Manitoba Horse Council Annual General Meeting

Thursday April 15, 2021

By Zoom video-conference

Present: Clubs represented:	Apologies:	
Ashern Horse Association - Laurel Meisner	Gwen Donohoe – Breeds & Industry	
Brandon Light Horse & Pony Society – Erin Anderson	Chris Dolinski - Coaching	
Canadian Western Horse Association – Tara Reimer		
Central Canada Reining Horse Association – Bonna Jean Bateman	Members:	
Crocus Cow Horse Association – Shannon McKenzie	Angela Janz	
Distance Riders of Manitoba – Carrie Wilson	Ann Loewen	
Dressage Winnipeg – Sue Matthews	Archie Milcharek	
Manitoba Cutting Horse Association – Garry Gerbrandt	Billy Wiltshire	
Manitoba Driving Society – Doug Collins	Carly Norris	
Manitoba Horse Trials – Dione Peech	Carrie Skrabek	
Manitoba Hunter Jumper Association – Jennifer Perron,	Chas Lambert	
Manitoba Mounted Shooting Association – Shawn Parsons	Dawn Lampe	
Manitoba Pony Club – Helen Holgate	Deborah Shepherd	
Manitoba Quarter Horse Association – Wanda McFadyen	Helen Martin	
Manitoba Riding for the Disabled – Kristy McFee	Jack Boughen	
Manitoba Team Penning Association – Rick Andrews	John Biron	
Manitoba Trail Riding Club – Tauni Jensen	Kerry Barenz	
Manitoba Welsh Pony & Cob Association – Joanne Rossnagel	Linda Park	
Southern Manitoba Western Style Dressage – Kathy Levesque	Nicole Gorman	
Southern Manitoba Working Equitation – Amanda Earl	Nihar Kaushal	
Springfield Polo Club – Bruce King	Penny Fidler	
Urban Stable – Hayley Edwards	Sandra Gibb	
Westman Dressage – Terry McKenzie	Sarah Biron	
	Sarah Read	
Apologies:	Sheri Parkinson	
There were no apologies	Sue Jensen	
Present:	Tanis Jones	
Board of Directors:	Taylor McEachern	
Kiirsten May – Meeting Chair, Marketing/Special Events	Tracy Vestby	
Geri Sweet – Interim President & Meeting Chair	Tristan Caswell	
Hugh Crawley – Treasurer		
Susan Adey – Officials		
Eryn Butterfield – Equestrian Facility	Staff:	
Katie Webb for Chris Dolinski - Coaching	John Savard - Executive Director	
Kiirsten May – Marketing/Special Events	Linda Hazelwood – Business Manager	
Lana Stevenson – Director at Large, HR/Strategic Planning	Teresa Shepit – Marketing Consultant	
Tamara Hupalo - Recreation	Emma Richardson _Marketing Intern	
	Kelly Roe – Facility Manager	

Item	Discussion					
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Geri Sweet, commencing with housekeeping, and					
Slides 1-4	introduction to the use of Zoom and the chat option.					
Proposed	The meeting was held in accordance with the provisions of the Order issued under The Emergency Measures					
Agenda	Act permitting meetings under The Corporations Act (Manitoba) to be conducted by electronic means					
Slide 5						
Approval of	Approval of the Agenda was moved by Bruce King, seconded by Wanda McFadyen.					
AGM Minutes	It was moved by Bruce King and seconded by Kristy McFee that the minutes of the April 16, 2020 AGM be approved. No dissensions or abstentions were noted. Carried.					
April 16, 2020	There was no business arising.					
April 10, 2020	Detailed reports were presented on Powerpoint (attached).					
	Detailed reports were presented on Powerpoint (attached).					
1.0 Executive	1.1 President's Report					
Reports	Geri Sweet. Powerpoint Slide 8. A short review of 2020, looking to 2021. Thanks were given to retirees Marlo					
Reports	Glass and Gwen Donohoe.					
	1.2 Executive Director's Report					
	John Savard. See Powerpoint Slides 10 -15					
	 MHC Year End Cash Position slide. Cash position is currently good due to incoming grants etc although 					
	they are being paid out to projects and clubs.					
	• Grants received were \$74,500. Some already paid out to clubs to support admin expenses; wage					
	support goes into wages; Equestrian Facility \$21,645 so not required to compromise on improving					
	aspects of facility. Also, end of February, getting an additional \$20,00 Sport Manitoba Community Fund					
	for support for competition and return to competition. An equitable distribution will be worked out.					
	Possibly competition support. CUEWs wage support is being received. An additional \$10,000 was					
	received for school/working horses, expenditure still to be resolved.					
	Discussed Membership Key statistics and Future Growth					
	• Discussed Equestrian Canada issue of relationship with the provinces. Last contract ended March 2020;					
	EC does not want to sign a new contract with the provinces; provinces do not want to pay the quarterly					
	dues if there is no contract. EC's management of undertakings committed to for programs etc.					
	• All provinces have objected to Equestrian Canada not permitting EC Officials to preside over provincially					
	sanctioned shows.					
	Bookings for Equestrian Facility are strong.					
	 Sport Manitoba is now budgeting on a monthly basis to recast to year end based on actuals 					
	experienced; so can plot where revenues and expenditures are expected.					
	• Clubs: Membership lists to be submitted by April 30 to ensure the arrangement with insurance company					
	that all members of the clubs are members of the Horse Council, and spread the risk of liability					
	COVID Prefect Program					
	 Handwashing, printing, stationery, signage expense was around \$8,000. Bumped to \$12,000 for 2021 					
	 Covid Prefects: will be paid \$15/hour for any shows or large events put on by clubs or individual 					
	members. A dedicated person to ensure that the event is safe. Job description will be on website. There					
	will be a list of recommended Covid prefects on the website. Hot spot areas are the barns, and					
	opportunities for socializing					
	 Gratitude to the Board which has developed into a very active and vocal group of people. MHC is in 					
	good hands with the current Board of Directors and looking forward to working with the new Directors.					
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	1.4 Board Nominations					
	Geri Sweet. See Powerpoint slides 15-17. Presented the following two groups of nominees:					
	Those to be voted by all Members in good standing:					
	President: John Biron					

	Breeds & Industry: Sarah Biron				
	Director at Large: Tanis Jones				
	Director at Large; Jack Boughen				
	Director at Large: Angela Janz				
	Those to be voted by Council of Clubs Representatives				
	Chair, Competitions: Sarah Read				
	RE-elect incumbent: Chair, Facility: Eryn Butterfield				
	 Re-elect incumbent: Chair, Officials: Susan Adey 				
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	1.5 Financial Report				
	Hugh Crawley. See Powerpoint slides 19 - 25				
	Year end statement of the General Account as of December 31, 2020 was \$99,059 (\$120,892) Covid Support during 2020: \$40,637				
	Membership drop hardly unexpected given the year				
	\$4,000 drop in core funding				
	No Facility raffle 2021 (\$5,675 in 2020)				
	Covid costs would be moved to Medications from General. Explained reserve amount in Medications being				
	used for Covid.				
	\$16,765 investment in ring upgrades at Birds Hill Park, partnering with Dressage Winnipeg				
	Discussed 2021 plans and issue				
	Comparisons for the most recent monthly reconciliation - February 2021 (vs 2020)				
	General Account \$140,109 (\$105,844)				
	Medications Account \$14,434 (13,918)				
	Facility Account \$37,469 (\$46,453)				
	Lotteries Account \$2947 (\$2946)				
	Appointment of Auditors				
	It was moved by Doug Collins and seconded by Bruce King that Scarrow & Donald be re-appointed as				
	Auditors, at a compensation to be set by the Board. No dissension or abstention was noted. Carried.				
	Bruce King moved to accept the financial statements, seconded by Eryn Butterfield.				
2.0					
2. Committee Reports	2.1 Coaching See Powerpoint slide 28				
Reports	Katie Webb spoke on behalf of Coaching Chair Chris Dolinski.				
	2020: Virtual education for Rider Levels; Mini Master Class series; Coffee with a Vet (Coach Appreciation). No				
	Coaching Evaluations in 2020 due to Covid restrictions.				
	2021: Mini Master Class series started in March; will keep the Manitoba Coaching Levy; Virtual Coaching				
	Camp in April; Coach Appreciation Evening in November; Coaching & Rider Level Evaluations during the year				
	if possible.				
	2.2 Officials				
	Officials Chair Susan Adey.				
	Geri Sweet is developing Eventing Provincial Officials to expand on local expertise and reduce costs				
	EC looking at a Zoom project for learner stewards.				
	Officials clinics are taking place shortly, with Manitoba funding available.				
	Powerpoints have been placed on the website to describe how to become an Official.				
	EC has a new rule which does not allow an EC Officials to provide services at provincial horse shows. There				
	have been emails back and forth with EC but a definitive answer is not yet available.				

(There was discussion from the floor which resulted in agreement that EC's communications to officials and Officials Chair needs resolution of a conflict. Action Susan Adey.)
2.3 Marketing & Special Events
See Powerpoint slide 32.
Chair Kiirsten May reported.
Updating MHC website & Guide for New Riders content and design Activity focused on recruiting new and renewing membership. Used Facebook very effectively for very little
outlay.
Updated sponsorship opportunities at Birds Hill Park, website and Guide for New Riders, working with
consultant Teresa Shepit. Not only cash coming in, but sourcing benefits for members.
Marketing Coordinator Intern to support Marketing, Coaching and Admin on a 3-month placement
2.4 Breeds & Industry
See Powerpoint slide 34.
Chair Gwen Donohoe retired from her position after many valuable activities including industry surveys and
Covid-related communications.
2.5 Competitions
See Powerpoint slide 36.
Geri Sweet stood in for Marlo Glass, outgoing Competitions Chair, and reviewed activities by Member Clubs
during 2020.
2.6 Equestrian Facility
See Powerpoint Slide 38.
Eryn Butterfield, Facility Chair, thanked the Facility Committee for their hard work during the year. Noted that the facility does not receive from subsidies from any source but relies on grants and fundraising.
However, in 2020 received Federal Sport Emergency Grant which allowed some projects to take place;
refurbished Ring 2, continued with maintenance on Rings 3 and 5, made footing upgrades and repairs to the
Lunging ring.
Thanked returning users and noted new users coming through for 2021 such as CCRHA, WinterFest, MQHA,
and an August combined event with MCHA.
Facility rules of use being updated, for instance certain vaccinations, no dogs in any buildings or barns, no feed in the alleyways, also measures in place to prevent human and animal vandals on the site.
New is an evening rental, Committee is also working with Pony Club for educational events.
2.7 Recreation
See Powerpoint Slide 40.
Chair Tamara Hupalo noted that Recreational riding was also reduced in 2020 as some barns were closed so
people were not able to ride for pleasure. Concerns had been raised during the year for safety on sharing
trails with other users; for instance, Souris River Bend had a problem with plans for ATV users to share recreational trails.
Educational trails. Educational material is being reviewed, also looking at other PTSO web pages to provide new opportunities
for trail riders. The Ride & Drive program was promoted through social media.
2.8 Director at Large (Human Resources)
See Powerpoint Slide 42

3.0 Board Nominations 4.0 Strategic Plan	Lana Stevenson share 2020's developments on staffing, onboarding process for new Board members, Term/Contract positions and annual performance/salary reviews. She also noted Executive Director Joh Savard's plans for retirement in the near future.Board nominees were able to speak to their previously circulated nomination forms.The Strategic Plan was presented a couple of years ago, and MHC has really have made progress in a lot of the areas (mentioned) Some events fell through because of Covid but opportunities were taken. Some projects still on the radar but need people to take the lead on the initiatives and will be revisited later in the year when the new Board members have become more familiar with their roles.			
5.0 Questions submitted prior to the meeting*	 Manitoba Horse Trials re Officials. <i>"Will MHC categorically agree with, and state, that it will uphold the EC statement, that certified EC Officials MAY officiate at all provincially sanctioned, and Pony Club sanctioned, shows and events."</i> John Biron requested that an email from Caroline Soble (EC) stating that EC officials CAN officiate, be entered in the minutes. Discussion ensued that the PTSOs, Officials Chair and Officials are not receiving the same message from EC. The matter was tabled for John Savard, John Biron, Sarah Biron and Susan Adey to follow up. 			
	 Manitoba Horse Trials re electronic forms. <i>"Is it possible to have all electronic version of the COVID waivers and the daily attestation forms be made available to all clubs hosting shows, events and meets of all kinds?"</i> Yes. Makes it easier and safer for all concerned. (Fillable PDFs and Word documents available on MHC website.) Additional question: "In regards to the electronic Covid forms, can an E-sign version be incorporated rather than the paper version?" MHC is working with Robbie Tokar/Eryn Butterfield for a solution, from the details received prior to the meeting. 			
	 MHJA: Discussion regarding MHC's Covid communications with clubs "Further to the letter sent by the President of MHJA to the Executive Director of MHC, MHJA would like to discuss about the interpretation, inconsistent message and lack of clarity from the Government surrounding the sanctioning of Horse Shows and how can we partner together in getting the questions answered with clear direction to move forward. There is urgency for these questions to be answered as Show season will be upon us very quickly." There was general discussion on how MHC is able to deal with the wording of the Health Orders in order for member clubs and facilities to be able to operate events, lessons. Members were discouraged from reaching out to engagemb.ca as they have no latitude to do anything but quote the Health Order. The wording of the Health Orders are somewhat opaque and don't apply to the equestrian world. Staff and Board members have done a lot of work to lobby and get answers, while recognizing its not for Horse Council to offer its own interpretations of what the Health Order is. For instance, there is a distinction in the Orders between competition and tournaments. Those terms have different terms and meanings in different sports. Sport Manitoba is a resource in clarifying some details. 			
	 From the floor: Has the date for the team challenge competition 2021 been set? It will be one of two September weekends, probably weekend of 24/25/26. 			

	 Was The funding sent to clubs from MHC was this part of the Manitoba sport component of the COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations? Yes.
5.0 Club Highlights	BLHPSI: Erin Anderson: Have had Schooling days, and glad they held them, looking forward to having a competition end of May with the Wheat City Classic
	CCHA: Shannon McKenzie: Really appreciates MHC's guidance the past year. Club had a quiet year, taking a cautious approach with 5 events planned. 2 Info events and 3 show dates but prepared to modify them to something else if restricted again. (Plus Chas Lambert: CCHA has an eager board, got a plan to move forward and can fit within the requirements to have events this year.)
	DRM: Carrie Wilson. Thanks for the discussion and to the office staff for continuing the conversation. Mostly concerned about competition questions, only perhaps shouldn't use the word competition, use the word ride. Planning to stage at the East Gate on the Folk Fest area, all wearing masks, if more than 25 will separate into cohorts.
	Dressage Winnipeg: Sue Matthews: three dates booked this year, just waiting to find out especially re EC Sanctioned competitions. First one end of May
	MCHA: Garry Gerbrandt: Thank everyone from MHC. Used to be President of MCHA, difficult job. Planning a big year, 6 new members, been to some practices already. Made lots of notes to send to cutters from this meeting. Tough for anyone owning an arena to keep it going. Five new judges now in Manitoba so don't need to rely on those from out of town.
	MDS: Clinic event in mid-August on Marathon and Obstacle driving, 2 nd was Carriageway Bridge project. Funded in part from a Rec Grant from MHC. Thanks to MHC for supporting equestrian sports.
	MB Horse Trials: Dione Peech: Had some ups and downs, planned and cancelled. Need a lot of volunteers for their events, thanks to all who came out. Meet the Fences and a couple of meets. Ran an Introduction to Eventing Clinic. Small group and guest speakers. Some events planned for 2021, starting mid-May. Thanks to MHC for trying to answer their questions.
	MHJA: Jennifer Perron. Like all equestrians, had to cancel all shows but put on three schooling shows. Grateful to MHC for providing support on site to keep to protocols. Thanks to Geri on the gate. Thanks to sponsors, went a long way to assisting with costs to run the schooling events. AGM in February, Andrew Curry stepped down, Billy Wiltshire picked up where he left off. 25-year Board member Patty Alfonso stepped down but staying on the Show Committee. Planning to host a full slate of horse shows in 2021. Board looks forward to working and partnering with MHC and the province to allow the events to go forward.
	MMSA: Shawn Parsons: Thank you to MHC for help with the forms and everything else. Clinics May 15/16 already full, shoots lined up but if border doesn't open will have jackpots.
	MPC: Helen Holgate. Basically last year was a write-off. Covid rules had to be approved by National body and only one club managed to hold an event. Online services to continue with Stable Management, only book learning. Looking forward to better times and hoping to participate in other club's events.

	 meeting with meeting with Min of Ag and Resource Development. A first for MHC. MQHA hosted one virtual clinic, looking forward to holding more on the Zoom platforms. Pulled plug on Summer show at Keystone centre because of out-of-province judges but will hold mini-clinic and mini-show using MQHA professionals. CCRHA and CCHA Dog Days of Summer at BHP in August. Ranch horse based. Versatility, Ranch and Cow Horse. MQHA does have a Covid committee that works with shows, appreciate the resources that MHC has offered. John Savard thanked Wanda McFadyen for her excellent input in the Ministers Meetings etc. MRDA: Kristy McFee. Had the pleasure of sitting in with John, a hard year, even if you can get in front of the right people you can't get the right answers. Six weeks in fall, 8-week lesson plan starting shortly. Have to be cautious because of vulnerable kids. Birthday in the barn. 500 people signed up with the program. Quite the switch to go online, trying to raise \$200,000 in funding to keep the programs going. Fantastic sponsorships and grants. MTPA: Rick Andrews. Last year not a good year. One fun show. Managed to keep it together and this year going forward optimistically with whatever they have to call their events. Prepared to play within the sideboards. Appreciates MHC for trying to find those sideboards; just show them where they are. Do it safely and legally under the Orders. MTRC: Tauni Jensen. Also thanked MHC. Amazing. So much stress. Club started in July last year, this season a full season planned with ride managers and vets in place. Fingers crossed that they can be out on the trails – a safe place to be Working Equitation: Amanda Earl. Thanks MHC like everyone else for all their hard work. Cancelled events last year as officials come from out of province. Holding practices until they know if they can get their
	officials into the province. MWPC: Joanne Rossnagel. Holding a meeting to decide if they are going forward with their show. Urban Stable: Hayley Edwards. Partner with local schools and partners. To help students struggling with life skills to transfer those skills back to home, school and the community. Had to move to remote learning huge success. For instance, design an obstacle course for the horses which helped with confidence. One student practiced picking her horses feet using a chair and so pumped. Looking for a new home, anyone
	knows a property in South or South West area, max 15 mins from Perimeter. Described their requirements. First virtual fundraiser shared the 50-50 link in the chat. Thanks MHC, for sharing posts etc. MHC you're amazing! Link to our virtual 50/50 raffle. Thank you. https://www.fundingchange.ca/urban-stable/YDIPEObmWCnMISKj
	 Westman Dressage: Shannon McKenzie: we have had to cancel our spring show due to Covid, but did host a successful winter online education series and are looking forward to potentially holding some clinics and shows this summer. Geri thanks to all clubs and etc for keeping all things going
7.0 Election of Board members	Voting by all members in good standing A secret polling system was used; those sharing computers voted by private chat. The nominees named were repeated and John Biron, Sarah Biron, Tanis Jones, Jack Boughen and Angela Janz were voted to their respective positions.

	Voting by Council of Clubs representatives Using the same system, Sarah Read, Eryn Butterfield, and Susan Adey were voted to their respective positions.				
	Manitoba Horse Council Board of Directors as of April 2021				
	Position	Name	Date of Election/Appointment	Term Expires	
	President	John Biron	April 2021	April 2024	
	Past President	Geri Sweet	Became past President June 2017		
	Vice-President & Human Resources	Lana Stevenson	Re-elected April 2020 term 2	April 2023	
	Treasurer	Hugh Crawley	April 2019	April 2022	
	Chair, Breeds and Industry	Sarah Biron	April 2021	April 2024	
	Chair, Coaching	Chris Dolinski	April 2021	April 2022	
	Chair, Competitions	Sarah Read	April 2021	April 2024	
	Chair, Equestrian Centre	Eryn Butterfield	Re-elected April 2021 term 2	April 2024	
	Chair, Marketing/Special Events	Kiirsten May	April 2019	April 2022	
	Chair, Officials	Susan Adey	Re-elected April 2021 term 2	April 2024	
	Chair, Recreation	Tamara Hupalo	April 2020	April 2022	
	Director at Large	Jack Boughen	April 2021	April 2024	
	Director at Large	Angela Janz	April 2021	April 2024	
	Director at Large	Tanis Jones	April 2021	April 2024	
9.0 Club Membership Benefits	Reminded that the Zoom account is available to all clubs to use, and a list of user tips was shown.				
10.0 Annual	Awards – looking for revampir	ig the process altoget	ther. Will be in touch with all Member	Clubs for 2021,	
Awards	As her parting gift leaves the a	wards to the new bo	ard, welcome new members, thanks,	to all questions,	
	complaints, being participants				
Closing	Geri Sweet thanked everyone for attending, thanked the office staff, reviewed meeting events, and thanked				
Remarks	everyone for coming.				
(Motion to	Motion to adjourn received at 9:31 pm.				
Adjourn)					

*Tabled questions from the floor

Tabled: Manitoba Horse Trials re Officials.

"Will MHC categorically agree with, and state, that it will uphold the EC statement, that certified EC Officials MAY officiate at all provincially sanctioned, and Pony Club sanctioned, shows and events."

• It was later resolved that the communication from EC stating that EC Officials could officiate was incorrect.

Manitoba Horse Trials re electronic forms.

"In regards to the electronic Covid forms, can an E-sign version be incorporated rather than the paper version?"

• The e-sign form system being researched proved to be very expensive, but a free QR code/electronic form system was submitted from another club and worked well in trials.