

**Minnesota Hunter Jumper Association**  
Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2024  
Annual Open Meeting, St. Croix Saddlery

**Attendance:**

- Tal Mizrahi '25
- Kirsten Priebe '25
- Tracy Grandstrand '25
- Lauren Wood '26
- Jeni McDermott '25
- Stephanie Greeninger '25
- Emma Gambach '25
- Meredith Varie '26
- (Betsy Kieffer '27)
- (Meghan Gaddes '27)
- (Corey Scott '27)

Meeting called to order by Tal at 6:32 pm

1. Mission statement
2. Welcoming new board members! (Betsy K., Meghan G., Corey S., Christina S., Gina V.)
3. Volunteer options
  - a. Banquet
  - b. Medal
  - c. Newsletter
  - d. Local horse shows
  - e. Education/ clinics
4. 2025 membership drive
  - a. Membership renewal= online only
  - b. Add any horse you own or are officially leasing
    - i. Official lease= need to go onto usef website (otherwise the owner needs to be an mhja member as well)
  - c. Patty Humphries
    - i. Reached out to Christy, come up with date like we did last year, \$5 off a membership
5. 2025 show calendar
  - a. Not USEF recognized yet= january stonegate, july stonegate, october stonegate, golden gate
  - b. Both stonegate weeks in May= USEF recognized
    - i. Depends on sponsoring, financing
6. MN State Fair
  - a. No MN state fair this year (note this on website/ calendar)
7. High school Equestrian lettering program

- a. Patty has gone to meetings every month, won't be at shows to give flyers (needs board liaison to get that information out)
  - b. Many are signed up for the program, many aren't still
  - c. Getting schools to recognize it is difficult, MN program head goes to all athletic directors to get approval
  - d. Wayzata and Minnetonka are approved now
  - e. Member on MN horse council to reach out to schools
  - f. When and how do kids sign up for the lettering program?
    - i. Patty has flyer
  - g. Showing at Red Pine can get letter
  - h. Information to add to the MHJA website!
  - i. Betsy K says can also get a letter from USEF
    - i. Info to add to the website as well
8. Membership online, payment issues
- a. Stephanie unable to import manually on OrgPro (lost registrations, not understanding which year it's for)
  - b. Paypal has to be separate transactions
  - c. Paypal you can check out as a guest (you still get paypal)
  - d. Waiver is on the membership form- if you get a membership for someone else, you review that policy with them
  - e. If there's another option that would work with this for payment? We can make a change
    - i. CSDEA did a venmo membership drive- venmo might be a good option
  - f. OrgPro is 2 years old, we had a shift in membership chair, large undertaking
  - g. Issue is tracking payment (multiple people), tracking address, email address (to ensure emails and newsletters)
9. Liability
- a. Question: does the MHJA give coverage to affiliated horse shows?
    - i. No, MHJA does not have coverage, we don't host any horse shows
  - b. Betsy: There has been a change to animal protection act and safe sport, if you are a USEF show they have you covered
10. Board communication
- a. We need one way for information to come out and be accessed, currently different lists contacts are pulled from- Emma and Stephanie to organize
  - b. We should make sure everyone gets the notes (make sure to post on website after BOD approval)
11. Banquet
- a. Prizes were great- ordered ahead for some ribbons
  - b. Good feedback about Earle Brown, centrally located

- c. Jaime tried a few different venues, requests from most for Earle Brown, we can continue to check out other places
- d. Held back on some things (i.e. no DJ this year)
- e. Many people leave right afterwards, how should we keep things going?

12. Other events

- a. Meredith's event dealing with show nerves webinar with licensed professional
  - i. Good feedback about this event!
- b. 2 more tentative plans for this winter: one around equestrian fitness, one around braiding
- c. We want to make sure it's of interest to members, open to ideas about what members would like to see
- d. Doing events around show season is difficult, we like late fall/ winter

13. People do appreciate bringing MHJA shows back to MN

- a. Having Harvest and State Fair gone this year will be a bummer, but give the new facility a chance this year
- b. Harvest will be a financial loss for MHJA
  - i. Nancy G: lots of people heard rumors about harvest not coming back
  - ii. She put out on website that 2026 will be back, committee doesn't have intention of stopping that show, Kaylyn will reconnect with fairgrounds, fairgrounds do want the horse show
    - 1. Fair wants to make sure there isn't a horse show right before us for future years to make it better for our move in

14. MHJA Committees guidelines document

- a. Banquet checklist

15. Junior board

- a. No junior board anymore
- b. It was a committee, now we just put on events for them

16. Newsletter deadline

- a. 2/14/25
- b. Ideas for stories, year end award photos, eyes and ears, traveling

**MHJA BOD Post- Open Meeting**

- 1. Treasurer
  - a. Ireen can be treasurer, but there will be some limitations
  - b. Bank is currently wells fargo
- 2. Date for meeting in person= January 14 at 6pm
  - a. Setting committees

- b. Important things for horse shows
3. Need to get financials set
    - a. Summary page, available to anyone that wants them
    - b. Annual meeting- we should share financials with members
    - c. Used to just be in meeting minutes, just simplified
    - d. What people care about= has the budget increased? Etc.
    - e. If password protected, could put basic treasury report online
  4. Send out what committees we have? Who needs a new chair?
    - a. We should all be a committee chair, then we find people who want to help who aren't on the board