

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ONTARIO REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 13TH, 2011, HOLIDAY INN, GUELPH, ONTARIO

Meeting was called to order by President, Carol Ivey at 1.10pm

Carol called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

Rosemary Hilbert had donated two valentine coffee mugs to be given out and Carol asked two separate questions and the first to show hands – Dana Van Alstine and John Laros both won a coffee mug each.

Carol reminded the attendees that only paid up members could vote, make a motion or second a motion during the meeting, and that they were encouraged to participate.

A request to move the discussion of Reining Canada Insurance to New Business was made

Motion to accept the Agenda as amended Mike Munroe/Jane Lyon Carried

Motion to accept the Minutes of the last meeting John Purdie/Lynn Purdie Carried

President's Message – Carol Ivey – see attached

Financial Statements – Carol Ivey /Michelle Mahabir – see attached

Carol advised that there had been a Financial Review of the Organization's finances and a Financial Report issued, as requested by the membership at the 2010 AGM. The cost for this review was \$2,800, but Carol had managed to have this reduced to \$2500. Other than minor bookkeeping line adjustments there were no items of concern found.

2010 was a transition year in the position of Treasurer and although Financial Statements have been produced for 2008, 2009 and 2010, the 2010 statements will need to be reviewed by Michelle Mahabir, the current Treasurer, to clarify some of the deposits and determine where these deposits should be recorded. This was not possible before the meeting due to the late receipt of the Statements. It was decided to defer approval of the 2010 Financial Statements until next year's AGM.

The 2008 and 2009 Financial Statements had been reviewed and adjusted. Carol asked if there were any questions on these Statements.

Motion to accept the 2008 and 2009 Financial Statements Harvey Stevens / Lynne McDougall Carried

Michelle Mahabir - Michelle advised everyone that she had recently taken over the position of Treasurer and that she will be more demanding going forward of back-up, in particular with regards to deposits to ensure that the deposit amounts are allocated correctly.

Bank Balances as of Dec 31st, 2010 CAD 15,015.05 USD \$2054.27

Michelle advised that Wendy Dyer had offered to input the 2010 financials, which was appreciated.

Members' Ratification

Resolved that all acts and proceedings of the Directors and Officers of the Corporation since the date of the last annual meeting of the Members of the Corporation, as such acts and proceedings are set out or referred to in the minute book are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

Motion: To accept the members' ratification Lesley Martin / Mike Munroe Carried

Appointment of Auditors:

Motion to appoint auditors for 2010:

Miller Bernstein and Partners are hereby appointed Accountants of the Association until the next annual general election, or, until their successor is appointed, at a remuneration to be fixed by the directors, the Board of Directors being hereby authorized and empowered to fix such remuneration. Whereas the membership may consent to exempt the Association from the audit requirements of the Corporations Act, be it resolved that the membership do hereby consent to exempt the association from the audit requirements of the Corporations Act for the fiscal period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010.

Motion: To accept the appointment of auditors John Purdie / Joanne Milton Carried

Ontario Equestrian Federation – Wendy Dyer – see attached

Wendy Dyer has agreed to remain as the ORHA's representative at the OEF for 2011, but will step down in 2012. Tom Cudahy has volunteered to attend at the OEF in 2011 to become more familiar with the processes.

Motion to accept Mike Munroe / Michelle Mahabir Carried

Reining Canada – Harvey Stevens

Harvey asked the membership to pay special attention to the Membership Forms and in particular the box that asks you to tick if you do not want your information passed on to Reining Canada. You should be aware that Reining Canada has decided that all ORHA members on the roster for 2011 will have free Reining Canada membership. This will only happen if they have your details, so by ticking this box you will not be recorded with Reining Canada as a member. This will also affect the RC Affiliate Program.

Also, just like the previous NRHA program, whereby winners at the Affiliate were eligible for a key to open the door of a trailer and win the opportunity for its use for a year, Reining Canada has initiated the same kind of program for 2011 Affiliate winners – it will be a paper with a serial number on it and the individual with the paper and serial number on it that matches the serial number on the saddle will win the saddle.

Harvey advised that the Spurs and Jackets for Reining Canada year-end awards were available today at the meeting and they would be reordered for 2011.

The insurance that will be covered later under New Business is based on the same principles as the OEF Insurance, however, there would be benefits for members and the ORHA as a whole if Reining Canada could interest enough Provinces to participate (to meet the 1,200 member minimum requirement). The initiative for the insurance came through the ORHA Board and in particular Michelle Mahabir.

Banquet – Dan Fletcher / Dana Van Alstine

Dan told everyone it was a great year and thanked everyone for their support, and in particular Carol for her donations and work on the sponsors. There was a lot of interest in both the Silent and Live auctions with excellent items to be bid on.

Income \$12,000+ / Expenses \$9500 – approx \$2500 profit

Dan asked for feedback on the new DJ and it was agreed it was a good change.

Lynne McDougall thanked the Committee for their efforts, and so did Carol.

Dana asked attendees if there was any preference to holding the Banquet at the usual time in November or if attendees would prefer it be held at the same time as the AGM. The show of hands was 50/50.

Discipline – no report

Education – Art Roberts

Carol introduced Art and mentioned to attendees that she would be coming around the room with the New Member Orientation Package that had been produced by Art with the help of the Board.

Art explained that this package was for new members, providing tips on classes, how to ride in a warm-up pen, Board of Directors etc. He asked the attendees if there were any changes or amendments to let him know.

Art mentioned that he had found that the members of the association were particular friendly and to be careful because reining was addictive.

Rosemary Hilbert thanked Art for this Package and said that it was an excellent product.

Carol advised that this package would be posted on the website this week.

Fundraising / Sponsorship – No report

Futurities:

Sired Stakes - Ken Van Alstine – report attached

Futurities – OBBO – Harvey Stevens

Harvey thanked everyone for their support of the OBBO. He said that the OBBO is growing.

Treasurers Report: CAD \$8310.59 as of Jan 31st, 2011

Nominations: \$34,065.07

USD \$6152.16

After the discussions of last year and the introduction of a reinstatement fee 4 people had reinstated and five new horses were entered with a possibility of 36 horses being eligible in 2011. Harvey had envisaged that by 2013 there would be an expectation of \$14,000 in prize money, however, in 2011 with added money of \$6500 plus nomination fees, plus entries they could well reach the \$14,000 mark and that would be without added prizes.

Harvey introduced Colie Florica as the newest member of the OBBO Committee. 2011 will be the 20th Anniversary of the OBBO and Harvey's fifth year of involvement with the Show. He advised that there will be special awards in this Anniversary year – 2010 they had given out score books to every participant in the OBBO.

Harvey mentioned for everyone to be aware of the deadlines for fees so that there is no confusion as late fee penalties will apply, he himself is not exempt. There are 25 weanlings in 2011.

Harvey said that there has been substantial growth over the last five years, but the gratitude goes to the hard work of the Committee.

This year's show at the Agriplex will have two full slates and they are working on a Sponsor for a Derby with a view to a three year contract to host this class. They are looking to make the show a three day event.

He thanked sponsors Purina / Ionsons Saddlery and Continental Saddlery for their involvement in the OBBO

There are four new studs, but unfortunately Harvey had left the information somewhere, but would be getting this information out asap. The Stallions were showcased on the wall at the meeting.

Harvey also mentioned that he would like to see everyone at the Trots for Slots to support the OBBO. There is not a huge cost, but a lot of fun.

A question was raised by Lynne McDougall regarding the nomination of a foal to the OBBO by the Stallion owner. The Stallion owner can nominate their own foal or one of the Stallions offspring.

Public Relations – Tom Cudahy

Tom told everyone about the Promotional Video that is presently in the works and to be produced in time for CanAm in March. He has been collaborating with Melissa Glidden as well as John Snobelen and Lynne and Larry McDougall. The video will be in a loop of approximately 5-6 minutes to promote reining and the ORHA here in Ontario. Tom asked for any candid pictures that anyone might have from reining shows and to get them to him asap if they have them.

Dan Fletcher asked about the booth for CanAm and whether the pictures used could be updated. Mike Munroe mentioned that the pictures that he has available to him have not been of the best quality and were not necessarily the most correct pictures we need, but the ones that show speed and the excitement of reining. It was suggested if anyone has any 8 x 10 inch glossy pictures that they would like to be used to submit them to Mike.

CanAm – Mike Munroe

Mike mentioned that he would not be able to attend the CANAM for the first time ever to be in charge of the booth. Dates March 17th through 20th. Joanne agreed in the earlier Board meeting that she would get the booth to CanAm and Harvey had volunteered to set up the booth. Dan Fletcher offered to take care of the booth during the CanAm show as they will be there anyway. Space provided is 10' x 20' and there will be space for both OBBO and Sired Stakes to set up a display.

Rules – Mike Munroe

Mike advised that the ORHA is asking for the submission of dates to be moved from 190 days to 150 days enabling shows to be confirmed and added to the website at the earliest opportunity.

Mike also mentioned that the Board had agreed that members should support the club by volunteering two hours during the year to qualify for year-end points. This could be on committees, clinics, at shows – in-gate, office, writing articles, lots of ways. It was also agreed that members could offer another individual who had agreed to volunteer their time in lieu of them working. There would be forms and a log book at the office and time would have to be signed off to qualify.

It was also agreed to continue to run the Green as Grass Non Member class, which will run concurrently with the Green as Grass class.

There has been a change to Green Horse – they will now be eligible to show for two years, provided the horse has been shown in no other class in a prior year.

The ORHA Rule Book is being revamped to include changes to the Sired Stakes and OBBO rules, as well as the above two changes.

Dan Fletcher asked if the Affiliate qualifier at a show could be both days instead of just the one, giving everyone more opportunity to qualify. It was agreed that Joanne would revisit this with NRHA because there is also an issue that NRHA has changed the criteria for qualifying for the year-end affiliate show from 30 days to 45 days. Because we do not start until later in the year, this 45 day qualifying period would exempt the August show and greatly reduce the capability of individuals to qualify.

Motion to make all show dates Affiliate approved qualifiers Lynne McDougall / Dan Fletcher Carried

Year-End Show – Mike Munroe

There is concern regarding the date of the Grand Finale (first weekend of October) because it is the week before Congress. However, Mike advised that because of conflicts with the Agriplex in London, Congress and Blainville (Affiliate Finals) there was no room to change if the show is to continue in London, and we do not have an alternate location to consider.

Mike also advised that he is asking for volunteers for a Show Committee for this show.

Shows – Joanne Milton – see attached

Report also includes statistics on shows going back to 1996 to some degree.

2011 Approved Shows – OBBO / Fletchers Spring Thaw and Knowlton Ridge in Powassan.

Joanne advised that she has not received the usual package of paperwork from NRHA and does not even have any Rule Books, even though they were requested in January. She understands there is a new pattern and changes to the Non Pro rules so members should read their Rule Books. In addition, NRHA is not sending our Membership Renewal reminders, so members have to remember to do their renewal. Carol mentioned that she has posted a notice on the website to this effect.

Also be aware that you have to nominate your Affiliate every year – do not assume the previous designation will stand. Forms are on the NRHA website.

Joanne has been to the new show facility in Knowlton Ridge. Very nice facility however only 35 stalls. The indoor, if it is necessary to use, is a little narrow. Show management are very accommodating and it will be a double Pewter show. It would not be a qualifier as it would not fall within 30 days of Blainville. All show rings are stonedust.

Website – no report

Youth – K.D. Grainer President

K.D. thanked everyone for their support of the Youth in 2010. The Youth collected \$1111.14 in fundraising enabling them to purchase headstalls / sweaters and leave a balance of \$334.00 in the account.

K.D. welcomed Darby Mailhot as the incoming President for the Youth in 2011.

Youth advisors for 2011 will be Carol Ivey and Dana Mailhot.

New Business – Carol Ivey

Our Auditors have advised that we should collect HST and we have therefore been registered for same. It was agreed by the Board that for any invoice issued and paid prior to February 1st, 2011 the ORHA would absorb the HST, but effective February 1st, HST was applicable on everything (memberships, advertising, stalls, entries, clothing and fundraising sales).

It was also advised that there would be a \$5 increase to membership in 2012 – the first increase in about 10 years.

Drew Pearce asked what a member gets for their ORHA membership fee. Carol advised that without a provincial association, the opportunity to compete in our sport in Ontario would disappear, and the members needed to keep the ORHA alive. John Fletcher added that the members should support their Association, and pointed out that the cost of a membership at \$65 per year was peanuts compared to what you spend each weekend at a show, and that we should all support our provincial and national associations.

Mike Munroe commented that there are a lot of costs associated with the running of the Association – printing, postage, banking, website, publications, the Grand Finale and so on.

Drew also asked why our membership was reducing, and Carol acknowledged that it had declined in recent years and there were a number of reasons for this. One was economic – this has become an expensive sport and we have had a poor economy in the past three years, another is demographics. We have an aging population, and our youth riders are growing up and moving on, and in many cases their parents showed too and no longer do so once the kids leave. And there is also a geographic challenge, where many past members found that the shows were too far away to travel to, and stopped attending them.

There was also a question raised as to whether the ORHA fell below the \$50,000 revenue threshold for HST exemption, but Carol advised that it doesn't since it is based on GROSS revenue as opposed to net, and our Grand Finale alone exceeds this level in revenue.

Guest Speaker

Carol asked Michelle Mahabir to introduce our guest – Sara Runnalls from BFL Insurance to speak on behalf of the Reining Canada Insurance initiative that Michelle Mahabir had brought to Kim Maharaj at Reining Canada.

Sara introduced herself and her background in equine insurance and gave a brief overview of the new insurance that was being proposed - \$5M Liability, AD&D / ORHA General Liability and Directors and Officers Liability.

BFL also provides other equine coverage from Specified Perils to Farm Insurance and mentioned that ORHA members qualified for a discount on the Equine Farm Program / Travel Insurance / Coaches Insurance.

There was interactive discussion from the attendees on liability insurance and coverage. Sara left business cards for members to contact her.

The Reining Canada Insurance Program is still waiting to see if there is sufficient participation of 1,200 minimum applications.

Carol Ivey thanked Sara for her participation in the meeting and advised attendees that the \$5 proposed increase in fees in 2012 would help to cover the insurance costs of \$25 per member which the Board had agreed to absorb if the RC insurance coverage goes into effect. The insurance would be effective for 2011, but the fee increase would not take effect until 2012, so this would cost the ORHA a significant amount.

Next AGM – February 12th, 2012

Carol asked if there was any other business or any questions.

Harvey asked if before the meeting was adjourned he and Lee Foster could give out the Jackets and Spurs to the Reining Canada winners. Carol agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.