



May 31, 2020

Dear MHJA Members and MHHS Exhibitors, Sponsors and Friends,

It is with great sadness that the MHJA Board of Directors and the Minnesota Harvest Horse Show Committee have made the decision to cancel this year's Harvest Horse Show (Oct 6-11.) This is the first time in the history of the show that it will not be held.

The driving force for this decision is based upon risks associated with COVID-19 and the following related actions:

- The May 22 announcement cancelling the Minnesota State Fair for 2020
- The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and other organizations projecting an upturn in the spread of the disease this Fall
- USEF's development of a significant set of protocols for horse show managers that impact the number of people required to put on a show and the actual "horse show experience" for exhibitors, family and friends. Having an indoor venue increases the risk of providing a safe environment.
- Lack of sponsorship for this year's Harvest Horse Show. As you know, our sponsors and a large number of volunteers are the lifeblood of this event.

It is hard to realize this historically important show will be cancelled – especially during MHJA's 50th Anniversary which was to be a special year. Considering the seriousness of the current situation we are all experiencing in 2020, we trust you will understand this decision was made in the best interest of our members and all exhibitors. The Fair is holding our regular first week of October dates for us in 2021 and we will experience no financial penalty for cancelling our show this year.

It is our strong desire to keep the integrity of this special show intact! We would rather hold off a year than host a horse show that is less than the high quality it has been known for in past years.

Please direct any questions you have to your MHJA Board Members or Members of the MHHS Committee.

Sincerely,

MHJA Officers and Board of Directors

Kelsey Ostberg, President
Norine Wilcox, Vice President
Pat Perry Werneiwski,
Secretary
Kaylyn Cody, Treasurer
Gayle Castro
Gretchen Erpelding
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Elizabeth Gambach
Nancy Giacchetti
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Jane Martinson
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Jeni McDermott
Sue Novak
Heather Parish
Anna Renier, DVM
Anne Steeves

MHHS Committee Members

Kaylyn Cody
Mary Jo Cody
Therese Falconbridge
Richelle Fermanich
Nancy Giacchetti
Zac Lappnow, DVM
Patty Nelson
Greg Novak
Sue Novak
Kelsey Ostberg
Linda Ostberg

MHHS Committee Members and Benefactors

This Old Horse
Kristen Cranmer
Nancy Turner
We Can Ride
Mary Mitten
Rina Cooper
Equine Innovations
Jen Berhow
Hope Rides
Vollie Heitcamp