

**IHJA General Membership Meeting
September 16, 2019
Rinehart Farms
14350 Ditch Road
Westfield, IN 46074**

Present: Sarah Burton, President
Maggie Boyle, Vice President
Liz Obrecht, Secretary/Treasurer
Terri Foreman, Director
Amy Ochoa, Director
Richard Rinehart, Director
Amy Sandhu, Director
Ingrid Schoenlein, Director
Victoria Willock, Director

Guests:: Kim Shields and Dawn Stumm

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Sarah welcomed the Board and Guests. Liz presented the Board with a financial and membership report. As of September 16, 2019, there are 196 members and 153 horses registered. The checking account balance is \$12768.86, the savings account balance is \$34120.11 and the Horseman's Assistance Fund balance is \$5,060.72 for a total of \$51949.69. A breakdown of income and expenses was distributed to the Board. It **was moved, seconded and passed to approve the financial report.**

Points are being updated by the end of September. Sarah said that it has been helpful that members are using the points results function on the website in order to ask about any problems that they see with their points.

New Business:

The Culver Academy application was discussed although they have tabled their proposed November show until Spring 2020. They wish to have a Jumper and Equitation show only. It was **moved, seconded and passed unanimously to approve this type of show.**

A letter was received from a member and was read to the Board regarding an incident that happened at the Annual Horse Show. It was discussed, and the Board was informed that it was addressed at the time of the incident. The Board decided that no further action was required.

Committees:

Annual Horse Show and Medal Finals:

A recap of the Annual Horse Show and Medal Finals along with a spreadsheet of the financials from the show was next on the Agenda. Having a manager to oversee the show was very successful. Also the hiring of additional staffing helped to keep things running smoothly. Moving the date of the show to one week earlier was discussed. This would help the members that start school early in August. It was **moved, seconded and voted unanimously to change the date to July 30, 2020 – August2, 2020.**

Overall the schedule seemed to work well. There were still conflicts on Saturday morning during and after the Hunter Derby. Changing the start time of the Derby to 7:30 was agreed would help this problem. The schedule will need to be fixed next year to place the age group equitation classes in the schedule at the height designated in the rule book.

It was decided to next year have an Exhibitor's Breakfast instead of the dessert party would be a nice idea, and might help to keep people near the rings to spectate. Putting a timer on the gates might become necessary in order not to have empty rings. Discussion was also held on how to help with the numerous adds at the ring that complicates the trainers in knowing when to have their riders at the ring. Suggestions included having a fee when not entered in the office, sending out fewer cards at a time in the mornings to the ring staff and encouraging trainers to make their entries the night before. As there are so many rides in the jumper warm ups, it was suggested that warming up over the jumper jumps might be necessary. Victoria offered to contact Jack to obtain a cost for renting his jumps.

Another suggestion discussed was lowering the entry fee for the Welcome Stake to \$75 to reflect the smaller prize money awarded. Also, discussion was held to change the prize money distribution to 8 places instead of 6 to encourage more participation in the Jumper and Hunter Derbies. It was also decided after much discussion to have the Hunter Derby and Gambler's Choice be for junior/amateur riders only. This will hopefully encourage more participation in those Derbies. The Welcome Stake and the Jumper Derby will still be open to all riders, professional and amateur. The Gambler's Choice next year will be run at 3'0" – 3'6".

It was brought to the Board's attention that a group of investors has asked IHJA's permission to have access to the financial statement from the Annual Horse Show and Medal Finals. This group is deciding whether to invest in a new horse show venue in the area, and this would help them in their decision. As all financial statements are available to members, it was **moved, seconded and voted unanimously to make these statements available.**

Banquet Committee:

The IHJA Annual Awards Banquet will be held on January 11, 2020 at the Ritz Charles in Carmel, Indiana. A deposit has already been paid to hold that date. This year the Board decided to again have a silent auction as well as the raffle. Board members will

need to assist Amy in securing items for both of these. Sarah has agreed to do the slide show and banquet program again this year.

Sponsors of the Banquet program need to be secured in order to place these in the program by the first of December. Dawn Stumm volunteered to help with the sponsors. It was decided to offer a sponsor package to the donors of \$500.00 and above a sponsor page in the banquet as well as their sponsorship at the Annual Horse Show. Liz will contact them to let them know that we are going to start this offer to include this year's sponsorships. The price for sponsor ads are to be: \$200.00 for a full page, \$150.00 for half page, and \$100 for quarter page.

Election Committee:

Chairman will be Victoria Willock with Board members Terri Foreman and Ingrid Schoenlein. All mail in ballots will be sent to Victoria who will bring them to the meeting.

Nomination Committee:

Victoria Willock volunteered to be chairman along with Ingrid Schoenlein and Terri Foreman. At this time, Amy Sandhu, Amy Ochoa, Dawn Stumm and Kim Shields have declared their intention to run for Director. Another member is considering being on the ballot and will let the committee know her decision. Liz Obrecht is running for Secretary/Treasurer.

Rules Committee:

The proposed rule changes that were received by the deadline were discussed by the Committee. There were many clarifications which will be made to update and fix the Rule Book. None of these fall under new Rules, and do not require voting by the Board.

New Rules:

1. Open Cross Pole Hunter

Cross Pole fences. Trotting or trotting changes not to be penalized. Open to horses and ponies. In and outs not allowed. Division will have three over fences and an under saddle. To be judged on performance, soundness and way of going. Not to be jogged.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this division to be brought forward for voting.

2. Long Stirrup 2'0" Hunter

Fence height 2'0". This division is for riders 12 and over who are just getting back into riding or starting riding. Open to all horses and ponies. Trotting changes not to be penalized. In and outs not allowed. Division will have three over fences and an under saddle. To be judged on performance, soundness and way of going. Not to be jogged.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this division to be brought forward for voting.

3. Long Stirrup 2'0" Equitation

Fence height 2'0". This division is for riders 12 and over who are just getting back into riding or who has just started riding. Open to all horses and ponies. Trotting changes not to be penalized. In and outs not allowed. Division will have one over fence and one flat counted in this division.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this division to be brought forward for voting.

4. IHJA Hunter 2'3"

Fence height 2'3". Open to all horses and ponies. In and outs not allowed. Trotting changes not to be penalized. Division will have three over fences and an under saddle. To be judged on performance, soundness and way of going. Not to be jogged.

The Rules Committee voted not to approve this division be brought forward for voting.

5. IHJA Equitation 2'3'

Fence height 2'3". Open to all horses and ponies. For riders that are 12 and older. In and outs not allowed. Trotting changes not to be penalized. Division will have one over fence and one on the flat.

The Rules Committee voted not to approve this division be brought forward for voting.

6. Special Hunter 2'9"

Specs will need to be added for the Rule Book if approved.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this division to be brought forward for voting.

7. Changing the names of the 2'6" Mini Medal from Children's Mini Medal to Novice Children's Medal and the Adult Mini Medal to Novice Adult Medal.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this to be brought forward for voting.

8. Change name of the Maiden Medal to Mini Medal.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this to be brought forward for voting.

9. Proposed language in the Medal Finals specification to read:

In the event of elimination in the first phase (off course, refusals, or fall of horse or rider) the rider will not be invited back to complete the flat phase.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this clarification.

10. In the Medal Finals specifications add stipulation that no outside coaching is allowed during medal finals and may be cause for elimination at the discretion of the judge/an/or three person committee.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this clarification.

11. Limit Equitation division will be eliminated/replaced by Long Stirrup 2'0" Equitation

The Rules Committee voted to approve this to be brought forward for voting.

12. Eliminate the Beginner Rider Hunter division.

The Rules Committee voted to approve this to be brought forward for voting.

The General Membership meeting is November 4, 2019 7:00 p.m. at Rinehart Farms followed by the Board of Directors meeting.

It was **moved, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.