

Alberta Cutting Horse Association

AGM Saturday November 14, 2009

10:30 am Deerfoot Foot Inn and Casino

Present: Gerry Hansma, Tes VanHouten, Mike and Tina Santangelo, Nancy Calvin, Sandy Reid, Derold Doering, Scott Wardley, Bill Speight, Elaine Speight, Pauli Smith, Rob Leman, James Couillard, Cody Smith, Neil Shanks, Gord Roper, Christopher Eggertson, Welland Muri, Don Smith, Shauna Reinhardt, Tony Piatelli

Absent: Jim Paradis, Brad Pedersen, Brian Butlin, Doug Reinhardt, Connie Cicoria

1. **Meeting called to order at 10:42 am.**
2. **Minutes of November 14, 2008 AGM** were circulated. Motion made by Pauli Smith to approve the minutes as presented. Scott Wardley seconded.
3. **Financial Report** presented by Shauna Reinhardt.
As of October 31, 2008;
GIC held \$50,506.85, Daily Interest- \$26,652.77 and chequing \$23,190.04.

Summarized as a net income of \$-8902.22.

Gord discussed cleaning up the format of the statements and going to accrual versus the current cash system. Outstanding deposits and cheques were still to clear the bank which would affect the year end. Scott Wardley made a motion to approve the Financial Statements as presented. Don Smith seconded.

4. President's Report: Overview of 2009

Gord thanked the current Board members for a great year. Thanks to Christopher and James for the Banquet and Awards work; Don, Tes, Ken and Karen Mix for the Silent Auction efforts, to Shauna for keeping us organized, the Trainers for their long days turning back, and to the retiring directors; Doug, Connie and Bill for all their advice and expertise over the course of the past year.

Cutting Arena Highlights

In 2009 we held 16 shows, 2526 total cuts (average 158/day) of which 14/16 were CCHA approved. The ACHA sponsored 2 Socials- NCHA days which Tony Piatelli and Renee White organized a steak barbecue, and last show steak dinner which K& K Livestock co sponsored and organized at Thorlakson. Thank you to Tony, Renee Ken and Karen for their efforts. Ogden competitors brought home \$4000 US in winnings, Bridle less in Olds profited \$7000 which will go back to purse money for the 2010 show, and at year end Silent Auction netted \$4000.

Thorlakson and K&K Livestock sponsored a 3 show miniseries with championship jackets and fleece coolers which was well received.

We employed Cowboy Oriented Websites to manage our site with significant improvement in the presentation of our association's news and updates.

Our Fundraising Clinics in the north and south: clinicians Doug and Gerry, Loren and Brad were well attended and generated \$6800.

Lots of work, lots of fun and lots of cuts made for a terrific year.

NCHA Updates/Highlights

Class changes for 2010 are: 20 NP moves to 35 NP and 10 AM becomes 15 AM. A big push from NCHA to get show schedules organized and set and show applications in as early as possible.

A crack down on cutters medicating horses in public areas has been targeted by NCHA for reprimands. Specific details are available on the NCHA website.

NCHA is also working toward AQHA approvals for shows.

5. Old Business

Sustainability Fund was increased to \$50,000

Bylaws were changed to include a 13th position for past president for one year.

6. New Business-

Outlook for 2010/ and New Business Financial Initiatives

Fundraising efforts and significant ACHA office fees from large number of cuts /show produced significant revenue. Overall sponsorship dollars were down from past years. The general economy for 2010 is still rumoured to be suppressed which means our association will have to be diligent and streamlined with finances.

We will be entering 2010 with roughly \$15,000 less than last year once all has cleared the banks.

Our base operating costs are \$50,000 of which half of that is fixed. Revenues are variable and as such prize budget should be variable and adjusted to revenues.

Gord asked the membership how they felt about changing the amount of funds allocated to year end prizes during the year depending on how attendance was shaping up for shows. He presented the idea of reinstating the 60% rule because 3 of the 5 top finishers in almost every class were not at 60% of the shows and that would change how the year end looked. Also suggested was the possibility of only giving out 3spots for yearend awards instead of five.

Sandy Reid questioned the benefit of the 60% rule as cuts were up. Historically the 60% attendance rule was to encourage people to attend more shows to qualify for yearend awards. Last year attendance was not an issue.

Neil Shanks felt that if you win you win and that it should not be an attendance award and top 5 get prizes.

Pauli Smith felt that rules should not be changed half way through the year and that cutters who support the association by going to shows all year should be rewarded, so she was in favour of the 60% rule.

The membership all agreed that 60% rule cannot be changed through the year and it would not be reinstated for the 2010 year.

A discussion was held on basic business principles of covering fixed costs.

Neil Shanks stated that the fixed costs should be covered by membership fees which are fixed. He recommended that membership fees be raised to cover the ACHA fixed costs and then the entire membership is supporting the ACHA as opposed to the few who sponsor every year.

Neil Shanks made a motion to increase a single ACHA membership to \$150 (GST in). The Family and Youth membership are to be scaled. Christopher Eggertson seconded. Motion passed.

The next newsletter to address the membership fee increase due to covering fixed operating costs.

A discussion was held on the ACHA office charges. Historically they were at \$12/cut in the years when the numbers of cuts were low. When the number of cuts increased the fee was dropped to \$10 per run. The question was raised if this office fee should be increased to help offset increased operating costs.

A motion was made by James Couillard to increase the ACHA office charge to \$12/cut. Sandy Reid seconded. Motion Passed.

AGM Banquet Structure and Format

Due to lack of availability of appropriate banquet rooms the Banquet was held on Friday and the AGM on Saturday. Gord asked the membership how they felt about this format. General consensus was to try and have both on the same day.

Other times of the year were suggested as November is a busy month. The Board of Directors will discuss this issue further. Some felt a January date could work. Another suggestion was to have ACHA AGM the same weekend as the CCHA as everyone is already gathered together.

Other Projects

Financial Statement restructuring-The financial committee will follow up on this matter.

Corporate Governance: The Bylaws need to be reviewed.

Member Discipline: A subcommittee will follow up and make suggestions to be adapted for either the Bylaws or Standing Rules.

7. Committee Reports

Show report by Shauna Reinhardt for Connie Cicoria

The tentative 2010 schedule:

April 3/4	Fundraiser/ Thorlakson
April 21-25	Aged Event/Weekend- Silver Slate
May 14-16	Claresholm
June 11-13	Ponoka
June 25-27	Claresholm
July 31- Aug 2	Moores/Thorlakson
Aug 18-22	3 yr Old/ Weekend -Olds
Sept 3-5	Thorlakson if needed
Sept 15-19	Aged event/ Weekend- Silver Slate

Tentatively 16 shows are planned with one spare weekend. A request has been made to the CCHA for approval for the Fundraiser show.

Show applications will be submitted for 3 days to run a 2 day weekend show.

Bill Speight commented that the ACHA look after Thorlakson as they have been great ACHA supporters.

Rob Leman offered to host a jackpot fundraising show at his place on the NCHA weekend. No approvals.

Fundraising Report

In 2009 clinics netted \$6800, Fundraising Show \$12,000 and sponsors approximately \$26,000.

Some sponsors had committed to donating funds and did not follow through with their commitment.

This needs to be reviewed for next year.

8. Election of Directors

Gord discussed the need to have a good representation of directors sitting on the Board. Gender, geographic distribution, trainer's vs amateurs were points to consider when voting.

Don Smith presented the Nominating Committee Report

Directors with one year remaining: Christopher Eggertson, Don Smith, Welland Muri, Cody Smith, Jim Paradis.

Directors whose term has expired: James Couillard, Brian Butlin, Rob Leman, Brad Pedersen, Gord Roper, Doug Reinhardt, Bill Speight, and Connie Cicoria (past president).

Individuals who have agreed to let their name stand for election: James Couillard, Brian Butlin, Rob Leman, Brad Pedersen, Gord Roper, Tony Piatelli, Sandy Reid, and Scott Wardley.

Call from the floor for nominations.

Cody Smith nominated Gerry Hansma. Gerry declined.

Call from the floor for nominations. A third call was made for nominations from the floor.

Ballots were distributed and then collected. Don Smith and Christopher Eggertson left the room to tally votes.

Votes were tallied with the following results;

Elected to sit on the board until fall of 2011:

James Couillard, Rob Leman, Brad Pedersen, Gord Roper, Tony Piatelli, Sandy Reid, and Scott Wardley.

Completing their term the fall of 2010:

Christopher Eggertson, Don Smith, Welland Muri, Cody Smith, and Jim Paradis

Rob Leman made a motion that ballots be destroyed. Scott Wardley second.

9. Other Business:

None

Bill Speight made a motion to adjourn at 12:48 pm. Don Smith second.