

**Minutes of AQHA-UK Council Meeting
Held at 09.30 on Sunday 11th January 2015
Holiday Inn, Hinckley Road, Coventry, CV2 2HP**

Present:

Joyce Markham, David Deptford, Sheila Fitzpatrick, Julian Howard, Carin Herrick, Mike Roberts

1 **Apologies for absence**

None.

2 **Council Co-options.**

Agreed that Carin Herrick and Mike Roberts are co-opted to Council.

3 **Consider and Approve minutes of 19th October.**

a) **All The Queen's Horses Parade.**

MR attended. Reported that all went very well. Excellent day. Thanks to Lindsay Robinson for her excellent work in organising AQHA UK involvement. Decision to participate next year if possible, CH to liaise with Lindsay and report back next meeting.

b) **Hall OF Fame.**

Agreed that AQHA UK should implement the HoF forthwith. JM to write the criteria but agreed that the first inductees should be Sarah Nutt and Priscilla Leigh who were founder members of the original organisation. David Teideman will be thanked for his hard work and contribution at the Awards Evening. Pat Dyke will be presented with a Gill Parker Plaque to be commissioned by JM . JM will organise invitations.

c) **International Director.**

DT continuing as International Representative on a temporary basis until AGM and will attend the FEQHA on 1st February.

d) **Youth World Cup.**

The venue has not yet been confirmed but presumed to be Texas. No budgets received as yet and still posts to be confirmed. General discussion on procedure and rules of attendance and selection. Agreed that the Youth Team must be involved in its own fund raising schemes. Agreed that Head Selector/Coach will travel with the team as will the Mentor. The Team Manager will also travel to ensure smooth running. The Youth Director, SF, will be assisted by CH. DD to approach Mary Larcom and Lucy Adams as first choice for Team Manager and Mentor respectively.

4 **Matters Arising not considered elsewhere on agenda.**

SF queried number of journals printed – agreed too many but discussion on the journal will be in full later in the meeting. SF queried scholarships for Youth World Cup. Discussed later in meeting.

5 **Youth World Cup.**

a) **Budgets.**

JM discussed budgets from last World Cup with Jane Muir. No information has been received as yet. CH will prepare budget and cost analysis for next meeting.

b) **Qualifications and Paperwork.**

JH to construct timetable for selections, training and paperwork. Agreed that advertising for applicants should be through social media as well as AQHA UK and WES website. Also contact Tally Wade. DD to contact Horse and Hound to issue Press Release. Agreed that there was no need to pay for adverts. Agreed that applicants can register an interest and attend the open day. At this point a talk can be given to prospective participants and their parents about the level of commitment required. DD to confirm date in March for initial training day. Expression of interest should be accepted by end of February. Formal agreements date should be set for the end of March. There will be provision for late arrivals as well. SF to place adverts on social media. All clinics must be arranged and will include Oakridge Arena and Bodiam Arena if they are happy to participate. Sovereign QH will be the venue of the open day. DD will speak to Oakridge and request Lee Rutter's involvement and will also speak to Bodiam to arrange dates. There will also be classes at the shows for applicants to attend with a possibility of them riding horses other than their own. MR to check insurance schemes for this. Agreed that there will be a points scheme from classes held at all three arenas to ensure fairest way of selection.

6 **Breed Show**

a) **Show Team**

Jane Wallace has agreed to do the planning but cannot work at the Breed Show as she will be competing. JW has booked photographer from last year. JM to contact DT to confirm the date of the Breed Show has been accepted by the AQHA. Key Roles to be fulfilled: Show Manager Judy Jones?. Secretary Lindsay Robinson?. JM to discuss with both persons asap.. Posts to be confirmed at the next meeting. JM to organise informal meeting with all involved in planning asap. There will be mandatory classes for Youth World Cup applicants.

7 **b) Championship Rules**

Agreed that the Championship classes will be Double Judged at the Breed Show. There will be 7 classes for L1 Novice Amateur. 8 Classes for Amateur. Youth Classes – 8 classes plus Halter plus 3 Championship classes. Open will have 6 classes plus Halter. Therefore agreed that no Novice Youth or Green Classes are necessary.

Championship classes are open to all competitors in all divisions providing that the owner/rider/lessee in L1 and Open classes is a member of AQHA UK. Competitors must enter all four shows to be included in the Championship.

Sashes, Buckles and Medals. Agreed that engraving could be achieved in this country at a reduced cost. DD going to Trade Show and will cost buying Buckles. Sashes and Rosettes do not need printed dates and class. This will substantially reduce costs as they can be used at other shows. Sashes state "AQHA UK Championship". Buckles can be awarded to L1 Novice. Halter: All Open Grand Champions can be judged in the Supreme Championship. Quadruple judged with 3 European Judges and 1 USA judge. Judge from the USA will be Head Judge and therefore the tie- breaker and therefore USA Judge must be present on last day of show.

c) Year end hi-point awards

JH stated that there were a considerable number of mistakes published in the current journal. This was as a result of mistake being made by the shows who sent Karen Coleman the wrong details. Suggested that Judges Score cards could be included with the sheets as well. Huge logistical task to go through each one. In some cases scores had not been received from show managers. There are no rules to implement fines at present to ensure score sheets are submitted promptly. CH to discuss with Lindsay Robinson and Karen Coleman how a better system could be implemented. JM suggested that rules could be set to ensure each venue sends scores in quickly.

8

Finance

a) Appoint Finance Director

MR to take over the role of Finance Director with Lindsay Robinson maintaining current position of book keeping.

b) Gift Aid

JM reports that all spreadsheets have been prepared ready for submission to HMRC and should result in approximately £12,000 of claims.

The accountants will charge £25 per batch to submit as the signatories are in the process of being changed and therefore AQHA UK cannot submit until HMRC accept accountants as agents.

c) Current Financial Position.

Income is reduced. Spending this year was £6,300 whereas last year it was £5000 showing only a slight surplus.

d) Journal

JM reports this is the biggest item of expenditure. There is one more journal due to be contractually published with Quiet Storm. The current journal is professional and an improvement on the earlier publications. SF wants to keep the journal. DD suggests not to lose any more members. JM suggests that an annual journal could be published which has pictures of winners/competitors. All the show reports and results. Breeders' information. Adverts could provide the revenue for the bulk of the cost. JM states it might be better to remain with QS at present due their involvement with the website and the Growth Accelerator Scheme. However, the latter could be better implemented with a charity business planner. If the annual journal is agreed then AQHA UK will write a monthly newsletter possibly to include sponsors which can be emailed to all members. A few members who do not use or have access to computers will receive a hard copy through the post. This will vastly cut down the cost currently incurred by a quarterly journal as well as including members with up to date information on a monthly basis. The monthly

newsletter could also be emailed to other western organisation members such as WES to attract more competitors to shows and increase the membership. JM, DD, MR and JH to attend fact finding meeting at Quiet Storm. Date TBA.

9 **Next Meeting.**

1st March 9.30 at Holiday Inn, Coventry.

AGM – 21st March 2.30 Holiday Inn Coventry.