

MBRA AGM Meeting Minutes 2024
12:00 PM November 16, 2024
Best Western Glengarry Hotel Truro NS.

I. Call to Order

Jessie Taylor Called the meeting to order at 12:05pm

II. Roll Call

There were 34 present at the start of the meeting.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Ashley Crane read through the November 18th 2023 General Meeting Minutes.
Alka Virick Approved the minutes, Seconded by Courtney Parker.

Treasurer's Report:

Tommy Fraser read the treasurer's report.

Opening Balance - \$24483.20

Closing Balance - \$27070.04

Trust Account - \$4658.93

Note: Some sponsorship money will reflect on next year's report as it was past the cut off date.

Tommy also noted that the insurance total is reflecting an increase, as we had to pay for the Ram Show Insurance.

The Trust Account had to have Bridgewater money transferred back once Ram money was received.

Reading through show reports we saw that we made money at all shows with the exception of Cape Breton which only reflected a \$140.00 loss. Even Pictou, which we lost a day, we were still in the plus.

Marion Brought up from the treasurer's report that our service fees we pay are very high.
Tommy will look into other banks and options. We are currently with Scotia Bank.

Courtney also brought up the idea of charging the competitor \$1.00 on their payout to cover the increased cost of service fees. We will look at this in new business.

Approved by Adrienne Strowbridge.

Seconded by Courtney Parker

IV. Old Business

a.) It was brought up the issue of people not going in for their awards as well as being dressed appropriately. It was felt that there was a strong improvement on this this year, with the exception of OHW where we see an increase of temporary memberships handed out to competitors that are not familiar with our rules. The BOD will need to monitor this better at this event.

b.) It was brought up that we had decided in the past that in the interest of safety and time Smallfry and Pony would not take their ponies or horses in for placings. It was not consistent this year and we need to make a firm decision and stick to it.

c.) The \$75.00 penalty did not have to be applied to any competitors this year. Everyone did great cleaning their stalls. A reminder to be sent out that this includes alleyways as well as in front of your stall.

d.) As always Tommy is still having a hard time with people not memoing who an e transfer is for. He has requested if you are entering more than one horse you memo the breakdown amount for each horse as well. Don't just send him your name and a large lump sum, break it down to horse name and amount.

e.) This brought up the issue of how we do our entries. There was much discussion on how to do entries so that it is fair to all. Some felt there should be priority to those who have been long standing members. Some suggested that temporary members go to the bottom. Danielle Fraser suggested we put the form out the day before so we can have it ready to send at a specified time the following day. This led into the discussion of using a different program that will hopefully alleviate some of these issues and will be discussed further in new business.

V. New Business

a.) Truro is now an option for us to host events again. Discussion was had regarding the number of stalls. There will need to be portable bathrooms brought in which we will share the cost of with the facility. They will also allow us the use of their drag so we will not need ours. Jessie to look into this venue further.

b.) Marion MacDonald brought up the issue of high entry fees at Exhibitions, in particular the Hants County Ex. Jessie is going to meet with the new manager to discuss this as well as some of the safety concerns we have with this venue. If we are paying such high fees we would like some of the safety concerns addressed. Ie. Better rubber matting in the chute, removal of nails from stalls, a proper gate installed that is an appropriate height.

c.) Tracey Higgins made a motion "Once your entry is sent in, if you want to add/change a class you may do so up until Friday evening at 7:00PM subject to a \$10.00 fee per class charge. After this time there will be no changes and no post entries accepted."

Danielle Fraser Seconded

Voted and Passed

d.) Marion MacDonald made a motion " Any entries received after the cut off date will be automatically placed at the bottom of the running order draw."

Tracey Higgins Seconded

Voted and Passed

e.) Tracey Higgins made a motion "If you cancel by the Wednesday before the show, you will be charged the admin fee from your entry. If you fail to cancel and are a no show, there will be no refund to your entry. All cancellations/refunds will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors."

Julia Parker Seconded

Voted and Passed

f.) The topic of using a second party/website system to collect entries and fees was discussed at length. It is felt that our club has grown to a point where we need a mainstreamed venue for collecting entries and memberships. Our current web creator has proposed a system that will allow us to have our memberships, show entries, banquet tickets and merchandise all through our website. At the time of the meeting we were still waiting on a quote for the cost of this upgrade to our website. There are also other options to look into as well such as Saddle Book etc. Chris Maclean was going to look into some of these options as well .

Chris MacLean made a motion "The club will move forward with an upgraded system to our website or external entry portal up to a cost not exceeding \$3000.00. At the discretion of the Board of Directors we will decide on a new system."

Abe Higgins Seconded

Voted and Passed

g.) Courtney Parker made a motion "To remove the 3D system rule."

Danielle Fraser Seconded

Voted and Passed

h.) Chris MacLean made a motion "To remove the true 5 drag rule."

Tracey Higgins Seconded

Voted and Passed

i.) Alka Virick made a motion "To remove the Adult Green Division from our schedule."

Christine Doane Seconded
Voted and Passed

j.) The topic of using a holding pen area at our shows was discussed. The holding pen would be for the next heat of five horses, the horses in that heat will be required to be in the holding pen. The holding pen would be in the arena if space allowed or could be in the chute area of some arena's if necessary. The idea is widely used in other areas and cuts down on wasted time and holds the competitor responsible to be where they need to be on time.

Charlsea Fiske made a motion "To try a holding pen system at the first Windsor Jackpot."

Christine Doane Seconded
Voted and Passed

k.) Marion MacDonald followed this up with the following motion "No Handlers are to be permitted in the holding area unless assisting a horse. They are only permitted in the holding area once your horse is called in the hole. All handles must be in approved western footwear."

Alka Virick Seconded
Voted and Passed

l.) Jessie Taylor made the motion " Any horse deemed to be dangerous or out of control will be excused from the show at the discretion of the Board of Directors."

Tracey Higgins Seconded
Voted and Passed

m.) Charlsea Fiske brought up the issue of lame horses and how we handle this at shows. It was recommended that if any person is issuing a formal complaint against a horse that you gather more than one Board member and that you make it known that you are issuing a formal complaint. It was also discussed that if a formal complaint is brought to the Board of Directors, the show may have to take a pause to address said complaint.

n.) Ashley Crane made a motion "The Board of Directors prior to the beginning of the show will issue an assigned volunteer list. As a competitor it is your responsibility to show up for your allotted time slot. If you can not make your allotted time slot you must trade off or find coverage. It is your responsibility to provide volunteer coverage for the allotted time. Failure to do so will result in not being able to enter the following show."

Marion MacDonald Seconded
Voted and Passed

o.) Tracey Higgins made a motion “We pay tractor drivers as well as Ram Ring Crew at Events we are required to provide them.”

Alka Virick Seconded
Voted and Passed

p.) Charlesea Fiske made a motion “ We remove the Jr. Horse Division, replacing it with a Derby/Futurity System, following Canadian Barrel Horse Incentive Rules. Any added funding for this division will be secured by Charlesea Fiske through the Fortunes Programs and other incentives.

Dr. Kristen Pyke Seconded
Voted and Passed

q.) Nominations for Board of Directors

Ashley Crane
Kaleigh Denton
Cherie Parker
Tracey Higgins
Chris MacLean
Tommy Fraser
Terry Cole
Courtney Parker
Laura Morrison
Christine Doane
Heather Strickland

2025 Board of Directors

Jessica Taylor
Tracey Higgins
Chris Maclean
Kaleigh Denton
Ashley Crane
Cherie Parker
Courtney Parker
Tommey Fraser
Terry Cole
Heather Strickland

VI. Adjournment

Jessie Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Tracey Higgins Seconded

Minutes submitted by Ashley Crane

Minutes approved by Jessie Taylor