

January 18, 2020

Roll call: Anne Thornbury, Kathy Valentine, Erica Staib, Judy Brentlinger, Aubrey Sears and Jamie Mills  
Not present: Allie McBreen, Holly Helbig, Sarah Ash, Patty Rodgers and Scott Dehelian

In Scott's absence the meeting was called to order by Erica.  
Erica read the minutes from the January 19, 2019. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

**Financial:** Judy provided a financial report. As of January 2020 there was ~ \$52K in the bank and \$6K in the PayPal account. There are bills coming in for the banquet, trophies and ribbons etc. Overall we're in a good cash position, however, we need to watch our spending in 2020.

### **Old Business:**

The possibility of changing the Medal final date was discussed. Anne checked with WEC. There are no available dates toward the end of the show calendar year.

### **OHJA Medal finals and qualifications**

Several changes were made to the Medal point structure and qualifying process for 2019. The only negative was raising the number of points to qualify to 15 from 10. We decided to stay with 10 points to qualify for finals going forward. The ongoing question is "what section do I ride in?" We will work to better clarify this for next year.

In 2018, the medal finals & awards presentation was not well represented by the board of directors. In an effort to do better, the Medal was made a premiere event of Midwest indoors, with 1 section of the Medal held Friday night and the other Saturday night. A dinner was provided ring side both nights for participants and their families. It was well received by the membership although, dinner in the Roberts ring will need to be moved behind the seats next year due to noise. The ribbons and prizes were exceptional, with WEC donating 2 mini bikes (1 for the winner of each section), flowers and grooms prizes.

### **Open Discussion**

What is a Farm Membership? How is it different from an individual membership? A farm membership is for the purposes of registering horses that are owned by farms.

Erica asked: Is it possible to charge USEF rated shows more money for an OHJA rating than a local show? This could help improve our bottom line and help cover costs for year-end awards. Yes, but would have to be implemented 2021 since show season is already underway and most USEF shows have already paid for their show dates for the year.

Junior Hunters; Anne would like to see the division offer to sets of year end awards, a 3'3" section & 3'6" section.

Medal neck ribbons; is it possible to send the neck ribbons to each show for presentation at time of the class? Or, could they be mailed out soon after show results are received? This might generate more excitement among our membership.

A question was raised about the OHJA classic, is it required to be an OHJA member to participate in the class? No, the class is only sponsored by OHJA. This year the class was offered and pinned as 2 sections, pro and non pro. The non pro section had good participation with 31 exhibitors, while the pro section had just 6. With limited participation in the pro section we may consider dropping that section next year.

A suggestion was made to move Medal finals to August and or to have a "finals" type of horse show (like pony finals & junior hunter finals) sponsored by OHJA before kids go back to school.

We need to do a better job of obtaining sponsorships for year-end awards and for Medal finals. Perhaps reaching out to the membership and putting a volunteer committee together to obtain these would be helpful.

Emily Staib White volunteered to assist in managing the OHJA face book page. We can better utilize the page to communicate with our membership and generate more excitement among our members. It can also serve as an incentive for potential sponsors and advertisers.

We thank Patty Rodgers for her years of service. We welcome our new board member, Maureen Fagan.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:50

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Staib