



Region 10 Director's Report August 2-3, 2019 AHA Board of Directors Meeting

NOTE: any motions approved by the BOD and included as part of this report are technically "unapproved" since the minutes of the August meeting will not be approved until the Board meeting in November.

1. All but one region was represented by either the Director or Vice-Director. Incoming directors for 2020 were present.
2. President Nancy Harvey reported on the following:
 - Participated in a well-attended affiliate association meeting with USEF; another will be held this fall in Denver.
 - USEF has added two more individuals to the USEF National Breeds and Discipline Council in July, as recommended by the affiliates.
 - Reminder to check Arabian as the 1st choice breed/discipline when renewing USEF membership. The representation on the USEF Board and committees is based on this count.
 - Nancy attended the USEF Board meeting in July
 - Youth Nationals – figures not final yet but the number of horses was a little down but sponsorships and entries per horse probably up.
 - Canada – was over budget on horses until recent VS outbreak. AHA worked over the weekend with Canadian and US government veterinarians and officials to get the Canadian ruling changed about the horses who were at the Youth Nationals but, as of today, were not successful.
3. Senior staff reports were recorded with a PPT and available for directors to view via Dropbox prior to the Board meeting instead of being done live during the meeting. This was done for the first time in April and has been well accepted. These senior staff members are available to answer questions during the meeting.
 - Leslie Lockard reported that the regional horse counts are not yet final.
 - 9 resolutions have been received to-date, with a few more expected.
4. Unaudited financial statements were reviewed. A motion was made and approved: JDS Professional Group be retained as auditors for FY 2021.
5. Two representatives from the insurance company AHA uses spoke about our Director and Officials (D&O) Insurance policy and answered questions from the directors.
6. Litigation Status
 - Christopher Stoller case – appears to be over. Mr. Stoller missed the deadline to file with CO Supreme Court. Costs should be covered by insurance; a little over \$9,000.
 - PAT – some expenses not yet ruled on yet but should be finalized soon. Software is developed and in testing phase. It will be deliverable before the September 1 deadline.
 - Motion was made and approved: AHA cannot initiate a lawsuit nor a countersuit without the approval of the Board of Directors.
7. "At the Arabian Horse Association Board of Directors meetings on Friday, August 2, 2019, Glenn Petty announced his retirement from the role of Executive Vice President. An exact date of his departure is to be determined, and will happen or before June 20, 2020, when his contract ends. The Executive Committee is putting together a search committee to find his replacement. An update on the position posting with a time frame and transition plan will follow in the weeks or months ahead." (Quote from official announcement by AHA Monday August 5, 2019)

8. Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Report – Peter Conway
 - The Sweepstakes Commission has been working with US National Show Commission and Sweepstakes Trust. The following new Sweepstakes classes were announced, with the formal announcement being publicized August 5.
 - ABS Arabian Stallion AAO Performance Halter
 - ABS Arabian Gelding AAO Performance Halter
 - ABS Arabian Mare AAO Performance Halter
 - ABS HA/AA Gelding AAO Performance Halter
 - ABS HA/AA Mare AAO Performance Halter
 - \$25,000 will be available for each Arabian class and \$15,000 for each HA/AA Class.
 - Prize money will be awarded to a full Top Ten in each class. Horses must be enrolled as a Breeding Entry or Original Entry in order to be eligible to be shown in these classes. The horse must have been entered, shown and judged in any Performance Class at U.S. Nationals. Showmanship Classes do not count as Performance Classes.
 - Performance Halter rules, specifications and procedures will be strictly enforced, including the use of the Performance Halter Scorecard.
 - This will be your ***last chance*** to enroll your non-Sweepstakes horse in the program to be eligible to earn Sweepstakes Prize money. Enrollment is available until **October 15, 2019**.
9. Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - Handbook Redesign Task Force
 - On track. A chapter for definitions/terminology is being prepared. The Competition Advisory Committee will be given access to the 2020 files so they can review the proposed changes. Formatting of the Handbook will be more consistent and large paragraphs will be divided into more readable bullet points. In a few places, resolutions will be necessary to clarify wording.
 - Chapter 11 will be divided into four separate, smaller chapters in the 2020 AHA Handbook. This very lengthy chapter deals with qualifications, judges and stewards and other competition matters.
 - Local Level Involvement Task Force
 - This group has been working diligently on many items for local involvement and expansion. They submitted a number of barns to the American Horse Council's Time to Ride pilot program, and, as a result, the Arabian breed has the largest group of participants in that pilot program for 2019. It should go live in 2020 based upon input from our participants.
 - The idea is to have a Meet an Arabian horse event at a local Tractor Supply or similar store, a fairgrounds, a barn, a shopping mall or wherever you wish. Then to have information available for the attendees to take away with them on where they can find a barn to take a lesson or participate as a volunteer, to work with horses at a show or whatever you have available to get new people involved.
 - Clubs encouraged to help fund gift certificates for lessons or similar hands-on activity as a follow-up to the Meet an Arabian event.
 - Will have follow up with those who sponsor and who participated.
 - Group will meet at Convention
 - Insurance required, AHA listed as additional insured, just like a horse show.
 - Some funding is available to pay shipping costs and AHA will provide promotional material.
 - National Commission Ad Hoc Committee
 - A number of recommendations were made and a flow chart introduced regarding the national show commissions. Motion made and approved: The recommendations and flow chart (presented at the BOD meeting) be approved and placed into NEOPS and the AHA Handbook where appropriate.
 - It was recommended that regional show commissions look at term limits.
 - Regional Review Task Force
 - Split into two working groups to further research on (A) governance changes to the regional structure and (B) regional shows and their structure.
 - Regional Championships Task Force

- The resolution to allow merged regional championship was assigned to this group after the 2018 Convention; the TF will submit a new resolution for 2019.
- USEF Ad Hoc Committee
 - After review and discussion of the comprehensive study conducted regarding the viability of the AHA affiliation with USEF, a motion was made and approved: That the AHA remain affiliated with USEF and that AHA continue to study the viability of the relationship.
 - A summary of the study will be made available to delegates at the Convention, if not sooner.
- 10. Annual Convention Planning Committee
 - 10. Banquet will be Friday evening. Convention will conclude by noon Saturday.
 - 11. 2020 Convention will be in Reno
 - 12. 2021 will be in Niagara Falls.
- 11. 2020 AHA BOD of Directors Meeting Dates – March 6-7, August 7, and November 18
- 12. Competition Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Motion was approved, effective January 1, 2020, to change lifetime to four additional years of national qualifications. This was revisited through a motion later in the meeting. The following wording was then approved by motion: *(NOTE: there are exceptions and explanations that were part of the motion – watch for official announcements from AHA.)*
 - ***Beginning in year 2020,*** ~~Previous~~ AHA Recognized National Champions are qualified for ***two four-additional years*** ~~life~~ and may re-enter that National Championship class. Reserve National Champions are qualified for ***an two*** additional years to re-enter that National Championship class (BOD 8/09). ~~Lifetime qualifications earned may be used at any National Championship Show (as long as the class is offered). (BOD 3/12)~~ Previous ***2019 and earlier*** AHA Recognized National Champions are qualified for life and may re-enter that National Championship class. Reserve National Champions are qualified for two additional years to re-enter that National Championship class (BOD 8/09). ***Previous*** Lifetime qualifications earned may be used at any National Championship Show (as long as the class is offered).
 - Motions were also approved for the following, effective for 2020 competition year:
 - Changes to the Leveling Chart
 - Increase in many of the qualification points for Regionals and Nationals.
 - Dressage qualification points and number of scores required for 4th Level at Nationals will be 2 points or 2 scores of 57+
 - Dressage qualification points and number of scores required for PSG, I1, I2 and GP at Nationals will be 2 points or 2 scores of 55+
 - JT/JO Reining and Reining Seat Equitation: one go-round classes cannot be run concurrently at the national level.
 - Guidelines are being considered to assist management in planning for the logistics of emergency medical and veterinary support in case of accident or illness at One Day Shows and Arabian Value Shows.
 - *In the opinion of the Region 10 Director, there is a fine line of having recommendations for competitions and requiring additional personnel at these levels of competition. There is some discussion on having required medical support for ODS and AVS with a certain number of entries the previous year but nothing has been proposed in writing.*
 - The CAC is working with the Education and Evaluation Commission (EEC) on guidelines for judges who officiate at One Day Shows and Arabian Value Shows where there is no steward present.
- 13. Market Development & Promotion Committee
 - In-person dialog sessions were held with various individuals, members and non-members alike. A list of short and long term actions was developed; included as part of the report. The top priority is to develop a Marketing Plan based on the AHA Business Plan.
 - Arabian Horses for Humanity Project currently has 16 horses benefitting various charities and outreach projects throughout the US. Region 10 was one of the championship shows recognized for our fund raising efforts on behalf of this this project. Check out the Arabian Horses for Humanity website: <https://www.arabianhorsesforhumanity.org/>

- The MDP Committee meets every other Tuesday night for a two-hour conference call.
- Encouraging more clubs to advance local outreach opportunities is a goal.
- The following two motions were approved, in regards to the Meet an Arabian Horse day.
 - That the Board of Directors approach the MDP to solicit funding from the PAT and the restricted fund to implement this activity in the amount of a total of \$10,000.
 - That the Board of Directors approve the MDP's request to fund this project up to \$10,000 from the restricted fund.
 - PAT will be contacted, requesting a portion of the \$10,000.

14. Nominations

- Board/Commissions/Committees – nominations were made from the floor for the openings presented. September 1 is the deadline for adding additional nominees. If you are interested in being nominated for any of the following, please submit your name and qualifications for the position to Mary Smith prior to September 1. Please review the Handbook (Chapter 5) for information on the requirements and responsibilities of each board/commission/committee listed. Contact Mary if you have any questions.
 - AHA Futurity Commission (elected by BOD)
 - AHA National Distance Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes Trustees
 - Canadian National Show Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Commissioner's Review Panel (elected by delegates)
 - Education/Evaluation Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Ethical Practice Review Board (elected by delegates)
 - Internal Audit Committee (elected by BOD)
 - Judges' and Stewards' Selection Committee (elected by delegates)
 - HA/AA Representative to Market Development and Promotion Committee (elected by BOD)
 - Nominating Committee (elected by delegates)
 - Probable Cause Panel (elected by delegates)
 - AHA Representative to the Registration Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Sport Horse National Show Commission (elected by BOD)
 - U.S. National Show Commission (elected by BOD)
 - Youth National Show Commission (elected by BOD)
- Voting & Ballot Collection for AHA Director's Award – this award is not given annually; a nominee must have the approval of all 18 regional directors. Nominations were done in writing earlier in the day with voting done, in writing, later in the afternoon. We could vote for more than one person on the list.

15. AHA National Distance Commission

- The 2019 Distance Riding Championships will be held in Vinita, OK Oct 25-27.
- The Commission is working on finding ride location for 2020 and 2021. If you have any suggestions, please contact the chair of the Commission, Art King, or the board liaison, Cynthia Richardson.
- As a side note, I talked with a few other directors on how they structure their regional championship distance rides. Most, as we do in Region 10, piggy back on an existing ride. Region 6 is with the Big Horn ride, a large and popular ride for distance riders. This is an area of promotion where Region 10 needs to increase visibility and participation.

16. Canadian National Show Commission

- VS issues are hitting the Canadian Nationals hard. The show will be able to get credit on 100 stalls they won't need to use.
- *NOTE: Director Mary Smith will be at the CN later on Sunday August 11 and pretty much all day Monday August 12. You are welcome to find me and say hello and visit about regional topics. (text to 859-489-3145)*

17. Sport Horse National Show Commission

- The Commission is ahead of the recommendations made by the National Commission AD Hoc Committee in that they have a mentor program in place for growing new leadership.
- Excited about our 2019 location, Crete, IL. Since this will be the first SH Nationals at the Balmoral facility, they have had many logistical and planning issues to resolve. The response from exhibitors has been extremely positive.
- *NOTE: Director Mary Smith will be at the SHN for the entire competition, scribing for the Sport Horse ring. You are welcome to find me during breaks and say hello and visit about regional topics. (text to 859-489-3145)*

18. U.S. National Show Commission

- No report

19. Youth National Show Commission

- Motion approved, effective December 1, 2019:
 - That the Regional Youth Team Tournament fee be \$20 per team
 - That the RYTT awards be presented to the Overall RYTT Champion team, Reserve Champion team and the remainder of the Top Ten teams in the Recognized and Non-Recognized divisions;
 - That teams can count points at any show, no matter what region it is held in;
 - That a RYTT Team can consist of up to five (5) members; and,
 - That RYTT Team members must be a member of AHA;
 - That the entry deadline to register is April 1st;
 - That the time to report show results to the RYTT Secretary is 45 days;
 - That points to be awarded to 6th place as follows:
 - 6 points – 1st place
 - 5 points – 2nd place
 - 4 points – 3rd place
 - 3 points – 4th place
 - 2 points – 5th place
 - 1 point - 6th place
 - That points in Championship classes will not be doubled.

20. AHA Futurity Commission

- Has had discussion regarding increasing the Halter Futurity Re-nomination fees which would in turn increase the prize money pool per class. Nothing proposed in writing yet.

21. USEF Report

- Affiliate agreement between USEF and AHA has not yet been signed; under review.
- Sonja Keating, legal counsel for USEF, is currently on the SafeSport Advisory Board. She hopefully will be able to apply pressure on SafeSport to be more equitable in processes.
- Working to find solutions for foreign clients and non-attending owners.

22. Racing Committee Report

- Even though numbers at this point are ahead of last year, tracks are struggling to fill races partially because of newly banned trainers who were associated with up to 90 horses. It has been especially difficult when meets overlap.
- Next year Texas will have a big boost to their purse money as the state has voted to take a percentage of agriculture sales and put it into racing in Texas.
- The Darley Awards was a huge success as it transitioned from the former Hollywood, CA location to return to Houston, TX.
- The \$100,000 UAE President's Cup was held at Churchill Downs June 15. This race featured the leading race horses in the U.S. Two trainers are in their first year in Arabian racing came in first and second.
- AJC Live continues to be a big success with an ever growing audience.

- AJC TV was introduced this spring and has also been a big hit. A monthly recap of Arabian racing is done in a video format.
- The racing magazine *Arabian Finish Line* has gone dormant; decision based on finances. The Racing Committee is looking at solutions to restart publication in some form.

23. Registration Commission

- The Spring meeting was held in NC. It was well attended with wonderful dialogue between attendees and the Commission.
- The Fall meeting will be held at Rose City Arabians in Washington state. Interested breeders are invited to attend the forums.

24. Purebred Arabian Trust (PAT) / WAHO Update

- Trust is taking over the Arabian Horse Gallery in KY as far as updates, etc. Howard Pike is liaison with Gallery curators.
- PAT is happy with the software at this point. They are anxious to move forward with AHA, as are all of us.

Saturday, August 3, 2019

Regional Caucus Meeting – Isaac Taylor, Chair

- Traditionally, the Regional Caucus was held only in March. The Directors asked that we also have a caucus with the August meeting. It is attended by Regional Directors, with at-large directors not typically in attendance, although they are not excluded.
- Everyone shared something about our regional shows/rides. One common theme involved TBA classes. In some cases, TBA classes were added during the actual competition day, causing scheduling issues among other problems. The general consensus was that the only TBA classes held should be in the time slots as published prior to the competition with no other additions once the competition starts.
- Regions 6 and 18 have the two smallest regional shows, 66 and 62 horses respectively.
- Both Regions 1 and 2 were up in entries; Region 14 had In-Hand Trail and Ranch Riding entries triple over the past three years. Region 16 was also up with sport horse being large enough to have a dedicated ring.
- Region 15 had a Pairs Class fundraiser done by the youth. (Might be something to consider for Region 10?)
- Region 12 was down about 96 horses; three larger barns are no longer in business. SH and dressage runs for three of the six days.
- Region 7 show attendance was negatively affected by the VS outbreak.
- Nancy Harvey shared more information on the Meet An Arabian program. This is a pilot program with the main goal of getting lessons going and then eventually ownership. Money donated for the program will be used to cover the expense of sending materials. Farms/stables/clubs that sign up for an event can access a Marketing Tool Kit available as a Google Doc. This program may replace the Arabian Horse Month (May).
- Nancy challenged the delegates/clubs to help create something similar to the USEF Fan Membership. Possibly give AHA/Club memberships as a drawing or raffle; suggested mixed adult and youth.
- A concept that we were led to understand will be a forum topic at the Convention involves allowing only certain size shows to qualify horses/riders for any of the nationals. Please understand this is a CONCEPT to be discussed, not something ready to be put into effect. Part of the goal is to increase the value of regional championships. Whether your first impression is positive or negative, if you attend this possible forum or talk to others about it, keep an open mind, ask thoughtful, reasoned questions and LISTEN to others.

Conclusion: this August meeting was my second BOD meeting as Region 10 Director. I continue to be impressed by the dedication of all directors, regional and at-large. If we could spread that feeling of unity of purpose and willingness to WORK towards goals across our country, along with a major reduction of negative social media posts, so much can be accomplished. Each of us is either part of the solution of part of the problem – our choice.

8/2-3/2019