

Maritime Barrel Racing Association

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2019

I. Call to order

Tracy Higgins called to order the General Meeting for Maritime Barrel Racing at 12:20 pm, on November 16, 2019 at the Holiday Inn, Truro NS.

II. Roll call

Kaleigh Denton, 17 present at start of meeting, 10 - 15 arrived as the meeting progressed.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Kaleigh Denton read the minutes from the November 18, 2018 General Meeting. The minutes were approved as read by Cindy Wambolt and seconded by Marion MacDonald.

Treasure's Report:

Tracey reviewed the Treasure's Report:

Bank Balance Year End, October 31, 2018 = \$3,514.64

Bank Balance, October 31, 2019 = \$13,003.64

Drug Fees Collected = \$3383.00

Approved by Marion MacDonald and seconded by Kathy Stevens

IV. Old Business

- a) At the last AGM, November 2018, it was voted and passed that the club pay a foreman to oversee the ring crew in the 2019 season. However, the board of directors felt as a club, this was not financially sustainable and therefore called a general meeting at the first show this year. At this meeting the members voted that the entire ring crew be volunteer based. Financially, this worked well for the club but unfortunately, most of the time it was the same people volunteering their time. It would be nice to see new faces volunteer, even for a class.
- b) Changing section eight of the bylaws of the association was well received by all members. It did not need to be enforced but members felt it was a positive addition.
- c) The composition of the new bumping rule for the Novice division was discussed. It was shared that the directors, in collaboration with other members, reviewed the times from previous years. Based on these times it was identified that that a run within 0.8 seconds of

the winning open run would be a more appropriate time for a Novice horse to be bumped to the open class.

- d) The Top 10 Race worked well this year. Sponsors and exhibitors were happy with the way it was run. However, some members voiced concern that it was not run as a club event.

Marion MacDonald made a motion:

“if there is an event where the MBRA is in attendance, the event runs under MBRA rules with the board of directors representing the MBRA.”

Seconded by Jeannie Fraser

Voted and Defeated

- e.) The board made their best effort to give adequate spacing between shows this year. This being said, a majority of the shows have been booked for the 2020 season. Tracey Higgins shared that Scrap Co approached MBRA and offered to do a three show series next year. These three shows will take place at the Hants County Exhibition grounds.
- f.) Dodge confirmed sponsorship early in April. This worked well for Bridgewater.
- g.) There was discussion about holding shows at the Truro Exhibition grounds. Tracy has been in contact with the manager about this however, we would be responsible for taking the footing out and putting it back in, which isn't feasible at this time.

V. New business

- a) Show locations for the 2020 season were discussed, specifically, the NSPE grounds. With ScrapCo sponsoring a three show series it was pertinent to book the grounds as soon as possible. ScrapCo wanted these shows to be held in either Windsor or Truro. When Tracey approached the manager of NSPE we were quoted \$6700 per weekend show. This is beyond what we were willing to pay and therefore went ahead and booked the series in Windsor. Later, the manger from NSPE approached Tracey and was open to the idea that we could have a jackpot in the fall and leave the footing in after the exhibition. This will be up to the new board to decide whether or not have a fall jackpot.
- b.) It was discussed having different shows on the same weekend. Although, this would be better for members, the club wouldn't be able to afford to pay rental on two facilities in one weekend. There wouldn't be enough members to sustain both shows and still break even. There would likely be a deficit at both shows.
- c.) Some members felt that we should sell the clubs drag. However, it is still used in Pictou and at other exhibitions. It's an asset to have and financially, the club is stable right now and is not in need for immediate funds.

- d.) Both, our barrels and drag are currently at the NSPE. Marion and Tracey will get the barrels and Tim will get the drag.
- e.) Our cost for drug testing this year was \$2458.24. It was discussed that when we have a drug test and the results come back positive, the analysis report only indicates that there is a possibility of traces of a specific drug. Unless further testing takes place, at an additional cost, they will not give specific level or positive test certificate.

Marion MacDonald made a motion:

“to add to the drug testing rules that the offender be responsible for further testing if they want to challenge the analysis report of a positive test.”

Seconded by Brad Moore

Voted and Passed

- f.) Testing blood is our only means of drug testing right now. It was discussed that urine would be a good option for horses who may not be tolerable to a blood test.

Brad Moore made a motion:

“that we make both, urine and blood options available for drug testing”

Seconded by Jessie Taylor

Voted and Passed.

- g.) The only division that allows for an individual to be led is Smallfry. However, there are some members who are not eligible for this class and need to be led.

Brad Moore made a motion:

“anyone with special needs can enter a class based on the discretion of the board of directors with the exception of the open division.”

Seconded by Kaleigh Denton

Voted and Passed

- h.) Jean Dugas discussed the idea of changing our format from open and novice divisions to a 3D format. The purpose would be to speed up the day and some people feel there would be more opportunity for some competitors.

Tommy Fraser made a motion:

“that we try a 3D format for one show only and see how it works”

Seconded by Jean Dugas

Voted and Defeated.

- i.) Tracey Higgins expressed gratitude for having ScrapCo come aboard as a sponsor. To show appreciation for large sponsors we should encourage exposure of these sponsors at not only club shows but other shows put on by members such as Pictou and Cape Breton, for example.
- j.) There was discussion around the fact that there is always prize money at exhibitions for barrels, due to the fact we bring the Dodge sponsor with us. However, there are often times when there is no prize money for poles. It would be appreciated if all exhibitions would be responsible for the pole prize money.

Jean Dugas made a motion:

“that we add to our exhibition proposal and contract that when MBRA is attending an exhibition there are 2 preferably 3 MBRA pole runs offered with \$250 per class.”

Seconded by Tracey Higgins

Voted and Passed

- k.) Our barrel covers and banners are several years old, faded and have rips. It is time to have them replaced.

Kathy Stevens made a motion:

“to take the money that is in our trust account from ram and replace the barrel covers, banners and whatever else is needed to promote ram.”

Seconded by Cindy Wamboldt

Voted and Passed

- l.) There was discussion around the clubs website and technology in general. The website is well over ten years old and the model is obsolete. It would be beneficial to have a new website designed with less monthly fees. Kathy Stevens also expressed concern about the laptop that is being used at jackpots. It is not always functioning properly and needs to be replaced.

Kathy Stevens made a motion:

“that we purchase a new laptop and an update our website, depending on prices”

Seconded by Jean Dugas

Voted and Passed.

- m.) Wendy MacLean discussed the importance of fundraising for our club. She has already begun fund-raising money towards an iPad. However, when we sell tickets it's important that all members participate and sell tickets.
- n.) Discussion on membership fees. Our membership fees haven't been increased in a few years. With the rising operating costs it would be beneficial to increase our membership

fees to help compensate for this.

Kathy Stevens made a motion:

“that we increase membership fees accordingly:

Family Membership from \$50 to \$60

Individual Membership from \$35 to \$45

Day Membership from \$10 to \$15”

Seconded by Jean Dugas

Voted and Passed.

- o.) Courtney Parker brought up the fact that despite having a number of youth volunteering and participating at our shows we don't have any youth bursaries. Having some type of bursary for post secondary education would be a positive gesture. It's important that a club of our size support the youth in our club.

Tim Parker made a motion:

“that the MBRA create a bursary for amount of \$200 for a student entering postsecondary education”

Seconded by Tracey Higgins

Voted and Passed

- p.) Pat McLean suggested that we send Ram an email informing them that our Sussex show was cancelled due to the hurricane but we will be using the money to promote dodge.
- q.) Members appreciate every thing Scrap Co has done and continues to do for the club. They are currently running a Toy Drive for Christmas. It would be nice if we could support them as well.

Adrienne Benoit made a motion:

“to donate \$250 to the ScrapCo. Toy drive”

Seconded by Tommy Fraser

Voted and Passed

- r.) There was discussion around the attitude and demeanour some members were showing to one another as well as to exhibition officials. Members are encouraged to be respectful to others and are reminded that there are repercussions when they are not conducting themselves in a manner deemed acceptable by the board of directors as outlined in the bylaws.

Jean Dugas made a motion:

“The club purchase a sign/board where important information such as show

representatives can be displayed at each show. The sign/board will also display #7 C of the bylaws.”

Seconded by Pat McLean

Voted and Passed

- s.) Members need to be cognizant that this is in fact a rule and should be more widely promoted.

Wendy made a motion:

“That we add 7C of the bylaws to our membership form”

Seconded and Passed

Voted and Passed

- t.) Brad Moore made amended this motion:

“That complaints must be made in writing and given to a board member ”

Seconded by Cindy Wamboldt

Voted and Passed

Nominations for Directors was held:

The following members declined the nomination:

Heather Strickland

Kathy Stevens

Tracey Higgins

Adrienne Benoit

Jean Dugas

Pat McLean

2019 Board of Directors:

Kaleigh Denton

Cindy Wambolt

Chris MacLean

Cherie Parker

Terry Cole

Tim Parker

Tommy Fraser

Jessie Taylor

Donnie MacNeil

Corrine Yorke

Tim Parker made a motion to destroy the ballots.

Seconded by Jean Dugas

VI.Adjournment

Kaleigh Denton made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Tracey Higgins

Minutes submitted by Kaleigh Denton

Approved by Tim Parker