

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)

Board of Directors' Meeting

June 25th, 2025 Via Zoom

President Doug Pearce called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Directors Present: President Doug Pearce, Vice President Ashley Lee, Jann Parker, Kelly Fraser, Cody Lee, Mike Hoffman, Michelle Van Dyke and Cindy Fraser

Directors Excused: John Delmonte

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller, Andi James, Peri Suenram

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Doug Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting, Secretary Valee Miller called for the Roll Call.

Big Piney

1. President Doug Pearce asked the board if they had read through the answers Andi James had sent back from the questions sent after the 6.11.25 Meeting.
 - a. Cattle Prices
 - i. A cattle supplier will offer cattle at a price per head after the trucking is taken out. It is roughly \$13 per head in trucking, hoping to pay \$32 or \$33 per head making it \$45 a head.
 - b. The Per head for Cattle Classes
 - i. At this point the charges will be what was on the NCHA application. Fresh cattle classes cattle charges are \$55 per head, making a \$10 profit per head
 - c. 3 head will be in all aged event classes and offering 4 head in the futurity, which is covered in cattle costs.
 - i. Peri Suenram stated the at the NCHA Convention it was discussed that a lot of places are going to be going back to 2.5 head due to the high costs of cattle.
 - ii. There was a board discussion that after the futurity would be a great time to use those cattle as rerun cattle as most will likely be fresh due to not being cut.
 - d. The plan for additional secretary
 - i. Paige Foster is planning on helping. She is an NCHA secretary who will also be helping with the practice pen entries. Kelly Fraser asked what the board would be paying her for her services. Andi James did not know what she charges. \$175-\$250 is fine with the board, they do not feel comfortable paying the \$550 a day. Mike Hoffman asked what the judges are getting paid, which is \$600 per day.

- e. Stall List
 - i. There are about 200 on the list at this time. Still waiting to hear from additional trainers. Currently about 80 stalls are left to fill
 - ii. Andi & Jann Parker are going to work together to personally invite more trainers to come.
 - iii. Andi always fills the portable stalls first to help cover the costs for them being brought in.
 - iv. The board would like the stalls charged on Fastercut by portable stalls and fairgrounds stalls.
- d. Can trainers rent the practice pen in blocks
 - i. Yes they can and they do
- f. Additional Flag
 - i. Yes if there is a place to make it fit, and someone to watch it
- g. Show Start times
 - i. Would rather advertise early, and you are still able to start later then not advertise early and not be able to start earlier.
- h. Travel
 - i. Judges will be coming in and out of SLC. It is a further 3 hours drive, which will make the rental cars more but with the cost of Jackson Hole it will make it a wash.
 - i. Kelly Fraser asked if the truckers have insurance to cover the cost of the cattle (\$3200) Andi James is going to check on it. Michelle Van Dyke asked about the carry over on the sawdust from 2024. Andi was able to sell some and will only be ordering 1 truck load instead of 2 for the 2025 show.

NEW BUSINESS:

NCHA Convention

- a. Peri Suenram led the discussion, the biggest item was people on the non pro committee to move away from the 3 categories of cutters, Pro, Non-Pro & Amateurs to just 2 categories. This would include changing dollar amount limits to classes (Ex. \$2,000-\$4,000) in which they would like classes limited by dollars not by status. Jann Parker asked what the amateur committee thought about this, Peri Suenram thought the sense that the amateur like how it is now. It keeps it very fair.
- b. There was a lot of discussion about the family owned horse rule. It is a very loose rule and they would like to tightened up.

- c. The amateur committee did a 3 year look back and in 3 years 89% are still in the 50K with the same number in the 15K & the 2K.
- d. Convention was very positive, next year it will be back in Las Vegas.
- e. Michelle Van Dyke went to the secretary meetings. \$500 added classes have to pay the winner \$500. There was a suggestion of all LAE events to limit entries to 125 a day that a judge has to look at.
 - a. They are in the works of putting a new secretary handbook out which would be helpful.
 - b. The weekend committee is in the works of upping the limits to be raised and there has been a task force to decide this.
 - c. There was a big push for Youth, what can be done to get them more involved.
- f. Michelle Van Dyke expressed to the board if anyone has concerns or questions that is what her and Peri Suenram are there for to help benefit the association.

Other

- a. Kelly Fraser led the discussion that Jessica Lee did not receive her Kim Asay Award and something new needs to be done for her.
- b. Peri Suenram no longer wants to be the head of The Never Won A Buckle and would like to have someone take it over. She will be putting something together to start looking for volunteers to take it over.

Cindy Fraser made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Michelle Van Dyke to second. Motion Passed.