

**Minutes of AQHA-UK Council Meeting  
Held at 09.30 on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2014  
Holiday Inn, Hinckley Road, Coventry, CV2 2HP**

Present:

**Joyce Markham, David Deptford, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Julian Howard,  
Mike Adams.**

- 1     **Apologies for absence.**  
None.
  
- 2     **Approval of Minutes from 15<sup>th</sup> June.**  
Proposed JM and seconded SF.
  
- 3     **Matters Arising.**  
SF asked about Queen's Horses Parade. JM stated many interested to begin with but not sure of numbers at present time. JM to check with Lindsay Robinson and report back.
  
- 4.1   **Council Vacancies**  
David Teideman and Pat Dyke have both resigned from Council leaving 2 vacancies. It was agreed to advertise for new members on the website and possibly Facebook; in the event of many applicants an interview would be carried out by JM and MA.
  
- 4.2   D Teideman and P Dyke to be recognised for their contribution and thanked for years of hard work and dedication. JM to write to them both.
  
- 4.3   David Teideman is also International Director and as the next meeting of FEQHA is in Germany on 25 October and DT has agreed to go. There are issues to resolve with the shipments of trophies.
  
- 4.4   Vice Chair replacement. Agreed it was not absolutely necessary and would be resolved at the Council following the next AGM.
  
- 5.1   **Youth World Cup**  
Jane Muir had sent in a full report with accounts sheet. JM said Lindsay Robinson had carried out a reconciliation between her accounts and Jane's, and that there was a difference of £15.60 to the associations credit.

- 5.2 It was agreed that there should be a Youth Team for the 2016 competition. It was essential for the future of western riding in the UK as it produced riders, trainers and breeders and could affect the funding from USA. It was decided that the team planning was essential and a structure must be set. There should be five posts; Youth Director, Team Manager, Head Selector/Coach, Mentor and an administrator. The Director and administrator would be non-travelling and largely admin.
- 5.3 Funding the Youth Team. It was agreed that sponsorship needed to be sourced now and JH agreed to investigate companies that might be agreeable to a meeting with a view to a sponsorship package.
- 6.1 **Breed Show Report.**  
All agreed Breed Show was a success. Jane Wallace's report stated the sponsor's tea was useful. The photographer was excellent and should be booked again. There were issues over the programme. It was agreed that someone had to take responsibility for selling it on the day to ensure costs were recouped. It was agreed that sponsorship for the programme was essential.
- 6.2 All agreed the demonstration for the Breed Show was booked too late. DD agreed to investigate booking for Breed Show now, possibly from a dressage background as this was likely to bring the most footfall of English Riders. MA thought it too early to book but all agreed it is essential to book early to obtain the right calibre of demonstration.
- 6.3 MA said there was a complaint about the judging at the NRHA classes in the evening at the Breed Show. It was agreed that this was largely due to the audience not understanding the rules of a triple judged competition where a prize of \$1000 or more is available.
- 6.4 Breed Show Finances. MA said the show ran at a profit. The cost of rosettes seemed high but this was because it included stock for the next season. There were still buckles to buy but the show would remain in profit.
- 6.5 Championship Rules. JM and DD proposed scrapping the current system of Championship classes. Few people understand the rules and entrants were disappointed to turn up to a show to find the classes cancelled due to lack of numbers. Instead DD proposed a system whereby four judges are employed to ensure 2 shows that are double judged. The cost of entry would be raised but the amount of points available would encourage competitors to show under all four judges to obtain the maximum amount of points. It was agreed that this would also maximise numbers and encourage more people to show. Also encourages late entries and classes can still run with any number of entrants. The costs of bringing four judges was discussed at length. It was not decided how the Supreme Halter Championship would be judged. It was also agreed that a new Novice Amateur Championship

would be run. JM asked about cut off dates for entry but the only cut off dates would be for stable bookings. It was agreed by all that this decision could be made now and announced so that riders could begin planning for their 2015 show season. The decision did not have to go to the AGM.

6.6 MA agreed that the current spreadsheets used by Show Managers did not give enough detailed breakdown to ensure a clear view of all income received especially with regard to Show Fees of £15.00. It was agreed it was essential to produce a better spreadsheet/database for Show Managers to use.

6.7 Agreed that Jane Wallace should be approached as Show Coordinator for 2015 Breed Show at Sovereign Quarter Horses following the successful management of the show this year.

### 7.1 **Finance Reports**

Income is £4000 down on last year. Postage costs are high due to the Gift Aid letter but JM said there were hundreds of replies which would mean a large increase in income. JM said response rate was phenomenal. MA said also £3000 more in overheads. Travel expenses higher largely due to International Director going to Germany. Printing costs were higher due to more issues of the Journal. Events and seminars cost were down as only two shows were run this year.

7.2 There is also an issue of falling membership. Lindsay Robinson and Jemma Gunning working on the database for members and Life Long Members. It appears that there were duplicate entries and therefore this contributed to falling membership numbers. Accuracy is essential for international funding claims.

7.3 MA said that there are still too many bank accounts, as well as ex council members still being signatories on the accounts. It was agreed that the bank mandate needed to be changed immediately. Joyce Markham to remain a signatory and David Deptford to be added. Online and telephone banking arrangements to remain unchanged. This had proved difficult to resolve in the past but agreed that it is not worth changing banks at the present time.

7.4 Growth Accelerator Grant. MA concerned that the Leadership and Management Grant was running out of time. JM stated it was essential to liaise with Steve Megson to book dates as soon as possible. MA agreed to chase this and arrange dates urgently.

7.5 AQHAUK is now VAT registered. Registration no must now be on all invoices. There was an issue with merchandise prices as VAT may have to be included in the selling price. This is urgent as prices are due to go in the journal in the next few days as well as on the website. MA thought it had been set up by Quiet Storm to pay direct to clothing company. ROR to investigate and report back.

- 7.6 Insurance. MA investigating insurance as the current policies may be excessive for need and also expensive. Must have trophies insured, all events under the AQHA UK banner and the Get on and Ride Scheme.
- 8.1 **Miscellaneous**  
Get on And Ride Scheme has now two riders who have completed 150 hours. It was agreed to give a merchandise voucher to those who complete 250 hours and Council agreed Abby Jeeve's proposals to revise the incentive scheme.
- 8.2 There would be AQHA UK sponsorship of a Community Spirit Award. Members would vote to decide on the recipient. SF will oversee this.
- 8.3 It was agreed that JM would investigate the possibility of hosting Affiliate events along the lines of the BHS and BSJ.
- 8.4 **AGM will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2015.** Venue to be announced.
- 8.5 **Next Council Meeting will be at the Coventry Holiday Inn on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 9.30am.**