



FINAL

**Alberta Horse Trials Association
Annual General Meeting Agenda
Holiday Inn & Suites South, Red Deer
November 9, 2019 1:30 PM**

1.0 Call to Order at 1:30 pm.

Welcome and introduction of the 2019 Board of Directors

In attendance: Kathleen Ziegler, Aislyn Havell, Kris Haut, Kelli Long, Nancy Watson, Jessica Kerschbaumer, Kelsey Soldan, Becky Galbraith, Ulrika Wikner, Tanja Minder, Cristin Embury, Samantha Pritchard, Kathleen Weare, Charlene Thomas, Barry Tyerman, Tiara Chambers, Lana Wagner, Shelby Friesen, Renate Price, Audrey Van Leewan, Margo Gaglione, Brenda Thompson, Joan Barbour, Derek Jackson, Lisa Janssen, Kayla Bushell, Brecklyn Clement, Krista Clement, Marc Clement, Brittany Mooney, Pernille Rydberg, Sarah Kun, Sonja Shank

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

2.1. Additions/Revisions: Sam Pritchard adopts the agenda as read. Kathleen Weare seconds.

3.0 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting October 26, 2018 (Kelsey Soldan)

Sam Pritchard motioned to adopt the minutes as read. Barry Tyerman seconds. Motion carried.

4.0 Treasurer's Report (Kelli Long)

-Budget of \$124,000 and actuals were \$126,000

-Projected to break even in 2019

-Changes to lottery funds for charities. New as of November 2019, Government of Alberta is changing how funds are being managed so we need to be conscious of how we are managing things to allow us to maintain funding for event sites.

-Kathleen Weare adopts the treasurer's report as read. Tiara Chambers seconds. Motion carried.

5.0 Other Reports

5.1. President's Report (Nancy Watson)

-Will be electing at least one new board member today. Thanks to Kelli Long for her hard work.

-Member numbers were down slightly from 2018.

-There was a new event at Prentice Creek which had great feedback.

-Adult riding camp was held this summer at Alhambra and it was a great success.

-Planning on new eventing 201 clinic as a next step for those getting into the sport.

5.2. Athlete Development/High Performance Report (Kathleen Ziegler)

-Alberta Sport was contacted and they said they distribute the money to AEF and

- AEF is responsible for the distribution of funds.
- EC rolled out the new tiered memberships.
- Our HP Coach for the 2019 (and 2020) Leahona Roland. She is only the second designated HP coach in Canada.
- Leahona taught clinics over the year and sends out program guides to riders in the program.
- We also brought in Matt Brown, Peter Gray, and Shandiss McDonald.
- Young Riders Championship was a success and Alberta were able to send a full team.
- USEF changed qualifiers this year. (Three prelims with qualifying scores to apply.)
- The 2020 Young Riders Championships location has not been released.
- Mikayla Hoffman, Megan Yakiwchuk, Jada Graham, Anna Rekrutiak were the Canadian team. Mikayla was high placed Canadian 12th out of 44, Jada finished 29th. Unfortunately, Anna and Megan did not complete.
- Kathleen, on behalf of the HP group, thanked everyone that was involved in fundraising.

5.3. Clinic Report (Kathleen Ziegler on behalf of Sarah Simpson)

- Spring 2019 was a fundraising clinic. All clinic registration fees went to young riders. Thanks to Sarah for the use of the arena and the clinicians for donating their time (David Ziegler, Amy West, Sam Pritchard, Brian Vicars, and Jess Kerschbaumer)
- Amy West (Cochrane) went well.
- James Alliston (Rocky Mountain House) also went well.
- Adult Riding Camp (Jess Kerschbaumer). Two lessons, dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. Lots of fun and thanks to Ulrika Wikner for hosting and cooking for us.
- 133 riders attended the clinics this year.
- Plans for 2020 clinics would be similar format but if anyone has suggestions for new formats, please contact Sarah with suggestions

5.4. 101 Clinics (Becky Galbraith)

- 3 eventing 101 clinics end of May/Beginning of June.
- 12 riders at Beaumont (taught by Becky Galbraith)
- 15 riders at Alhambra (taught by Jess Kerschbaumer)
- 10 riders at Cochrane (taught by Jess Kerschbaumer)

Weather generally wasn't cooperative. 34 rides total with a few scratches. There seems to be increased popularity including many people that have never jumped before. A survey was sent out afterwards. 17 responded with 18% planning to enter an event.

5.5. Communications Report (Jessica Kerschbaumer)

- Facebook and Instagram are active. Facebook page has over 1500 followers. Instagram has 963 followers.
- High Performance Facebook page has 305 followers and 383 Instagram

followers.

-Newsbites is popular with 750 subscribers.

5.6. Membership & Stats Report (Jess Kerschbaumer on behalf of Carly Moore)

-486 members through AEF, remaining members completed hard copy forms.

-65 new junior members, 107 new senior members.

-Total rides were down slightly.

-Starter and PE are decreasing while PT and Training are increasing.

-Entry levels have been fairly steady (15 rides difference in the last four years).

-Prelim rides were down.

-Three riders at Intermediate at South Peace.

-Minds Eye increased, South Peace had unusually low numbers.

-Summer Alhambra (157 riders) and Buster Creek were the most popular events.

-Fall Alhambra rider numbers increased (143) but not as much originally thought with the change to a 2-day format.

5.7. Competitions Report (Tanja Minder)

-Overall, TD comments and ratings were positive across all of the events.

-AHTA along with other organizations in the sport are working on dealing with smoke issues which was an issue at Beaumont (previously an issue at the 2018 Alhambra Summer event)

-Prentice Creek in their first year had just over 100 riders with good feedback with great prizes.

-Buster Creek dinner and entertainment were popular.

-South Peace had great weather and ran Intermediate.

-Fall Alhambra changed to a 2-day format from 3-day format.

6.0 Elections

6.1. Directors whose terms have expired:

Carly (standing) Tanja (standing) Kelli (NOT standing)

Kelsey (standing) Cristin (standing) Aislyn (standing)

6.2. Nominations from the Floor

-Tiara Chambers nominated Shelby Friesen

-She's been a member of AHTA for over 10 years

-She's a recreation coordinator who has an aptitude for coordination, planning, and organization.

- Kayla Bushell nominated Renate Price

-She's been a member for over 10 years and is at the end of her riding career due to an injury. She is looking for a way to stay in the sport. She has an MBA.

6.3. Election

Tanja, Cristin, Aislyn, Carly, and Kelsey remain on the board. Welcome to Shelby Friesen!

7.0 New Business

7.1. Canadian Eventing Congress (Kris Haut)

- Attended November 3, 2019 in Toronto.
- EC is developing a 5-year plan for talent spotting. Part of that is David O'Connor will be touring the country conducting clinics in 2020 with a riding and coaching portion. The main focus is talent spotting but the clinics will be open to help fund the clinic and expose grassroots level to upper level riding.
- Sport Licenses with interest in eventing increased 9%. However, this is the first year that there were no separate memberships for eventing so now all that's required to indicate interest is a check box marked off when purchasing a sport license.
- 54 events across the country with no Advanced level courses offered in Canada.
- 6.3% decrease in number of starters.

7.1.1 Highlights from the provinces

British Columbia:

- has a U25 program, not liking EV105 due to additional requirements for fences etc. and also low entries.
- PTSO sponsors prelim championships and they are a part of BC Summer Games - could be an opportunity to get additional funding from PTSO.

Manitoba:

- has 38 members, they planned one event which was cancelled due to low entries.
- Cost of officials is limiting and they are looking at working with the United States to share riders.

New Brunswick:

- has 56 members. Well supported by PTSO. Have requirements to be part of their Youth Program with coaching at competitions and refunds on lessons.
- Did a Landsafe course (how to fall). This might be a possible opportunity to work with AEF on a clinic that covers all disciplines.
- Has a Maritime championships which is well supported by the PTSOs.

Nova Scotia:

- has 110 members with 2 sanctioned events. PTSO helps with grant applications. Teams get funding, juniors, and officials get funding from PTSO.
- Have issues with officials and lack of dressage judges.

Ontario:

- Ontario Eventing Association (changed name and restructured.) Focused on adding value to customers and treating members like customers. Have "training days" where OEA provides coaches at event sites for \$20/xc or \$10/show jumping.
- Have a U25 program.
- No one qualified to compete at YRs.

- YR are required to volunteer to be YRs.
- They have a lot of one day events which make it hard to source out volunteers.
- Want to increase social media presence which should increase their sponsorship.
- Entries are down but memberships are up.
- Host a coaches' roundtable and provide the coach that brought in the most riders a jump trailer
- Stopped holding championships and instead of that, provide yearend awards to 8th place. They hide the leaderboard 4 events before the end. Levies are directed to event sites instead.
- Cash draw for volunteers at every event for volunteers paid for by OEA.

Quebec:

- has 200 members. Grasshopper division as their lowest division.

Saskatchewan:

- had an increase in entries.
- Starter to PT currently but would like to expand to include training and prelim.

PEI:

- Run by the PTSO and the PTSO leases the event site.
- Do a number of unmounted sessions across all disciplines.

- 7.2 EC does not have money to bring in more FEI competitions to Canada
- 7.3 Looking into adaptive aids in para-competitions. No current rules for eventing.
- 7.4 Coach Licensing was introduced but currently AEF and EC are working out the logistics. There is a difference between licensing and certification.

8.0 Organizer's Forum – Sunday November 10 – Please let us know if there anything you would like brought forward to the organizers. It is a private meeting.

8.1. Young Prospects Program (Brenda Thompson) (see attached)

8.2. Alberta Equestrian Federation presentation (Tiara Chambers)

- Recently rebranding and board changes.
- Sport (AHTA), Education, Recreation, and Industry
- Sport Canada -> EC -> AEF -> AHTA (clubs) and members
- Provincially Alberta Sport -> AEF
- Last year there was a cut in budget.
- This year, the government is dissolving Alberta Sport completely.
- Significant cuts are in progress in addition to the above, which are not fully realized.
- AEF provides education and programs.
- Funding is often provided by sponsorship.
- Grants available to membership to further their personal education (like coaching certification).
- Review of membership types.

- Scholarships and Bursaries available as well.
- Alberta (via AEF) is the only province that has a stocked emergency livestock trailer in every community.
- Coach certification and programs are still active but may change to work in conjunction with EC mandates.
- Large decrease in officials so increasing numbers will be a focus of AEF.
- Live Outside the Box programs, Ride and Drive programs, Rookie Rider program (NEW!).
- Provincial awards.
- AEF website was updated this year.
 - Overview of the Horse Portal for education.

9.0 Round Table Discussion

9.1. Championships (Kris Haut):

- Prior format: Automatically entered. All riders in all divisions were judged by 2 judges. Double points for championship placing.
- Current format: Self-Entry. Only championship entries are judged by 2 judges. Points are same as non-championship entrants plus 3 points.
- Kris reviewed financials of championships. The cost is at least \$5,000 per year.
 - Ontario scrapped their championship in favour of year-end awards (to 8th). BC and USEA run similar formats to our historical format. The Maritime Provinces run a Maritime Championship.

Thoughts by the membership:

- Riders are burnt out by September, horses/people lame.
- There is prestige in having a championship as well as recognition outside of the sport.
- There is some miscommunication as to qualifications and how to register.
- Auto-registration was a lot of work on organizers and currently would require all qualifiers to complete the harder course.
- Several that made it clear they did not want to ride more difficult course (tired or didn't feel ready).
- Grant applications often ask if you've competed in championships.
- Possible opt out option instead of opt in.
- If there are only a few riders, is there any prestige in that?
- Other sports have leaderboards as their championship.
- Tiara Chambers (South Peace Organizer) - there is a lot of work involved in organizing the championship including additional expenses for the extra judges/travel/accommodations.
- New championship courses are really enjoyed and it's fun to challenge yourself.
- Is it worth using the funds for a championship with low numbers? Is one person in Championships really a champion?
- Grants have often been directed to youth programs and grassroots level as well as interprovincial championships
- Pacific Northwest Championship (Washington, Montana, BC, and AB) was held at Millarville years ago.
- Do we hold them earlier in the season and end our points season at that event? Points gained at events after championships would go toward the next year.

-AHTA will send out a survey.

9.2. Prize Money (Charlene Thomas)

- How can we increase prize money at event?
- South Peace was audited last year and you are not allowed to provide cash prizes as per AGLC regardless of where the money comes from if you have a gaming account.
- There is a lot of leg work required to get larger sponsorships.
- AHTA will look into the AGLC requirements regarding cash prizes.

9.3. Volunteer Issues:

Getting and retaining volunteers are always an issue. How do we reward/motivate our volunteers? Some ideas brought up include requiring a minimum number of volunteer hours (3?) to collect leaderboard prizes. Points collected could go to free schooling sessions.

The AHTA Board have been working with organizers to set up volunteer incentive programs and tracking so we can reward the volunteers but it's been a slow process.

10.0 Adjournment-Tanja Minder motions to adjourn @16:31

***Quorum required for AGM to proceed: 16 Senior Members or 5% of Total 2019 Senior Membership, whichever is the lesser. (From AHTA By-Laws)*

AHTA 2019 President's Speech

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for coming out today. As we look back on this eventing season, we also begin our planning for 2020. Today we will be electing at least one new board member to the AHTA Board of Directors, and tomorrow at our annual Organizer's Forum, the organizers and board members will look at our successes and opportunities for improvements for 2020. I want to thank Kelli Long for her dedication to the board and our sport. I'm glad that she is just stepping down from the board and will continue eventing, so we will still get to see her lots!

Here is a brief summary of the 2019 eventing season in Alberta:

- Our member numbers have slightly decreased this year and we had 945 rides.
- We added a new event – the Prentice Creek Horse Trials in Rocky Mountain House. It sounds like it was a great success.
- We had a new adult camp at Alhambra and it was a huge success. Thanks to Ulrika for hosting and feeding us. Lots of riding, and socializing. This is one you don't want to miss next year.
- Strong support for our Eventing Clinics that we host across the province designed to introduce new riders to the sport, and to refine the skills of our existing riders and coaches
- Another terrific year with our High Performance program with the support of Alberta's High Performance coach Leahona Rowland and of course Kathleen Ziegler our HP chair.
- In course, equipment & facility development we invested \$35,000 this year

As for the 2020 season:

- We expect our High Performance program to continue to flourish, addressing the developmental needs of both horse and rider.
- We are planning a new Eventing 201 clinic. This will be the next step for newbies after our Eventing 101 clinic.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board Members, the Event Organizers, our Sponsors, coaches and officials, and all of the countless volunteers who assist throughout the year to make our events happen. The tremendous amount of work that happens behind the scenes is staggering, and without their tireless efforts and dedication, we would not have any events at which to compete.

The AHTA Board has always maintained a policy of transparency to its members. We always welcome you to contact any of the board with questions or concerns.

Thank you for putting your faith and trust in the Board, and for lending us your support. We strive to make 2020 an even bigger success.

Thanks again to all for attending today; I hope that you are joining us this evening to celebrate.

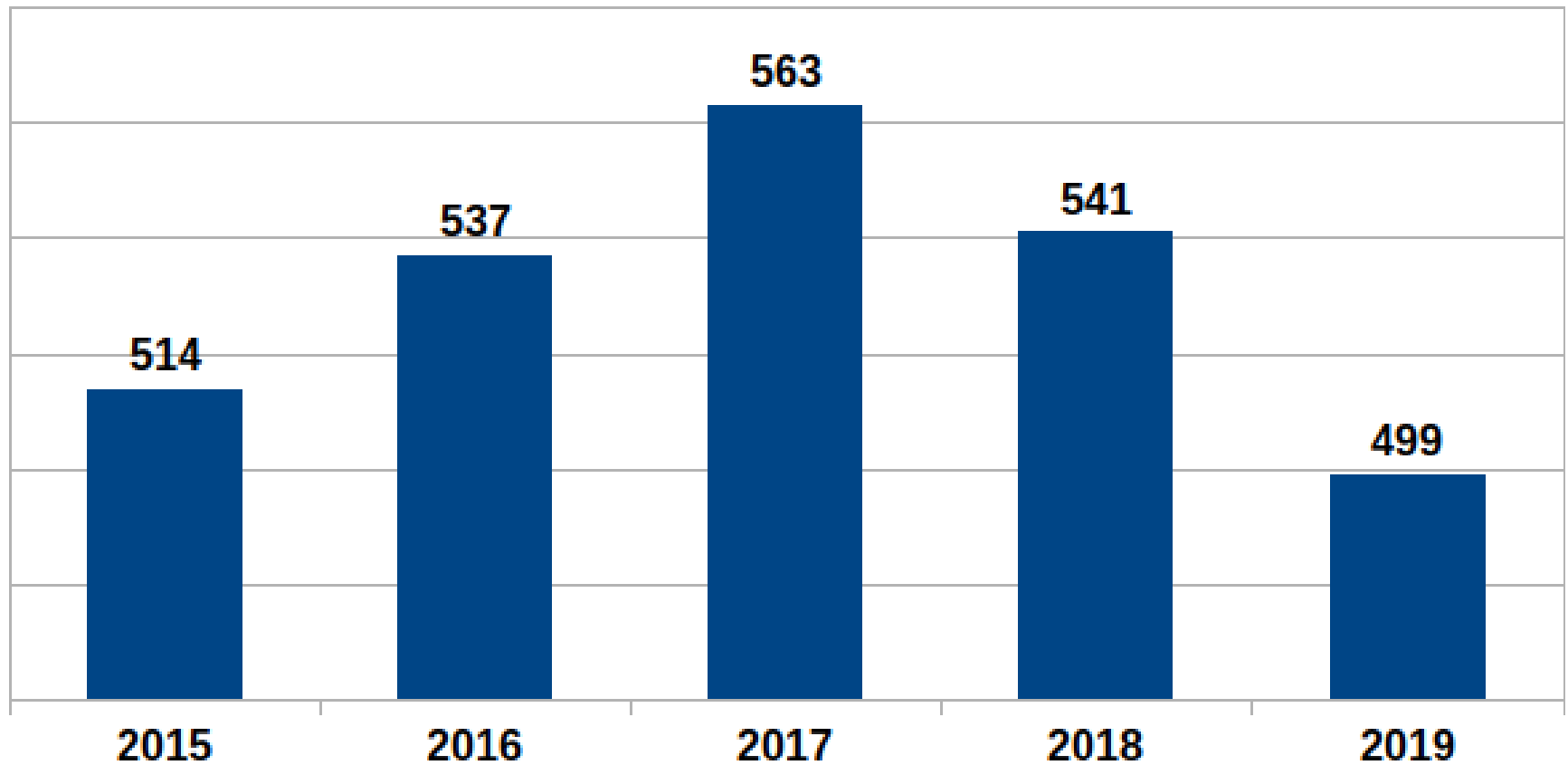
Nancy Watson - President, AHTA



2019 AGM MEMBERSHIP AND STATISTICS REPORT

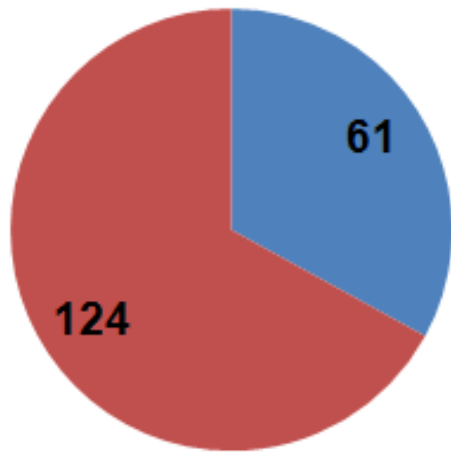
MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Total Membership by Year



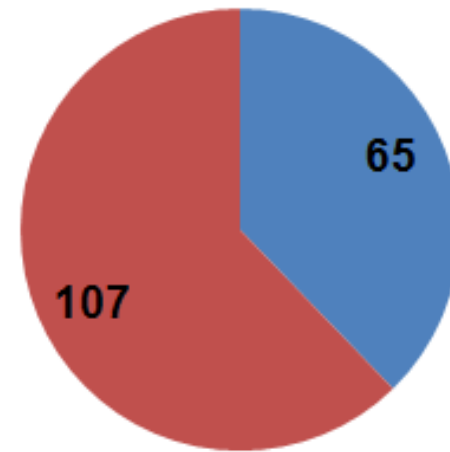
NEW MEMBERSHIP

2018

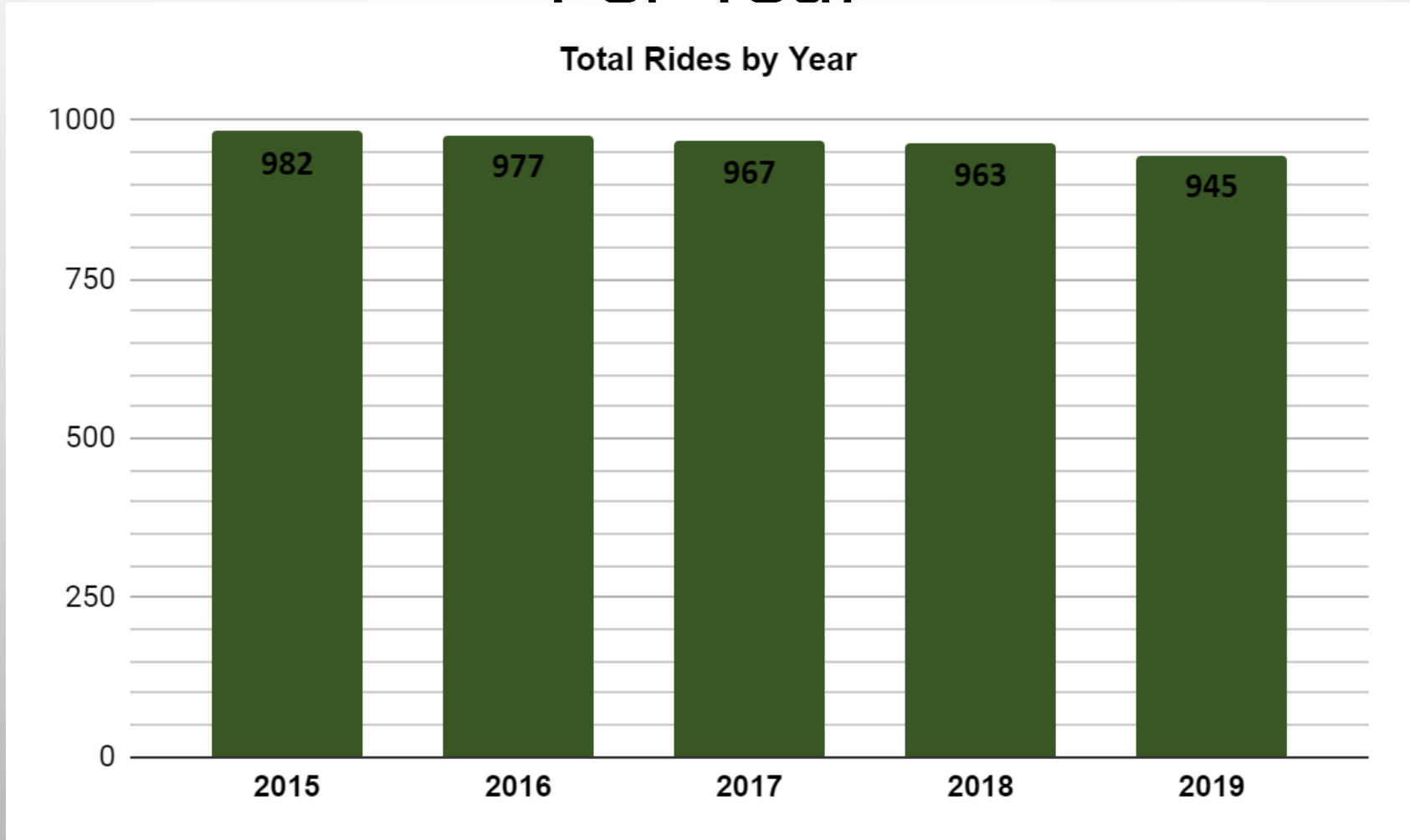


■ Junior
■ Senior

2019

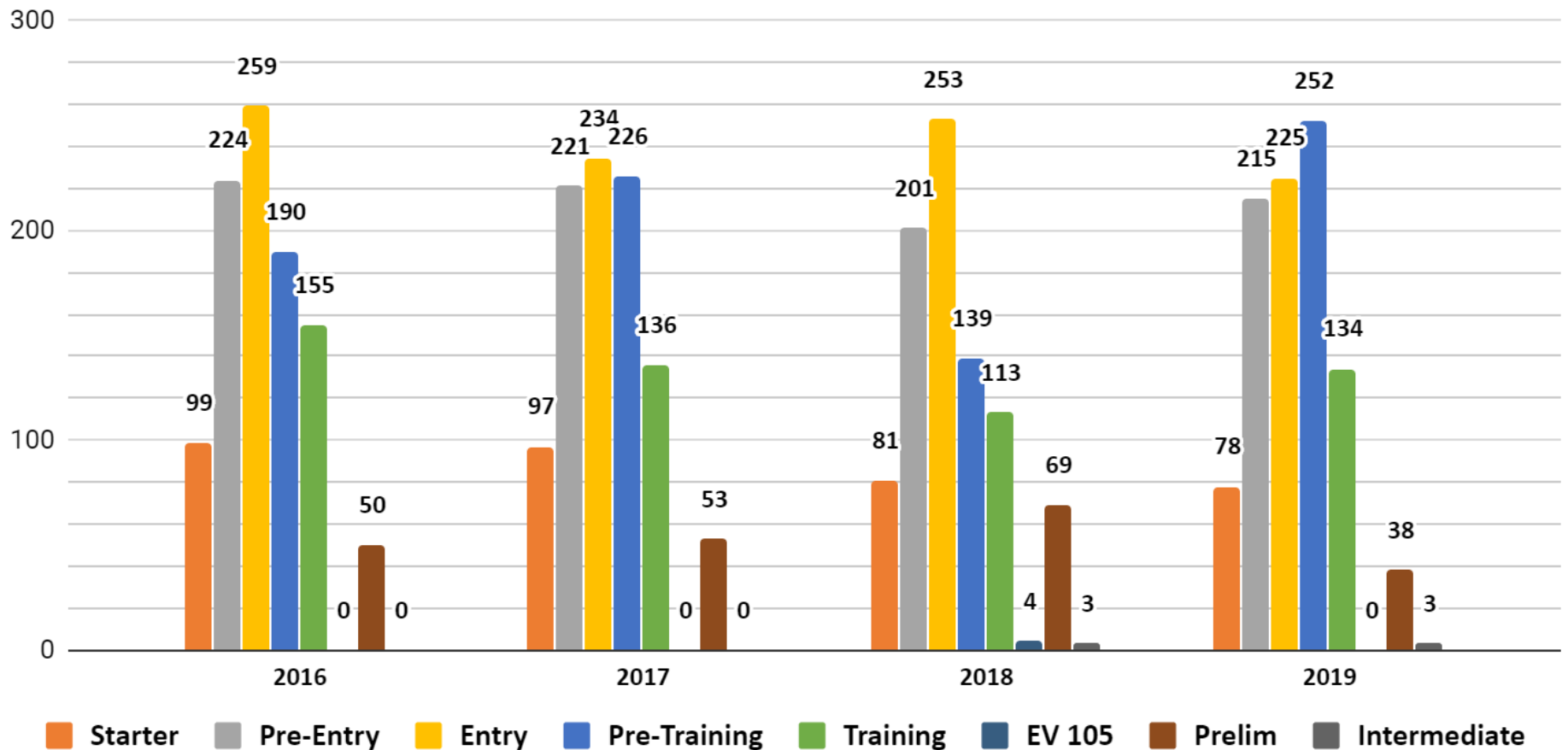


EVENT STATISTICS-Total Rides Per Year



EVENT STATISTICS- Rides by Division

Rides by Division Offered in Alberta



EVENT STATISTICS- Rides by Venue

Rides by Alberta Venue

