



**Alberta Horse Trials Association  
Annual General  
Meeting Minutes**

**Holiday Inn & Suites South, Red Deer, October 28, 2017 1:30 PM**

- 1.0 Call to Order at 1:30 pm.
  - 1.1 Welcome, Introduction of the 2017 Board of Directors
  - 1.2 In attendance: Kelli Long, Ulrika Wikner, Kathleen Ziegler, Nancy Watson, Carly Moore, Kesley Soldan, Tanja Minder, Aislyn Havell, Becky Galbraith, Sarah Simpson, Jessica Kerschbaumer, Amy West, Samantha Pritchard, Niki Elash, Corey Gingras, Lana Wagner, Kim Kemper, Cathy Stotts, Charlene Thomas, April Stevenson, Lindsey Stevenson, Ali Smith, Tricia Dahms, Karen Tomlinson, Margo Gaglione, Bryan Donegan, Sharon Roberts, Marc Clement, Sara Lynn Minken, Amy Minken, Becklyn Clement, Krista Clement, Kayla Bushell, Megann Breakey, Lee Breakey, Julie Simard.
- 2.0 Adoption of Agenda
  - 2.1 Additions/Revisions  
Samantha Pritchard motions to accept the agenda as revised. Julie Simard seconded. Motion carried.
- 3.0 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of October 22, 2016
  - 3.1 Revisions to 5.2. : originally reading “the format was changed to a CIC\*\* from a CCI\*\*” was revised to read : “the format was changed to a CCI\*\* from CIC\*\*”
  - 3.2 Charlene Thomas addresses the concern of EIA in Alberta. New cases in Alberta including one positive case in Lacombe within the last week. Nancy responds that it’s not our responsibility as a board to dictate the required the testing. It’s not in the AHTA mandate to require coggins testing and that this should be left up to federal bodies rather than being mandated by a provincial organization.
  - 3.3 Motion to accept the minutes as revised by Carly Moore, seconded by Kelsey Soldan. Motion carried.
- 4.0 Treasurer’s Report

We had an increase in clinic revenue. We disbursed excess cash (\$20,000) to event sites in a one-time grant for event site facilities to be used for items that could not be purchased from Casino money.

  - 4.1 Casino Report – Kathleen Weare
    - Funds expected May 2018
    - Casino participation may be limited to every 3 years
    - May try to pick up less desirable dates to increase casino participation
    - Refunds to volunteers to be paid out mid-November
    - 2019 Q1 is next projected Casino date
    - Volunteer participation was very good from the 2017 Casino

- Volunteer list needs to be submitted 60 days prior to the Casino date so getting volunteers early is appreciated.
- Kathleen Weare would like permission to shred documents

#### 4.2 Casino initiatives for volunteers

- Free memberships for people who volunteer
- Kathleen Weare suggests a free event entry for volunteering
- Samantha Pritchard reminds the membership that food is provided and that it's always a good time.
- Tanja Minder discusses volunteer tracking and incentive in 7.5 New Business Arising

#### 5.0 Other Reports

##### 5.1 President's Report

- In 2017, there were 36 volunteers that put in 250 hours which works out to \$1800/person or \$260/hour is approximately what is earned for AHTA to put into event sites.
- Several teams were sent to Rebecca Farm and were successful
- Anne-Sophie successfully completed NAJYRC 2\* event
- Peter Gray officiated at the Alhambra fall event and said that he was impressed by the Alhambra event site, our riders, and quality of horses. He said the event was the best he has seen in Canada. He was eager to pass on some of the things he had seen to Ontario.
- Alhambra fall event had a reunion of "old time eventers" which was well attended.

##### 5.2 Athlete Development/High Performance Report

- HP 2017 program is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year with 22 members. New coach Leahona Rowland from BC will continue on as the coach for the 2018 season. She's a certified EC coach and is working toward her HP coaching designation. She brings a lot of experience both in show jumping and eventing. Each HP rider has their own coach and meets with Leona throughout the year at various clinics and reviews progress, goals, and areas to work on.
- Feb 2017 Coaching Clinic at Olds College
- Peter Gray donated his time at the Alhambra Fall event to conduct a Prelim course walk (to be attended with a donation) which raised \$541 split between HC BC and USEF Equine Disaster Relief.
- The Silent Auction subsidizes higher level clinicians for AHTA and HP clinics.
- 37 riders applied to be on the Official teams to show at Rebecca Farms. 16 were selected. Selection process included people observing applicants at various events. Show results were reviewed and behavior to volunteers, other riders, and officials was also observed. Entries were paid for the team, the team was stabled together, swag was provided (shirts, saddle pads, hats, blankets, grooming items etc.) HP supplied the coaching (Leahona Rowland).
- Matt Brown did a course walk with over 60 people attending.
- NAJYRC was held at Rebecca farms in 2017 and is expected to be held again at Rebecca in 2018.
- Anne-Sophie Levesque finished fifth individually and third on a combined team (AB/Ontario).
- AB Sport will provide funding for 2018 - hopefully
- David O'Connor is back. WEG might create issues in bringing upper level riders

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up this year.

5.3 Clinic Report

- May in Cochrane with Lynda Ramsay and Rebecca Lee. Weather was an issue prevented riders to get out on cross country so dressage and SJ
- May in Beaumont with Lynne Larsen and Kathy Playdon. Straight Cross country
- June in Rocky Mountain House with Hawley Bennet (good but expensive), Liam, and Noel Clark. All three on cross country (as riders wanted only cross country). Hawley did a talk in the evening regarding how behavior is always being observed.
- 2018 will include a similar format but will include some off season clinics (winter/spring/fall) to provide activities in the off season.
- Eventing 101 clinics. 3 (North, Central, and South) Beaumont (North) was cancelled due to low attendance but Central clinic was attended by those registered in the North clinic. Very well received and did results in new membership. Currently at \$25/rider and AHTA plans to keep the entry the same for 2018.

5.4 Communications Report

- Instagram has over 600 followers and Official FB page has over 1,000 followers
- HP has a FB page and Instagram with approximately 200 followers and a website is in the works
- New website in the work for the winter.
- Revamp Newsbites to ensure communication is getting out to all members.

5.5 Membership and Statistics Report

- 563 members in 2017 (increased from 537 in 2016). We had 149 new members but we lost members as well. Fairly evenly split between seniors and juniors. Rides per year was slightly down from 977 (2016) to 967 (2017).
- Alhambra fall event had 44 riders in Championship divisions

5.6 Competitions Report

- Total number of rides was consistent. Weather was good with the exception of South Peace.
- Devocoux sponsored a saddle at the Alhambra summer event.
- Feedback about cross country courses were very fun to ride.
- Officials commented that events were very well run this year.
- No major issues or concerns were brought forward in 2017 regarding any of the competitions.
- Vetoquinol gave a talk at the Alhambra event and also gave AHTA \$1500 in sponsorship.

6.0 Elections

6.1 Directors whose terms have expired All board members with expiring terms are standing (Kelsey, Carly, Tanja, Kelli, Aislyn, Sarah (1 year term))

6.2 Nominations from the Floor

- Nancy Watson calls for nominations from the floor. By acclamation, Kelsey, Carly, Tanja, Kelli, Aislyn, and Sarah are all reinstated.

## 7.0 New Business

### 7.1 Championships Format

- 44 Championship rides. How many were qualified? Number seems low but without knowing how many qualified, how many ended up riding in the regular division, how many moved up, and how many did not enter the event?
- Out of province events does not allow a rider to qualify for championships as AHTA wishes to reward the ridership that attends Alberta events
- Was communication sufficient? General agreement was that communication was sufficient via social media.
- Positive feedback regarding the Championship track.
- Discussion regarding for list of qualified riders to be disseminated to the membership (via email or social media).
- Ulrika discussed the cost of splitting the two competitions as opposed to running them together. Cost worked out to approximately the same but it involves more work than keeping them together.
- What is the incentive to enter the Championships? Suggested that points awarded for Championships reflect the harder track. Samantha Pritchard suggested that points for placing in Championship remain comparable to the number of entries in the regular division, regardless of the number of entries in the Championship division.
- Amy West had feedback that her students were disappointed that the Championship track was very similar to the regular track.
- Sam mentioned that she didn't think Entry needed a championship track. Starter and Pre entry did not have two tracks.

### 7.2 Canadian Eventing Congress

- Nancy Watson is attending. It's a one day event. Provincial HTAs will meet in the morning prior to the day beginning to discuss what other associations are dealing with.
- Will changes to FEI rules be discussed? And will they be implemented at non-FEI events?

### 7.3 Organizer's Forum – Sunday October 29 at Sports Hall of Fame (10:00 am)

### 7.4 Young Prospects Program (Brenda Thompson)

- In response to surveys, some changes were made:
  - i) Requests for longer clinics with Barb. A two day clinic was scheduled outside of the evaluations. No one came so clinic was cancelled.
  - ii) Evaluations were completed on the Thursday of the Alhambra Summer Event. The small number (6) allowed a good trial. Good sponsorship. Catered dinner and guest speaker from Vetoquinol on Thursday night was well received.
- Feedback also includes a lack of time from the ridership as there is a lot going on in a short season. Could we look at holding YPP events/clinics with other AHTA clinics? Brenda really liked how Matt Brown worked with the young horses and thought he would be a good match for the YPP program as well.
- Young trainer clinics also of interest. Growing in popularity in the States. "Colt Starting" clinics.

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#### 7.5 Volunteer Tracking

- USEA has an app that allows events (\$20 USD for sanctioned events and \$10 USD for unsanctioned events). Allows members to log in and sign up for tasks. It tracks volunteer hours and gives the board the ability to set volunteer hour milestones, provide year end awards, and provide recognition to volunteers.

### 8.0 Round Table Discussion

#### 8.1 30 Minute Window

- Samantha Pritchard brings up the 30 minute window prior to ribbon presentation at 3-day events. Results are not final for 30 minutes but awards are presented immediately after. Commonly done in the states despite having the same rules. Membership in agreement that they would like to see this in 2018 events.

#### 8.2 Fundraising Idea

- Charlene Thomas suggested that a company in Olds that donates a skid of hay. AHTA would purchase the hay and the gentleman would donate 50% and deliver it within his delivery area. Could raffle it off.

#### 8.3 Intermediate Course

- Is there interest in an Intermediate course at South Peace this year? Washington now offers three or more events at the Intermediate level. Closer to go to Spokane than to go to South Peace for those in Calgary and south.
- If there are no intermediate courses in Alberta, there will not be intermediate riders that remain in Alberta. If we build these courses, we allow the riders to develop within the province and keep coaches within the province.
- Julie Simard said that Cochrane Intermediate fences will be loaned to whichever event site wishes to hold an Intermediate event.
- IP was provided in 2016. Two riders at the summer Alhambra and none in the fall. Feedback is that, you cannot get a qualifying score from an IP competition so it would make more sense to do show jump and dressage shows.

#### 8.4 CCI\*

- Is there interest in running a CCI\* (or comparable)? If we are considering holding an Intermediate level, we should consider CCI\* as qualifying scores are needed and riders need to travel out of country.

#### 8.5 Provincial Courses

- Margo Gaglione brought up a historical provincial endeavor where course designers toured the country's event sites to learn what works, what isn't working, and what courses at comparable levels across the various provinces would look like. Would this help grow our events and courses?

### 9.0 Adjournment

Meeting motioned to be adjourned by Kathleen Weare at 3:43 PM.

*\*\*Quorum required for AGM to proceed: 17 Senior Members or 5% of Total 2017 Senior Membership, whichever is the lesser. (From AHTA By-Laws)*