

Minnesota Hunter Jumper Association

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2022

Virtual Zoom Meeting

<i>Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present</i>
Norine Wilcox '23	X	Alyssa Deering '24	X	Jeni McDermott '22*	X		
Kaylyn Cody '24	X	Heather Fites '22*	X	Anna Renier '22*			
Betsy Gambach '22	X	Mia Forbes '22*	X	Megan Schnebly '22*			
Pat Perry '22*		Christina Hayden '24		Gina Vlahos '24	X		
Kelsey Ostberg '21		Betsy Kieffer '22	X				

*Eligible to run for another term

Summary of Motions

Motion	Moved	Second	Approved	Not Approved	Comment
Meeting Minutes (March)	Cody	Kieffer	X		
Treasurer's report – (March)	Kieffer	Fites	X		
Support an in-person year-end banquet and the Year-end Awards Banquet Committee has the authority to make decisions without full BOD approval	Wilcox	Kieffer	X		
Adjourn					

Meeting called to order by Norine Wilcox.

1. **Meeting Notes (March):** Approved - No opposed.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Approved – No opposed.
 - a. February Total Revenue: \$7,085
 - b. February Expense: \$2,196.13
 - c. Kaylyn has requested the organization's insurance summary from Tory Timpe. Insurance ran \$1,364.
 - d. A \$5,000 sponsorship donation has been received for the MHHS Rider's Lounge.
 - e. The Treasurer's Report provides additional details.
3. **Newsletter:** Deadline for the next newsletter is June 22 (after the two Midstates horse shows). It will be a larger issue with photos of the horse shows and a tribute to our membership graduates.

Action Item: we must get the interview template from Heather Parish to the graduating class soon, so graduates have time to complete their articles and get them back to Heather for publishing with photos. Mia Forbes is going to work with Juniors to get an Instagram post out to remind members. Traditionally, we are looking for high school graduates, but college, graduate school, technical programs, etc. are also applicable.

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Note: Heather Parish has sent an email to the BOD with the interview template for graduates. Betsy G. will attempt to send an email to trainers asking for their help in finding our graduates. A post on social media would be helpful.

- 4. Year End Awards & Banquet:** We are working with Alex Defoe (MHJA member with Arbor Hill Farm) to finalize plans to hold the banquet at her facility for the first time, the Historic Concord Exchange in St. Paul, MN. We are hoping to host the event on Saturday, November 12, as that has been the preferred month from the trainers who have responded. The Concord Exchange can offer us a comparable price to the Earle Brown Center, and includes off-street parking, and a DJ.

Motion: Norine made a motion, seconded by Betsy G.: The MHJA BOD will support an in-person year-end banquet and the Year-end Awards Banquet Committee has the authority to make decisions without full BOD approval (keeping in mind our budget and strict parameters.) We will aim for an \$11,000 - \$12,000 food/rental budget. Final date and location to be determined.

The Earl Brown Center has been thanked for their assistance with the soft-held date and contract released at this time.

We continue to discuss the importance of deciding upon and ordering our Year-End prizes very soon to avoid any supply-chain disruptions or delays. The committee is close to making final decisions. Horse coolers, boot bags, Yeti tumblers, folding chairs, leather lead shanks, grooming box, grooming halters and several other suggestions have been made.

Another meeting or discussion is necessary to talk about a Silent Auction.

All Hands On Deck for the Year-End Banquet! We will need all BOD members to assist with this labor-intensive event. Betsy Kieffer and Jeni McDermott will help on the Points tallying and prize distribution.

- 5. Education Committee:** Positive feedback from the Educational Clinic with Dr. Anna Renier at Fortuna Farm. Dr. Renier and Vicki Magevas (manager at Fortuna Farm) have been given gift cards in gratitude.

Hoping to poll members about what topics they would most like to see next: bits, braiding, farrier science, nutrition, fashion, etc. Possibly send out some social media polls soon. We are still waiting for a response from Dan or Patrice Urban about the possibility of hosting an informal "Ask the Judge" (or USHJA/USEF Steward, Course Designer, Manager, etc.) session at one of the MidStates Summer or Summerfest Horse Shows. Anne Steeves (Spring Meadow Farm) will be traveling to Omaha to ride in the clinic opportunity there. Let's make sure to follow up with Anne about her experience.

Red Pine Horse Show Association did an excellent job with their Ask the Judge Clinic at Stonegate Farm. Thank you for a great opportunity to learn from an excellent clinician!

The Zandra Powers Horsemanship Class will take place at Midstates Fall in Mason City, IA. The class will consist of a written exam and a practical exam, so no riding is necessary. Class is open to junior and amateur riders.

- 6. Membership (Heather Fites):** Currently, we have 122 members. New Social Media posts (Instagram and Facebook) have been sent to remember to join the MHJA; targeted campaign to

past members who have not re-joined. Another FB post went out recently to address the former members who competed at the Quail Run Horse Show In April (an MHJA recognized horse show) and whose points will not be counted as they have not joined.

Reminder: points may not be retroactive. Norine reached out the USHJA to see if there was anything they could do to help; they suggested using the OrgPro site which requires an investment and more research.

7. **Advertising (Alyssa Deering):** Alyssa is working with Nancy Giachetti on her advertising role.
8. **Succession Planning:** Professionals have a great perspective and, ideally, would consider running for the BOD to ensure future success. Jeni M. is willing to run again. Kaylyn, who will be off the Board next year, is willing to guide and support. Betsy K. suggested Jamie Burress as a possible BOD candidate. Alyssa D. suggested Melissa Worm. She reported talking with Melissa Worm about possibly joining or running for the BOD. She has expressed interest. As an organization, we must remain positive and forward-thinking

Reminder: Betsy K., Norine W., Betsy G., Pat P., Anna R. will be leaving the BOD at the end of term.

2022 Board Meeting Dates: May 23rd, June 27th, no meeting July.
Betsy G will host Zoom meetings. Changed meeting time from 6:30pm to 6:45 pm

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.