

# IHJA Board Meeting Minutes

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October 2, 2023  
7:00 pm – via Zoom

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## Attendance

### Officers/Board Members Present:

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|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Stumm              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ingrid Schoenlein | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Vaught   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Boyle            | <input type="checkbox"/> Terri Foreman                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katie Heim       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holly Maclean-Whittaker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Ochoa         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erica Zirkelbach |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Willock        |   |  |

**Guests Present:** None

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## Call to Order

7:05 pm

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## Guest Business

None

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## OLD BUSINESS

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Financial Report</b> | Income:                     | \$45,943.96        |
|                         | Expenses:                   | \$31,767.61        |
|                         | <b>Account Balances:</b>    |                    |
|                         | Checking:                   | \$10,640.42        |
|                         | Savings:                    | \$38,142.83        |
|                         | Horseman's Assistance Fund: | \$6,103.01         |
|                         | <b>TOTAL:</b>               | <b>\$32,645.71</b> |

Ms. Schoenlein asked for more information regarding expenses that were captured in the Facility cost for the IHJA Annual Show. Ms. Vaught reported that the cost of the facility, port-a-potty rental and cleaning, and a golf cart were included in the Facility cost.

Ms. Willock asked for more information about the cost of Medal Finals and the revenue generated from Medal Finals Entry fees. The total cost of prizes was \$612. Revenue generated from Medal Finals Entry fees was \$1600.

Ms. Schoelein made a motion to approve the financial report. Ms. Willock seconded the motion.  
**The motion was passed unanimously.**

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## Membership Report

Current membership: 202 members and 165 registered horses, an increase of 13 members and 12 horses from July.

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## OLD BUSINESS

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### **Annual Show/ Medal Finals**

- TIP Application for 2024 Annual Show has been submitted.
- 2023 Annual Show and Medal Finals Review:
  - 2023 Annual Show was successful overall
  - Thank you to Ms. Heim for securing sponsorships, thank you to Ms. Vaught for work in the show office.
- Medal Final numbers were down overall, however the 2' Medal Final was very successful. How should we proceed moving forward?
  - Horse quality and type: Majority of available horses are more suited to jumper events.
  - Height: Majority of entries at local shows are competing at 2'6" and below.
  - How to incentivize participating in a qualifier class?
  - Should we reorganize what classes are offered?
  - Should we offer something different, like an Equitation Challenge.
  - Ms. Schoenlein and Ms. Whitaker agreed to work together on a written proposal for changes to 2024 Medal Finals for the 2024 Rule book, focusing on changes to medals above 2'6".
  - Ms. Vaught agreed to send a survey to membership regarding medal finals.
  - Ms. Willock suggested at the Annual Show that it would be nice to have additional placings available. After discussion, it was decided to award placings through 12<sup>th</sup> place and to have participation ribbons to award for participants beyond 12. Ms. Vaught also agreed to investigate cost of neck ribbons with the possibility of offering different ribbons at future events.
  - Elements of Medal Finals and order of events was discussed. Ms. Schoelein suggested that we might consider eliminating the flat phase. Ms. Zirkelbach asked about running the flat phase first. Ms. Stumm stated that the IHJA Rule Book requires that the fences run first for Medal Finals, and if we wanted to change it for the future, it would need to be submitted as a rule change. Ms. Vaught stated that, for Finals, it is nice to have the flat last for the purposes of presenting awards; during the Annual Show, the Hunter Derby was ran throughout the show and there was a mad scramble to get the participants and their horses back to the ring to present awards. Ms. Ochoa stated that at a recent WEC show, only the top 3 Derby finalists were required to return for awards. Ms. Zirkelbach clarified that she was inquiring about qualifier flats run first – Ms. Stumm stated that "flat first" is currently stated as a preference in the IHJA Rule Book.

## NEW BUSINESS

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### **IHJA Website**

Ms. Schoenlein and Ms. Whitaker were able to find contact info for individuals who may be able to redesign our website. Ms. Willock stated that she would talk to Linda Seay, our Points Secretary, to determine if that was a service she could provide to the organization.

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**Communication Committee** Ms. Stumm and Ms. Zirkelbach agreed to work together to come up with a schedule of postings for social media.

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**Banquet Committee** Date for banquet set for January 6, 2024. Ms. Vaught suggested that we should send out physical Save The Date cards. Ms. Stumm and Ms. Ochoa agreed. Ms. Vaught stated that she would research price and options and coordinate with Ms. Stumm and Ms. Ochoa.

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**Points** All points issues submitted to the IHJA Board have been resolved.

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**Education Committee** No Report

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**Rules Committee** Ms. Stumm, Ms. Schoenlein, and Ms. Whitaker met and discussed rule changes. Ms. Whitaker agreed to get a written proposal for the November Board meeting.

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**Election Committee** Positions up for re-election: Amy Ochoa, Erica Zirkelbach, Heather Vaught, Terri Foreman. Ms. Whitaker agreed to be chair of the Election Committee. Ms. Zirkelbach agreed to post on Social Media that interested members should submit their information to Ms. Whitaker.

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**2024 Show Application Process Update** Ms. Vaught shared that she had sent notifications to local and rated show managers, including timelines for submitting applications and payment for the 2024 Show season. She stated that a calendar would be presented at the November 13 meeting.

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**Other New Business** IHJA received a written complaint at the H&H show, September 30-October 1, alleging that a trainer had entered one horse in the show but was showing a different horse under that name. The IHJA Board reviewed the complaint and agreed to send a letter to the trainer requesting a written response and to not award points to either the entered horse or the showed horse for that horse show.

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**Board Meeting Schedule for 2023**

- November 13 (General Membership meeting)