

American Hackney Horse Society- 2017 Board of Directors Meeting
December 2, 2017 1:00pm EST, UPHA Office, Lexington, KY

Meeting Agenda

I. Call to Order AHHS BOD Meeting: Andy Freseth, President

II. Roll call – Mindy Preston, Recording Secretary

Members Present: Rich Campbell, Andy Freseth, Rodney Hicks, Brooke Jacobs, Tom Lowry, Bo Lucas, Toni Nastali, Carl Nichols, Mindy Preston, Maureen Quackenbush, Matt Schuckert, Junior Schut, Karen Waldron

III. President's Report

Report will be covered throughout the meeting. The condition of the office has improved tremendously since the July meeting.

IV. Executive Committee Report

Points of interest will be discussed during the duration of the meeting.

V. Office Report

Membership: 1026 Members as of November 28, 2017

Membership Breakdown: 740 Senior Members

141 Junior Members

143 Life Members

2 Associate Members

Registrations: 387 Registrations as of November 28, 2017

358 Registrations in 2016 (more registrations are being completed that came in toward the end of 2016. There are several of the incentive registration participants who may have not sent their DNA in by the deadline and several of those the DNA results that have come back do not match, but Taylor is working to get these done.)

314 Registrations in 2015

295 Registrations in 2014

381 Registrations in 2013

Transfers: 367 as of November 28, 2017

Taylor is pleased to report that the office is doing very well. As you can see membership numbers are up, as are the registration numbers. We have started getting renewals for 2018 and those have been entered; approximately 20 to date. We have approximately 15 active, previously dormant registration applications pending. Owners have been contacted and wish to move forward. New paperwork coming in is being processed in a timely manner. A few updates have been made to the registry program for improved record keeping and efficient research.

Elissa Wall is still working in the office 20 hours/week.

There are still 50 dormant registrations (an attempt to contact the owners have been made, but no response). They have all paid, but they are missing information, such as markings, names, etc. After discussion it was decided that Taylor will prepare a list and present it to the BOD. Hopefully BOD members can help contact these owners and find out if they want to move forward on these registrations. Taylor is to get all responses in writing and attach to the files and store in a hanging folder in the office. The office no longer processes payments until accurate paperwork is turned in.

Facebook: Horse Lingo is maintaining with the help of Maureen Quackenbush.

Andy discussed an issue with memberships. Of the 150 USEF Hackney Pony Judges, 60 of them were not current AHHS members. Membership is required to hold a pony card. Membership renewals are going to be sent out to the entire list of judges. It is USEF's job to monitor this. They have acknowledged the problem. They have been asked to set it up like ARHPA, a person must be a member of ARHPA before their Roadster card can be renewed.

VI. Financial & Treasurer's Report: Toni Nastali

Total Liabilities & Equity as of October 31, 2017 \$601,495.72

Total Income as of October 31, 2017 \$171,110.90

Total Expenses as of October 31, 2017 \$166,251.70

Merrill Lynch recap from portfolio manager: ytd rate of return is 5.79%

Beginning balance 01/01/2017	\$397,843.00
Total interest/dividends	\$10,179.00
Total appreciation	\$13,994.00
Total gains	\$24,173.00
Total contributions this year	\$50,000.00
Ending Balance as of 10/31/2017	\$472,017.00

Toni stated that the Society is ahead \$30,000 on the P&L compared to this time in 2016. The Society had an expensive year so this is great news. She would like to see an increase on sponsorships, the little form that goes out with other mailings. Tom asked if the Society could do a separate mailing in April or May. Toni felt it was a good idea to try.

Toni also shared that the additional amount received from the Gwen Stableford estate could be another \$90,000 and should be received by the end of the year.

Tom Lowry made a motion to approve the Financial Report and Rodney Hicks seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Foundation Report: Brian Yount, Chair, Mindy Preston, John Wrather

Mindy stated the Foundation Scholarship and Ed Frickey Memorial Scholarship have been paid. "The Buck Stops Here" promotional items were distributed at the Academy National Finals to help spread the word of the program.

VIII. Committee Reports and Discussion

Annual Awards: Brooke Jacobs, Chair, Maureen Quackenbush, TJ Blevins

The award winners have been notified. Toni is going to contact the executor of the Gwen Stableford estate and invite her to attend the convention to present the first Gwen Stableford Lifetime Achievement Award.

Audit Committee: Vern Houston, Chair, Junior Schut

Junior has asked for a financial report for the LBS and National Futurity programs for audit purposes. He is hoping to do the audit with Vern in the next few months.

Budget Committee: Toni Nastali, Chair

Toni is keeping an eye on the Financials and Profit and Loss and identifying areas where the Society can bring in money.

By-laws: Maureen Quackenbush, Chair

Changes have been updated and posted on the website.

Convention: Andy Freseth Chair, Rich Campbell

1. Jan. 30 – Feb. 3, 2018 at the Omni Hotel-Amelia Island, Amelia Island, Florida
2. AHHS Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 3:00 – 5:00pm est, call in available
3. AHHS General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 1, from 2:00-3:00pm est
4. Awards will be given out as follows:
 - a. Friday Lunch – 2
 - b. Friday Dinner – 4
 - c. Saturday Lunch – 2
5. Andy, on behalf of the AHHS, procured from Erik Lee owner of the Jerald Sulky Co., the donation of a Jog Cart for the live auction.

Open Competition/Dressage Committee: Sandra Surber, Chair, Karen Waldron –

There were two participants this year. Karen stated she would like to see more Hackneys in Dressage. She is currently holding a clinic at her farm this is focusing on that.

National Breeders' Futurity: Matt Schuckert, Chair, Bo Lucas-

Matt reported this is a quiet time right now. Everything went well in 2017. Matt did state that the Yearling and 2 Year Old classes have been light the last couple of years. During this report, the board also reiterated that all nomination fees must be paid by the due date in order to show in the NBF.

Limited Breeders' Weanling & 3-Year-Old Stakes, & Stallion Auction Committee: Tom Lowry, Chair, Rodney Hicks, Matt Schuckert -

Tom stated that the show in September was successful. 2018 plans are underway. The Grand Event will take place in Indianapolis March 9-10. The host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Express in Fishers and the dinner and auction will be at the Hawthorne Country Club in Fishers. Friday night (Holiday Inn Express) at 7pm there will be a meet and greet followed by a comedian. Saturday morning from 9:00 – 11:30am will focus on the weanling and Saturday afternoon from 1:00-3:00pm will focus on the 3 year old, both sessions at the Holiday Inn Express. The General Membership meeting will also take place at the Holiday Inn Express at 3:30pm. There will be a youth event to the Indianapolis Children's Museum Saturday morning. The Junior Exhibitor Regional Championship Awards will be awarded Saturday evening. Transportation will be provided Saturday evening.

Long-Range Planning Committee: Carl Nichols, Chair –

Carl stated his committee had a great meeting. They are working on two ideas.. The first would be a Clinic and Training Conference for trainers only who currently do not have Hackneys in their barns. Carl is planning on speaking to the UPHA Young Trainers Committee to get a list of their members. They were originally looking at Feb. 16-17 in Shelbyville, KY at the Shelby County Fairgrounds. The facility is available, but there are no hotel rooms available. Tom Lowry suggested that it might be better to have this clinic at someone's barn,

The second would be to encourage shows to offer Junior Exhibitor Showmanship classes. The committee wants to speak to UPHA Chapter Chairmen to find out what shows in their chapters would be good hosts for these classes. Karen Waldron stated that the showmanship classes are vital to getting children involved and the showmanship classes at the Royal Winter Fair were wonderful. Tom Lowry suggested putting a video together to show proper showmanship. The video would be a good project for the Foundation.

Carl's last item was in regards to the invitation received to attend the Endangered Species Summit Feb. 9-11 at Texas A&M to represent the Hackney Horse. Carl suggested asking Jay Kolkman if he could attend as the AHHS representative.

Nominating Committee: Rodney Hicks, Chair, Matt Schuckert

Christy Gantley was appointed to replace Matt Schuckert as he is running for reelection. All of the bios have been received and ballots will be mailed out on Monday, December 4.

Promotional/Education Committee: Karen Waldron, Chair

Karen feels it is very important to promote the concept that the Hackney is not just a show pony at the Trainer's Clinic. She also stated that discussion needs to be had on what direction the Hackney Horse needs to go, i.e. Show, Dressage.

Regional Associations: Maureen Quackenbush, Chair

Maureen sent out an email to all of the Regional Association representatives prior to this meeting. She did not receive any responses but did report that the Southeastern Banquet will be February 24.

Registry Review/Stud Book: Carl Nichols, Chair

Andy Freseth stated that the previous registry issues have been resolved. However, there needs to be a way to deal with transfers where there are liens, or owner is deceased. There are also cases where people rescue Hackneys and want to have them registered in their name. He also stated that problems with registrations take a lot of time and can be costly to the Society, i.e. attorney fees. Andy asked ASHA how they handle liens. They do not.

Junior stated that under the bylaws, Article X, Section 1.11 states "Primary responsibility for obtaining and submitting any paperwork required to complete a business transaction with the Society rests with the owner of the animal." Therefore it is the responsibility of the owner to send complete and correct information. Toni suggested that the Foundation step in to help those who have rescued ponies. A fund or grant could be set up to help those who rescue ponies to get them registered in their name. Karen felt this would be a good topic to discuss during the General Membership meeting in March and Andy agreed.

Trophy Committee: John Wrather, Chair

Taylor Gregory reported the trophies will be ordered on Monday, December 5th.

UPHA Liaison: Andy Freseth, Chair, Rich Campbell

The UPHA National Horse Show/American Royal has asked the Society for \$5,000 to help fund the 2017 UPHA Classics. They asked for this donation prior to the show, but was told it would be voted on during the BOD December

meeting. The Society did support the 2016 Classics by giving \$5,000. Andy asked UPHA if the ASHA also helped fund the Classics. The ASHA is not able to sponsor programs like this due to the type of organization they are set up as in the state of Kentucky. After discussion Toni Nastali made a motion to give the UPHA \$5,000 to support the 2017 UPHA Classics. Matt Schuckert seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

In 2016 the Society sponsored 25% of the Open Gate Learning Center and the UPHA has asked for the same sponsorship in 2017. After discussion Mindy Preston made a motion to sponsor 25% of the 2017 Open Gate Learning Center at the UPHA National Horse Show/American Royal. Rich Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer Mellenkamp has not received any new updates on the Economic Impact Study. She is going to reach out to the Horse Council to see if there are any updates and will let the Society know.

Andy stated that he and Donna Smith from ASHA were allowed to stay for the duration of the November UPHA Board meeting. He felt this was a positive direction for all of the associations to work together.

Youth Medallion Committee: Mindy Preston, Chair, Kent Swalla, Co-Chair

Mindy wanted to thank her committee members; Kent Swalla, Kim Becker, Lisa Hilmer, Meredith Steinhauer, and Amy Weiler. For the gifts this year long sleeved navy tshirts were given with the AHHS Logo on the front and a list of all the entries names (exhibitor and pony) on the back. The reception was once again on Saturday afternoon. The USEF Finals decided to not have a breakfast on Saturday morning this year. If they choose not to in 2018 as well, Lisa Hilmer and Mindy feel that might be a better time for the medallion reception. Rich Campbell agreed Saturday morning would be a better time to hold it.

The Youth Medallion High Point winners were announced and given their awards during the reception and were also announced via Facebook and an email blast.

Finals numbers:

	2017	2016	2015	2014
Pleasure Driving	5	3	4	7
Hackney/Harness	3	4	2	4
Road Pony Under Saddle	6	4	3	4
Pleasure Under Saddle	6	8	4	6
Road Pony 13 & Under	4	2	5	5
Road Pony 14-17	7	3	5	4

Junior Exhibitor Regional Championship Program: Mindy Preston, Chair, Brian Yount, Co-Chair

Mindy reported that the awards will be presented again on Saturday evening during the LBS dinner. The committee is busy calculating points.

USEF Committee: - Karen Waldron, Chair, Andy Freseth, Tom Lowry(Present Chairman of USEF Hackney Committee)

Matt Fine was present at the beginning of the meeting to discuss and answer questions about the proposal of moving licensing procedures out of the Rule Book. Matt explained that this proposal has come about to move non rules out of the rule book and into a Policies and Procedures Handbook and to make it more practical and less time consuming to make changes. The only change would be the Friends and Family evaluations. Matt stated that these were always positive evaluations and did not offer much information so they will no longer be required. The remaining requirements will remain the same. Tom stated that Matt explained this much better than what had been presented during the USEF Hackney committee meeting. Tom asked if the committee would still be emailed evaluation forms on the applicants. Matt stated that the Hackney committee could recommend a blanket clause at the beginning stating that the proper committees would receive evaluation forms. The Saddlebred committee has made that recommendation. Andy asked where these procedures will be found, if not in the rule book. Matt stated that it will be located on the License Officials Page if approved. Tom asked if the associations are going to be required to provide the Education seminars for the judges. Matt stated that the moving of the procedures is Phase 1. Education would occur later. Currently the USEF handles over 200 licenses and by bringing in the affiliates, helps to deliver meaningful content.

After discussion the AHHS BOD made the recommendation the USEF Hackney Committee move forward in favor of the proposal to move the licensing procedures out of the Rule Book.

IX. Old Business:

1) Ethics Committee Appointees – Andy has appointed the following to the committee: Karen Waldron, Vern Houston, Chris Long Schubert, Candi Aversenti, Cindy Mugnier. This committee will deal with ethics and code of conduct issues.

2) Sponsors and Advertising Committee Appointees – Andy has not appointed any members. He will have a committee together by the next board meeting.

3) Abandonment of KSF WCHS Judges Selection Process – From an ASHA press release: On September 21, 2017, the Kentucky State Fair Board voted to return to the previous WCHS judge selection policy, wherein the Horse Show Manager selects the judges, therefore discontinuing the ASHA WCHS Judges' Selection Committee. ASHA Director, Scott Hagan was notified of the vote by the Director of Tourism, Don Parkinson, which was later confirmed by the ASHA Representative to the Kentucky State Fair Board, Edward R. "Hoppy" Bennett. The ASHA has received no further explanation of the Kentucky State Fair Board's decision. When contacted for comment, Mr. Bennett stated, [after] a one year trial bases, [sic] KSF decided to go back to [the] original." The ASHA did not initiate, endorse, nor present the idea of the ASHA Judges' Committee to the Kentucky State Fair Board when it was first introduced in 2016, nor did ASHA present any action, or cause any action for the committee to be eliminated by the Kentucky State Fair Board in 2017. Additionally, ASHA was not approached or given an opportunity for any input whatsoever regarding the action taken by the Kentucky State Fair Board to eliminate the committee.

X. New Business:

1) USEF Competition Lite – The Society has been asked by USEF to sign an agreement to partner with the USEF Competition Lite Program. "The purpose of the Competition Lite program is to increase participation in equestrian sport by building a gateway mechanism for unrecognized competitions to become associated with US Equestrian. The program will also provide an avenue for individuals to progress towards becoming a licensed official and provide athletes additional opportunities to compete at USEF competitions. By providing the Competition Lite option, US Equestrian can further its mission to provide access to equestrian sport at all levels while ensuring fairness, safety, and enjoyment." With this program there is no collection of drug fees, there is half the paperwork, they can test any horse at any given time if they want to and recognized shows cannot drop down to the Lite program.

After discussion Karen Waldron made a motion to partner with USEF and the Lite Competition Program. Bo Lucas seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2) Code of Conduct – American Hackney Horse Society Code of Conduct as proposed: We, as members of the American Hackney Horse Society, in carrying out our role of providing service to the American Hackney Horse Society industry, recognize the need to do so in a professional manner, and to deal with the public and our colleagues with the highest degree of integrity. To adhere to the professional standards and by-laws of the American Hackney Horse Society and to work to further its goals and objectives. To ensure that the welfare of the American Hackney Horse Society is paramount and that every American Hackney Horse or Pony shall always be treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion. The American Hackney Horse Society expects all members to conduct themselves in an honest, forthright, ethical, and sportsmanlike manner in their relationship with each other at any time they are involved in matters related in any way to the American Hackney Horse Society. To handle our business, operations and communications (including those through social media) in a manner that promotes the positive image of the American Hackney Horse Society and the Hackney breed.

If approved by the board, this will appear at the bottom of the membership application. UPHA is also working on a code of conduct for its members. Lifetime members will be receiving a form asking for updated contact information, along with USEF membership numbers and date of birth. Taylor will include a copy of the Code of Conduct with these forms.

Rodney Hicks made a motion to accept the Code of Conduct as written. Toni Nastali seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3) Kentucky State Fair, possibility of extension of horse show length – The KSF advisory board is meeting on December 14th. This meeting was called just a couple of days before this board meeting. They are asking for input on starting the show on Thursday evening. There was much discussion on what the financial impact would be as well as what the scheduling would be like. Most board members felt they would support the added two days if no classes were scheduled, but would allow horses/ponies to be worked in Freedom Hall. The board recommended finding out what the financial impact would be and if the show could have the facility without scheduling classes.

4) Heel Measurement – The proposed rule change states that the 1st and 4th place ponies will have heel measurements at Lexington Junior League, Kentucky State Fair, and the American Royal along with three randomly selected USEF competitions. This is not the proposed rule the board recommended last year. After discussion Tom Lowry made a motion to send out a survey on memberships' opinion on heel measurements at shows. Rich Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Andy Freseth stated he would check on Monday to see if the proposed rule could be stopped since it was not what the board proposed last year. After further discussion Tom Lowry made a motion to table the motion on a membership survey until further notice. Rich Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5) Youth Medallion Showmanship Classes – Maureen Quackenbush suggested that the Society waive the medalion fee for shows who offer the showmanship class in 2018. This will hopefully encourage shows to offer the class. Rodney Hicks made a motion to waive the 2018 Medallion Fee for Youth Medallion Showmanship classes. Rich Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

6) Maureen Quackenbush stated that since January 5th, 2017 the Facebook Page has 8,443 page likes and have reached 8,132 people with posts in the week prior to this meeting.

7) Endangered Species Summit – Toni Nastali feels the Society should pay the travel expenses for the Society representative to attend this summit. Tom Lowry is going to ask Jay Kolkman if would be available to attend. If he cannot the executive committee will choose another representative. Toni Nastali made a motion the Society pay the travel expenses of the Endangered Species Summit representative. Rodney Hicks seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

XI: Executive Session - No executive session was required at this meeting.

XII: Round Table (optional) - Rich Campbell thanked Andy for a job well done.

XIII: Closing Remarks: Andy Freseth, President - Andy thanked everyone on the board for all of their hard work.

XIV. Motion to Adjourn - A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rich Campbell and was seconded by Rodney Hicks. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 4:45p.m.