

# NDQHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**January 18, 2025 / 12:00 PM / Galleria-Ballroom Room,  
Radisson, Bismarck, North Dakota**

## ATTENDEES

NDQHA board members: Doreen Swenson, Katherine Beaudine, Robin Danielson, Rylan Sundsbak, Makayla Nyre, Andrea Butler, Mary Youngs, Tara Wolf, Stacey Thelen, Dawn Martin and approximately 35 NDQHA members

### **Call To Order**

President Doreen Swenson called the meeting to order at 12:25 PM

### **Introduction of NDQHA Board of Directors**

### **Pass out new membership forms**

## AGENDA

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary's Report was shared prior to the meeting via website. JoDee Hass made a motion, seconded by Jay Dollinger to approve the meeting minutes. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was shared prior to the meeting via email with an attached profit and loss statement and the following balances:

Open \$26,815.48/Amateur \$21,259.43/Youth \$12,771.34/Futurity \$1,363.05

Jesse Armstrong made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Ryane Bakke, approved subject to audit.

### **National Director's Reports**

**John Hovde** - absent from meeting.

**Scott Flach** - There was a great deal of misinformation on the digital certificates for AQHA. AQHA will always accept paper applications for registration and transfers. Additionally, any horse that was foaled before 2019, the transfer will always have to be a paper transfer. Online transfers can be done on myAQHA. The horse protection act was started in 1970. A federal inspector from the department of agriculture is supposed to be at every horse show, horse sale, horse event to monitor horse abuse. There is still ongoing discussion at the federal level about this rule that it could potentially be pulled back. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that AQHA has made a profit.

**Doreen Swenson** - Doreen is serving on the youth committee that meets about once a month. AQHA learn - free plan where individuals can go out and learn more about horses. Small fry classes will be a new AQHA class for individuals 9 years and younger. The excellence seminar elects new officers for the year. Doreen received affiliate funds for our association that is helping with the banquet meals and DJ. Please nominate a horse or individual for the year 2026 AQHA hall of fame.

**Nikki Medalen** - The marketing and membership committee has been busy - they are meeting monthly. The mission, vision and objective of the AQHA are changing. There is now a fuel card benefit - [aqha.com/fuel](http://aqha.com/fuel) for more information. Call David at the AQHA 864-310-3561 - 15 cents off every gallon of diesel fuel. 5 cents back will be given to the AQHA youth program. There will be a fuel portal on the website to see your savings. AQHA Fan Zone - [aqha.com/fanzone](http://aqha.com/fanzone) - exclusive web content, history, and other resources to the novice AQHA fan. AQHA buddies is a program that allows individuals to post about their horse.

**Dawn Martin** - The ranching committee worked on several rule changes that were presented. They put together a Ranch Horse Classic at the 2024 AQHA world show. This class was comprised of 20 horses with a preference for Ranching Heritage raised horses. The horses were 3-5 years old and completed in three classes - Ranch Riding, Ranch Reining, and Ranch Cow Work. There was over \$50,000 in added money. The other issues that were discussed at the 2024 AQHA convention was clarification of the definition of "cowboy" - this will be approved at the 2025 convention. Out of control, dangerous or excessive schooling to all VRH/RHC classes as a cause for disqualification. The qualification period for the VRH world show to January 1 - December 31 of the year prior to the show starting with the 2026 VRH world. Recommend to the Ranching Council to pay all advertised added money to the Ranching Heritage Finals regardless of the number of entries beginning with the 2024 RHC finals. Prohibited trail obstacles - add any type of pinwheel regardless of spacing or gait. Place all Ranch Heritage Challenge roping classes by a combination of judges score and time.

**Connie Armstrong** - Connie passed out a handout on the 2024 AQHA show rule changes. All rules are effective January 1, 2025. There are new classes that were approved at the 2023 convention that are now AQHA approved beginning January 1, 2025. There was also a handout on the AQHA leveling for the year 2025. Requirements for qualification at the 2025 world show will not change from the

2024 qualifying period. The AQHA world show will be October 30 - November 22 in Oklahoma City.

## Committee Reports

**Directory Report** - Nikki Medalen - The deadline for the directory is January 25. Please share any accomplishments your horse has made doing a ND Proud ad. Ava Danielson called Nikki to shadow her and possibly take over with Cassidy next year as this is Nikki's last year. The front cover will be auctioned off at the banquet tonight.

**Youth Report** - Alexis Gleason - Alexis Gleason is taking over the role of youth advisor from Margaret Waslaski. The youth meeting was today at 10:30 am. The youth made 6 tie blankets to auction off tonight. Maggie is going to post a picture on Facebook of the blankets. President is Paislee Buckle, Vice President is Ryder Armstrong, Secretary is Aspyr Thelen, Treasurer is Olivia Hjelseth. One of the service projects is going to be to donate to a local food bank. At Wadena they will be doing floats again. The year end requirements for the youth for year 2025 will be: have a valid NDQHA membership, AQHA membership, (lead liners only need a NDQHA membership), attend 2 meetings, 2 fundraisers and attend 1 hosted NDQHA show.

**Futurity Report** - Rylan Sundsbak - There were 73 total entries this year. Pay-ins totaled \$4,600. Sponsorships totaled \$3,538. Payouts totaled \$6,347. Buckles totaled \$1,555.

**Region 2** - Ryane Bakke - Ryane has been delegated to take over as the Region 2 representative. This year will be the 20<sup>th</sup> year of Region 2. The dates for Region 2 will be September 10 - 14.

## Unfinished Business

**501c3 update** - no update.

**Bismarck Horse Facility** - Gaylean Dewing gave an update on the new facility being planned in Bismarck. There was a zoning change at the Missouri Valley Complex. It is still zoned as public use but not limited by the PUD. There was also a committee formed for the Missouri Valley Complex. Part of the property of the Missouri Valley Complex is to build a facility that would be multi-purpose that would include horse and non-horse events. The numbers are right now in the preliminary stages. The main arena would be 150 feet x 300 feet. The warmup arena would be 110 feet X 210 feet. There will be a proposed 400 stalls assembled with another 200 additionally. These stalls can be taken down for other events other than horse events. There will be a second story on the building that would be made up of a large reception hall and meeting rooms. One of the facilities built outdoors would be a racetrack. There is also going to be a large parking lot that would be able to house a multitude of vehicles of all sizes.

**Thank you to the 2024 sponsors** - The sponsors of the banquet, Wadena show, Labor Day show and Futurity were read off.

**Wadena Show Breakfast** - We are looking for a sponsor for the Wadena show breakfast.

## **New Business**

**2025 Clinics** - Makayla has been in contact with a few trainers to put on a clinic this spring.

**Fundraiser** - Andrea spoke on the cash raffle. It will be considered as a fundraiser for year-end requirements.

**Bylaw Changes** - Stacey Thelen read off the proposed bylaw changes. Scott made a motion to vote on the proposed bylaw changes individually, seconded by Russ Mathier. Motion carried. JoDee made a motion to deny the change to the bylaws in Article 1, Section 1, seconded by Rylan. Motion carried. Rylan made a motion to approve the change to the bylaws in Article 3, Section 2, seconded by Andrea. Motion carried. Rylan made a motion to approve the change to the bylaws in Article 4, Section 5a, seconded by Makayla. Motion carried. Gaylean made a motion to deny the change to the bylaws in Article 4, Section 7, seconded by Makayla. Rylan made a motion to approve the change to the bylaws in Article 4, Section 7, seconded by Robin. Motion carried. Robin made a motion to approve the change to the bylaws in Article 3, Section 8, seconded by Makayla. Motion carried.

**Horse of the Year** - Will be announced at the banquet.

**Hall of Fame recipients** - Will be announced at the banquet.

**The Sportsmanship award was voted on and will be announced at banquet.**

### **Election of New Board of Directors**

3 positions are up for election on the board.

JoDee Hass nominated Mary Youngs

Ryane Bakke nominated Vicky Borgen

Alvina Ebensteiner nominated Sherri Matuska

Robin Danielson nominated JoDee Hass

Rylan Sundsbak moved to cease nominations, seconded by Ryane Bakke.

Votes were cast among the general membership and the new directors for 2025 will be Mary Youngs, JoDee Hass and Sherri Matuska.

### **Adjourn**

Rylan Sundsbak made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Youngs, meeting adjourned at 3:06 PM

**Our next meeting will be held Saturday, January 18 at 3:30 PM,  
Renoir-Russell Room, Radisson, Bismarck, North Dakota**

NDQHA Secretary/Treasurer, Katherine Beaudine