show with the height being capped at 3' 3".

8. Report of Auditors/Accountant: Melody McKinnon stated there was a slight increase in the bank balance. She projected that 2015 will not show much of a change, and suggested we need to fund raise. The banquet ran well and the tax return has been filed. Julie Claus raised the question regarding the money we used to get back from Champs. Martha Worts informed everyone that it costs more to run Champs and there was no money made at Champs and the zones are not helping out with Champs like they used to. She informed the zone that funding from the government is available because we are a Sport Organization. We need to submit a proposal for a winter information clinic and the funding should be fairly quick. We need to go through the Southwest Board and the THJA members. A motion to accept the financial report was approved by Rachel Baresich and 2nd by Julie Claus, all were in favour. A motion to dispen was approved by Kate Fowler and Andrea Young, all were in favour.

9. Appointment of Auditors/Accountant: Marion motioned to keep the accountant- it stays the same – Jen Lyons approved, Julie Claus 2nd , all in favour
10. New Business: Cindy Ballantyne proposed that the show managers all get together and discuss who their judges are and keep to only having the same judge twice in the region. Andrea Young approved, Jen Lyons 2nd. Yvonne Busby suggested to put in the bylaws to keep this rule firm, Marion approved, Carla Paxton 2nd , all in favour.

1. Show Standards Committee and Policies: Sarah Firth stated that in the bylaws a parent cannot vote for their children, there are no proxy votes and kids can't vote. She made a motion to change the bylaw that a parent of junior members can vote on behalf of their child without parents needing a membership. Marion 2nd this motion.

Martha suggested that we need to strike a committee to review the constitution to propose any amendments to the constitution.

Marion nominated Sarah to be the chair of this committee: Sarah accepted the nomination, it is Sarah's responsibility to report back to the zone with her findings next November. Yvonne Busby volunteered to be a part of this committee with Sarah.

Vimy Henderson was questioning varying options to combine the Prelude and Trillium circuit. We want 1 solid circuit in this region, Dave Longo strongly stated he does not want Prelude and Trillium together in the same weekend. Candice said there are too many safety issues to mix the circuits. Cindy suggested to host the Prelude on Friday and the Trillium run on the weekend, most said no to this suggestion.

Carla stated that the Prelude is taking numbers away from the Trilium due to not needing memberships. Cindy said that if you are not collecting points for year-end awards or going to Champs you do not need a THJA membership.

There 1 warm-up per division which is unjudged, which a horse/pony needs to be entered in the division to do the schooling round. In order to have anyone ride your horse/pony Marion motioned to change the title warm-up to open schooling and the horse must finish the division. The rider must be appropriately dressed to ride in the open schooling. Andrea Young 2nd this motion.

Rachel motioned to form Show Standards committee, Sarah 2nd this motion all were in favour. The committee is to consist of 5 people, a coach, parent, judge, course designer and 1 outsider. Their duties are to keep track of the show venues to make sure all is running well at the shows. Footing was an issue at a number of the shows in 2014, watering the rings, harrowing the rings and the quality of the jumps

Julie nominated Andrea Young as the chair, Lorien nominated Jen Lyons as the co-chair, Yvonne nominated Jessica Kitching, Cindy nominated Susan Evans, and Marion nominated Lorien Patterson. A committee was formed.

2. Banquet Committee. Victoria Fellows needs assistance with the banquet. We are hoping that Victoria will stay on as an advisor to do the booking and ordering the food. Susan will stay on to do the booklet and order the ribbons and Yvonne Busby will be the MC, Rachel and Kate will help, with Kate co-charing. Also offering to volunteer are: Emma Williams, Ayla Webb, and Emily MacLeod. Yvonne said that each show in Central West is asked to donate for a division.
3. ByLaw Change Discussion for 2015. Refer to number 1.

4. Number of Shows in the Region. According to the survey almost everyone agreed there are too many shows in the Southwest Region. 80 people were in favour of capping the shows at 10, there was lots of discussion about capping the number of shows, but there is no process in place with THJA to cap shows. Cindy stated you need sponsors to assist with your shows, but she gave out \$250 worth of wine in hopes to get people back to her show in 2015. Desiree said she needs to have shows run over 2 days, as she only has so much trailer space and can't run up and down the highway to get all her students at the show if only 1 day.
Sarah made a motion: Be it resolved that the Southwest Trillium Zone put a cap on the number of shows allowed during a season to a maximum of 11 shows. If there are less than 11 venues wanting shows, a show manger may take a second show if desired. Historical dates will be grandfathered in for 2 years. Changes will be revisited by the members. Kate Bond adopted the motion and Rachel Baresich 2nd. All in favour
Martha suggested to keep track of the historical show dates
5. Elections (2 Directors at Large Positions): Kate Fowler was nominated, Andrea Young was nominated, Sarah Firth was nominated: Andrea was elected and Sarah was nominated.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.