

# MINNESOTA HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2011

Held at the Leatherdale Equine Center, University of Minnesota, Saint Paul

In attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Betsy Kieffer	X	Sharon Golden	X	Janet McCaffrey	X	Heather Parish	X
Mary Armstrong	X	Tracy Grandstrand	X	Becky Nay	X	John Puckett	
Lisa Brustman	X	Sara Hogan	X	Patti Nelson	X	Brenda Roloff	X
Mary Jo Cody	X	Elizabeth Lampert	X	Linda Ostberg	X	Nicole Salazar	X

Approximately 15 members were in attendance.

Meeting was called to order by B. Kieffer.

1. **Officers for 2012:** B. Kieffer proposed the following slate of Officers for 2012:

President: Linda Ostberg

Vice President: Tracy Grandstrand

Secretary: Sara Hogan

Treasurer: Lisa Brustman

No other nominations were received from the floor. It was moved and seconded to approve the slate of Officers. The motion carried.

2. **Treasurer's Report:** J. McCaffrey provided the treasurer's report. For the end of November there is \$10,354.43 in the MHJA checking account, \$36,361.02 in savings, \$3,266.23 in the MHJA Horse Show account, \$100.12 in savings, and \$14,215.78 in the Harvest Horse Show account, \$100.12 in savings, for a total of \$64,397.70. M.J. Cody moved and T. Grandstrand seconded approving the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.
3. **Year End Award Prizes:** P. Nelson reported that the Championship coolers have arrived and are being embroidered. These should be sent out soon to the winners.
4. **Membership:** B. Nay reported that renewals continue to come in.
5. **Newsletter:** H. Parish indicated that the Holiday issue is in process and information is due this week; send any information and Year End award Champion and Reserve photos now to: [updates@mhja6.org](mailto:updates@mhja6.org). There is a Newsletter committee meeting coming up and there will be discussions about changing to two printed issues and two electronic issues per year in order to save both time and cost.
6. **USHJA Class Specifications:** B. Kieffer reported that the new national specifications for Pre-Green Hunters will match our Zone 6 specifications.
7. **USHJA Convention:** Kathy Ott, Zone 6 Jumper Chair, reported on the Jumper committee activities. There are 7 people on this committee from those who designated "Jumper" as their main discipline; there will be new elections this year. There will be Zone funds available to support Zone Clinic participation. There are no new nationalized jumper standards. New drug rules go into effect for 2012; cannot use more than one NSAID any longer. Exhibitors should familiarize themselves with the revised rules. T. Grandstrand reported on the Hunter committee. Approved helmets must be worn at all times while mounted on the show grounds. Through the Jockey Club and CANTER there are now new awards for Thoroughbreds; they are trying to raise \$1 million in prizes for this year for Hunters and Jumpers. Horses must be nominated. There is also a Pre-

Green Hunter Futurity starting up this year.

Beth Minor, Zone 6 Hunter Chair and USHJA Secretary, reported that locations for the Zone Finals will be decided in January in order for this information to be included in Prize Lists. There is a 2 year business plan in place for the Zone (2011-2012).

Approximately \$7,350 will be spent in 2012 for various scholarships and clinic support. She also reported that the new USHJA website is up and running.

8. **Horse Shows:** The MHJA Horse Show has been breaking even; it is no longer a money maker for the organization. It was also noted that if not for the Opportunity many local horse shows would have lost money this year.

We have been doing fund raising and sponsorships for the Minnesota Harvest Horse Show as we are a 501.c.3 organization and Midstates Horse Shows is not. We raise the prize money for the Junior/Amateur Jumper Class, the Grand Prix and also the Hunter Challenge Class; approximately \$35,000 to 45,000. We sell and collect the funds from all ticket sales, vendor booths and sponsors. This year the ticket sales were on line – this worked very well. We host the social events such as the sponsor/exhibitor party and the exhibitor tent. Midstates receives all the entry fee money to pay for organizing and putting on the show. Approximately half of the entries are from out of state. There was much discussion about the fall Harvest Show. Greg Novak stated that this is a valuable horse show for Minnesota; it is our one, big, indoor show; it provides visibility for the Hunters and Jumpers; it is spectator friendly, encourages future students, parents and owners to come and meet trainers. Most everyone in attendance wants to see the show continue. A suggestion was made to include the MHJA name along with Midstates in order to clarify the arrangement. As a one ring show, trainers haven't been able to bring all their students, but, it is a valuable show for them none the less. Next year the new indoor ring facility will be complete; this may allow for a two ring show with the new ring being used for the lower height divisions part time (afternoons and evenings possibly) and as a lunging/schooling area in the mornings. A second, outside schooling area will be complete as well. Classes could be organized to only need one hunter judge and one jumper judge even if both rings were in use.

Stewart Underhill reported that the 2 Alpine Hunter Jumper shows broke even, along with their dressage shows; they are able to share some of their costs over several shows.

9. **Unrated Shows:** T. Grandstrand is heading this committee and is encouraging people to volunteer. At present, only 5 of our approved shows are held in Minnesota; 7 are in adjoining states. There was much discussion about holding more schooling shows although it is difficult to find open dates and trainers/barns available. The MHJA should help promote these shows; perhaps offering a prize such as a free stall at the MHJA show, and so on.
10. **Suggested New Specifications:** B. Kieffer asked if we should add a Limit Children's Hunter division. It was suggested that this division be held in the 3' hunter ring (Children's Hunter ring) and could be combined with the Limit Adult Hunters if fewer than 3-6 entries were received in either/each division. Year End awards could be provided. This was well received. It was also suggested that a Modified Children/Adult Hunter division be provided with heights at 2'-6" and 2'-9" for those not eligible for Long Stirrup. This should be provided on weekends if possible with cross entry into Low Hunter and Limit Children's only. No Year End awards.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried; meeting was adjourned.