

## **EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA HORSEMAN'S ASSOICATION**

**August 15, 2022**

**Board Members Present:** Tiffany Markstrom, Angela McConnell, Carie Decker, Teresa Pollard, Amber McLean,

**Members:** Stephanie McConnell and Tracey Laitinen, Sharolyn Reed

**Absent:** Susan Wyatt, Linda Bourque, Jen Sherlund, Shasta Burzynski

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Tiffany Markstrom.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Angela McConnell motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes for May and June 2022. Seconded by Teresa Pollard. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Carie Decker reported that the current Cash On Hand for the end of July is \$7,568.17. The checking account has been carrying a \$15.00 credit and Carie had been waiting to see if a check still needed to clear but after months of waiting, finally added it into the account. As sponsorships have been received, they have been deposited into Old Mission.

Teresa Pollard motioned to approve Treasurer's Report and Amber McLean seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Carie Decker also reported that for July, we used the Plaza hotel and it was discussed about offering a banner for half price rooms. Angela McConnell brought up pre-booking rooms once show dates are set using Booking.com. No motion made so it will be added to next meeting agenda.

### **Old Business**

#### **Sponsorship**

This year we have received \$2550 in sponsorship monies and \$250 certificate from GFL. It was discussed and decided that the GFL certificate will be a silent auction item at the banquet.

#### **Thank Yous**

Amber McLean is going to take the photos, after the meeting, and complete the Thank Yous.

#### **Township Meeting**

Tracey, Tiffany, and Shasta attended the August meeting. Tracey supplied the township board with photos and a list of issues with the grounds. They felt they were for the most part well received and there was good conversation. They approached the issues as willing to help but can't fix the issues alone while still having to pay for rental of the arena/barns. Some things have already been taken care of so it's a step in the right direction. Tracey suggested that a group of the board/members go to a meeting in the spring, to let them know that we aren't going to go away. Tiffany wants to have further discussion about coming up with a lease contract if we have to fix the issues, so we don't still have to pay the rental, etc.

## **Apparel**

Teresa Pollard will contact Denise Conroy to discuss what she can do for apparel. We are thinking about a Pre-Order run that would potentially allow for personalization of the articles of clothing. Teresa is also going to look into Custom Ink and see what they have for options as well. Tri-County has a new saying every year so it could be a good idea. Also, it was discussed about allowing speed riders to have the option to wear a long sleeve button up or EUPHA apparel to run in.

## **Show Issues**

There was discussion about the shows for the season. The first show had minimal participation and the second show was very big and very successful. However, there were issues with participants. There was a lot of badgering the volunteers and complaining about processes.

- Scratches and refunds was a big issue that was discussed at length. The current scratch/add card states that scratches will not receive refunds. It was discussed that all scratches will be reviewed case by case basis. If a horse gets injured versus a horse isn't performing the way you expected, would be completely different scenarios. A sign will be made with more information about scratches and refunds. Tiffany Markstrom brought about a Formal Complaint Process, most circuits have them so Carie Decker offered to look into it so EUPHA can enact one as well.
- Since our office help are volunteers, it was discussed that there will be a print out of our rules so everyone can be on the same page about what needs to be done and how to answer certain questions. A discussion about printing out an official rule book was had. More discussion/motion will need to be made.
- Questions about the two-handed rule were brought up. Since EUPHA follows AQHA rules, any Level 1 class can show any aged horse two-handed in a snaffle. The confusion was regarding which classes were "Level 1." The only two classes that an aged horse cannot be shown in a snaffle/bosal two-handed are Western Pleasure Jackpot and Western Pleasure Senior Horse. Another area of confusion is the bit. Shanked/curbed bits are not able to be shown in riding two-handed, it has to be a snaffle bit or bosal.
- Trailer in Clean Up/Messes
  - The horse manure and garbage that is being left behind is getting out of control. We had several volunteers cleaning up behind the same people.
  - Haul in fees were discussed. Most circuits have haul in/day fees. And their grounds look great. Double fees/half back when it's proved clean were discussed.
  - Fines were discussed, photos would have to be taken to have as back up if we went with fining people.
  - More discussion and a vote will be needed on this issue.

## **New Business**

### **Banquet**

The initial discussion was to do a poll for "catered or potluck." It quickly was decided that that catered was much easier and nicer. A poll will be created for Saturdays in January. Tracey Laitinen will call around to see if prices have changed much for venues and will report back in September. Carie Decker and Teresa Pollard will be taking care of dessert again this year. Postcards stating "Someone in your household is receiving an award" were discussed to try and help with attendance for the banquet. Sharolyn Reed offered to help with mailing them.

### **Year End Awards**

Teresa Pollard volunteered to head the Awards committee. She is going to contact Julie Forrest, Shelby Smith, and Cassidee Utterback to see if they would like to be on the committee. The budget for awards will be between \$2000 and \$2500 this year. Teresa will report back ideas for them in September. Carie Decker is going to get the numbers to Teresa so she can figure out how many awards are needed. Carie Decker and Sharolyn Reed volunteered to take care of the Leadline prizes again this year.

### **Showbill**

Tiffany Markstrom would like to see a form given out at the banquet for suggestions for additions/removals of classes on the 2023 showbill.

Some ideas of new classes were discussed

Money added to Jackpots

- Rotation of jackpot classes were discussed, Showmanship, English Pleasure, Western Pleasure and Walk-Trot.

Adding additional Walk Trot Classes

- Disciplined Rail
- Jackpot

After discussion, Tracey Laitinen made **a motion to remove Sunday payback** from the showbill/shows. Sharolyn Reed seconded it. All in favor. Motion Carried. It was discussed that the money that wasn't being sent out for paybacks could be the money added to the jackpot classes.

The rule regarding moving up to Walk, Trot, Canter and being unable to move back down to Walk/Trot was brought up when Tracey Laitinen asked about Walk/Trot rider running in the speed classes. After discussion and total agreement, **a motion to remove the W/T/C clause** which would allow riders to move back to W/T even though they have shown in a W/T/C, was made by Carie Decker. Teresa Pollard seconded it. All in favor. Motion Carried.

- Further clarification is such, riders may move from W/T classes to W/T/C classes back to W/T classes but would not qualify for year end awards. They still could potentially qualify for weekend or class awards. To qualify for year end awards, the rider must pick a division and stay with it for the entire season.

The issue of a "speed judge," was discussed. It would not have to be an actual judge but a board member to give a thumbs up or thumbs down regarding a speed run. Thumbs up would be a clean run and thumbs down would be for a knocked barrel/pole, loss of forward motion, break of pattern, etc. There were complaints about placings over the show season and this will be the best option to help keep it fair. This is another volunteering opportunity for a free stall as well.

### **Open Comment:**

**Next Meeting:** TBD

**Adjournment:** 8:52 pm Angela McConnell motioned to adjourn. Teresa Pollard seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Teresa L. Pollard, Secretary