

Minnesota Hunter & Jumper Association

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025

Midwest Dairy Offices, St. Paul



Attendance

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Tal Mizrahi '25	X	Meghan Gaddes '27	X	Nicole Salazar '26	X
Tracy Grandstrand '25	X	Betsy Keiffer '27	X	Christina Solie '27	X
Ireen Sommer '26	X	Stephanie Greeninger '25	X	Gina Vlahos '27	
Emma Gambach '25	X	Kirsten Priebe '25	X	Meredith Varie '26	X
Alyssa Deering '25	X	Jeni McDermott '25		Lauren Wood '26	
Mia Forbes '26	X	Corey Scott '27	X		

Summary of Motions

Motion	Moved	Second	Approved	Not Approved	Comment
President: Tal	Meredith	Corey	X		Corey next year?
VP: Tracy	Corey	Nicole	X		
Treasurer: Ireen	Betsy	Tracy	X		
Secretary: Emma	Ireen	Tracy	X		Steph & Betsy can fill in too
Moving Bank to Chase	Tracy	Meredith	X		
Approve GGEC week 1 (unrated Jumper show)	Meredith	Corey	X		
Approve GGEC week 2 (rated Hunter show)	Meredith	Corey	X		

Meeting called to order by Tal at 6:25 PM

1. Meghan's proposal

- Took the Committee Handbook and reorganized. Recognized lots of overlap, looking for a fresh perspective at processes. Areas where collaboration makes more sense if you restructure, goal= present cohesive message.
- New committees presented in proposal:
 - Sponsorship (in different capacities)



- ii. Communications and Media- all collaborate and make more cohesive
 - 1. Any advertising
 - 2. Any emails going out to membership
 - 3. Newsletters
 - 4. Social media
 - 5. Website
- iii. Banquet and awards: All under one, breaking subcommittees from there, still have awards and silent auction, but all communicate together
- iv. Education and outreach
- v. Membership and points: Housing member data together
- vi. Strategic planning and nomination?
- vii. USHJA show standards
- viii. MHHS

2. 2025 Committee designations (using new committee outline from proposal)

Goal= make sure committee heads are listed and updated on the website so that members can find the right information.

- a. **Sponsorship** (This committee is getting lumped into event management)
 - i. When MHJA had a horse show, barns would give money to sponsor divisions. This has now mostly gone over to the Harvest committee. MHJA does donate to local affiliate shows, the shows are responsible for getting their own sponsors. In the past, we've gotten sponsorships for medal finals (gift bags)

b. Communications and Media Committee

- i. Chair: Meghan
- ii. Advertising: Meghan
- iii. Social Media: Alyssa
- iv. Website/ Emails: Emma
- v. Newsletter: Betsy K

c. Banquet Committee

- i. Chair: Mia?
 - 1. Keep in mind, we need to stay in budget and understand there's not unlimited funds
 - 2. Dates are flexible, but needs to be far enough from the last show (at least 10 days to get final points calculated)
 - 3. Have done banquet in January, made awards easier, but lots of people leave for shows (however, in November there are indoor finals)
 - 4. Tentative date: first week in December??
 - a. December 5 or 6? (Friday is often cheaper)
 - 5. This would be great time for open meeting (like how INHJA does theirs)



- ii. Open Meeting: Corey and Meredith
- iii. Nicole, Gina, and Christina to help
- iv. Silent auction: Mia

d. Awards Committee

- i. Year End Awards: Lauren
- ii. Medal Finals: Lauren

e. Education and Outreach Committee

- i. Chair: Meredith
- ii. Corey will support (Open Meeting)
 - 1. Open Meeting should include what BOD did, new BOD members, financials, etc.

f. Membership and Points Committee

- i. Membership Chair: Stephanie
- ii. Points Chair: Jeni

g. Strategic planning and nominations

- i. Nominations chair: Nicole
 - 1. Needs to be done by August so that new BOD can be introduced at banquet, then can elect new officers

h. USHJA show standards committee

- i. Chair: Tracy
- ii. Betsy K helping with this (she is still affiliate member to zone 6)

i. MHHS

- i. Separate entity, Nancy Giachetti or Kaylyn are good to contact
- ii. For future years when Harvest is back: liaison to the MHHS committee?
Liaison to Pat?

3. Advertising

- a. Last year, Sarah will do the first round, but she needs to be updated consistently to make sure she has the right ads.
- b. We need someone to step in and create a media kit, reach out to people to collect payment.
- c. The job entails getting the information to Heather, billing the sponsors

4. Officer Elections (each term is 1 year)

- a. President
 - i. Tal re-elected for another year, Corey in the running for next year
- b. Vice President
 - i. Tracy re-elected
- c. Treasurer



- i. Ireen elected
- d. Secretary
 - i. Emma elected
 - ii. Betsy and Stephanie volunteered to fill in if necessary

5. Ireen wants to put together budgets for each committee

- a. Kaylyn is helping Ireen transition the treasurer role
- b. Ireen has limitations- cannot house any funds, money market
- c. Ireen says lots is happening with the bank, working with Wells Fargo is proving difficult, hopes to move to Chase or other.

6. Golden Gate Shows

- a. GGEC jumper show= Unrated, can't compete with state fair dates (8/16- 8/17)
- b. GGEC hunter show= 8/23- 8/24, USEF rated
- c. Stabling on farm means separating; jumpers one weekend, then hunters
- d. Since they aren't the same horse show, it was right for Missy to submit 2 affiliation forms.
- e. Lauren can go light rating (because it's the first show she's had)
 - i. Light means lowest USEF rating (some limitations like money to give away)
- f. Both new GGEC shows approved

7. Other Show Updates

- a. Tracy is getting her horse shows USEF rated (both May, July, see if can get October)
 - i. Probably all be B rating
- b. GGEC will be regional
- c. Tracy has taken Hott's spring dates
- d. Horse show Affiliation cost: \$100 for first show, then \$60 for each additional show
- e. Betsy says USHJA allows Channel 2 points to count for Channel 1 for YE awards. They haven't figured about qualifying for fall shows.

8. Horse protection act changed this year

- a. Goes into effect February 1
- b. Inspectors can come up to check your horse
- c. Isolation protocols, quarantine stalls for USDA needed for shows
- d. Betsy says it's beneficial to stay with USEF for shows' own legal safety
 - i. If your show is USEF approved, USEF will help cover you
- e. Congress changed Minor Abuse Program (MAP), now any kind of meeting where minors are involved, you have to have safesport program of some kind (being USEF rated will protect shows and us)



9. Payments

- a. We have a square, can we move online payments to credit card or apple pay and do away with PayPal?
 - i. Do this for 2026
 - ii. Paypal is + \$0.33 per transaction
- b. Find out what Chase does per transaction for a business account (you can have up to 200 transactions per month, over that you are charged \$0.50 per transaction)
- c. Does square hold a reserve?

10. Next BOD meeting dates (try to do all in person, zoom option if needed)

- a. Feb 24 at 6:00pm at Ireen's
- b. March 24 at 6:00pm at Midwest Dairy
- c. April 28 at 6:00pm at Ireen's
- d. May 19 at 6:00pm at Midwest Dairy
- e. June 23 at 6:00pm at Ireen's
- f. July/ August skipped
- g. August 25 at 6:00pm at Midwest Dairy
- h. October 6 at 6:00pm at Ireen's
- i. November 4 at 6:00pm at Midwest Dairy
- j. December 5, 6, or 7 is potentially open meeting?

11. Action item: next meeting, come with budget proposal for our committees

12. New business

- a. Events
 - i. Fitness event in January/February?
 - 1. Meredith will reach back out to people hosting it
 - ii. Braiding event, Meredith will talk to Gina and Christina
 - 1. Said they can host it at Grand Oak
 - iii. Brooke Drassal willing to do bodywork clinic
- b. Betsy- USHJA zone 6 wants to do an ask the judge or a course walk
 - i. Probably down at Mason City
 - ii. MHJA could help with the event! Dan can get INHJA to do something
 - iii. Red Pine: Missy Rhodes is doing a clinic, ask the judge on Sunday
- c. Betsy- Zandra Powers horsemanship class, they want to up practicum part of it
 - i. Written test is easier; Betsy has been able to administer
 - ii. Practical has been simple lately, Betsy grades them
 - iii. Open to juniors and amateurs!



- iv. Why they switched away from jumping portion- they wanted to open it to more people who might not have a horse at the show
 - 1. Betsy can talk to the zone to work something out
- d. Medal finals
 - i. Dan does them for us currently at Fall Mason City
 - ii. If there was a MN show at the right time and room to fit it in
 - iii. Fall MC is light because kids are back in school/ sports, is there a better date to have it?
- e. HOTY championship show
 - i. Might move to a summer show (they don't have to be at end of year)
- f. If clients do show pass fee to do one show, USEF is cracking down and kid can't sign their own entry blank, whoever signs it has to be a regular member (trainers and parent have to sign)
- g. If you have an amateur horse, finals are now in KY after Mason City Fall

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Additional Topics Discussed Out- of- Meeting (prior to 2/24/25 meeting)

Summary of Motions

Motion	Moved	Second	Approved	Not Approved	Comment
Approval of Open Meeting Minutes (12/16)	Emma	Stephanie	X		
Approval of 2025 advertising rate increase	Stephanie	Corey	X		

Mission Statement wording changed 1/30:

- Unite a dynamic and passionate community of hunter/jumper enthusiasts.
- Elevate local competition across all skill levels.



- Advocate for our members at both the zone and national levels.
- Cultivate a thriving future for the hunter/jumper sport in Minnesota through education, participation, and promotion.