
Board of Directors
Date June 18, 2025; 7:30pm
ZOOM Meeting

MONTANA QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

Board members present: Tyrell Burklund, Michele Shaw, Julie Schumacher, Britt Kissock-Robinson, Cathy Dekker, Michele McGuigan, Lesli Glen

National Directors: Tracy Knudson-Brown, Gary Lynn Olson, Nancy Weaver, Marilyn Randall

Meeting called to order by Board member Cathy Dekker; President Tyrell Burklund joined meeting later. Julie. made a motion to approve the May 28, 2025 minutes. Britt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Finance: Laura reported financial reports. Britt made a motion to approve the amended financial report as presented. Second to the motion by Julie. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Show Committee: Laura reported on the Big Sky Classic and the positive feedback. Cutters would like to have our judges be NCHA Certification in addition to be AQHA approved. Laura talked with Mark at the Cottonwood regarding footing issues and the possibility of adding additional sand for the cutting classes. The materials would be stock piled and if utilized for other events, those entities would need to pay a fee to MQHA for use of the footing materials owned by MQHA. Tyrell reported he received an email regarding the halter classes. The email indicated she would provide a hi-point halter award; moving the halter and showmanship Sunday after trail. Tyrell also mentioned that Judge Cindy Chilton-Moore suggested utilizing an Ipad for the scribes to improve efficiency and eliminate correction of score cards as well as time efficiency. Discussion regarding purchasing using DA Davidson funds. Those funds would reimburse from any other shows wanting to “rent” our equipment for a possible return on the investment. Suggested renting equipment to any show that Bonnie was the Show Secretary. Another suggestion was having a tutorial of anyone using the equipment. Suggested price was approximately \$2,000 for the software in addition to the cost of the I pads. Tabled for July meeting; until we receive a recommendation/proposal from Cindy including a cost analysis. Michele suggested a simple, itemized contract for the equipment rental. Lesli also indicated the Nile would be interested in using the equipment for their shows. Lesli also approached Tyrell about the possibility of combining the Big Sky Classic and the All-Breed Ranch Horse Challenge and making it a 4 judge show. Discussion regarding possibility of showing more than one time to the 4 judges, and splitting the judging up which would make for a longer show day format. Tabled for Show Committee at Convention to get member input. Another suggestion was regarding another method for the judges to show the contestants they are ready for the competitor. The judge’s paddle used was not visible for the contestants. Suggested getting a staging platform for the judges to be more centered in the arena.

NILE: Marilyn reported sponsorships have committed. Austin Frank and Josh Shengle will provide Hi-Point Cinch awards.

Membership Services: Rita Church reported that to date there are 117 new or renewed members, 20 of those are new MQHA members, 39 Lifetime members-1 new lifetime member; 21 MQHYA members, 4 new members.

Marketing: Julie suggested having a Volunteer of The Year to be awarded at Convention. Julie would like to have a Volunteer Coordinator at the events to help with marketing and with the events. Suggested utilizing the AQHA Amateur Ambassadors. AQHA Shotgun raffle suggested to help pay for the suggested Ipads. Julie has talked to Shelly at AQHA, rifle is \$1400 and the club could set the price for the raffle tickets having a maximum of 200 tickets available. Tabled for July meeting. Julie would like to also do a liquor basket raffle for Nile, liquor supplied by MQHA Board members. AQHA has a program to train show management, consider sending Bonnie DeVeniero and Will Lyons to this to help with the Big Sky Classic management. Britt mentioned she will be getting a newsletter sent out the first of July and would like Committee reports.

Recreational Riding: Julie reported that AQHA has riding patches and a vest available for anyone registered for Recreational Riders. Montana also has a top rider award. Pony Trail Riders has been contacted regarding partnering with MQHA. Virginia City has a Labor Day trail ride Julie has contacted them. Julie is awaiting a return call from Jessica at the 406 Arena.

Amateur: Cathy reported Sparks Some Fun is ready, coolers for reserve hi-point, no official entry numbers but lots of interest. 12 riders for the Clinic with 5 riders on a waiting list, talk about a mini-clinic on Friday afternoon. Warm up area will be available next to the arena. Tyler Bennett donated two saddle blanket certificates for awards at the Show.

Youth: Michele S. reported MQHYA are waiting for the final numbers on the shavings. The Iverson chap raffle has started and will be drawn at Convention. 3 youth worked and bedded stalls at Big Sky Classic. Laura reported that Western Ranch Supply has been supportive and purchased back the unused pallets of the shavings. Bonnie DeVeniero suggested more streamline sales of the shavings. Lesli would like to have the kids do the bedding of stalls at Nile.

Breeders/Ranch: Lesli reported she will be starting doing the Podcasts starting with Steve Bond's ranch. Her drone guy will go out to the Ranch to get some footage.

By-Laws: No report.

Legislative: Britt reported she does not have anything new to report.

Region 2: No report.

2025 Convention: No new report on the Convention.

Hall of Fame: Laura reported Ruth has met with Jared and they have a list of potential inductees for the HOF.

New Business: Laura reported she has a draft request for AQHA Affiliate Funding which was included in the Board packet for review and approval before submitting to AQHA. Marilyn is on the Funding Committee and stressed clear, concise submissions and suggested asking for the maximum amount. Board approved the Funding request and it will be submitted to AQHA for approval.

Laura also reported the latest DA Davidson investment report is also included in the packet which includes the transfer of funds the Board approved in May.

Reminder that the Region 2 and State 4-H Horse Show sponsorship requests will be included in the July packets.

Julie wanted the Amateurs and Youth to reconsider their participation in administration fees. Laura reported the Youth have done this regularly.

Correspondence: No new correspondence.

All agenda items have been satisfied. Lesli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second to the motion by Cathy. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Bakker
2025 Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting – July 16, 2025 – ZOOM Meeting; 7:30pm
