

AMERICAN SADDLEBRED REGISTRY, INC.

**Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. ET
UPHA National Conference at the Marriott Griffin Gate Hotel,
Lexington, Kentucky and by tele-conference**

MINUTES

ASR Directors Present: Sandra Currier President, Susan Aschenbrenner, Elisabeth Goth, Todd Graham, Missy Hughes Smith (by phone), Emily Lee, Scott Matton, Donna Pettry-Smith, Karen Richardson, Matt Shiflet, Kim Skipton, Jenny Taylor and Owen Weaver.

Others Present: Lisa Duncan Registrar, Katriona Adams Assistant Registrar, Allen Norvell of Blue & Co. LLC, Marty Schaffel Acting ASHA President, David Mount Acting ASHA Executive Director, Kathie Jacobsen Chair of Equine Welfare Advocacy Committee and guest breeders: Scott Hagan, Fred Sarver, Smith Lilly, Annalize and Gene van der Walt, Judy Werner, Anne Neil, Joan Lurie, Edward Bennett and Joan Hamilton. Also present were In-coming Directors: Bob Brison, Larry Hartsock and Anna Marie Knipp.

I. Roll Call/Establish Quorum/Adopt Sturgis Rules of Order/Consider Agenda

Ms. Currier called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. ET and Ms. Adams called the roll. A quorum was present. Ms. Weaver made a motion to adopt Sturgis Rules of Order, Ms. Pettry-Smith seconded and the motion was passed. Ms. Pettry-Smith made a motion to move agenda item 9, Top Ten Breeders, up on the agenda to item 4 and add Discussion of Proposed Bylaws as new item 5 on the agenda. Ms. Richardson seconded the motion. Ms. Currier said she would not allow this agenda change noting that the Guidelines for Directors state that if a Board member wishes to place an item on the agenda, it is preferable that it be submitted in writing to the Executive Director/Registrar or the President at least 30 days in advance of the next meeting. Ms. Pettry-Smith restated her original motion to move agenda item 9, Top Ten Breeders, up on the agenda to item 4 and add Discussion of Proposed Bylaws as new item 5 on the agenda.

II. Consideration of draft minutes of October 28, 2019 meeting

Ms. Currier asked the Board to return to the agenda and consider the draft minutes of the October 28, 2019 meeting. Ms. Weaver made a motion to approve the draft minutes of October 28, 2019 meeting as presented, Ms. Goth seconded and the motion was passed.

III. Audit Report

Allen Norvell, of Blue & Co LLC, reported on the final 2019 audit report and supplementary information for December 31, 2018 and 2017. He reported on two causes for delay of the audit: multiple adjusting journal entries were necessary to correct the Registry's accounts and turnover of accounting staff required audit staff to work with registry staff to complete the audit. Recommendations made include considering the use of outsourcing to streamline staff and increase efficiency and prepare timely and accurate monthly internal financial statements. Questions were raised regarding insurance

coverage against hacking our data and/or holding our data hostage. Mr. Norvell will look into this and Ms. Duncan will check with USEF regarding what kind of protection is in place and will also check on our insurance coverage. Ms. Goth asked how the numbers are reached on page 5 of the audit report relating to management fees for Futurity and Sweepstakes Programs. Both are listed as \$14,651. Mr. Norvell will look into this.

IV. Treasurer's Report & Financials

a. Investment Report

Ms. Skipton asked Directors to provide her with any questions regarding the Raymond James Investment Report and she will pass them along to Rob Brewer.

b. Registry Financial Statements as of December 31, 2019

Ms. Skipton reported that we did well in 2019 and were at 154% of budget versus actual for Registry Income. Expenses were also up which included a new expense of \$2,500 paid to the UPHA to host the annual conference. Ms. Skipton reported that the ASR Finance Committee has a recommendation that we look at outsourcing our accounting function. This is the fourth bookkeeper that we have had in a short amount of time and a mis-payment of around \$19,000 was recently discovered. We are current on financials for the first time in several years so it would be a good time to make this change and it would save the Registry money. She has interviewed several accounting firms. A discussion took place regarding income for transfers. We received less income for transfers in 2019 but more income for registrations, primarily due to amnesty.

V. Registrar's Report

a. 2019 Registry Statistics

Ms. Duncan reported that the number of horses registered in 2019 is 1,396 compared to 1,374 in 2018, which is an increase of 22. We received 135 more applications for registration compared to 2018. The registration foal crop report was discussed. It was noted that 344 foals born in 2018 were not registered until 2019. The number of transfers processed in 2019 is 2,560 compared to 2,716 in 2018, which is a decrease of 156.

b. Preliminary Draft 2020 Budget

Ms. Duncan noted that she was conservative on the draft 2020 budget due to the decrease in the number of transfers. Ms. Skipton made a motion to approved the draft 2020 budget, Ms. Goth seconded and the motion was passed.

c. Online Registrations

Ms. Duncan reported that the last few glitches have been worked out and members can now submit applications for registration, DNA kit orders and stallion service reports online under their member profile page.

d. Other

Ms. Duncan noted that at the last meeting there was a discussion about the top 15 stallions with the highest number of mares bred. After having a report run, it turns out that the top stallion only accounted for 4.36% of the reported mares bred. Fred Sarver

noted that UK has done a population study and may be able to do one for us. He will look into it.

Ms. Duncan also reported that we have been in discussions with Dr. Graves at the UK Lab regarding a project to convert some of the frozen blood serum samples to DNA. Mr. Mount is working on a grant to cover the cost of this project.

Ms. Duncan reported on a promotional article in the National Horseman regarding the Half Saddlebred Registry.

VI. Saddlebred Record CH points

Ms. Currier read a proposed addition to the Saddlebred Record Champion Application Rules from the Ad Hoc Saddlebred Record Task Force. The proposal relates to ASHA Star Shows and reads as follows:

7. Point Values for ASHA Star Shows

1 point 1st place Championship class in which four or more horses have competed and qualified in a prior class.

.5 point 2nd place Same as Above.

.5 point 1st place Any other eligible class in which six or more horses have competed.

Only 3 points won in "ASHA Star Show" classes will count toward the total of 15 points required to earn CH status. Effective January 1, 2020

A discussion took place regarding which shows are drug tested and the importance of maintaining the integrity of the CH Program. Ms. Duncan suggested adding CH-EQ to the proposal. Ms. Lee made a motion to approve the proposal with the addition of CH-EQ, Ms. Weaver seconded and the motion was passed with four opposed and with Ms. Goth abstaining. Ms. Currier suggested that we put together a plan to further discuss the other types of shows that may offer drug testing.

VII. Sport Horse CH points

Ms. Jacobsen explained a preliminary proposal from the Equine Welfare Advocacy Committee to add the designation CH-SH to the Saddlebred Record Program for Sport Horses. Once approved, the committee will develop the initial qualifications focusing first on the disciplines of Dressage, Endurance and Eventing. She noted that all of these shows are subject to drug testing.

VIII. President's Report Guest Breeders

Ms. Currier explained that she had invited the top ten breeders based on 2019 competition year placings at USEF shows to this meeting because she would like to discuss their concerns and needs. She had sent them all a list of the following questions and relayed some of the responses:

1. Will promoting Sport horses help our middle market? Have you sold a horse as a Sport horse or Hunter Horse?

It was noted that we need to do whatever we can to promote American Saddlebreds. Mr. Graham suggested that the Registry have its own Marketing Committee.

2. Do you think increasing prize money in young horse classes will help our breeding numbers? How do we attract Corporate sponsors for this?

Increasing prize money in futurities would be beneficial. A recommendation was made to ask the Kentucky State Fair to raise the price of stall fees and put the extra income towards futurities.

3. What can the Registry do to help you? Would you pay extra money each year for a speed pass? The Morgans offer this to members and their paperwork is done as it comes in and does not go in the queue.

No. The Registry is quiet efficient.

4. To what extent should papers go with a horse?

Two responded yes and one no. Mr. Hagan noted that horses can be sold without papers. Ms. Hamilton noted that if a horse is identified through DNA you can get a court order to transfer into your ownership. It was noted that you always have the option of not registering a horse or of cancelling the registration for a \$50 fee. Ms. Hamilton made a suggestion regarding the online registrations. She would like to be able to put foal information into an account and submit them when she wants to. Mr. Sarver suggested revisiting the cancellation rule and perhaps eliminating the fee.

Ms. Currier noted that we were running out of time for the meeting and asked for any other comments or recommendations from the breeders in attendance. Mr. Hagan asked the Registry to look at allowing cloning for brood stock mares. Ms. Neil suggested doing something to give breeders a break for every 5 to 10 horses they register.

Ms. Currier thanked outgoing Directors, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Aschenbrenner and Mr. Matton, for all their hard work and Ms. Duncan presented them with gifts.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Weaver made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Lee seconded and the motion was passed. The meeting was duly adjourned at 3:05 p.m. ET.

Submitted by: *Katriona Adams*
Assistant Registrar