

Maritime Barrel Racing Association

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2022

I. Call to order

Chris MacLean called to order the General Meeting for Maritime Barrel Racing at 12:06 pm, on November 19, 2022 at Inn On Prince, Truro, NS.

II. Roll call

Kaleigh Denton, 26 present at the start of the meeting, 15 - 20 arrived as the meeting progressed.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chris MacLean read through minutes from the October 9, 2021 General Meeting. The minutes were approved as read by Kaleigh Denton and seconded by Tommy Fraser.

Treasurer's Report:

Tommy Fraser reviewed the Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance: \$19, 241.98

Closing Balance: \$20, 703.50

Trust Account \$5, 284.13

It was noted that the bill for the banquet has not been paid yet, and therefore the balance after this bill is paid will be approximately \$13,200.

Approved by Marion MacDonald

Seconded by Cindy Wamboldt

IV.) Old business

- a) Encouraging people to try ring crew. Although we didn't see it at all of the shows, we did see this at the last show. There was discussion about how we can encourage more people to volunteer. We paid the ring crew in Pictou, however, it was discussed that paying ring crew at all shows is not sustainable.
- b) Tracy found the pony measuring book, and the book is now up to date.
- c) Competitors seemed to be more aware of the western dress code this year.
- d) The dash rule was removed this year and worked well.

- e) As discussed last year, the MBRA donated \$100 to the Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre in Brookfield.
- f) Warm up rings were discussed again; this still needs to be reviewed for people. If you notice members who are not paying attention to proper warm up room etiquette, once again, talk to a director.
- g) The amount of time horses take to start the pattern didn't seem to be a concern this year.
- h) Warm up rings were discussed again; this needs to be reviewed for people.
- i) The drug policy will be discussed again in new business.
- j) It was voted to have one club sponsored show in Cape Breton each year. However, this year due to the uncertainty of the future of the exhibition grounds, the club was unable to secure a date in 2022. The exhibition grounds have now been secured by The Exhibition Society and the club will have a show there in 2023.

V.) New Business

a). Show expenses were discussed. Tommy reviewed the show expense report that was submitted by our show secretary. We lost money at every show, except for the Truro Exhibition. It was discussed that we need to reduce the payout or increase our headfee. It is important that we go back to making money, or at the very least cover our costs. Windsor in particular is quite expensive.

Kathy Stevens made a motion "that we go back to 85% pay back"

Cindy Wamboldt seconded.

Voted and defeated

b.) It was discussed that most things are increasing, and to compensate for the rising prices we need to increase our headfee.

Tracy made a motion to "increase the head fee \$10.00"

Seconded by Marion MacDonald

Voted and passed.

c.) The discussion of increasing fees continued. As the cost of things are increasing it is time we increase our membership fees again. It is in our rules that the family membership must be double the single membership.

Ashley Crane made a motion to increase the family membership to \$80.00 and a single to \$40.00.

Seconded by Abe Higgins

Voted and passed.

f). Temporary membership was discussed. It is currently \$12.00. It was suggested to eliminate a temporary membership. However, it is important that we have an option for individuals to experience a jackpot or exhibition, without having to commit to a full year membership.

Heather Strickland made a motion to “increase the temporary membership to \$20.00”

Seconded by Cindy Wamboldt

Voted and passed

g.) The club is growing larger, and with that, the length of the show day was discussed. Members felt that we need to come up with a new system that will be more efficient so that we are not running classes into the late evening. The idea of 3D classes was discussed but leave the pony/smallfry as is. discussed to run the smallfrys Friday night, however, this was not favourable. We also discussed the particulars of each division, if moved to a D system, was discussed. The payouts for each division would have particular placings and payouts. Each D would not receive the same amount of money. We could also create a sidepot; where you can enter the class but not run the class. For example, run the 3D and roll your time for your sidepot. However, while we don't want people running their horses multiple times a day, some people like having the option of having to run twice.

Cindy Wamboldt made a motion to “move to D classes in order to make shows move quicker”.

Marion MacDonald seconded.

Cindy Wamboldt amended her motion to “that we try a D system for our novice and open for 2 shows, and if unsuccessful then go back to our regular schedule.”

Seconded by Danielle Pyke

Voted and defeated.

h.) The length of shows and number of classes people were entering was discussed. There are some people running their horses/ponies multiple times a day. The number of runs was discussed.

Courtney Parker made a motion to “limit a horse/pony to **run** 3 classes per day at jackpots”

Seconded by Kaleigh Denton

Kaleigh Denton amended the motion to “limit a horse/pony to **run** 3 classes per day at jackpots, with the exception of the smallfry division”

Seconded by Alka Virik

Voted and Passed.

i.) It was discussed that there are a lot of people running their horses excessively on Friday night, and how we can police this. Any rule that comes from this needs to be posted for people to see, whether this be on the entry form, website or facebook page. Members will need to be informed of this information before the show.

Tracy Higgins made a motion that we need to add to our current rule about the treatment of horses that, “warm ups are limited to 3 runs”.

Seconded by Julia Parker

Voted and Passed

j.) As the number of runs a horse should do has been discussed. The issue of exhibitions was brought up. Having exhibitions run over 3 days would solve a lot of these issues, however, this is not always possible. This information could be relayed in conversation and also in our ram proposal letter that is sent to exhibitions.

Ashley Crane made a motion that “the new board discusses the number of runs that a horse should do at the exhibitions”

Seconded by Danielle Pyke

Voted and Passed

k.) The rule about special needs was brought up. The rule appears to be vague, however, it hasn't been an issue so it will be left as it is for now.

l.) The number of people on horses in the chute is a safety issue. There are a number of people watching when the kids are running, and it is dangerous. The directors will monitor it. There is a rule about this, and this rule needs to be enforced moving forward.

m.) Volunteering was brought up again. We need people to volunteer in order to keep our shows running smoothly.

n.) The issue of ponies being in straight stalls. There are some ponies who are unsafe in straight stalls, but are required to take a straight stall. It was discussed that perhaps we need to divide the head fee into a stall fee, and admin fee. This way, some people would choose not to take a stall, and therefore free up more stalls. However, this may complicate paperwork, so we will leave it as is for now.

o.) Heather brought up that when horses are bumped from Novice on Day 1 that it is difficult to collect the difference, and adjust the running order for the following day. Ideally, it would be nice if you would remain in the division you entered for that show. However, the concern is that

Novice people will be competing against an open competitor on the next day. Joan Grant volunteered to monitor those who are bumped.

Heather made a motion that “if you get bumped on day 1 of a jackpot that comes into effect the next show, not the next day”

Seconded by Kim Sellars

Voted and passed

p.) Scratches at big shows and drags were discussed. At this time, we do not need to change the rule about dragging after 5.

q.) Warm ups being done on the actual pattern, we are over using our pattern. Moving forward, members are encouraged to move the barrel slightly to avoid overusing the ground without proper maintenance.

r.) Drug rules were discussed. Last year it was voted that we eliminate the drug rule for one year, and that it would be discussed this year. Some people felt that the rule should be reinstated, however, others felt that things ran smoothly without having the rule. The rule about drugs was eliminated, but the rules about paraphernalia were kept. We will continue with what was done this year, and assess again next year.

s.) Tommy Fraser made a motion that “the cut off date for the shows has to be the due date”

Seconded by Heather Strickland / Tracy

Voted and passed

t.) There was a member that had his membership revoked for not acting in good conduct. The general membership voted that he should have his membership reinstated if he chooses to reapply.

u.) Old Home Week was brought up. During the OHW Ram runs in August, the footing was dangerous, and we were unable to safely run horses. Chris contacted them multiple times and they explained they need time, meetings etc. The meetings haven't happened yet, but will have one next week and will share the outcome with the new MBRA president. The general consensus is that people want their entry money back. Discussion was held about what our next step should be. Sending a breach of contract to the exhibition was discussed, but there could be some ramifications. It is important that we keep a positive image for Dodge in order to retain our sponsorship. Another suggestion was to take over OHW like we did with Truro. The next steps will be to:

- form a letter from the board/president and indicate what we need/want and demand a response.
- perhaps mention a legal recourse

The following members declined the nomination:

Marion MacDonald

Chris McLean

Elaine McLean

Joan Grant

2022 Board of Directors:

Cindy Wamboldt

Tracy Higgins

Tommy Fraser

Cherie Parker

Kaleigh Denton

Jessie Taylor

Ashley Crane

Adrienne Strowbridge

Christine Doane

Heather Strickland

VI.Adjournment

Kaleigh Denton made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Tracey Higgins

Minutes submitted by Kaleigh Denton

Approved by Tracey Higgins