

**MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL OPEN MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**January 8, 2022**

**Reviewed and ok'd by Barb on 3-22-2022**

President Mike Huntoon called the Annual Open Membership meeting of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association to order at 9:32 a.m. at the Comfort Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Mt Pleasant, MI. The following Directors and staff were present: Jennifer Bluhm, Heather Coe, Tessa Dalton, Barb Foster, Sasha Glover, Austin Gooding, Megan Hirschman, Mike Huntoon, Rob Kirkpatrick, Danielle Lindsay, Monty Montgomery, and Kris Woroniecki. Sarah Switek was excused. Youth President, Rylee Harding was in attendance. There were six members in attendance.

**AGENDA:** Megan Hirschman made a motion to approve the agenda. Barb Foster seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Monty Montgomery made a motion to approve the January 8, 2021, Annual Membership Meeting minutes. Heather Coe seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Heather Coe reported that 2021 shaped up to be a better year than expected. We should end the year with a small profit even without having the Easter show. The final 2021 year-end numbers will be finalized once all of the 2021 Year End Awards are booked. MQHA has made a financial commitment to the new Grand Agricultural Center in Lowell, and the board is excited to share information on a member matching campaign which will be launched soon.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BIOSECURITY:** Report submitted by Jennifer Bluhm:

*For my committee, I tried to keep up on Covid protocol and be sure we had what we needed to keep everyone safe. I also have been gathering information on biosecurity issues for the horses and am following the website <https://www.equinediseasecc.org/> for any issues that may arise that should be brought to the attention of the Board and/or membership.*

**CONVENTION:** Report submitted by Sasha Glover:

*Due to COVID-19 the Convention Committee made the decision to modify the scheduled in-person 2021 MQHA Convention and Awards Banquet to a virtual format. Because of the virtual format, there were no registration fees to attend the various happenings.*

*With this move to virtual, the stallion service sale was also moved to an online Facebook live format with the assistance of Moore Horse Company. The back number auction partnered with Caroline Gornick and her company, the Bidding Owl which is an online auction software that allows individuals to bid on their back numbers for the upcoming season or purchase them outright as done historically. There was no silent auction. All meetings public and private were conducted via Zoom.*

*The MQHA Board of Directors and MQHYA Board of Directors both did pre-recorded videos and released those via YouTube and Facebook during the convention weekend to provide messages and addresses to the membership. The MQHYA presented their Academic Achievement Program through a YouTube video recognition. Certificates were then mailed to those recipients.*

*Several clinics were hosted for members to attend which included one by Mary Luther and the other by Youth Advisors, Sasha Glover, Barb Foster, and Danielle Lindsay.*

**EASTER SHOW:** Monty Montgomery stated that the Easter Show did not run in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic but will be back in 2022 at the MSU Pavilion.

**FUTURITY:** Report submitted by Mike Huntoon:

*The 2021 MQHA Futurity was a great success. The show was moved back to MSU after the one-year COVID-related move to Mason. This was also our first futurity managed by TNT Events, and the general consensus on them was positive. Stalls and camping were both in line with previous years at MSU, but entries were up. In all, the show profited nearly \$31,000. As the Stallion Service Sale continues to grow, the committee looks forward to the show being even more successful in the coming years.*

**HALL OF FAME:** Report submitted by Mike Huntoon:

*The MQHA Hall of Fame Committee decided to induct Kim and Shelly Donovan and Sonny's Sassy Brat and Coolsie Coosa (both owned by Scott Haack/Arcadia Farm) into the MQHA Hall of Fame.*

**HARBOR CLASSIC:** Submitted by Barb Foster:

*The show again sold out stalls and camping early. We began the circuit on Saturday with a Trail Sweepstakes Special Event for both Pro and Non Pro Exhibitors with a \$1000.00 added purse. Also new this year were High Point NSBA Harbor Circuit Awards. We had several evening activities planned but we were blessed with several days and evenings of rain. But it was warm. We were able to host a welcome luncheon on Sunday and also an Exhibitor's dinner on Thursday evening. Our youth association also held two successful fundraisers. Entries continue to grow and this year we also had an increase in NSBA entries. We have what I think is a very appealing show schedule that allows for early evening for which our exhibitor can enjoy some time enjoying Ludington.*

**HARVEST CLASSIC:** Report submitted by Danielle Lindsay:

*Our harvest classic show was held November 5-7th 2021 at the MSU pavilion. We had TNT for our show management. Our stalls were a little down from previous years but our classes seem to be decently full. Our entry fee revenue was \$14,416, our camping revenue was \$3,780, and our stall revenue was \$11,375. Our total net income was \$5,036.26. Our committee is currently brainstorming on how we can make this show a huge success. We think this would be a perfect show to draw more open show exhibitors.*

**MEMBERSHIP:** Report submitted by Danielle Lindsay:

*Currently we have 540 MQHA members. We are down about 50 members. We are always looking for new avenues to encourage new membership, to outreach beyond the show pen. One example is adding MQHA sponsored Western dressage classes. Although there was not a large draw to it in 2021, we are hopeful that there will continue to be more interest in the classes. We did not have a booth at the Michigan horse expo in 2021 due to Covid but we plan to be there in 2022. This really gets the MQHA name out there to different breeds. The dates for the Michigan horse expo are March 11-13th 2022 at the MSU pavilion. We appreciate anyone who has offered to help in the past or may be interested in helping this year.*

**SHOW APPROVAL:** Megan Hirschman stated that the show calendar is set for 2022 with MQHA utilizing all of the available shows and MQHA Show Approval given to all of the events on the calendar.

**SPARTAN SPECTACULAR:** Barb Foster submitted a report:

*This year we had to make huge changes to the Spartan Spectacular Youth Show. We could not use the MSU venue due to covid restriction, so it was either move the show or cancel it for 2021. We made the decision to move the show to Ludington. We were very pleased with the number of entries for the show especially with a different date and venue. We held the show the weekend before the Harbor Classic. This year presented us with many obstacles to work around but we made it work. We had five days between the Spartan and the Harbor. We offered the trainers and exhibitors the opportunity, if they were attending both, they could stay in the same stalls and camping spots for the five days for 15.00 per day. They also if they chose not to stay but if they were returning for the Harbor they also could keep the same stalls and camping spots for no cost. This worked out really well. Our revenue was ahead of 2019 but so were the expenses. We were able to show a profit of \$13,579 for our Youth Association and MQHA.*

**STALLION SERVICE SALE:** Austin Gooding submitted a report:

*We finished our 2021 sale with income we hadn't seen in years due in large part to my awesome committee members Mike Huntoon, Chris Perniciaro and Kris and Heather in the office. I think there were a few forward thinking changes we did as well that played a big part in this. We always try to do the best we can to reach out and get all the mainstream stallions that everyone wants to breed to from Halter, Hunter Under Saddle, Western Pleasure to the All Around. We've really tried hard to market our sale on social media and word of mouth as much as we possibly can. One thing that has helped immensely is being able to tell stallion owners and managers that we now give back to stallion owners by paying 25% of winnings to them. Stallion owners give a lot between paying into all the programs and donating to a lot of different sales as well. We try to stay ahead of the game and do as much as we can for them so they look forward to donating year after year. We decided to send a few extra goodie baskets out to people who maybe donate multiple stallions or maybe it was someone that was really difficult to talk into donating so we would send a basket directly to them rather than only the stallion manager which was really well received. The final thing we incorporated that put us over the top was doing our auction on Facebook live, that reached an audience that may never even know about our sale or maybe happen to forget about it but when scrolling through Facebook they saw it. I can't thank my committee members and the office enough for their help in making this one of the best stallion service sales in the country.*

**SUMMER SERIES:** Rob Kirkpatrick submitted the following 2021 annual report for the Summer Series  
*The Summer series was held in Midland, MI on May 26-31. The show was very successful for MQHA. There were 6 judges at the Summer Series in 2021 due to not being able to hold the Easter Show we moved one to the Summer Series for the year. Camping and stalls were both up, by 35% and 29% respectively. Entries were also up. In 2021 we had 6,186 total AQHA entries or 1,031 entries per judge. We sold 338 stalls and 127 camping spots.*

*An overview of financials:*

*Total Income: \$ 156,818.75*

*Total Expenses \$ 120,373.41*

*Profit \$ 36,445.34*

**YEAR END AWARDS:** Monty Montgomery presented the following year end awards report:

*In light of very few shows in 2020, the painful decision was made not to give year end awards. However, as a return to membership for supporting what shows we had, the board found and approved money to give gift certificates to three placings for each class at year end 2020. In 2021 the Year End Awards have returned but not without their share of challenges. This due to supply chain issues and shortages, COVID issues in manufacturing and shipping issues. A lot of small businesses have been utilized in obtaining the 2021 awards. Some awards still have not arrived but will be provided at future events as soon as they are received.*

## **YOUTH:**

*2021 MQHA Youth Committee Report*

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

*This past year was a great comeback year for Michigan Quarter Horse Youth Association. Being able to resume many of our "normal" activities at horse shows, fundraisers, and meeting was refreshing for all that participated. The committee was chaired by advisor Sasha Glover and members included Danielle Lindsay and Barb Foster. The Youth Association was led by President, Rylee Harding.*

*The year started out a bit slower and still in a virtual format with 16 board members and officers however quick got into the swing of things once spring and summer took place. One of first pieces of business was the youth board approving and resuming the large cash raffle that was done a few years ago but stopped. This fundraiser was very successful and brought in revenue of \$4,680.00. At the summer series the youth chose to do a 50/50 which raised an additional \$684.00.*

*The youth prepared for the youth show/Spartan Spectacular and harbor which ran in back to back this year. The annual Thayne Miner class took place and presented Kate Davis as the 2021 class winner. Additionally at the Spartan Spectacular youth asked exhibitors to sponsor various classes to be entered in to win grill. This fundraiser raised \$580.00 and the grill was donated by a private donor so the youth could make all the profits. Between the Spartan and Harbor the youth sponsored a "meet the directors ice cream social" where board members could interact with exhibitors. As the*

*show moved into the Harbor Classic the youth recognized current senior youth members and academic achievement award recipients. The youth finished the Harbor with the annual bouncy horse and dog races which raised a total of \$4,797.00.*

*As summer progressed the Youth World Show drew closer. AQHA once again waiving the point qualifications to attend and combining the level 1 championship show led to MQHYA taking one of its largest teams which consisted of a total of 34 youth attending and representing MQHA. Members of the team did successfully in the pen as well as out by placing in the scrapbook contest, jean/boot, and team spirit. MQHYA supported the team by covering night watchman costs, portacools, and apparel and signage for each member.*

*The return of the All-American Quarter Horse Congress was very exciting for many and MQHYA once again partnered with the Michigan Snaffle Bit Association to send two teams to participate in the NYATT competition. The MSBA team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and the MQHA team placed 4<sup>th</sup> overall. MQHYA supported both teams by partnering with HAALA jeans, Cinch outerwear, and Crestview Tack.*

*Overall fiscal responsibility is very important to MQHYA and they did very well overall with income and expenditures. Total income was \$24,463.81 compared to \$13,431.50 in 2021 and expenses were \$24,290.00 compared to \$9,311.00 in 2022 as of end of November 2021.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS:**

Elected to a three (3) year term:

Kevin Cubitt (2025)

Sasha Glover (2025)

Monty Montgomery (2025)

Chris Perniciaro (2025)

Elected to a two (2) year term:

Meggen Baynes (2024)

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:** President Mike Huntoon stated that there is a National Director position open with the elevation of Chris Baldwin to AQHA Director at Large in February 2022. MQHA went through a process by which the opening was posted, resumes were collected and scored and then interviews were conducted. A vote by the Board was taken and Meggen Baynes was chosen to represent MQHA. Meggen will go to the AQHA Convention and present herself to the AQHA Credentials Committee for approval to the position. Mike stated that the Board is excited to have Meggen potentially represent MQHA as the next National Director. She has already proven that she is very committed to MQHA. Mike then went on to state that he has enjoyed being the MQHA President for 2021 and he is sure that with incoming President Barb Foster, MQHA will be in good hands.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am. by unanimous consent without objection.