

The American Hanoverian Society
Minutes of the Board of Directors
Conference Call
May 1, 2019

Present: Edgar Schutte (president), Anne Sparks, Doug Langer, Barb Schmidt, Nancy Connolly, Kate Palmquist, Cathy Tucker-Slaterbeck, Meg Williams, Rachel Erhlich (joined twenty minutes late), Rick Toering (joined forty-five minutes late) Absent: Volker Ehlers

The President called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. EST.

Motion to pass the March 6, 2019, meeting minutes was passed with one correction: Change time from 3:00 p.m. ET to 4:00 p.m. ET

President's Report

- The USEF recording fee was raised from \$10 to \$20. All AHS verified horses on the USDF list will have the AHS or ARS logo next to their name.
- The recent \$15 increase for foal registration has now been implemented and all forms have been changed.
- After a swift email vote, the board elected the new executive director as delegate for the Hannoveraner International.
- An online survey was sent to all AHS members asking them to vote their preference on which brand (H or H-#) to use beginning with the 2019 inspection season. The final results were close but the membership voted to use the H brand only moving forward.

Motion was made by Nancy Connolly to go forward with the Antlers-only or H-only brand (without numbers or letters underneath). The motion was **passed**
Germany has been notified and approves of AHS using the H-only brand.

- The inspection tour has been organized and board has been given the schedule along with the judges who will attend. Meg Williams assigned the judges this year and should be commended for doing a great job. The board acknowledged her efforts to manage the schedule even though she's no longer the head of the Mare & Stallion Committee. There were many, many iterations of the agenda trying to accommodate everyone's schedule and still fill the necessary slots. Ms. Williams told the group that she sent out an email at the beginning of the scheduling asking which judges could go out on tour. Those who responded were put on the tour. Several judges could not go out this year for varying reasons, such as health and other commitments. It was expressed that this wasn't the first year that it's been a problem filling the judges' slots; understanding that judges are volunteers and that there are other things in life that get in the way. It's one of the reasons the board hired a permanent German judge. New to the tour will be the utilization of linear scoring, and the Gold Medal Foal award.
- A question was asked about the inspection tour development process and how it should evolve going forward. Although the inspection tour has been done by the Inspection Committee it was reassigned to the office for the 2019 season. So, now what is the role of the Inspection

Committee vs. the Mare and Stallion Committee. The M&S Committee does not organize events, but are responsible for the judging and policy. The role for the Inspection Committee will now change to policy regarding the inspections, such as the difference between a public inspection and a private inspection. The Committee will be presenting a motion to the board at a later date. Action Item: The board asked the ED to have committee charters completed by committee chairs. ED to send out a template.

- There will now be a Friday evening meeting at the August Board Meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. for dinner.
- A donation link for the Young Breeders' trip to Austria has been posted online and sent to all board members. Anyone who would like to donate would be greatly appreciated.

Executive Director's Report

- There's a new marketing packet for inspections that consists of social media graphics, a print flyer, and two magazine ads. They will be sent to each site host before the tour begins.
- The Rhineland Studbook logo has been resized to more closely match the dimensions of the Hanoverian logo. This will make it easier to use on forms and other material. The board might give some thought to combining the two logos into one, such as the Australian society has done. This will alleviate having to choose one logo over another when only one logo is allowed (e.g., sponsorship opportunities).
- A credit card has been established in the AHS name with PNC bank to replace the one cancelled by the previous executive director. Only one card is being issued for the judges (see Finance Committee minutes) and, with the encouragement of the AHS accounting team, new expense forms are being implemented for the others.
- Automatic deposit capabilities were explored but the cost would be about \$600/year with PNC bank.
- Hotel contracts have been signed for the AGM in February and the Board Retreat in August.
- The AHS financial audit has started and will continue over the next month.
- The spring magazine is being finalized and should be out in the next few weeks.

Certificate of Pedigree (CP) Rules for Acceptance

The current breeding rules state that one Hanoverian-papered ~~and approved~~ parent is required for the offspring to get a CP. The proposed change is that one Hanoverian-approved parent would allow the offspring to receive a CP. The discussion was that this would allow more options to those who wanted to be associated with the AHS. Concerns were raised that there is confusion in the competition world between Hanoverian horses and CP horses. When the rules were changed allowing Hanoverian-approved horses to parent a registered foal, the CP was specifically not changed so that Hanoverian blood remained as a requirement for the CP.

Action Item: Rick Toering will write up the proposed changes and a motion will be introduced at the next meeting.

In addition, wording changes to the CP papers at the top and prominent will be considered to ensure that owners understand these are not breeding papers and do not infer breeding rights.

Action Item: Mr. Toering to develop edits to present at next meeting.

New Website

- A new navigation structure has been developed and outlined by the Website Committee so that the editing of pages can begin.
- Content has been divided up for editing by phases—Phase I, II, or III.
- Content is written, goes to Ms. Palmquist who sends to the subject matter expert(s). When it's returned, it then goes to editorial, and a final review by JLH.
- Have a dollar amount from Sandy W. but still need an e-commerce module price.

New Brand

Although new foals will be branded with an H only, the Board was asked to decide what brand should be done on yearlings this year: Will yearlings be branded with an H or an H-18? After a brief discussion, it was decided that **if it's a 2018 horse, it gets branded with an H-18 consistent with the brand used the year they were born.** Rhineland horses may be an exception because the brand was not available earlier, but it will be a special exception.

NASST Judging Days

Do judges need to be at the NASST for all three days or could they go for just two days (licensing day and the preceding day)? The discussion highlighted that judges like to see the horses in their stalls, that they would have a better feel for each horse by the time they were presented for licensing, and that it was good to have a Hanoverian presence at the NASST. It was also suggested that everything that happens on the first day could be repeated on the 3rd day, such as the under saddle work. In addition, NASST is now carving out time on day 3 to do free jumping. Limiting judges to two days would save the organization about \$1,000. The Mare and Stallion Committee voted to leave the judging at three days.

A motion was made by Rachel Ehrlich: AHS should pay for judges to attend all three days of NASST. The motion passed.

Action Item: Executive Director to order nametags for judges and board members.

The President adjourned the meeting at 5:25