



Annual General Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Black Knight Inn, October 22nd, 2011

1.0 Call to Order (George Balogh)

Attending: George Balogh, Michelle Ziehlke, Linda Cowherd, Graham Torn, Kristine Haut, Nancy Watson, Sheilah Swanberg, Bonnie Hayward, Charlene Thomas, Laurie Powell, Ulrika Wikner, Jackie Kessler, Denise Nitchke, Sharon Roberts, Barry Tyerman, Margo Gaglione, Katelyn Ziegler, Candy Ingraham, Erica Ingraham, Bryan Donnegan, Heather Gnenz, Heather Craig, Kayla Bushell, Donna White, Mary Busch, Joan Barbour, Tricia Dahms, Evan Dahms, Cathy Spicer, Courtney Ziegler, Karen Nyrop, Bob Nitschke, Judy Nitschke, Kat Townsend.

1.1 Welcome, Introduction of the 2011 Board of Directors

1.2 Additions to the Agenda

MOTION to accept Agenda made by Margo Gaglione, seconded by Heather Gnenz. Motion CARRIED.

2.0 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of October 16, 2010 (Michelle Ziehlke)

2.1 Business arising from minutes: No business arising. MOTION made by Donna White, seconded by Jackie Kessler to adopt 2010 minutes CARRIED

3.0 Treasurer's Report (Sheilah Swanberg) Sheilah presented her report. Please see attached.

3.1 Horse Trials Canada Update: The HTC payout was made to AHTA in the amount of \$8490.00.

3.2 Casino: Casino funds of approximately \$66,000.00 were received. Next Casino is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2012.

3.3 Financial Statement: Balance sheet displayed showing total assets as of October 2011 at \$177,640; total liabilities and equity \$177,640. Total revenue \$103,527. Total expense \$68,887. Net income of \$34,640. \$30,000 of casino revenue went towards course support.

MOTION to accept treasurer's report as read was made by Heather Gnenz, seconded by Heather Craig. Motion CARRIED.

4.0 Other Reports

4.1 President's Report: George presented his report. Please see attached.

4.2 High Performance Report: Michelle presented this report. Please see attached.

4.3 Clinic Report: Linda described the AHTA clinics held in 2011. 2012 plans not completed as of yet, Dale Irwin has been booked at Easter once again. It was suggested that this clinic be moved to a later date.

4.4 Communications Report: Laurie discussed new website launched in 2011, she asks that members send in photos. Classified advertising is available on the AHTA Facebook page as it is preferred that no ads be managed on the AHTA website. Any suggestions for the website can be forwarded to Laurie. Newsbites continue to give the membership timely information. One or two members are concerned that the AHTA logo is displayed on the Facebook page. A member was not aware that the AHTA newsletter is now posted on the website. Nancy asked that members submit articles, photos, etc. for future newsletters. Three newsletters were sent in 2010, but content only allowed for one in 2011. Margo Gaglione reminds members that



newsbites content can be sent to her at any time, but no attachments to emails are accepted for inclusion.

- 4.5 Membership/Statistician Report: Graham's report displayed on screen and discussed. Membership numbers were down overall in both 2010 and 2011. 100 new members joined in 2011. One member asks if any work has been done to determine why membership numbers have been falling. It was mentioned that the board is interested in surveying members for a variety of reasons. Members are asking about additional venues, discussion that venues exist but difficulties arise in organizing the events themselves. It was suggested that prize money is an important draw for members. A question was posed wondering if AHTA may offer support to organizers to offer more prize money.
- 5.0 **Elections**
 - 5.1 Directors whose terms have expired:
Sheilah Swanberg, *standing for re-election*
Michelle Ziehlke
Kristine Haut, *standing for re-election*
Dawne Clark
George Balogh
Graham Torn, *moving to Committee role*
 - 5.2 Nominating Committee Report: The following members have been nominated:
Derek Jackson was introduced on paper by Sheilah Swanberg. Kat Townsend, Sharon Roberts, and Mary Busch all introduced themselves.
 - 5.3 Nominations from the floor: Jackie Kessler put forward a name, it was not seconded. Three calls for nominations were made by George Balogh, no further names were submitted.
 - 5.3.1 Introduction of new 2012 Board of Directors by George Balogh. Mary Busch, Derek Jackson, Sharon Roberts and Kat Townsend are all new board members.
- 6.0 **New Business/Round Table Discussion**
 - 6.1 Organizer's Forum: Sunday October 23 at Alhambra Stables at 10:00 am. All members are invited to attend this meeting. Additions to the agenda were invited and the conflict for Thompson Country and Rebecca Farms dates was mentioned. The lack of events during part of the summer was also mentioned. Additional derbies and other venues were discussed. Volunteers are also required in all aspects of the sports. Volunteer job shadowing was suggested.
 - 6.2 Online Membership Renewals: George described a pilot project that is being offered through AEF to have online renewals of both AEF and their affiliates' membership. The AHTA board is planning to explore this with AEF. Further information will be available through newsbites and the website.
 - 6.3 Feedback on Provincial championship was requested from members, there has been some confusion around how members are qualified. It was noted that members enjoy having the championships. Discussion also arose over the difficulty of the tracks. Members were also asked about suggestions for other clinicians. Suggestions included: Rebecca Howard, Leslie Law, Kyle Carter, David O'Connor, and Jill Walton.
- 7.0 **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:52 PM



**Alberta Horse Trials Association
Income Statement 01/01/2011 to 10/12/2011**

| REVENUE | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Over/(under) |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | 2011 | 2011 | 2010 | 2010 | 2010 |
| Membership Fees | 13,585 | 16,500 | 16,410 | 20,000 | (3,590) |
| Grants-Parks | | 0 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 |
| Interest | 101 | 600 | | 0 | 0 |
| Advertising handbook (WEB) | | 1,000 | 2,590 | 2,000 | 590 |
| Armbands | | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Pinnies | 830 | 500 | 1,410 | 1,680 | (270) |
| Merchandise sales/member fees-YR | | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Clinics | 13,880 | 18,000 | 16,373 | 18,000 | (1,627) |
| Clinics for coaches (unknown revenue) | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Clinics-YR | | 0 | | | 0 |
| AGM/Banquet and sponsorship | | 2,500 | 1,741 | 2,500 | (759) |
| Provincial levy | 6,590 | 9,000 | 7,430 | 9,000 | (1,570) |
| HP Program-member and clinic fees | 15,051 | 7,500 | 11,150 | 10,000 | 1,150 |
| Casino revenue | 45,000 | 45,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0 |
| Other-HTC payment | 8,490 | | | | 0 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$103,527 | \$100,600 | \$107,104 | \$113,180 | (\$6,076) |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Admin/meetings | 3,201 | 4,000 | 3,871 | 3,500 | 371 |
| Advertising & Promotions | 558 | 1,500 | 1,300 | 1,000 | 300 |
| AGM/banquet | | 3,000 | 2,520 | 3,500 | -980 |
| Awards (including provincials) | 2,220 | 10,000 | 9,269 | 10,000 | -731 |
| Bad Debts | | 0 | | | 0 |
| Clinics | 4,055 | 21,000 | 14,398 | 22,000 | -7,602 |
| Clinics-coaching (reflects subsidy) | | 1,000 | | | 0 |
| Clinics-YR | | - | | | 0 |
| Equipment purchases | 1,037 | 2,500 | 4,158 | 1,800 | 2,358 |
| Handbook | | 0 | 2,683 | 3,000 | -317 |
| Insurance | | 1,500 | 1,375 | 1,200 | 175 |
| Newsletter | | 0 | | 250 | -250 |
| Officials training & development | 540 | 2,500 | | 3,500 | -3,500 |
| Office Supplies | 186 | 500 | 583 | 500 | 83 |
| Pinnies | | 0 | 1,802 | 1,500 | 302 |
| Rider training/development | | 5,000 | 4,100 | 5,000 | -900 |
| Young riders support/development | | 0 | | | 0 |
| NAYRC support | 1,080 | 4,000 | 639 | 4,000 | -3,361 |
| HP Program | 22,226 | 10,000 | 18,178 | 10,000 | 8,178 |
| Travel - AGM for EC | | 2,400 | 2,105 | 2,400 | -295 |
| Website | | 5,000 | 4,065 | 10,000 | -5,935 |
| Event support | 23,784 | 30,000 | 29,995 | 30,000 | -5 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$68,887 | \$103,900 | \$101,041 | \$113,150 | \$-12,109 |
| NET INCOME | \$ 34,640 | (\$3,300) | \$6,063 | \$30 | \$6,033 |



AHTA 2011 President's Address at the AGM

Good afternoon everyone and thank you for coming out again today. It's that time of year when we can reflect on the past Eventing season, and begin our planning for 2012. Today we elect new members to the AHTA Board of Directors, and at our annual Organizer's Forum tomorrow we look at our successes, opportunities for improvements, and we hope to finalize dates for next year's competition schedule.

Here's a brief summary of the 2011 eventing season in Alberta:

- We saw another decline this year in terms of our membership numbers (roughly 10%), and the total number of rides across all competitions was down accordingly. This was due largely to the fact that we were only able to run 5 events this year.
- As always we experienced very strong support for our Eventing Clinics that we host across the province designed to introduce new riders to the sport, and to refine the skills of our existing riders and coaches; we even managed to run a successful clinic in the South which many riders have been asking for every year.
- The Leslie Law Clinic must have been truly fantastic, as for the first time ever – I was flooded with emails from the participants to rave about how terrific it was, how much they enjoyed it, and to campaign to bring Leslie back again next year
- Another terrific year with our high performance program with the support of Alberta's high performance coach, who with funding help from the province was able to provide support to both our coaches and riders to develop their preparation for competing at higher levels
- Alhambra hosted the Provincial Championships this fall, and once more we have cash prizes, which I'm certain is appreciated by the all of the winners; this year we voted to award prize money for both Champion and Reserve.
- A Young Rider (Joel Baskerville) had a solid showing at the NAYRC this year with a Top 10 placing (6th)
- In course, equipment & facility development we invested more than \$30,000 this year
- We supported two Educational courses for Eventing Course Designers - the Eventing Course Design Theory Course and the Eventing Course Design Practical Building Clinic - focusing on cross country course design followed by two days of hands-on practical construction techniques. These are integral components of the Equine Canada Eventing Course Designer Accreditation program.
- The launching of the re-branded new AHTA website that provides the membership with rich content, and more current information and resource access. As for next year:
- We are hopeful that we can continue providing lots of opportunity to our competitors with well-



organized, safe competitions (hopefully more than 5), and of course our ongoing support and commitment to make continual improvements to courses and facilities

- I had a personal tour of the land cleared at Thompson Country and I'm excited knowing what they have planned for future expansion
- The South Peace folks have told me they're hopeful to run next year so let's make sure we show them our support

And in terms of technology advancement, we hope to continue our expansion into online scoring, and are hopeful we will be able to offer both online membership renewals and maybe even online event registrations.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Board Members, (past and present), the Event Organizers, our Sponsors, coaches and officials, and all of the countless volunteers who assist throughout the year to make our events happen. The tremendous amount of work that happens behind the scenes too often goes unnoticed, and without the tireless efforts of the few we wouldn't have any events at which to compete.

The AHTA Board has always maintained a policy of transparency to its members, and today's AGM is our opportunity to share information that is important to you. We welcome your comments and feedback and will endeavour to answer any questions that you may have.

This is a bitter-sweet moment for me personally, as I did not seek re-election for another term and will be taking a break from my volunteer board position. It's been 8 fantastic years, but it's time for me to reset my priorities and to give others the opportunity to make their mark. I have complete confidence in the abilities of our new Board, and know they will continue to work very hard to make improvements. Since I became involved I have met some really solid people who taught me about eventing, but more importantly became what I consider lifelong friends.

Thank you for putting your faith and trust in the Board, and for lending us your support. Whenever we are faced with decisions, we always put the interest of our members at the forefront. You have our ongoing commitment to continue with those principles, and to always look for ways to keep Eventing fun, safe, and rewarding.

George Balogh
President, AHTA



High Performance Eventing Program Report

Kathleen Ziegler

2011 has been a bit of a lean year, as far as activities go, for the HP Program. We were working with less funding as a deficit from a previous year had to be covered.

There were a total of 16 members for 2011.

A successful spring clinic was held at Rocky Mountain House in May. Coach, Lorraine Laframboise, conducted the lessons over the 3 days and had lots to say to the riders. She was very frank, as far as horse suitability and rider preparedness in relation to the goals that the different riders had for the upcoming year. Sandra Sokoloski, Physiotherapist, also attended and worked with each rider to address the weaknesses that their body was showing, while riding and they discussed the exercises needed to correct these issues.

We did not send a coach to Rebecca Farms, due to the high cost, but did supply the riders with a small Competition Subsidy to help cover the expense of the riders having to hire their own coach for the competition. We had 8 riders attend; 4 riders in the FEI classes and 4 competing in the Horse Trials divisions. 1 rider also spent most of the show shadowing Richard Jeffery, the course designer, and they were allowed to draw up the course used for the Beginner Novice/Novice show jumping.

Joelle Baskerville competed at the YR Championships, in Lexington, Kentucky, in the 2* Division. She finished in the top 10 in the individual placings and was on the bronze medal team for the 2* riders.

Leslie Law conducted a clinic in August. It was very popular and the riders were challenged. He had lots to say and really enjoyed the enthusiasm the riders showed. He also appreciated how many clinic participants came out to listen and watch the others ride, after their lesson was finished.

2012 Membership deadline is November 15. In the past, riders were invited to join the group. Upon discussion at the 2010 year end meeting, it was decided that all riders "apply" for membership if they are interested in becoming part of the HP Program. They must meet the current membership qualifications and will have a document to fill out. The onus will be put on the riders to be responsible for membership and we will have supporting documentation regarding membership qualifications.

The end of year clinic will be held November 24-26 at Alborak Stables. This clinic will be offered to the 2011 riders and any new riders for 2012.