

**Minutes Of The General Membership Of  
The Minnesota Amateur Quarter Horse Association  
December 4, 2004**

The President, Tonya Fricke, presided over the meeting that was held in Hutchinson, Minnesota at its County Fairgrounds. At noon, Carolyn Carlson made a motion to start the meeting, seconded by Paige Broekema, motion carried.

Anita York presented the Treasurers Report. Jay Thesing moved to approve the report, seconded by Sandy Jaeger.

The minutes from the January meeting were published via website and in the MQHA newsletter. A motion was made by Paige Broekema, seconded and passed to accept the minutes.

The next item of business was voting. Ballots were passed out for the proposed by-law changes as well as election of officers and then collected for counting.

Banking was the next item of business; Todd made a motion that the VISA swipe machine be changed to Park State Bank for an approximate \$400 of savings annually. After some discussion, Sandy Jaeger made a motion that we provide Anita York the authority to work with our banking relationships to determine the best rate for services. Amy Cooney seconded the motion, which passed.

Anita Darnell currently chairs MAQHA Clothing Sales. Anita indicated that she would continue handling the inventory and ordering, however, she needs sales assistants. Carolyn Carlson volunteered to organize volunteers for Horse Shows, Expos, and other functions. Ideas on the types of clothing to be ordered were discussed as well as thoughts on when and where to take the clothes, Winona, Expo. Corporate Challenge, etc.

The All Novice Show for 2005 was discussed. Tonya Fricke reported that another All Novice Show would be held on Saturday, June 18; some discussion from the floor indicated this may be sponsored by District 7. MAQHA would also be sponsoring an All Novice Show at Northwest Saddle Club in August. Volunteers for the MAQHA All Novice Show & Clinic include Bridget Eisinger, Patrice Thesing, Jay Thesing (if he is around in August), there may be some prizes from AQHA for these events and information was received that if two all novice shows were organized, AQHA would donate a high point saddle.

Year End Awards for 2005 was the next item of business. Anita Darnell made a motion that the Jacket we have used will be the high point award for 2005. Mary Mensch mentioned that perhaps a zip out liner and something more appropriate for year round be considered. Other ideas for awards were discussed as well as reminders about costs. Ideas for those placing first through sixth for 2006 included useable items such as halters, clocks, leg wraps, etc.

The Silent Auction at the annual meeting and banquet was discussed. Envelopes were passed around for each person to send to 5 different businesses to get donations. A list of businesses already contacted also accompanied the box of envelopes so duplication could be avoided. Volunteers are need throughout the day of the silent auction as well as at the end of the day to take the money. Susan Wilcox will try to help get some larger items donated and perhaps there will be a live auction as well.

Tonya Fricke requested volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Tonya indicated that the purpose of this committee was to find someone to run for offices. No one indicated an interest at the meeting in serving on this committee.

The Horse Expo Committee is also looking for a volunteer for a new chairperson. Jane Rochelou has handled this event exceptionally for the last several years and reluctantly will continue this year if no new chairperson is located. It involves ordering the tables, setting up, getting the clothes (from Anita Darnell), organizing he works in 4 hour shifts and tearing down. The most difficult is the carrying in and out; it is best to use a dolly or rollout and involves several trips to and from the parking lot. The Horse Expo is in April, A Friday, Saturday and  
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Sunday. The close down on Sunday is between 4 and 5 pm. It was decided that a sheet would be passed around for workers to sign up. .

On February 19, 2005 the Tack Swap and Clinic will be held at the Cornerstone Equestrienne Center in Hastings. There will be a meeting of the volunteers on January 8 at 11:00 a.m. at Cornerstone. Discussion turned to the MAQHA clothes and whether or not this would be a location to have these sales as well, this will be discussed at the volunteer meeting if there is room for them.

The Membership Committee also needs volunteers and a chair. Karen Lawrence volunteered to make an information packet and perhaps we could offer new members discounts on one item of our clothing line as well as include a price list of all our items.

Results of the Election and By-Laws were available and announced. The voting for the election of officers was unanimous with all 45 votes for Amy Cooney for President and Crystal Estrem for Vice President.

The following is the results from the recommendations made by the By-laws committee regarding the proposed changes to the MAQHA By-laws.

- First, we are currently not in sync with the by-laws for the number of directors. The by-laws specify that we have seven (7) directors that serve 3 years. We currently have nine (9) directors. To resolve this discrepancy we propose that as the terms of the directors expire that we not replace the next two. PASSED: 45 Agree, 0 Opposed.
- Section 1, Change the term for the directors from three (3) years to two (2) years. PASSED. 35 Agree, 8 Opposed.
- Section 2 – Eliminate this section. “The retiring president shall automatically become a member of the board, with voting privileges, for a term of as many years as his successor serves as president.” PASSED. 35 Agree, 7 Opposed.
- Section 8 – Split the position of Secretary/Treasurer into two separate positions (this is currently how we are operating) we also suggest that these be elected rather than appointed positions. PASSED. 45 Agree, 0 Opposed.

Ken Pautzke then reported on the Corporate Challenge. Unfortunately, there were \$5000 more in expenses and less money in sponsorships and the event for 2004 did not make money. For 2005 there will be an increase in stall costs, Trail will be held Thursday and all 4 judges will be used for 3 days, therefore, the judging expense will be down. Judges for the 2005 show have been hired. Discussion from the floor indicated that there were a number of items the members would like to see changed such as thank you notes to the sponsors, a list of things needed to help with the show, comments on the show management and after additional discussion, it was decided that a committee should be formed to assist Ken in putting on this large event.

Jay Thesing made a motion to adjourn, Patrice Thesing seconded, and all were in favor. After the meeting adjourned, some of the new committees would be organizing for the tasks. Any further committee meetings or volunteers to be needed will be announced at the January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Cain, Co-Secretary  
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