

## MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING

January 12, 2017

Teleconference

President Rachel Showalter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Todd Banner, Kathy Foote, Andrea James, Helen Larsen, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** Kip Denton

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

It was moved by Michelle Van Dyke, seconded by Kathy Foote, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the November 28, 2016, Directors' Meeting be approved as distributed.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke provided the 2016 financial statement (Appendix A) for the Directors' review and approval. Helen Larsen made a motion to approve the 2016 financial statement. Michelle Van Dyke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 2017 Northwest Regional Cutting Series

2017 Northwest Regional Cutting Series (NRS) President, Kathy Foote, provided information on the 2017 series. She said the Idaho Cutting Horse Association (ICHA), Oregon Cutting Horse Association (OCHA), Washington Cutting Horse Association (WCHA), Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA), and Utah Cutting Horse Association (UCHA) would all be participating affiliates in 2017. Kathy said any National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) affiliate within Region 1 (Washington, Alaska, Colorado, Montana, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Western Canada, and Central Canada ) may participate in the NRS. She said in 2017 there would be no minimum participation percentage rule to qualify for the shoot-out finals, no monetary cap on added money within qualifying classes, and that the NRS has added additional classes to the shoot-out finals including; 5/6 Classic Open, 5/6 Classic Non Pro, Derby Open, and Derby Non Pro. Kathy said the 2017 NRS schedule is as follows:

2017 Northwest Regional Series Schedule		
March 23-26	ICHA	Nampa, ID
April 7-9	OCHA	Madras, OR
July 27-29	UCHA	Oakley, UT
August 5-6	MCHA	Kalispell, MT
September 29 – October 1	WCHA	Moses Lake, WA
October 1	NRS Shoot-out	Moses Lake, WA (TENTATIVE)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Minimum Participation Percentage Rule**

The Directors considered whether to continue a minimum participation percentage rule requiring MCHA Members to participate in a minimum number of Montana approved shows in order to be eligible for year-end awards.

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said the MCHA Membership Poll (Appendix B) results indicated 61.5% would like to see a minimum participation percentage rule in effect for eligibility of year-end awards.

President Rachel Showalter said she questioned whether 78 participants in the MCHA Membership Poll is a fair representation of all MCHA Member preferences.

Cody Lee said a concern with the MCHA Membership Poll response was that MCHA Members based answers off of their experience over the last two years where NRS shows were included in standings.

Andrea James, who is also on the Board of the Wyoming Cutting Horse Association (WCHA), said that WCHA addresses the issue that approving numerous out-of-state shows has on its standings by 1) requiring its members to participate in at least 50% of approved WCHA shows held within the state of Wyoming and 2) excluding any earnings from approved out-of-state shows from its year-end standings.

Michelle Van Dyke said the minimum participation percentage rule is a non-issue if approved shows exclude those that require extreme travel and include only those that are a reasonable traveling distance for the majority of members.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said administering the minimum participation percentage rule in 2016 was very labor intensive and confusing to members because posted standings would have to be cross-checked with a participation report to verify eligibility for year-end awards.

Michelle Van Dyke made a motion that any MCHA Member in good standing be eligible for year-end awards regardless of their participation percentage. Rachel Showalter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **2017 Show Schedule**

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, as Show Committee Chairman, provided an overview of proposed 2017 shows and dates. (Appendix C)

President Rachel Showalter said she was in favor of approving the South Dakota Cutting Horse Association (SDCHA) show March 3 -5 in Pierre, SD. She said MCHA's purpose statement reads the organization shall promote the sport of cutting in and around the State of Montana, and that supporting Tracy Barton's efforts to grow cutting in South Dakota to pursue acquiring a Mercuria event for the area is in line with this purpose.

Pursuant to Rule #4 of MCHA Rules and Regulations, "out-of-state shows must be approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors". In an effort to get a tentative show schedule posted to the website because not all Directors were present, it was decided Directors present would vote on out-of-state shows, shows receiving a unanimous vote by these Directors would then be included on an electronic ballot to be sent to all Directors for further consideration. (Appendix D) Out of state shows considered and voting results were as follows:

2017 Out of State Shows Considered		Vote
March 3-5	Rooster Rush Winter Circuit – Pierre, SD	2 Approve / 6 Do Not Approve / 1 Absent
March 23 – 26	ICHA NRS Show - Nampa, ID	8 Approve / 1 Absent
April 7 – 9	OCHA NRS Show – Madras, OR	8 Do Not Approve / 1 Absent
May 18 – 21	Showdown In Sheridan – Sheridan, WY	8 Approve / 1 Absent
June 10 – 11	Seven Bar Ranch	8 Approve / 1 Absent
July 27 – 29	UCHA NRS Show – Oakley, UT	8 Do Not Approve / 1 Absent
August 16 – 19	MCHA – Big Piney, WY	8 Approve / 1 Absent
September 29 – October 1	WCHA NRS Show – Moses Lake, WA	8 Do Not Approve / 1 Absent

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said additional out-of-state shows may be considered at a later time for approval and inclusion in the 2017 MCHA show season pending timely show approval application to the Secretary pursuant to MCHA Rules and Regulations.

The Directors reviewed and approved unanimously by voice vote the in-state proposed shows and dates as follows provided that show producers timely submit a completed show approval application to the Secretary pursuant to MCHA Rules and Regulations:

2017 Approved In-State Shows		
April 16-17	Miller's Horse Palace	Laurel, MT
May 25 - 28	Heart K	Livingston, MT
July 22-23	Miller's Horse Palace	Laurel, MT
August 5-6	Big Sky Aged Event and Weekend Show	Kalispell, MT
TBD	Miller's Horse Palace - Year End Show	Laurel, MT

## 2017 MCHA Classes

Because of the late hour, the Directors decided to vote on what classes would be eligible for year-end awards in the 2017 show year and the out of state show approvals that require a unanimous vote of the Directors via electronic ballot subsequent to the telephonic meeting. (Appendix D)

## DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES

The Directors determined the next meeting would be held during the April 15 – 16 show at Miller's Horse Palace in Laurel, MT.

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

## MCHA Membership Poll - 2017 Show Season

11/24/2016 12:00:00 AM

### 1. What month would your ideal MCHA show season begin?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
January	4	5.1%
February	6	7.6%
March	37	47.4%
April	30	38.4%
No Responses	1	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
10 Comment(s)		

### 2. Would you attend an MCHA show in the months of January or February?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	30	38.4%
No	48	61.5%
No Responses	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
19 Comment(s)		

### 3. Are you interested in MCHA shows approved out of state?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.

	Yes	No	Depends - Please provide details below
Washington	20 34%	36 62%	2 3%
Oregon	12 22%	42 76%	1 2%
Idaho	53 76%	14 20%	3 4%
Utah	41 60%	24 35%	3 4%
Wyoming	60 82%	11 15%	2 3%
South Dakota	21 38%	32 58%	2 4%
12 Comment(s)			

### 4. Do you have any recommendations for 2017 shows in terms of: \* Facility / Location \* Producer / Sponsor \* Cattle Suppliers

23 Response(s)

### 5. Do you think out of state Northwest Regional Series (NRS) show earnings should be included in MCHA year end standings?

	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes - Include All NRS Earnings	14	17.9%
No - Don't Include NRS Earnings	42	53.8%
Only include NRS earnings from affiliates who allow the MCHA NRS show	20	25.6%
No Responses	2	2.5%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
8 Comment(s)		

6. Would you like to see the 50% rule continued?		
	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	30	38.4%
No	21	26.9%
Depends on whether the out of state NRS Regional Series show earnings are or	23	29.4%
No Responses	4	5.1%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
5 Comment(s)		

7. Would you like to see a minimum % attendance requirement for eligibility of year-end awards continued?		
	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	48	61.5%
No	28	35.8%
No Responses	2	2.5%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
4 Comment(s)		

8. Would you like to see the "Never Won A Buckle" class continued?		
	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Yes	69	88.4%
No	9	11.5%
No Responses	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
9 Comment(s)		

9. What classes outside of the standard NCHA weekend classes would you like approved for year-end awards?				
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.		Depends - Please provide details below		
	Yes	No		
Derby Open	48 86%	8 14%	0 0%	
Derby Non Pro	49 86%	8 14%	0 0%	
Classic Open	38 76%	10 20%	2 4%	
Classic Non Pro	40 77%	10 19%	2 4%	
\$1,500 Novice Horse	34 72%	11 23%	2 4%	
\$800 Rider	33 69%	14 29%	1 2%	
7 Comment(s)				

10. What month would your ideal MCHA show season end?		
	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
August	4	5.1%
September	15	19.2%
October	46	58.9%
November	13	16.6%
December	0	0.0%
No Responses	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	78	100%
7 Comment(s)		

11. Any other comments / concerns / questions you would like MCHA Directors to be aware of?

## MCHA Membership Poll - 2017 Show Season

11/24/2016 12:00:00 AM

<b>1. What month would your ideal MCHA show season begin? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	I start my show season by going to warm country in mid-February.
	Early events should b considered with limited added money as weather can play a roll. Hosting an event early is good as we have something to work towards and it brings in income and gets things rolling.
	Bad Roads make it impossible to travel the state before April. Plus our assoc has snowbirds that are gone till spring
	Hauling horses on snowy roads is not ideal
	Mid to end of March
	weather likely to be too cold, roads bad, etc.
	May
	WE spend the winter down south and return home in April
	Weather would play a roll in entries
<b>2. Would you attend an MCHA show in the months of January or February? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	I doubt there would be a venue that would be safe to drive to in January or February
	As long as it is not on top of my horse sale
	Horses need a rest and weather is too unreliable to plan to travel. And also to keep a horse prepared to show.
	Not everyone can keep their horses legged up outside in winter
	I would if it was approved in Arizona
	Yes, however it depends on the weather, rods and distance to location.
	Most likely only in a warmer climate, like AZCHA shows in Queen Creek or Las Vegas
	I am usually in Arizona in January & February
	Only if the forecast was good with clear roads.
	Depends entirely on where it is.
	If snow was light
	Would depend on weather and location.
	Probably would have the best chance of attending a show in the Billings area this time of year. Would not want to conflict with Central Wyoming Cutting Club shows in these months.
	Provided the venue Was equipped with heat and had indoor stalling.This time of year the location would have to be off major highways for accessibility due to the weather.
	Weather permitting
	depending on where
	depending on weather
<b>3. Are you interested in MCHA shows approved out of state? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	This pertains to MCHA residents of MT
	Destination cuttings with increased added money and good schedule including aged event classes
	We are the MONTANA CHA .
	Driving 650 miles one way is too far
	Just too far to travel when you are in the West
	Depends on how far across the state....any further than an easy day's drive 6-8hrs is way too far for a weekend show.
	Please look at the added money in the South Dakota shows. Tracey Barton needs to make the added money equal in all the added money classes. He has done a very self serving thing the way the added money is distributed now. He doesn't have to haul to keep the stud he's showing in the top 15 standings with the current distribution. South Dakota has to offer better ground, stalls, and more cattle before I will haul there.
	Close & without replacing MT shows
	Distance is a concern if too far away.
	Not affordable and time off work is a concern.
	Willing to travel for good turn key facilities / ground, cattle, classes offered, and added money
	Also depends on weather - too hot or too cold.
	depends on distance

**4. Do you have an recommendations for 2017 shows in terms of:\* Facility / Location\* Producer / Sponsor\* Cattle Suppliers - Responses**

Answer
No
Horse palace is my first pick to add additional shows especially early shows. They know how to produce and have a producers mindset, they understand that our success is their success, they have access to cattle reasonably and are centrally located in a city with reasonable hotel/motel accommodations and good restaurants& shopping
its not possible to select cattle that not been worked unless the supplier is very astute and forth right..paying for fresh cattle and getting cattle you cant get out of the herd is is worrisome.
NILE Billings
State Fair Gt Falls
Heart K
Corvallis
Sheridan with better cattle, Livingston, Piney was great
Would like to see someone put shows on again in the Bitterroot at Sapphire where it would not take much prep for pens. Since Dillon will eventually get an indoor facility with the college, it would be nice to see us pursue that venue because of the number of cattle in the valley. I realize we have to home someone to spearhead though.
Billings
Sapphire arena Corvalis.
Briggs arena Whitehall.
Ralph Young arena Columbus.
You all do a great job when ever I attend.
Please explore more of turn key facilities in Montana; Sapphire, Columbus, maybe Dillon, Hardin, Miles City
I think anyone that has good facility and willing to put on cuttings close to Montana, Montana should approve
Laurel
Livingston
Sheridan, WY
We need more MT shows. We have several people that continue to produce shows, but we need some more people to step up to the plate and produce a show. There are several venues available, and prior producers that we need to approach.
Heart K, Miller's, Big Piney, Farmington, Nampa
N/A
No
Great idea to get show scheduled dialed in asap
K Heart Livingston
Might try Lecense in Dillon they have a nice big in door barn and keep a number of yearlings in close
I'm too new to the area to know.
Laurel, Livingston, Bozeman.
The shows in Laurel and Livingston were great - locations fit me very well.
Keyser Creek Arena Columbus Mt Ralph Young 406 425-1623
Cottonwood Equestrian Silesia Mt Dean Welsh 406 580 2097
Copper Spring Ranch Bozeman Mt Brian Anderson 406 579 2621. Lisa Anderson 406 579-1540

**5. Do you think out of state Northwest Regional Series (NRS) show earnings should be included in MCHA year end standings? - Comment:**

Answer
To grow our membership and participation we need to make it easy for all members to see their name in the standings and give them a hope they can finish in the top five. If they know they will not have a chance at the standings they do not strive to attend more shows and keep competing.
If a show is approved, I think earning should count. If someone wants to travel they should be rewarded and it makes our shows larger and in return the regional partner shows larger.
The regional series has its own end of the year shoot out and awards it shouldn't double count for the Montana club too especially since some won't go out of the state too far for weekend shows.
Unfairly tips the scale to " haulers"
Only if shows are MCHA approved.
.
N/A

<b>6. Would you like to see the 50% rule continued? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	The whole point in the series was to get participation in the Region. Utah cleverly avoided supporting any other show in the series. One either supports the series or they don't.
	I believe he who wins the most....wins!!!! It should not be about limitations and restrictions. If you win the most have the sense to enter, go, win-even if it's 3 shows and u win the most- you are the winner. Period.
	If someone does well at a handful of shows, they should be rewarded. Just because someone can't travel to all ends of the earth does not mean they are not worthy of an award if they do well. As long as they are a member, let them be eligible. Seems crazy to go down to an 8th or 10th place money earner to give an award or not even have enough to qualify for an award that has been purchased. That is not rewarding the best competitor.
	Exclude Regional Series shows that are so far away, and this is not an issue for main stream MCHA members
<b>7. Would you like to see a minimum % attendance requirement for eligibility of year-end awards continued? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	I think this is necessary for the health of your association
	He who wins...wins!!!
	See comment above
	Exclude Regional Series shows that are so far away, and this is not an issue for main stream MCHA members
<b>8. Would you like to see the "Never Won A Buckle" class continued? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	Again, this is a decision based on your area's level of participation. I think it has always been a great class.
	That's where we bring newcomers on board. Absolutely! Need to reward these people more than anyone
	For adults only
	But only for riders who have really never won a buckle!
	Without the \$800 rider, this is an excellent entry level class for beginners. But it needs to be moved from end of day, /so there is greater support for new cutters. This would help them feel more welcomed / involved.
	Don't care.
	If there is participation and it helps build capacity of the association.
	If these classes make money for the club they should be continued. It's a good way to get novice cutters more involved.
	Maybe three total and a shootout at the year end
<b>9. What classes outside of the standard NCHA weekend classes would you like approved for year-end awards? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	My horse is finished with her Derby year, but when they are 4, you aren't showing them in other classes so a year end award would really help. By the time they are 5, chances are you're showing them in other ncha classes, so a 5/6 isn't as noteworthy as the derby year
	None
	We need to get entry level people into cutting, more classes for aged riders and trainers make the shows too long so new people show late
	The 2000 rider seems to be the same people who start in the 800 rider so if we have one entry level class for the rider (\$2000) and one for the beginner horse (\$1500horse) that seems to be enough. Most people who have a Classic/Challenge horse is seasoned enough to show in the \$5000 so don't think we need it.
	Adding the Classic classes to standard Weekend class listing may help add entries to shows, enticing trainers who are wanting to show aged event horses w/ out affecting LTE. In previous years, I believe MCHA had included the Classic within classes eligible for year-end awards.
	I would like to see the NCHA challenger series at a few shows
	Perhaps the inclusion of more non-pro classes will stimulate entries and interest
<b>10. What month would your ideal MCHA show season end? - Comments</b>	
<b>Answer</b>	
	Mid October to first 10 days of November so done before weather is bad and before holidays.
	End of October. I think the Farmington show in Utah seems to be well attended for a yearend show. We can always have a meeting and awards banquet separate from the final show to accommodate awards. I know we have battled with this for years. If we want to have the yearend in Montana, I think end of September is more reasonable for most people.
	I would think that the availability of cattle dictates when the show year begins and ends.
	Or October
	UCHA show in Farmington may be a nice show to end on, good facility/ cattle, not that far from MT. Then hold year end banquet separately with Director planning meeting afterwards.
	The early October show in Laurel was a good one.
	end before holidays begin



**11. Any other comments / concerns / questions you would like MCHA Directors to be aware of? - Responses**

<b>Answer</b>	
	Being in the ICHA and coming to some Montana shows, I would just like to see support between associations continue. I'm really ticked about Utah benefiting from being in the NW series, and not supporting it. What ever venue gets the shootout, needs to earn those entries. Somehow that shootout needs to rotate to all associations.
	Any way you would consider not using reruns for the \$2k and \$15am classes
	it was a wonderful show season, all the grounds were perfect to get your horse shown successfully.
	I'd like to change constitution to allow the President a two year term. It just gets established and working and is over in one year.
	Keep it friendly and keep it fun
	I would hate to see approval for shows a long distance for members to travel. If we have the regional shows approved they should be within a reasonable distance outside of our own borders. If we approved, a show in Wyoming, one in Utah, one in Idaho and one in Montana for the region it seems more reasonable.
	Encourage producers to increase the added money, and you will see classes big enough to split again. I liked showing in the 2 Wyoming shows, and would haul there again. Utah and Idaho have great facilities and great ground, would haul there again.
	Please pay attention to what keeps MCHA members coming to shows. For trainers and some NP it may be classes / facility & ground / added money. But for Amateurs, most likely this is a fun hobby and many come for the social experience, the more friendly, supportive, positive, and upbeat things can be kept the better.
	More shows with lower entry fees. Save \$\$ by using new video products that will eliminate the need for a camera person, for example.
	We love Montana! Keep it simple and fun to cut!
	Contact me before Jan 1 on sponsorship levels and contributions
	general meetings need to be held during a show, Not day after.
	It would be nice to at least have a flag at all cuttings.
	One show per month is comfortable. More and people start to burn out.
	More shows in the southern and southeastern part of Montana and northern Wyoming work best for me. Maybe more shows at the new facility at Sheridan College would draw quite a few entries.

**\*\*TENTATIVE\*\* 2017 Montana Cutting Horse Association Show Schedule**

Proposed for Approval		Date	Show	Location	Producer
X	NRS	October 28-29, 2016	<a href="#">UCHA NRS Show</a>	Farmington, UT	UCHA
?		March 3-5	<a href="#">Rooster Rush Winter Circuit - Northwood Ranch</a>	Pierre, SD	South Dakota CHA
X	NRS	March 23-26	<a href="#">ICHA NRS Show</a>	Nampa, ID	Idaho CHA
		March 31 - April 1	UCHA - Farmington	Farmington, UT	UCHA
?	NRS	April 7-9	<a href="#">OCHA NRS Show</a>	Madras, OR	Oregon CHA
X		April 14-15	Miller's Horse Palace	Laurel, MT	Teresa & Bobby Miller Vallee & Clayton Miller
		April 21 - 22	UCHA - Salina	Salina, UT	UCHA
	NCHA	May 4 - 11	Mid Western Nationals	Scottsdale, AZ	
		May 19-20	UCHA - Farmington	Farmington, UT	UCHA
X	AB	May 18-21	Shootout in Sheridan - LAE and Weekend Show	Sheridan, WY	Showdown Productions LLC/Tim Stryker & Rachel Showalter
X	AB	May 25-28	Heart K - LAE & Weekend	Livingston, MT	TBD
	NCHA	June 2 - 4	NCHA Convention	Grapevine, TX	
X		June 10-11	Wyoming CHA	Saratoga, WY	
		June 10-11	Miller's Horse Palace	Laurel, MT	Teresa & Bobby Miller Vallee & Clayton Miller
		June 16-17	UCHA - Salina	Salina, UT	UCHA
	NCHA	June 23 - 30	Western Nationals	Denver, CO	
		June 24-25	Briggs Ranch Cutting	Whitehall, MT	Dean & Wendy Briggs
		July 1-2	Wyoming CHA	Torrington, WY	
X		July 8-9	Wyoming CHA	Saratoga, WY	
X		July 22-23	Miller's Horse Palace	Laurel, MT	Teresa & Bobby Miller Vallee & Clayton Miller
?	NRS	July 27th - 29th	<a href="#">UCHA NRS Show</a>	Oakley, UT	Utah CHA
X	NRS / AB	August 5-13	<a href="#">Big Sky Aged Event and Weekend - NRS Show</a>	Kalispell, MT	Big Sky Aged Events
X		August 16-19	MCHA - Big Piney, WY - LAE & Weekend	Big Piney, WY	Montana Cutting Horse Association, Inc.
		August 22 - Sept 2	ICHA Mercuria	Nampa, ID	
?	NRS	Sept 29th - Oct 1st	<a href="#">WCHA NRS Show</a>	Moses Lake, WA	Washington CHA
	NRS	Oct 1st	<a href="#">Tentative - NRS Shootout Finals</a>	Moses Lake, WA	NRS
X		Oct 12th - Oct 14th	Year End Show (Asking about alternative dates; September 9th -10th or 16th - 17th)	Laurel, MT	Theresa & Bobby Miller Vallee & Clayton Miller
		October 30 - Nov 4	UCHA - Farmington	Farmington, UT	UCHA

**Chart Key:**

Northwest Regional Series (NRS) - Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, Utah,

UCHA Show Schedule

Wyoming CHA Show Schedule

Pending Cattle

AB - Angela Bauer Scholarship Cutting

NCHA / Other Events to keep in mind for scheduling



### Constant Contact Survey Results

**Survey Name:** MCHA 2017 Show Season - January Planning Vote

**Response Status:** Partial & Completed

**Filter:** None

1/20/2017 11:03 AM MST

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#### TextBlock:

Pursuant to

Rule #4 of MCHA Rules and Regulations, "out-of-state shows must be approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors". At the MCHA Directors'

Meeting on Thursday 1/12/17, not all Directors were present. It was

decided Directors present would vote on out-of-state shows,

shows receiving a unanimous vote by these Directors would then be included

on an electronic ballot to be sent to all Directors for further

consideration. The tentative proposed schedule may be found on the MCHA website. The following

out-of-state shows received unanimous vote for approval by the Directors

present on Thursday 1/12/17, those receiving unanimous vote via this electronic

ballot will be deemed approved shows for the 2017 MCHA Show Season. Additional out-of-state shows may be considered at a

later time for approval in the 2017 MCHA Show Season, pending timely show application submittal pursuant to MCHA Rules and Regulations.

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#### \* MCHA Spring Show - LAE & Weekend - March 23 - 26 - Nampa, ID

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve			9	100.0 %
Do Not Approve			0	0.0 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

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**\*Shootout In Sheridan - LAE & Weekend - May 18 - 21 - Sheridan, WY**

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve			9	100.0 %
Do Not Approve			0	0.0 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

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**\*Seven Bar Ranch - June 10 - 11 - Saratoga, WY**

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve			9	88.8 %
Do Not Approve			0	11.1 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

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**\*Big Piney Cutting - LAE & Weekend - August 16 - 19 - Big Piney, WY\*\*Similar to 2016, Show Producer is MCHA\*\***

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve			9	100.0 %
Do Not Approve			0	0.0 %
I request further discussion of approving this show at the Directors' Meeting in April			0	0.0 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

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**TextBlock:**

Pursuant to Rule #13 of MCHA Rules and Regulations, "Before the first approved show of each season, the Board of Directors shall determine and publish the classes in which year-end awards will be presented at the close of the season". Determination under Rule #13 is by a majority vote of the Directors. At the MCHA Directors' Meeting on Thursday 1/12/17, Directors' decided to vote by electronic ballot to determine which classes, outside of the standard NCHA Weekend classes, year-end awards would be presented in for the 2017 MCHA Show Season. In 2016, these classes included the Derby Open, Derby Non Pro, and \$1,500 Novice Horse. The standard NCHA Weekend classes include Open, Non Pro, \$50K AM, \$25K Novice Horse, \$25K Novice Horse Non Pro, Sr Youth, Jr Youth, \$35K Non Pro, \$15K AM, \$5K Novice Horse, \$5K Novice Horse Non Pro, \$2K Limit Rider.

**\*\$1,500 Novice Horse**

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve	<div><div></div></div>		8	88.8 %
Do Not Approve	<div><div></div></div>		1	11.1 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

**\*\$800 Limit Rider**

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve	<div><div></div></div>		3	33.3 %
Do Not Approve	<div><div></div></div>		6	66.6 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

**\*Derby Open and Derby Non Pro**

Answer	0%	100%	Number of Response(s)	Response Ratio
Approve only classes held within a weekend show to count towards standings; producers are required to offer class at weekend shows.	<div><div></div></div>		3	33.3 %
Approve classes held within a weekend show and an LAE held in conjunction with the show to count towards standings; producers may determine whether to offer the class at weekend shows.	<div><div></div></div>		6	66.6 %
Do Not Approve			0	0.0 %
I would like to hold an MCHA Directors' meeting prior to the first show to further discuss this class approval.			0	0.0 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
Totals			9	100%

**\*5/6 Classic Open and 5/6 Classic Non Pro**

<b>Answer</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>	<b>Response Ratio</b>
Approve only classes held within a weekend show to count towards standings; producers are required to offer class at weekend shows.			0	0.0 %
Approve classes held within a weekend show and an LAE held in conjunction with the show to count towards standings; producers may determine whether to offer the class at weekend shows.			5	55.5 %
Do Not Approve			3	33.3 %
I would like to hold an MCHA Directors' meeting prior to the first show to further discuss this class approval.			1	11.1 %
No Response(s)			0	0.0 %
<b>Totals</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>100%</b>

**\*Electronic signature validates vote:**

<b>Answers</b>	<b>Number of Response(s)</b>
First Name	9
Last Name	9
Email Address	9

## MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING

February 24, 2017

Teleconference

The meeting was scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. In the absence of President Rachel Showalter's presence, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz called the meeting to order at 6:15.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter (present at 6:45 pm), Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Todd Banner (via Proxy to Kathy Foote), Kathy Foote, Andrea James, Helen Larsen, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** Kip Denton

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

It was moved by Kelly Zelikovitz, seconded by Kathy Foote, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the January 12, 2017, Directors' Meeting be approved as distributed.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke provided a rough draft of the 2017 operating budget (Appendix A) for the Board of Directors' review. She said pursuant to MCHA Rules and Regulations the 2017 operating budget would need to be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

### OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 2017 Northwest Regional Cutting Series

2017 Northwest Regional Cutting Series (NRS) President, Kathy Foote, said the 2017 NRS schedule was finalized as follows:

2017 Northwest Regional Series Schedule		
March 23-26	ICHA	Nampa, ID
April 7-9	OCHA	Madras, OR
July 27-29	UCHA	Oakley, UT
August 5-6	MCHA	Kalispell, MT
September 22 – 24	WCHA	Madras, OR
September 24	NRS Shoot-out	Madras, OR

Kathy Foote said pursuant to NRS Rules and Regulations, each 2017 NRS participating affiliate will be required to pay a participation match fee similar to prior years. She said the participating affiliate match fee was \$2,000 in 2015 and \$1,737.20 in 2016.

#### 2017 Never Won A Buckle Class

The Board of Directors reviewed the 2017 MCHA Show Schedule and determined that the "Never Won A Buckle" class should be offered at the following shows; Miller's Horse Palace April 14<sup>th</sup>, Big Sky Aged Event Weekend Show August 5<sup>th</sup>, and Big Piney Cutting August 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Crazy Mountain Cutting – May 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> - Livingston, MT**

Kathy Foote requested the Board of Directors to consider MCHA producing the Crazy Mountain Cutting show in Livingston, MT scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. She said this show was organized as a replacement show to the NCHA Days Show that is typically held at this time that NCHA will no longer sponsor. Kathy said a profit of just over \$1,000 was made in 2016 when MCHA produced the NCHA Days Show.

Kathy said the 2017 show is planned as three shows over four days with the weekend format to include Derby and Classic classes. She said \$2,500 in sponsorships had been confirmed for the 2017 show and she was working on other possible sponsorship leads. Kathy said the Heart K facility fee is \$1,500 per day, stalls cost \$25 per day, and \$9 per bag for shavings. She said Heart K would donate 15% of stall fees back to MCHA. Kathy said she has cattle available and projected cost including hauling was \$5 per head less than what was paid in 2016.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said an issue for Kathy to produce the show would be formation of a legal entity to produce the show, acquire liability insurance, establish banking, and complete year-end financial reporting / filing requirements.

President Rachel Showalter made a motion that MCHA produce the Crazy Mountain Cutting show in Livingston, MT scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. Helen Larson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Van Dyke said funding from the silent auction helped the 2016 NCHA Days show financially, and request communication be made to all MCHA members prior to the show requesting silent auction donation items.

Andrea James said she would get feedback from the Wyoming Cutting Horse Association whether the Association would like to consider approving the show to count towards their 2017 standings.

## **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES**

Michelle Van Dyke requested that Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, as Show Committee Chair, follow up with Miller's Horse Palace to ensure a flag would be available for use at the April show.

President Rachel Showalter said the "Showdown in Sheridan" show dates were changed to May 4<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>.

President Rachel Showalter requested that a review of the MCHA Approval Fee be added to the list of clarifications / changes to be made to the MCHA Constitution / Bylaws. She said similar to 2016, prior to the general membership meeting and election in the Fall of 2017, the Board of Directors would determine which clarifications / changes to be included on the ballot for the membership to vote on pursuant to MCHA Constitution – Article VI -Section 1.

The Board of Directors determined the next meeting would be held at Miller's Horse Palace in Laurel, MT, Friday April 15 at the end of the show.

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.



## **MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING**

April 11, 2017  
Teleconference

President Rachel Showalter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz (via Proxy to Kathy Foote), Todd Banner, Kip Denton, Kathy Foote, Andrea James, Helen Larsen, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

### **SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS LATE PAID 2017 MEMBERSHIPS**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the Directors' Meeting was called to discuss the timing of 2017 membership payments and whether late paid memberships would entitle member's earnings from the 2016 Fall Utah Cutting Horse Association (UCHA) Show and 2017 Spring Idaho Cutting Horse Association (ICHA) Show to count towards 2017 standings. She said the MCHA Bylaws read, "MCHA membership must be current at the time money is won to count toward year-end awards". Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said this year presents some special circumstances that the Board has not had to address before.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the 2017 MCHA show season started with two approved out-of-state shows and that the out-of-state show secretaries were unable to process MCHA membership applications at these shows. She said there are approximately 20 people who have earnings from the UCHA and / or ICHA show with unpaid memberships that are main-stay MCHA members including; MCHA Directors, trainers, sponsors, and supporters of MCHA. Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said several of these unpaid members had contacted her stating they were under the understanding it was acceptable to pay 2017 membership dues at the first in-state show as there was no one taking MCHA memberships at the out-of-state shows, and once dues were paid, the earnings from the UCHA and / or ICHA show would count towards 2017 standings.

Todd Banner said that because MCHA Directors stand to gain from the decision at hand, the vote should be passed to the MCHA General Membership to vote on.

Cody Lee said the MCHA Board of Directors was put in place and elected by the membership to make this type of difficult decision. He said with the small number of paid memberships submitted so far in 2017, a current vote of the general membership may not be a fair representation of the whole.

Michelle Van Dyke said a fair way for MCHA Directors to vote on the issue would be for those directly impacted by the vote to abstain from voting.

Director Todd Banner made a motion that due to special circumstances, a one-time exception should be made to the MCHA Bylaws relating to the timing of paid-up memberships; 1.) to allow earnings from the 2016 UCHA Fall show and the 2017 ICHA Spring show to count towards 2017 MCHA Standings, so long as the member is in good standing with a paid-up MCHA membership postmarked by May 1st, 2017, 2.) for anyone submitting a membership application after this date, earnings from the 2016 UCHA Fall show and the 2017 ICHA Spring show will not count towards 2017 MCHA Standings, and 3.) any MCHA Board of Director who has earnings at either the 2016 UCHA Fall show and / or the 2017 ICHA Spring show with an unpaid membership at the conclusion of these shows who would be affected by this vote shall abstain from voting. Director Andi James seconded the motion. Affected Directors Rachel Showalter and Michelle Van Dyke abstained from the vote. Directors Todd Banner, Kip Denton, Kathy Foote, Cody Lee, Andrea James, and Kelly Zelikovitz (by Proxy) voted in favor of the motion. Unaffected Director Helen Larsen abstained from voting.

Todd Banner said going forward a change to the Bylaws may need to be considered to prevent this from happening again, and request this item be added to the list maintained by the Rules Committee to be voted on by the General Membership at the annual meeting.

## **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES**

President Rachel Showalter said the next meeting would be held at Miller's Horse Palace in Laurel, MT, Friday April 15 at the end of the show.

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING**

April 14, 2017  
Miller's Horse Palace  
Laurel, MT

President Rachel Showalter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Kip Denton, Kathy Foote (via Proxy to Kelly Zelikovitz), Helen Larsen, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** Todd Banner, Andrea James

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

It was moved by Kelly Zelikovitz, seconded by Michelle Van Dyke, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the February 24, 2017, meeting be approved as distributed.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke provided a draft of the 2017 Operating Budget (Appendix A) for the Board of Directors' review. She said pursuant to MCHA Rules and Regulations the 2017 operating budget would need to be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

It was moved by Michelle Van Dyke, seconded by President Rachel Showalter, and carried on a voice vote that the 2017 Operating Budget be approved as distributed.

### **OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **2017 Sponsorships**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke provided information on 2017 sponsorships confirmed to date. She said 28 sponsorships have been confirmed at approximately \$9,400, and that the 2017 sponsorship budget is \$12,500. (Appendix B)

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said a new Wrangler subscription sponsor has not been found. She said in order for the MCHA to continue publishing in the Wrangler a subscription sponsorship of \$1,800 would be required for 2017. From the 2016 MCHA General Membership Meeting, Member Nancy LaCounte made a motion to organize a committee to find a 2017 subscription sponsor for The Wrangler, committee members would include members interested in publishing MCHA news and results in The Wrangler and consist of Cindy Garoutte, Darell Lee, Ken Cantrell, and Rachel Showalter.

The Directors determined MCHA was unable to pay for the \$1,800 Wrangler subscription sponsorship using current sponsorship funding as not enough money was available and that the committee formed to find a sponsor would be requested to continue their efforts.

## **2017 Year-End Awards**

The MCHA Directors considered what place to provide year end awards to and what special year-end awards to continue offering in 2017. The MCHA Directors determined to provide awards to 4 places in 2017, same as 2016. The MCHA Directors determined to provide the following special year-end awards:

- *MCHA Open Horse of the Year (Most \$ Won)*
- *MCHA Non-Pro Horse of the Year (voted on by membership from Non-Pro class champions)*
- *MCHA Most \$ Won - Non-Pro / Amateur*
- *Adult Rookie - Eligible candidates include Adult MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings at the beginning of the show year.*
- *Youth Rookie- Eligible candidates include Youth MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings and 0 NCHA Youth Points at the beginning of the show year.*
- *Kim Asay / Most Inspirational Award- The award goes to someone thought to be a fierce competitor, showing great sportsmanship both in and out of the arena, while continuing to place a high value on family, friends and faith.*
- *Horizon Yacht / NCHA Senior World Tour*

The MCHA Directors considered what to provide as a “Rerun Cattle” award for the highest cumulative money earning rider of the \$35K NP, \$15 AM, and \$2,000 Rider classes. The MCHA Directors determined that the top 6 riders would be eligible to compete in a Cash Shoot-out at the year-end show, competing for \$2,000 to be paid 80% to the Champion and 20% to the Reserve Champion. Prior to the Shoot-out a Calcutta will be held to auction off riders, 50% of Calcutta collections go to MCHA and the remainder to be paid out 80% to the Calcutta Champion and 20% to the Calcutta Reserve Champion. The Shoot-out will kick off the year-end awards banquet with the banquet to follow immediately after at Millers Horse Palace.

The MCHA Directors determined that in lieu of holding numerous silent auctions at MCHA produced shows and year-end, alternative fundraising methods would be utilized. At the 2017 Crazy Mountain Cutting, dog races and a pizza party will be held Friday night of the show. At the 2017 Big Piney Cutting a Pro-Am class will be offered. The Shoot-out Calcutta along with silent and live auction will be fundraisers in place at the year-end show.

## **Committee Assignments**

President Rachel Showalter made the following committee appointments:

- Show Committee – Kelly Zelikovitz (MCHA Constitution – Article V -Section 4a)
- Wrangler Sponsor Subscription Committee – Cindy Garoutte
- Year-end Awards – Audrey O’Keefe
- Year-end Banquet – Tanya Dvarishkis & Nancy LaCounte
- Nominating Committee – Kathy Foote
- Rules Committee – Kelly Zelikovitz

## **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES**

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, as Show Committee Chairman, said the July show planned at Miller’s Horse Palace was no longer a possibility due to cattle unavailability. The MCHA Directors discussed and determined that no other out of state show would be approved to fill the gap between June 11<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup> at this time.

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING**

August 1, 2017

Teleconference

President Rachel Showalter called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Todd Banner, Kip Denton, Kathy Foote, Helen Larsen, Cody Lee

**Members Absent:** Andrea James, Michelle Van Dyke

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

### **SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS BIG SKY LIMITED AGED EVENT (LAE) EARNINGS INCLUSION IN 2017 MCHA YEAR-END STANDINGS**

President Rachel Showalter said the Directors' Meeting was called to discuss the inclusion of earnings from the Big Sky LAE within 2017 MCHA year-end standings. She said she had received phone calls from show production and MCHA members concerned over this issue and wanted to review the Directors' vote to approve the Classic and Derby classes as classes eligible for 2017 year-end awards to ensure Directors' were on the same page to present a united front. President Rachel Showalter said for the 2017 show year, in regards to the Classic and Derby classes, the MCHA Directors' voted to, "Approve classes held within a weekend show and an LAE held in conjunction with the show to count towards standings; producers may determine whether to offer the class at weekend shows.". She said the vote reads that earnings from the Big Sky LAE would count towards 2017 MCHA year-end standings and that her intention of calling this meeting was not to re-vote on the issue.

President Rachel Showalter said some of the confusion whether earnings from the Big Sky LAE would count towards 2017 MCHA year-end standings is due to the fact that Big Sky LAE classes have never previously counted toward MCHA standings. She said in prior years Derby classes were offered within the weekend show and counted towards MCHA year-end standings, but the LAE was not included because of the added money and classification as a NCHA Major LAE. She said in 2017 the Big Sky LAE would not be considered a Major NCHA LAE event because added money had been changed to less than \$10,000 per day; \$2,000 in the Open Classic / Derby and \$1,000 added in the Non-Pro Classic / Derby. She said the show schedule had also been changed from prior years to provide three separate go's of LAE classes.

Director Helen Larsen said when the Big Sky show producers released changes in show schedule and added money 40 days prior to entry deadline, the show producers should have advised MCHA so that the MCHA Directors could have held a meeting to discuss the effect these changes had versus waiting until two days prior to the start of show.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the Big Sky show does not pay the MCHA \$4 / entry approval fee as required in MCHA Bylaws. She said in lieu of paying the MCHA \$4 / entry approval fee, the show has previously required any weekend entrants to become MCHA members. Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke asked whether this would also now be required for entrants of the LAE Classic and Derby classes as those classes were now considered MCHA approved to count towards MCHA standings. The Directors' determined it was too late to request this change as the entry deadline had already passed.

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said that although the practice of the Big Sky show collecting MCHA memberships from every weekend participant in lieu of paying approval fees had preceded her involvement with MCHA, she had been told that this had historically benefitted MCHA more than payment of a \$4 / entry approval fee would have. Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the comparison is more complex than just comparing what would have been collected in \$4 / entry approval fees versus memberships taken, because some entrants would still become MCHA members without it being a requirement, in which case MCHA would collect the \$4 / entry approval fee and MCHA memberships. Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said she would put together an analysis for future consideration.<sup>1</sup>

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said a change to the show application form and application procedure outlined in the Bylaws may need to be considered for 2018 to avoid last minute misunderstandings like this between show producers / MCHA members.

## DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said she would be resigning from her position as Secretary / Treasurer at the end of 2017, and request the Nominations Committee begin considering candidates for her replacement.

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

<sup>1</sup> The following summary provides information on MCHA Memberships collected at the Big Sky show and an estimated \$4 / entry approval fee for 2015, 2016, 2017:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>Membership Income</b>	<b>\$1,420</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	<b>\$1,900</b>
LAE Entries	64	68	195
Weekend Entries	339	277	219
Total Entries	403 <sup>1</sup>	345 <sup>1</sup>	414 <sup>2</sup>
<b>\$4 / Entry Approval Fee</b>	<b>\$1,612</b>	<b>\$1,380</b>	<b>\$1,656</b>

<sup>1</sup>In 2015 and 2016, total entries included 2 days of weekend classes plus the derby classes held within the 2 day weekend show.

<sup>2</sup>In 2017, total entries included 2 days of weekend classes plus 3 days of derby and classic classes from the LAE.

## **MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING**

September 5, 2017

Teleconference

President Rachel Showalter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** President Rachel Showalter, Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Kathy Foote, Andrea James, Helen Larsen, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** Todd Banner, Kip Denton, Cody Lee

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke

It was moved by Kathy Foote, seconded by Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the August 1, 2017, meeting be approved as distributed.

### **OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Big Piney, WY – Preliminary Financial Overview**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke provided a preliminary financial overview of the Big Piney, WY, show (Appendix A). She said information indicated show income of approximately \$16,680, with the cost of 17 vests as circuit awards remaining as the only outstanding expense. Sara Pahlke said there were 71 entries day 1 of the aged event (offering Open and Non Pro divisions of Futurity, Derby, and Classic classes), 72 entries day 2 of the aged event, 52 entries day 3 of the aged event, 93 weekend entries day 1, and 87 weekend entries day 2.

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz recognized and gave thanks to everyone who helped make the Big Piney, WY, show such a success.

#### **MCHA Year End Show / Awards Banquet / General Membership Meeting**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the General Membership Meeting is planned for Friday, September 29, 2017-. She said notice to members was provided 30 days prior on the MCHA website and that information would also be posted on facebook and in an e-news email.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said the Rerun Cattle Shootout will kick off the year-end awards banquet with the banquet to follow immediately after at Millers Horse Palace on Saturday, September 30, 2017. She said in April 2017, the MCHA Directors determined that the top 6 cumulative money earning riders of the \$35K NP, \$15 AM, and \$2,000 Rider classes riders would be eligible to compete in a Cash Shoot-out, competing for \$2,000 to be paid 80% to the Champion and 20% to the Reserve Champion. She said prior to the Shoot-out a Calcutta will be held to auction off riders, 50% of Calcutta collections go to MCHA and the remainder to be paid out 80% to the Calcutta Champion and 20% to the Calcutta Reserve Champion. The Directors determined 6 riders will compete in the shootout, next in standings will compete in place of riders unable to participate.

President Rachel Showalter said she would confirm that either Cody Lee or Jeremy Young would be available as auctioneer for the Calcutta.



Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said special awards to be given at the awards banquet include;

- MCHA Open Horse of the Year – Based on Money Won
- MCHA Non-Pro Horse of the Year – Voted on by MCHA Membership at the awards banquet
- MCHA Most Money Won – Non-Pro / Amateur

MCHA Directors discussed and determined calculation of “MCHA Open Horse of the Year” and “MCHA Most Money Won – Non-Pro / Amateur” would include earnings from the Derby and Classic classes.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said MCHA Directors would be asked to vote for Adult Rookie of the Year, Youth Rookie of the Year, and the Kim Asay / Most Inspirational Award via email prior to the awards banquet. She provided a summary of each award as follows:

- Adult Rookie of the Year - *Eligible candidates include Adult MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings at the beginning of the 2016 show year.*
- Youth Rookie of the Year - Eligible candidates include Youth MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings and 0 NCHA Youth Points at the beginning of the 2016 show year.
- Kim Asay / Most Inspirational Award – The award goes to someone thought to be a fierce competitor, showing great sportsmanship both in and out of the arena, while continuing to place a high value on family, friends and faith. Prior award recipients include:
  - 2016 - Jerry Rankin
  - 2015 - Brian Anderson
  - 2014 - Tami Allen
  - 2013 - Jann Parker
  - 2012 - Todd Banner
  - 2011 - Donald Weeding

#### Most Inspirational Award

- 2015 - Combined with Kim Asay Award
- 2014 - Theresa Nelson
- 2013 - Helen Larsen
- 2012 - Richard Neustaedter
- 2011 - Theresa Nelson
- 2010 - Audrey O'Keefe

## Nominating Committee Report

Pursuant to MCHA Constitution – Article III -Section 7, Kathy Foote, chair of the Nominating Committee, provided a list of persons for the 3 open Director positions and the Vice President position:

- **Director Positions - 2018 - 2020**
  - Brian Anderson
  - Joeseeph Kalt
  - Jann Parker
  - Gayle Weber
- **Vice President**
  - Jeremy Young

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said at the General Membership Meeting a list of candidates for each open MCHA Board of Director position will be presented, any additional candidates interested in running may also announce their intent to run for an open position at the meeting. She said candidates will be given the opportunity to introduce themselves and speak to the General Membership.

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said following the year-end show voting ballots will be emailed / mailed as specified in each members MCHA Membership Application; pursuant to MCHA rules, members will have 30 days to vote and candidates shall be elected by a majority of the MCHA members who voted. She said a membership address and email verification sheet will be available at the show office during the year-end show for members to verify on file contact information is accurate.

## **Rules Committee Report**

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, chair of the Rules Committee, said pursuant to the MCHA Constitution – Article VI -Section 1, any proposed modification, amendment or new by-law(s) are required to be provided to all members for consideration 30 days prior to the General Membership Meeting. She said due to time constraints, the Fall 2017 General Membership Meeting will include an open discussion on suggested changes to the MCHA Constitution then any proposed changes that arise from this discussion will be considered at the Spring 2018 General Membership meeting. She said changes will be drafted by MCHA Directors and available on MCHA website 30 days prior to the Spring 2018 General Membership Meeting for members review. Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said discussed changes may include:

- *\$4 per Entry Approval Fee*
- *Membership Fee Due Date*
- *MCHA Secretary Fees*

## **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES**

President Rachel Showalter adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF MONTANA CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION (MCHA) DIRECTORS' MEETING**

November 28, 2017

Teleconference

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Members Present:** Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz, Kathy Foote, Andrea James, Helen Larsen, Cody Lee, Michelle Van Dyke

**Members Absent:** President Rachel Showalter, Todd Banner, Kip Denton

**Others Present:** Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke , 2018 – 2019 Directors Brian Anderson and Gayle Weber

It was moved by Kathy Foote, seconded by Helen Larsen, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the September 29, 2017 General Membership Meeting be approved as distributed.

### **OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **2018 Memberships to 2017 Sponsors**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke said in 2017 one free MCHA membership had been provided to 2016 sponsors who sponsored at a level of \$400 or higher based upon a vote by the Directors. Michelle Van Dyke made a motion that one free 2018 MCHA membership again be provided to each 2017 sponsor who sponsored at a level of \$400 or higher. Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Rules Committee Report**

Secretary / Treasurer Sara Pahlke reviewed the open discussion from the September 29, 2017 General Membership Meeting regarding suggested changes to the MCHA Bylaws and Directors discussed language to draft amendments to the Rules and Regulations Section of the MCHA Bylaws. **(APPENDIX A)**

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz said discussed changes will be drafted and made available for Directors' consideration at the January planning meeting. She said pursuant to the MCHA Constitution – Article VI - Section 1, any proposed modification, amendment or new by-law(s) are required to be provided to all members for consideration 30 days prior to the General Membership Meeting. She said any changes approved by the Directors at the January planning meeting would be made available on MCHA website 30 days prior to the Spring 2018 General Membership Meeting for members review and then members would be asked to vote on changes at the General Membership Meeting.

### **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIVES**

The Directors determined the January planning meeting would be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday January 20, 2018, in Bozeman, MT. Directors were provided a list of items to consider in preparation of the January planning meeting. **(APPENDIX B)**

Vice President Kelly Zelikovitz adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

## Montana Cutting Horse Association, Inc. – Rules and Regulations

10. MCHA approval fees of \$4.00 per horse entry per MCHA approved class shall be included in the stock and office charge and sent to the MCHA Secretary-Treasurer along with the results of the show within ten (10) days of the close of the show. The approval and results must then be submitted to the NCHA.

- **For consideration – Rule is not uniformly applied:**

- ICHA Spring Show & Northwest Regional Series Shows - \$4 / entry approval fee is not collected
- Big Sky Aged Event Show – requires contestants to become MCHA members in lieu of paying \$4 / entry approval fee
- Remaining Show Producers pay \$4 / entry approval fee; Millers Horse Palace, Showdown in Sheridan, Seven Bar Ranch

**Determination** – Show producers would be provided the option to either pay a \$4 / entry approval fee or collect MCHA memberships. If the amount collected in MCHA memberships is less than what would have been collected for the \$4 / entry approval fee, show producers are responsible for paying the difference. Designation of option would be made by show producers on submitted show approval applications.

11. Pay-offs for all MCHA approved cutting contests will be one (1) money for every three (3) horses entered, unless otherwise advertised by the show management, or where the NCHA pay-off schedule takes precedence. ~~The number of monies and payout schedule for the \$1,000 Novice Horse and \$800 Rider will be the same as the above listed NCHA approved payments.~~

- **Redundant language, outdated classes.**

**Determination** – Remove strikethrough language from MCHA bylaws.

18. ~~Two High School rodeo trophies may be donated by MCHA for the cow cutting contest in Montana, upon approval of the Board of Directors. One will go to the High Point girl, the other to the High Point boy. An approved NCHA MCHA judge or judges must be used in order for the contest to qualify.~~

- **No longer an MCHA Policy**

**Determination** – Remove strikethrough language from MCHA bylaws.

23. ~~Only one (1) horse may be ridden by each rider in the \$800 Rider class.~~

- **No longer an MCHA Policy, can be addressed at MCHA planning meeting based on classes approved for show year.**

**Determination** – Remove strikethrough language from MCHA bylaws.

24. ~~A \$1.00 fee per horse entry per class to pay the MCHA Secretary shall be assessed by show management at every MCHA cutting event. This \$1.00 fee is to be paid to the MCHA Secretary within ten (10) days of the close of the show. A \$1.00 fee per horse entry per class for out of state approved cuttings will be paid to the MCHA Secretary from the MCHA approval fee received from the out of state cutting.~~

- **For consideration – Rule is outdated, suggest deleting language and addressing as part of the MCHA Operating Budget at the MCHA planning meeting along with MCHA Secretary / Treasurer position annual compensation.**

**Determination** – Remove strikethrough language from MCHA bylaws. Secretary / Treasurer position annual compensation to be determined as component of budget approval process.

25. The **Owner and Rider** of a horse must have a current MCHA membership to show at a MCHA Produced event. **MCHA membership must be current at the time money is won to count toward Year End awards.**

- For consideration –
  - Adherence to the rule when the show season starts with an out of state show.
  - History that has permitted contestants to obtain a membership at the first in-state show attended and include prior earnings in standings calculation.

**Determination** – Amend language to provide that memberships be made current by May 1 of every year; memberships paid by such date will be permitted to include prior earnings in standings to compensate for a show season beginning with an out of state show. Memberships taken after May 1 will only be permitted to include earnings in standings for the time period when membership was made current. It was discussed that the suggested amendment to approval fees, specifically allowing show producers the option to collect memberships in lieu of paying a \$4 / entry approval fee, would also assist in getting memberships collected in a timely manner. Discussion was also had that this amendment would need to be heavily advertised to members.

## Montana Cutting Horse Association, Inc. – Rules Determined Annually

**I. APPROVED CLASSES**

Open
NP
\$50AM
\$25 Nov
\$25 Nov NP
Jr Youth
Sr Youth
\$35NP
\$15AM
\$5 Nov
\$5 Nov NP
\$2 LR
\$1,500 NH
Open Derby <sup>1</sup>
Open Derby <sup>1</sup>
Open Classic <sup>1</sup>
NP Classic <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Determine whether class counts towards “Open Horse of the Year” and “Most Money Won Non Pro Rider of the Year” awards. Determine whether a monetary cap on earnings should be applied in calculation of year end standings.

Never Won A Buckle

- Whether to offer award / shows to hold class

**II. YEAR END AWARDS**

Minimum Participation Percentage Rule

*Awards*

- *Rerun Cattle Class Award*
  - *Win a Saddle / Cash Shootout*
- *Awards to 4 Places*
- *Continuation of Special Awards*
  - *MCHA Open Horse of the Year (Most \$ Won)*
  - *MCHA Non-Pro Horse of the Year (voted on by membership)*
  - *MCHA Most \$ Won - Non-Pro / Amateur*
    - *Adult Rookie - Eligible candidates include Adult MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings at the beginning of the show year.*
    - *Youth Rookie- Eligible candidates include Youth MCHA Members in good standing having \$0 NCHA Lifetime Earnings and 0 NCHA Youth Points at the beginning of the show year.*
    - *Kim Asay / Most Inspirational Award- The award goes to someone thought to be a fierce competitor, showing great sportsmanship both in and out of the arena, while continuing to place a high value on family, friends and faith.*
    - *Horizon Yacht / NCHA Senior World Tour*

### **III. OPERATING BUDGET ITEMS**

Free MCHA Memberships to prior year sponsors

- 2017 – provided to sponsors of \$400 or higher

*Secretary / Treasurer Compensation*

- 2017 - \$450 / month, \$1 / entry assessed to in-state show producers, \$1 / entry from the \$4 / entry approval fee assessed to out of state show producers

*Year End Awards*

- Rerun Cattle Award - \$2,000
- Awards -\$12,000

*Banquet / Auction Committee*

- Fundraising activities; Silent auction, raffle, dog races, team cutting, etc.
- Year End Banquet

*Northwest Regional Series (NRS)*

- Whether to Participate
- Determine Montana Regional Series Show
- Participating Affiliate Match Fee; 2015 - \$2,000, 2016 - \$1,737.20, 2017 - \$2,219.20

### **IV. OTHER**

*Committee Assignments*

- Show committee (Per Constitution, Vice President is Chairman)
- Year-end Awards
- Year-end Banquet
- Sponsorship
- Nominating
- Rules Committee