



ALBERTA HORSE TRIALS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting MINUTES

Holiday Inn, October 26, 2013 1:30 PM

- 1.0 Call to Order at 1:36.
 - 1.1 Welcome, Introduction of the 2013 Board of Directors (KH)
 - 1.2 Present: Kris Haut, Kristin Halsey, Kathleen Ziegler, Sheilah Swanberg, Urika Wikner, Nancy Watson, Laurie Powell, Sharon Roberts, Kat Townsend, Mary Busch, Charlene Thomas, Bryan Donnegan, Jenn Smart, Margo Gaglione, Tricia Dahms, Caroline Smith, Jen Rekrutiak, Sarah Simpson, Naomi Dell, Julie Simard, Jane Martin, Katrina Holt, Kylee Haining, Caroline Smith, Jackie Kessler, Jessica Kerschbaumer.

- 2.0 Adoption of Agenda
 - 2.1 Additions/Revisions: Motion to accept agenda as read by Bryan Donnegan. Seconded by Margo Gaglione. Motion carried.

- 3.0 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of October 27, 2012 (NW): Motion to accept Minutes from October 27, 2012 AGM motioned by Julie Van Halst. Seconded by Jenn Smart. Motion carried.
 - 3.1 Business arising from minutes: Discussion of membership statistics, and formalizing starter heights in Alberta. Show jumping courses are usually set to maximum for all fences. We will bring this forward at national meetings.

- 4.0 Treasurer's Report Presented by Sheilah Swanberg. Motion to accept Treasurer's report as read by Tricia Dahms, seconded by Jessica Kerschbaumer. Motion carried.
 - 4.1 Casino Report presented by Sheilah Swanberg. Draw for next casino is in November. We will be in the April to June 2014 draw.

Margo Gaglione would like to have a listing of how much money is spent on each event site so that she can let membership know by way of newsbites. Charlene mentioned that we need to let membership know how much we make at casino and how it is our biggest income.

- 5.0 Other Reports
 - 5.1 President's Report presented by Kristine Haut. Report attached.
 - 5.2 Athlete Development/High Performance Report presented by Kathleen Ziegler. Tricia mentioned that a coaching clinic is very helpful and trickles down to all members. Claudia Cojocar was mentioned as being very good.
 - 5.3 Clinic Report by Sharon Roberts. Margo suggested two phase clinics in the winter/spring as another clinic.
 - 5.4 Rider's Representative Report presented by Mary Busch.
 - 5.5 Communications Report presented by Laurie Powell. Charlene wanted the rider's times that are posted on the Facebook page to be posted on the website. Can we have the list of rider times on the website? We will look into this for 2014. Problem is that some events post their own times to the Facebook page.
 - 5.6 Membership and Statistics Report presented by Nancy Watson. Margo is worried that we having fewer juniors might affect our casino revenues as they are geared towards youth.

5.7 Tricia asked that divisions be divided if there are over 20 competitors. Some events had divisions with over 30 entries which are a lot compete against each other. Tricia says that pre-entry and entry are tougher as it is where the majority of riders are. Will discuss at organizer's forum.

6.0 Elections

- 6.1 Directors whose terms have expired: Kristine Haut, Sheilah Swanberg, Sharon Roberts, Kat Townsend, Mary Busch (Standing for re-election), Derek Jackson (Not standing for re-election)
- 6.2 Nominating Committee Report (TBD) Jessica Kerschbaumer was nominated by the Nominating committee, Margo seconded. The Nominating committee also nominated Jenn Smart, seconded Charlene
- 6.3 Nominations from the Floor – There were no nominations from the floor.
- 6.4 Election
 - 6.4.1 Appointment of Scrutinizer – Nancy Watson appointed Jackie Kessler as the scrutinizer.
 - 6.4.2 Candidate Introductions – All directors whose term had expired as well as the nominees introduced themselves.
 - 6.4.3 Voting / Results: A vote was held and the following were elected: Kristine Haut, Sheilah Swanberg, Sharon Roberts, Kat Townsend, Mary Busch and Jenn Smart.
 - 6.4.4 Introduction of new 2013/2014 Board of Directors – Introduced by Kristine Haut.
 - 6.4.5 Destruction of Ballots was motioned by Margo Gaglione, seconded by Bryan Donnegan.

7.0 New Business

- 7.1 Canadian Eventing Congress – Input -
- 7.2 Rule change deadlines - Rule changes are due at the end of May.
- 7.3 Organizer's Forum – Sunday October 27 at Alhambra Stables (10:00 am)
- 7.4 Dressage and show jumping bonus – need to advertise now for next year and promote it more. We can re-evaluate for next year.
- 7.5 AHTA Leaderboard and leaderboard yes please add starters. Promote it more to the pony clubs. Out of Province Results – Margo Gaglione motioned that Out of province results will work for CIC*, Intermediate & CIC**/CCI**, Advanced & CIC***/CCI***/CCI****. For prelim level and down only Alberta events will be used on the leaderboard. Tricia Dahms seconded. Motion carried.

8.0 Round Table Discussion

- 8.1 Margo Gaglione presented a 2 page letter (attached) regarding heights and difficulty (including terrain and decorations) and that we need to make things uniform for the divisions pre-entry and starter. We need to ensure that each division has speeds and that they are consistent at each event. It needs to be standard in the rules, omnibus, course designers and td's need to have this ahead of time. These divisions need to be more inviting. The board will work on this to ensure that our goal is that each rider successfully completes. Organizers need to speak up to officials.
- 8.2 Terms of vetting after cross country – our rules don't state that we have to report to a vet, why are we. Do we just have to present to a member of the ground jury? If there is a vet there you have to report to the vet or the ground jury. Will be brought forward at National Meetings.
- 8.3 People who fall ride to report to finish? Why? Ask at Nationals meetings.
- 8.4 Rebecca Farm runs a team competition. Do we want to do this? Sponsor? How would this work? We have done this previously. We will look into seeing if we could run this again.

9.0 Adjournment at 4:25 pm

2013 President's Report (AGM)

Another eventing season in Alberta has come and gone. It is time to celebrate our accomplishments and make plans for next year. Tomorrow is the annual organizer's forum at Alhambra stables. The organizer's forum involves finalizing dates for next year and also taking the time to review the successes from the past year and improvements to be made. The forum is open to all members so if you have anything you would like to discuss with the event organizers or if you would just like to listen in, please feel free to join us.

The board is usually asked upon presentation of our membership report at the annual AGM, where did the members go who did not renew? In 2013 at our annual planning and budgeting meeting in January, the board decided to take a look at this issue. The board collectively decided that we may not have the resources to investigate why members don't renew. Instead we decided to focus our attention on introducing new members to the sport. In 2013 the AHTA sponsored the first annual "Meet the Fences" clinic. Mary Busch, who has significant contacts in the pony club world, organized the clinic inviting pony clubbers and others who have never evented to come out and try eventing in a low-cost, low-stress environment. With coach Jenn Smart leading the way, participants were introduced to eventing and all the fun cross-country has to offer. The clinic was well received and several of participants ended up participating in one or more of our events.

Here are your 2013 highlights:

- In 2013 our membership numbers saw a slight decrease over 2012 but fewer events were run in 2013.
- Alhambra Stables reported record numbers of competitors for both their summer and fall events. I am almost certain that the ridership at the summer event was so high because of the first annual Spartan Race. This is a fantastic level of support for those events and allows the organizers to continue to make improvements to their courses, facilities, footing, and amenities.
- The board budgeted \$45,000 in 2013 for course support. As the course support funding comes from the casino, we are only able to allocate it for "sporting goods" including items such as equipment and jumps. The funding cannot be used for capital expenditures such as water jumps or bank complexes. The board recognizes a need for capital funding so in 2013 the board also budgeted \$10,000 of non-casino revenue for event sites to use for capital expenditures.
- AHTA clinics continue to be extremely popular, usually filling long before the closing date. The AHTA is committed to keeping these low-cost and fun for all levels. Sharon Roberts has done a tremendous job organizing these clinics over the past couple of years. We continue to see popular clinicians as well as the addition of un-mounted activities. The un-mounted activities were selected based on a survey that was sent out a while back. The board relies heavily on member input to continue offering interesting and educational sessions. Please continue to provide your feedback whenever possible!
- Alhambra stables hosted an officials' clinic at the fall event. The number of officials in Alberta is limited so it was great to see Equine Canada bring one of these clinics here. Thank you to Ulrika for hosting the clinic. It could not have happened without you!



FINAL

- The Event at Rebecca Farm continues to be a popular event for Alberta eventers. I was so pleased to see how many AHTA members finished in the top 10 this year.
- I would like to congratulate Rebecca David McIsaac on her participation in the North American Young Riders Championships. It is a tremendous accomplishment to compete there and we are very proud of you!

The Alberta Horse Trials Association is YOUR organization. The board of directors strives to be open and transparent. If you have ideas, feedback, questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to bring them forward.

Thank you for coming today

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine Haut
President, AHTA



October 26, 2013

Clinic Report by Sharon Roberts

All three clinics filled quickly with a wait list.

Rocky – June 1, 2

Noel Clark & Becky Galbraith

Twenty participants total of 4 lessons for the weekend. Becky focused on pacing it was an in depth two day session. She had a radar gun so was able to clock riders going up and down hills, into the water and over small jumps. Noel took everyone round the x country course according to their abilities.

Cochrane - June 15/16

Becky Lee & Amberley Marsden

Sandy Wallin set up clinicians and organized the clinic. There were many emails from people that enjoyed the clinic. . There were 24 participants, total 3 lessons for the weekend. Two cross country with Becky, one flat lesson with Amberley. I think the schedule worked well for this weekend.

Alhambra – August 3, 4th

Sandra Donnelly/Lynda Ramsey

Lynda did a presentation with a demo rider (Kris) “from the judge’s point of view” Lynda provided information on what a judge looks for, assigning marks and how movements can be improved for better marks. It was about an hour long, it was informative, I enjoyed it. She then taught one flat lesson, with a cross country lesson the following day. Sandra’s first day lesson was stadium, ending with the water jump. The second day was out on cross country.

All the instructors and venues are easily to work with and a lot of help.

Venue booked for 2014

Actual dates not mentioned at the AGM

Booked Rocky Venue for next year June 21,22nd

Cochrane Venue June 15, 16th

Alhambra Venue Aug 3, 4th



HIGH PERFORMANCE REPORT OCTOBER 26, 2013

Our 2013 season saw a few changes from previous years - namely a new Coach/Consultant. Lynda Ramsay, from Kelowna, BC has taken over the position from Lorraine Laframboise.

Lynda was a former member of the Canadian Eventing Team. She is a Level 3 Coach with EC, a Dressage Judge, head of the EC Rules Committee for Eventing and has had former students go to work for some of the top Event riders like William Fox Pitt, Will Faudree, Kyle Carter and David O Connor Event Team.

Lynda has brought to the program a new level of enthusiasm and energy. She is very interested in the riders and, when she has been officiating at various events, she does try to watch all the HP riders and make notes on what she sees so she can discuss with them at a later time. Due to her close proximity, we have also had riders haul over to Kelowna for extra help/lessons. Lynda has lots of ideas on improving our program and I look forward to 2014.

The rider membership, in the HP Program, continues to grow and we had 17 members in 2013.

The "Destination Event" is usually Rebecca Farms. The past number of years, we had not been able to supply a coach for the competition, due to the high cost associated with bringing our former coach from Quebec and the low number of riders attending. This year, we were able to afford to bring Lynda to Rebecca Farms to teach lessons just prior to the event and coach throughout. We had an increase of riders competing from 2012, which was 7, to 15 riders in 2013.

2013 was the second year we offered an AEF accredited Coaching Clinic. There were 40 people in attendance to watch Claudia Cojocar conduct the clinic and discuss throughout how coaches can develop a proper program and how to approach various problems that may come up. She spent a fair bit of time discussing the importance of riding with coaches who are familiar with the unique requirements of an Event Horse. She was very informative in explaining why not every Dressage or Show Jump professional would be a good Eventing coach. She also gave the riders a lot to think about (and coaches) as a number of them do tend to work alone often, as we have 3 disciplines to concentrate on - not just ride around under the eye of 1 coach. So lots of different exercises were set up and what the rider should be hoping to achieve, when riding the exercises.

Claudia also spent time at the end of the day, chatting with coaches and riders who came with lots of questions.

This clinic did draw a number of coaches who are very familiar with Claudia's expertise but we also had some dressage judges attend, this year, who do work with Event riders.

One of the aspects of the HP Program is to provide support to riders vying for NAJYRC. We had a Junior qualify to compete in Kentucky, this summer. Rebecca David McIsaac had a very successful competition and this was made only more special as she was 1 of 2 15 year olds competing at the Championship. Most of the Juniors are much older as they can compete to the age of 18 yrs. Rebecca is working toward qualifying, again, for 2014. (Side note: Rebecca David McIsaac and Hunter Trombley have now qualified



to attend the NAJYRC for 2014 for the 1* and Leah Breakey and David Ziegler are qualified for the 2* Competition)

The clinics that are organized for the HP riders are usually taught by our Coach - Lynda Ramsay. However, we do bring in a high level professional once a year for a bit different outlook. The ever popular Leslie Law returned for a 4th year and his clinic was well attended with 43 riders over 4 days.

The question was put out to the riders as to whether we should consider changing things up for 2014. I received a resounding "no". The riders do not wish a change.

The final person who is involved in our program is Sandra Sokoloski, from ESport Physiotherapy. The riders usually see her at the beginning and end of the season. Sandra works with the riders on body position. They discuss the weaknesses that she sees then prescribes a number of exercises that will help improve the strength/flexibility of the rider.

2013 was a very busy year and 2014 is shaping up to be the same. The membership continues to increase as more riders are competing at the Preliminary level and above. Also, the interest in the North American Young Rider Championships continues to grow as we have riders who are qualifying and do make the commitment to attend the competition. It is the highlight in many of their riding careers and we are working hard to help them get to Kentucky.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Ziegler