

VIAHA Regular Meeting Minutes

January 6th, 2025 Zoom Call

Attending:

Gerald McDonald: President; Cindi Wrate: secretary; Wendy Don: membership secretary; Rob Calnan; Jessica Bennie; Amanda Davies; Diana Hanson

General Meeting

Gerald called the meeting to order at 7:18 pm on January 6th, 2025

The previous minutes were previously circulated and reviewed. Motioned by Rob Calnan and seconded by Jessica Bennie to accept the minutes as such.

Treasurers Report:

Gerald McDonald presented both the Profit & Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet. All known expenses have been paid up to this date. There is one outstanding bill known to be coming due – the cost of the website hosting. This will be discussed under item 5

The treasurers' reports were moved to be accepted as presented by Jessica Bennie and seconded by Wendy Don

Membership Report:

Wendy reported that at present we have a total of 20 adult members.

- 10 one-year adult members
- 9 3-year adult members
- 1 lifetime member
- 1 youth member

New Business

1. Meeting Dates

Membership meetings dates were distributed amongst the group and were reviewed, the one date not finalized is the June meeting date – depending on when the Island Classics will be held the meeting will either be June 2 or 9th. This will be finalized at the February meeting

2. Island Classic Show

There was a fulsome discussion about the Island Classics Show. Reviewing past entries for both Arab and Sport Horse classes, the difficulty and expense of booking an Arabian judge, the members wondered if it might be wise to have just a Sport Horse show. Several Sport Horse judges were suggested as were different venues. Gerald, Wendy will review some of those

suggestions to bring forward. As several directors were not present at this meeting, this discussion will be finalized at the February meeting.

3. 2025 Show Dates

Show dates for the All Arabian Horse Association of BC (AAHABC), VIAHA, Region 5 – Daffodil, MidSummer and Region 5 Regional Championship Show, Region 17 Championship Show and Western Canadian Breeders Championship Show were reviewed

4. Other Activities

Gerald then held a round table discussion asking each member if there was a particular interest or activity that they would like the club to consider hosting. Gerald will review all of those suggestions and at the February meeting they will be presented to see how feasible it will be to add these activities onto an already scheduled show/event or to hold it separately. The idea of a “meet an Arabian horse” was also discussed

5. Website

There was robust discussion on whether websites are the best method of presenting information to people interested in our club activities . It was suggested that we will review the idea of linking to the Region 17 web page, consider other ways to communicate such as Facebook/twitter/tweet. It was decided to continue with the present webpage for 1 more year; explore options and review by November so that a decision is made before the renewal date next year.

Other Business

AHA Judges School

Amanda Davies was asked to speak to her experience of attending the AHA Judges School in Scottsdale Arizona, Dec 5 -7th. She explained that it was a very intense 3-days, that the facilitators were excellent- so knowledgeable.

The first 2 days focused on classroom learning on several topics.

Overall:

Points of Emphasis, Judging Considerations and Expectations, General Conformation/Form to Function, Arabian Conformation, Breeding/In-hand Scoring. Recognizing Soundness/Gaits

Division specific :

Western Pleasure, Performance Halter, Reining/Reining Seat, Equitation, Horsemanship, English, Country English, Driving, Carriage Driving

Hunter Pleasure, Show Hack, Side Saddle, Mounted Native Costume

Trail, In-hand Trail, Ranch Horse Riding, Ranch Rail, Showmanship

Equitation Overview including:

Hunter Seat Equitation, Saddle Seat Equitation, Western Seat Equitation

The third day they went to a private Arabian facility to practice judging horses and then went to the Westworld facility to go in the ring during an actual show and practice judge the class. Amanda said one of the important learning's for her came at the fireside chats – specifically learning to be a steward, and this has given her some consideration that this might be something she wants to explore

Adjournment

With no further discussion, Gerald adjourned the meeting at 8:24 pm. The next meeting is planned for February 3rd – probably video conferencing again.