

MISSISSIPPI QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES  
November 3, 2015

P = Present      A = Absent      E = Excused

P	Tom McBeath	A	Brooke Ware	A	Gary Clark, Jr.
P	Rob Seal	P	Cathy Cook	P	Herman Alford
E	Byron Switzer	P	Clark Scoggin	A	Mary Hopkins
P	Andrew McBeath	P	David Howell	P	Nikki Jefcoat
E	Aprille Watts	E	Vicki Kinsey		
P	Bobby Harrison	A	Gary Clark	P	Susan Cain, Sec.

The meeting was called to order by President Tom McBeath and David Howell gave the opening prayer.

Rob Seal moved approval of the October minutes and financial report; Nikki Jefcoat seconded, and the board approved.

Next Meetings: Tom reminded the Board that the December board meeting will be on the first Tuesday which is December 1.

**Committee Reports:**

**Youth:** Suzy McBeath

- Officer nomination committee has completed its recommendation for 2016 officers.
- The Youth are working on plans for their fund-raiser for the Semper Fi event in the spring.
- With the JCVB grant, the Fall Classic made \$2,562 and a check for 30% of that (\$768.85) has been made out to MQHA. The show made more money last year, but also had 55 more entries.
- Youth are continuing to look for a new date for their 2016 show due to the new AQHA championship show schedules. This is a problem faced by many shows this year. Currently, the only weekend confirmed open is the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in November and possibly the last weekend in March which is Easter weekend. The Equine Center is not available for either event; Canton is available in November.
- They will be looking at the new Level I Youth and Novice Walk-Trot classes as ways to encourage new people to show.
  - **Motion:** Because of the date issues caused by AQHA's show schedule changes, the Youth are unable to comply with the Show Approval rules that dates and shows be confirmed and approved by November 1. David Howell made a motion, seconded by Cathy Cook, to approve the 2016 Youth show with the date to be determined because of outside circumstances that forced a date change. The motion was approved.

**Amateurs:** Cathy Cook

Reported that the amateurs are preparing for the December show. David Howell confirmed that he will arrange the use of two golf carts for that show.

**Rules:** Andrew McBeath

The Rules Committee recommended the following changes:

Show Approval:

- Rule #2 prohibited approval of out-of-state shows and the recommendation is to remove this prohibition, granting authority to the board of directors to determine appropriate shows to approve for MQHA points. Second by David Howell. Approved.
- Rule #8 placed limits on shows, circuits and sponsors that are no longer consistent with current AQHA rules and practices. The recommendation was to revise the language to state simply that there can be no more than two circuits approved in one month. Seconded by Rob Seal. Approved.
- Rule #9 established "a moratorium...until a maximum of 35 shows was reached." Because MQHA-approved shows now stand at 35 shows, the recommended change states that MQHA-approved shows are limited to a maximum of thirty-five (35) shows. Bobby Harrison seconded the motion. Approved.

Awards Committee:

- Rule #2 required approval of all awards by the association Awards Committee. The recommendation is to change the language to indicate approval by the 'appropriate' awards committee. Seconded by Nikki Jefcoat. Approved.
- Rule #3 required that all awards be purchased by one committee to allow for better prices. The recommendation is to delete this provision. Seconded by Nikki Jefcoat. Approved.

Format Changes:

- MQHA rules will be revised with consistent fonts, headers, format and the addition of a table of contents. Second by Nikki Jefcoat. Approved.

Discussion of MQHYA Rules: MQHYA rules are largely consistent with MQHA and re-state the MQHA rules substantially. The ability of MQHYA to approve their own rules was affirmed.

**Show Approval:** Tom McBeath

Tom McBeath had talked with both the Louisiana and NW Florida associations about our dual-approved shows and all agreed that the arrangement has been mutually advantageous. Both LA and NWFL are currently trying to move show dates because of the AQHA schedule. Bobby Harrison moved, and David Howell seconded, that MQHA suspend the November 1 deadline for show approval for LA and NW FL shows pending resolution of their date issues. The motion was approved.

**Scholarship:** Cathy Cook

- Applications for the MQHA and the Dixie National Essay Scholarships have been updated and posted to the website.

**Dixie National:** Rob Seal

- Premium book should be printed by the first week in December. The show information will be posted on the website as soon as it is completed.
- Criteria for giving volunteers Dixie National jackets or vests has been established to manage expenses and to be more consistent.

- Day leaders and volunteers are needed for both arenas. Bobby Harrison has agreed to be the Coliseum arena manager and Rob Seal will manage the Equine Center.
- The Dixie National ad was sent to the AQHA Journal today.
- Strong interest in the Shadow Program with more applicants than available slots.

**Convention:** Cathy Cook

- The date change for the Convention was confirmed as January 16, 2016, and MQHA will again hold meetings at the Equine Center with dinner and awards in the Trade Mart.
- A silent auction will be held and members will provide desserts.
- The date change has been posted on the website, and information will be added regarding the need for desserts, food for the hospitality area, and silent auction items.

**Sponsorship:** Andrew McBeath

- John Deer has been confirmed as a sponsor and turned in an ad.
- Nutrena continues to be very positive about sponsorship, and Equine Mega-Omega was suggested as a potential sponsor.

**Region 9 Show:** Rob Seal

- Talked with Valerie Smith at AQHA and she says regional shows will continue as long as regions want them. Rob then talked with the Region 9 Chair who will poll the other Region 9 states to determine their interest in Mississippi continuing to host a Region 9 event.

**Awards:** Cathy Cook

- Award selection by year-end winners is underway. Deadline for selection is November 6.

**Judges Recommendations:** Bobby Harrison

- The committee will meet at the convention to review and update the judges' list and to make recommendations for the coming year's shows.

**4-H:** Nikki Jefcoat

- Fifteen applications for the Dixie National Shadow Program have been received. Two are from out of state and about half are for new participants.

**Exhibitor Representative:** No report

**Membership & Communications:** Suzy McBeath

- Suzy reminded everyone to renew their memberships this month. 2016 dues must have been paid prior to the December show for points to count.

**Hall of Fame:** David Howell

- Has gotten one photograph to Suzy and will have the second photograph by early December.
- 2017 nominations are due January 15, 2016. A motion was made by David Howell to extend the Hall of Fame nomination deadline to the 16<sup>th</sup> to coincide with the Convention. The motion was seconded by Nikki Jefcoat and approved.
- Bobby Harrison raised the idea of adding horses to the Hall of Fame and, after discussion, it was suggested that this be discussed with the Hall of Fame Committee at the convention.

**Nominating Committee:** Tom McBeath

- Byron Switzer (SW) is the only active past president able to serve on the committee. To assure broad representation, President McBeath also appointed Bobby Harrison (SE), Aprille Watts (NE) and David Howell (NW) as committee members.
- The committee must submit one nominee for each office to Susan Cain in time to allow the names to be posted on the website at least sixty days prior to the Convention. Susan was also directed to notify the Board members of nominees when they are received.
- Other nominations must be publicized thirty (30) days prior to the Convention, and will be due by the December Board meeting.
- Rules for nominations will be posted on the website.

**Old Business:**

- Tom McBeath reported that MQHA had received a copy of AQHA's letter to Vicki Boudreaux advising her of her suspension until the matter of her 'Stop Payment' check from the Region 9/Summer Circuit was cleared.
- Cathy Cook reported that she had contacted Debbie Gibson for any information about Delise Williamson that could be provided to winner of her trophy. Unfortunately, Debbie had very little to offer.

**New Business:** None

There being no further business, Rob Seal moved for adjournment, Bobby Harrison seconded, and the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cain, Executive Secretary  
MQHA