

MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL OPEN MEMBERSHIP MEETING
January 21, 2023

President Barbara Foster called the Annual Open Membership meeting of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association to order at 10:05 a.m. at the Firekeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, MI. The following Directors and staff were present: Meggen Baynes, Jennifer Bluhm, Heather Coe, Kevin Cubitt, Barb Foster, Sasha Glover, Austin Gooding, Megan Hirschman, Rob Kirkpatrick, Monty Montgomery, Chris Perniciaro, Sarah Switek and Kris Woroniecki. National Director Shelley Donovan and Kelly Chapman as well as five members were in attendance.

AGENDA: Megan Hirschman made a motion to approve the agenda. Chris Perniciaro seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Rob Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the January 8, 2022 Annual Membership Meeting minutes. Megan Hirschman seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Rob Kirkpatrick presented the financial report. He explained that the statements are tentative for December as we are awaiting the final bills on the year end awards. The total assets of the Association as of December 31, 2022, are listed at \$537,724.28; the total liabilities at \$190,262.91 and the total members' equity is listed at \$347,461.37. The net income as of the end of December is listed at \$55,269.77 compared to -\$56,316.13 for the same period in 2021. Chris Perniciaro made a motion to accept the tentative December 2022 statement. Austin Gooding seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed. It was explained that the entire KCYAA pledge was expensed out in 2022 by the CPA which gave us the loss for 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CLINICS: Report submitted by Jennifer Bluhm

Hello, my name is Jennifer Bluhm. I was the Committee Chair for Clinics for the 2022 season. Over the course of the year, I lined up a few clinicians to do a "Ride the Pattern" type Clinic. These were set up during the Spartan and Harbor. The first was a Halter segment with Tom Robertson and the second was a Horsemanship segment with Garth Gooding. They had great attendance and the overall feedback from the membership was very positive. I plan to have more segments setup for the 2023 season.

CONVENTION: 2022 MQHA Convention Committee Report, Chair – Sasha Glover and Heather Coe

This year the committee elected to move the Convention to FireKeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, Michigan. While negotiating the contract, we soon realized that the expenses would be increased, however we identified that the location might be more appealing. Additionally, the committee with support from the board, decided to move it to the third weekend in January to hopefully get away from the holidays therefore increasing attendance.

With the Stallion Service Sale running two weeks earlier, we modified the convention schedule to be truly a one day/evening event for membership. The board will meet in the evening Friday with a private board dinner and then again Saturday morning. The youth will host their annual meeting as well on Saturday morning. The committee decided to change the timing of the evening as well, allowing for an hour cocktail reception with appetizers. Recognizing that the convention was moving to a more of a one-day format, we scaled back on handouts, name badges, etc.

At the banquet we will still have the back number auction in-person and online through the Bidding Owl. Additionally, committee members worked to secure donations for the annual silent auction. The youth association will also be collecting donations of baskets during this time for fundraising.

Dinner reservations were close to 200 and roughly 40-50 guestrooms were booked at the property. The committee did set up an additional rooming block at a property very close that was at a lower rate.

EASTER SHOW: Submitted by Monty Montgomery

The Easter show returned in 2022 after a 2 year hiatus due to the COVID pandemic and the show was successful. The 2022 show took place during the Ocala futurity and just before the L1 East Championship show. AQHA entries were down slightly with a total of 6,117 with the six judges, but NSBA entries were up with a total of 838 with one judge. Stall and camping were also slightly down.

Some changes for the 2023 show include combining the Rookie and L1 Novice classes to try and cut down on long days. Amateur and open pleasure driving will return this year on the six-judge day. Hopefully, we can find room to add some all age youth and/or amateur walk trot classes as they are in great demand nationally. The 2023 show will be April 4 - 9 at the MSU Pavilion.

FUTURITY: Submitted by Chris Perniciaro

The September 2022 event had gross income of \$182,483 up \$36,000 from 2021, with a net income of \$28,441. Here are just a few highlights: We sold 430 stalls and sold out all the camping at MSU. We gave away over \$81,000 to NSBA and Futurity winners in just four days of showing. Our raffle for the Roth Halter gave us \$2000 in profit which offset the additional added money purses and we started a raffle for a Harris Saddle that we are hoping to profit between \$3000 and \$5000 to cover the remainder. A very bright spot of the show for us was the total sponsorship revenue we generated was up more than \$9000 from 2021.

HALL OF FAME: Kevin Cubitt announced that the committee is prepared for the upcoming inductions for the 2023 Hall of Fame. Mister Over Easy, owned by the West Family from Williamston, MI is the horse that has been chosen. Stephanie Scheid Griffin is the person chosen. Kevin encouraged nominations for Hall of Fame.

HARBOR CLASSIC: Barb Foster said that the switch over went well. The show was relaxed. There was a cornhole tournament. A trail sweepstakes was held that was NSBA approved. The youth fundraisers went well.

HARVEST CLASSIC: Sarah Switek told the audience that there was an increase in stalls and entries. The EWD classes were added and well received. There was an adult walk trot fundraiser held for the youth.

MEMBERSHIP: Report submitted by Meggen Baynes

As of April 2022, MQHA had 570+ memberships. The big event for this committee was setting up a booth at the MHC Expo that was held March 10-12th, 2022. The Expo had the largest attendance in many years with many people stopping at the MQ booth to pick up showbills and ask questions. Various Youth Board Directors, the MQ President Barb Foster, Sarah Switek and Meggen Baynes worked most of the hours in the booth for the weekend. The Board passed a motion to spend up to \$1000 in marketing supplies for MQHA.

NOMINATIONS: Megan Hirschman announced that there were nine people running for three open Board positions. There were about 175 ballots returned which was the largest turnout of voting in her tenure on the Board. She thanked everyone who took an interest in running and everyone who took the time to vote.

QUEEN: Report submitted by Kathy Christensen

Katherine West was crowned 2022 MQHA Queen on Saturday night, April 16, at the Easter Eggstravaganza. Katherine is the daughter of Jeff and Christine West, of Williamston, Michigan. She is nineteen and a student at MSU. Katherine is working towards a bachelor's degree in Animal Science/Pre-Veterinary medicine. Katherine serviced as MQHYA board Youth President in 2019 and 2020.

Queen Katherine organized and ran the Princess Contest at the Harbor Classic. She found volunteers to judge and brought a gift for each winner - Princess Brylee Bunting and Jr. Princess Mallory Hobbs. The Queen and the Princess' did go to the beach for pictures. This time together for pictures at the beach with the queen is always special to them. Queen Katherine did attend the Futurity and handed out ribbons and awards. She was joined by Princess Brylee during a few of the classes.

The Congress competition was, as usual, quite the process, but I believe the MQHA Queen did have a fun time with all the young ladies who all hoped to be crowned Congress Queen. I felt that Katherine had a great go in horsemanship, and overall in the competition she was 6th place. I am looking forward to Convention and I believe Katherine is as well. I will be bringing pictures and Queen Contest forms, as well as Princess information. Katherine said she would bring some things to display too.

Estimated value of the gifts the 2022 Queen received is \$3343.00. The Runner-Up for the contest was Kailene Bader VanDyke who received gifts valued at approximately \$569.00. The sashes and the Queen buckle for 2023 contests have been ordered.

SPARTAN SPECTACULAR: Barb Foster said that the show went well. The move in was smooth. There were a lot of last-minute stalls sold due to the cancellation of another event. There was a team tournament held with a pizza party sponsored by McCarthy Warda Performance Horses. The hospitality events were well attended.

STALLION SERVICE SALE: Report submitted by Austin Gooding

Our committee, as always, worked hard to get many familiar faces but also a lot of new ones involved in our sale. We had a great group of stallions that fit a very wide range of needs for breeders. In 2022 we had around \$62,000 of income on sale day. At the end of breeding season, we were right around \$80,000 which was higher than we had been in many years. Many of our stallion service sale classes at the Futurity were up as well, which was nice to see and we only hope that number continues to grow along with our payouts. I'd like to thank Chris Perniciaro and Mike Huntoon who are on this committee with me along with Julie Leek, Kevin Cubitt and Tom Moore. An additional thank you to Kris and Heather in the office who both put a lot of work into this each year. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated.

SUMMER SERIES: Report submitted by Meggen Baynes

The 2022 Summer Series was once again held in Midland, Michigan. Even though there was construction going on in the new All Seasons building, the show was able to be continued. It was managed by Tim of TNT with a lot of help by Committee Members Rob Kirkpatrick, Meggen Baynes, Monty Montgomery, Chris and Tessa Dalton and Jarrod Bush. It was a 5 judge show over 5 days. Overall, income was down from the previous year however expenses were also down. The net income was \$17,350 which was down for the net income in 2021 of \$32,757. Thank you to Mary Wilkosz of A&W Manistee for providing breakfast .

YEAR END AWARDS: Report submitted by Monty Montgomery

The awards committee did some thinking outside the box this year. This required ordering some items well in advance for some of the larger prizes such as High Point, Reserve High Point and the first place prizes. Since the pandemic, we have had issues with delivery and availability. This year was no different. However, this is the first year we ordered and paid for items and were given delivery dates only to be told that these items were no longer available often close to the expected delivery date. We did order some awards from small businesses this year and received quality items and excellent customer service. We will try to source more unique small businesses in the future. Rob Kirkpatrick and Jenny Bluhm contributed with some excellent suggestions for prizes.

YOUTH: Presented By: Sasha Glover (Chair), Danielle Lindsay, and Barb Foster

This past year was a learning year. With many of our "senior" board members graduating and moving into their amateur career, many of the younger and newer board members stepped forward and rose to the challenge. The committee was chaired by advisor Sasha Glover and members included Danielle Lindsay and Barb Foster. The Youth Association was led by President, Lillian Laney. This year the youth board had a full slate of directors and officers. The year started off with the youth hosting their annual membership drive and bake sale at the MQHA tack sale. This has been a continued great way to connect with current and potential youth members along with serving as a fundraising opportunity. The youth continued to help support the visibility of the association by volunteering at the Michigan Horse Expo where MQHA had a booth for the weekend. At the Easter Eggstravaganza Show, the youth continued the Easter Egg Fundraiser. While prize donations were down, individuals still enjoyed participating in this event. The board quickly approved a year full of meetings where business was conducted, reports were given, and collaborative ideas were discussed. As the year

continued the large cash raffle tickets were mailed to directors. It was a requirement for each director to sell their raffle tickets. This continued to be one of the larger fundraisers for the youth association. The large cash raffle was drawn at the Harbor Classic. In addition to these fundraisers the youth continued the bouncy horse races, dog race, class sponsorships fundraiser, 50/50 raffle, and a new parents walk trot.

We are proud to recognize reporter, Lizzi Smith, on being elected as AQHYA Region IV National Director. She also attended the annual YES Conference in Amarillo, Texas. The youth sent a team to the Youth World Show where 25 individuals exhibited in various classes and many earning top placings. We also had success outside of the show pen where Myah Chaput was recognized for her 13 & under prepared public speaking by placing 2nd. We also sent two teams to the Congress (MQHYA & MSBA). For the first time in as long as many can remember our MQHA team won the NYATT competition. At the Congress, MQHA was proud to help sponsor a Region IV Top Golf recreational evening. The youth association continues their academic achievement program to promote educational success. This was completed in the summer at the Harbor Classic and will be done at the 2023 Convention. The youth association continued to be fiscally responsible carrying a positive balance at the end of 2022.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: National Director Emeriti, Kelly Chapman spoke to those in attendance with a few updates.

- MSU is back fundraising for the expansion at the Pavilion
- Scott Neuman is no longer an AQHA judge and has taken a position at AQHA as the Director in charge of Judges.
- There has been exponential growth in the IEA program
- AQHA is still discussing Amateur members being able to give lessons

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS: President Barb Foster announced the results of the MQHA Board Election.

Elected to a three (3) year term:

- Heather Boggetta (2026)
- Jeff Moody (2026)
- Nicole Veldhoff (2026)

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am. by unanimous consent without objection.