

IQHA Annual Membership Meeting January 11, 2025 Courtyard by Marriott Downtown

Meeting was called to order at 2:09 by President Tammi Adix.

January 2024 meeting minutes were read by Lindsay Black. Ella Carlson moved to approve the minutes as read with changes noted. Second was made by Janelle Ward Schaefer and minutes were approved.

Codi Jo Heesch read the Treasurer's report with a \$713,635.02 total balance. Our profit for the year 2024 is \$24,748.01 plus nearly \$5,000 in interest off the CDs for a total net income of \$29,040.43. The highlight for the year was the new Snowflake show profited over \$8,000 in 2024. Janelle Ward Schaefer moved to approve the balance sheet. Second was made by Dave Pyle. Treasurer report was approved.

President Tammi Adix greeted the general membership by thanking them all for being here and encouraged their participation. Ground rules were set for the meeting stating we follow Roberts Rules of Order. Please be respectful of time and stick to the topic at hand. Tammi said a huge thank you to all 2024 board members, exhibitors, and sponsors and a congratulations for all the 2024 IQHA awards winners.

Vice President Mitch Adkins thanked the board members and all the committees on their commitment to the successful year. He reminded everyone that you don't have to be a board member to be on a committee. Mitch also commented he never thought when he graduated high school he would be the Vice President of IQHA. He thanked Tammi Adix for the leadership and commitment she displayed the past year.

District Director Reports

1-Becky Grier stated they have been very active this year. They will award 4 recipients to receive OCAP awards at the banquet tonight. Their 2024 year started with helping at Snowflake as their district is a profit sharing member of that new show. Their members were huge in stepping up to help with whatever was needed there. They were a sponsor for the Iowa Horse Fair and Becky helped Jackie Kincaid with the horse fair set up. They did their halter giveaways at 12 county fairs again and sponsored senior equitation at the Iowa State Fair. They also sponsored 2 Millie Fuhrmann and Maddie Santos for the Iowa State Fair cowgirl queen contest. Becki stated she has stepped down from district director and currently for 2025 they do not have a volunteer that is able to make the meeting requirements to accept the position.

2-Brian Hamrick noted they had a very successful 2024 Hawkeye Classic with exhibitors from 8 states. He noted this was the best group of people he has had working at the show. Thank you to all of them. This year's show is August 21-24. The date change was made to keep TNT as their horse show management. He is hoping they get some ranch horse futurity exhibitors using his show as preparation for the fall futurity. Halter will be Friday showing to all 4 judges. Cattle classes will be Thursday and Sunday. Ranch riding and ranch trail will be riding in 2 pens Friday and Saturday. It will be set up so you will go from one pen directly to the next. They donated \$500 to Linn County Fairgrounds for their new announcer's stand. Their next meeting will be January 26.

3-Lori Mennenga is absent today. Cathi Luett presented a report on her behalf. They started off 2024 with a ranch horse judges and exhibitor clinic. They helped with Scenic City and provided root beer

floats. They sponsored a class during the Iowa State Fair 4-H Show. Addison Kreimeyer was their cowgirl queen representative at the Iowa State Fair cowgirl queen contest. They also sponsored a trophy for the Ellsworth Open Show for highest placing quarter horse shown. Congratulations to Elivia Papcun for winning that award.

4-Kim Strong stated they offered OCAP with no participation for this year. She noted they shared profit sharing for Mayflower and helped where needed. They gave halters to county fairs in their districts and the recipients were chosen by the county fair superintendents. They will be doing a trail ride and clinic at Elk Rock with John and Lynn McGreal. Mateer Strong was first runner up at Congress queen competition and won the interview portion. District 4 and 5 had their December holiday meeting with a gift exchange and ugly sweater contest. They are trying to grow their district. On March 1 and 2 they will host a ranch horse with cattle clinic with Stephen Hutchens. This will be held at Codi Jo Heesch's property. Thank all 4th district members who stepped up to help volunteer this year.

5 -Jackie Kincaid started off by reminding members which counties are included in district 5. Their meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 6 pm. Their next meeting is February 11 at 6 pm at the Perkins in Altoona across from Prairie Meadows. Watch her district Facebook page for updates. This year they are awarding Grace Dehrkoop, Holly Limberg, and Mike Monahan as their three OCAP participants. Holly Lindberg won their volunteer of the year award. She provided her horse for the avenue of breeds at the Iowa Horse Fair. District 5 did horse fair in 2024, helped at Mayflower, and the Scenic City show. They sponsored Chloe Glew and Kara Flickinger for the Iowa State Fair cowgirl queen contest. Jackie also noted she helped at fall show and stated it takes a village. Jackie ran the sponsor table at the fall futurity and 5th district supplied treats and water. Mary Jo Hamrick and Becky Grier among others really helped keep that stocked. She also did a donation for the banquet tonight. Horse Fair March 21-23 this year. They are trying to do a trail ride and potluck dinner at Elk Rock and everyone invited in September 26-28. This is the week after fall futurity.

6-Vacant

7-Rosalie Carlson reported they had a successful show at Denison in 2024. This show mainly caters to ropers and VRH exhibitors. Thank you to Aaron Carlson to help with shavings and providing hay rings for the show. Thank you to the McCreedy family and Codi Jo for stepping up and helping. Ella and Rosalie sponsor a class at the Iowa State Fair 4-H Show. Zoom meeting for their district will be set up in the next few months. Rosalie was re-elected as the district representative for 2025 with Shelby McCreedy as the new secretary/treasurer.

8-Vacant

Directors at Large Reports

Craig Johnson started with a thank you to the executive committee and board of directors. He gave a congratulations to District 3 on all the things they are getting done. He has been working on the footing at the fairgrounds with the staff there. They have a new drag but need to learn how to run it. He reported they took the ground out of Jacobson arena and moved it into the east arena. They will be getting new footing in Jacobson arena this year.

Jennifer Horton gave a thank you to the members who elected her last year. She noted she will have more to say later.

Sarlynn Heston gave a thank you to all for allowing her to serve on the board.

Nikki Twogood gave a thank you to all the board and volunteers and stated it was a learning experience for her to serve on the board this year.

Ex-Officio Report

Loren Meyer stated his first IQHA show was in 2004. In 2019 he served as district director and president in 2023. There have been lots of changes in the nearly 75 years of this association and we seem to struggle with change. He asks that we consider new ideas moving forward. Are these new ideas good for IQHA as a whole? We need to be current with the times.

National Director Reports

Tom Lepic-Absent

Jennifer Horton noted she was elected last March. She continues to serve on the Youth Activities Committee. There is a big push on focusing on young adults and the transition out of their youth careers. AQHA has approved a new small fry division.

Tammi Adix reported she is on the Membership and Marketing Committee. They are working hard to help bridge the gap to AQHA and their affiliates. Their committee is split into 3 sub-divisions including the buddy program, fan zone, and affiliate group.

Director Emeritus Reports

Bill Horton states that he serves on Nominations and Credentials Committee. This is his sixth year on committee. He became a national director in 2006 or 2007 with his first national convention in 2000. This year will be his 25th convention in a row. He noted his committee will buckle down at convention and they have a lot of work to do. This is an interesting and fun committee for him to be on. Bill also noted he is the chair for the Affiliate Advisory Board. He reported in 2023 the executive committee set aside monies to help affiliates. The funds were put into a grant program in which the guidelines are focused to outreach opportunities. They have awarded \$30,000 plus. They coached affiliates who needed some helping with their outreach potential. They will revisit the guidelines at this year's convention. Help up help you is a motto for this committee. Earlier in the year the committee joined up with the show department at AQHA and asked them is there any possibility we can lower the show approval fees for affiliate shows. He noted it got shot down a little bit but they are not giving up. He noted anyone can put together a proposal for a rule change to go before the show committee this year. He says with enthusiasm that we need to encourage people to come to the shows and show them there are opportunities. Bill Horton is looking to the future.

Rick Bailey has been a national director for 20 plus years. He currently is serving on the Show and Contest Committee. This is broken down into disciplines and he sits on the halter discipline sub-committee. It's fun to sit on this committee. Send in your proposals for change. The Horse Protection Act is something we all need to be aware of, the only way it's going to get changed is to tell everyone about it.

Wade Ellerbroek serves on the Nominations and Credentials Committee. One thing they do is interview national director applicants. They determine how many national directors come from each state based off the amount of horses in the state. He says you really need to go to the national conventions and go to meetings. There are committees for every discipline and facet of the industry that you can join and be a part of.

Curt Ferguson-absent

Mary Ebnet introduced herself and stated she moved to Iowa end of October. She has been a National Director for 14 years and currently serves on the Public Policy and Hall of Fame Committee. Mary asks you to introduce yourself to her. On the committee they are dealing with the Horse Protection Act. AQHA is in partnership with the National Cattlemen's Association for our lobbyist. She states we have

great lobbyist working on this. Secretary of agriculture is the office of regulations for the HPA. The new Secretary of Ag starts January 20 so please keep that in mind with everything going on. Mary named off the people who are involved and helping AQHA with this act. She states you need to educate yourself. Currently if you get pulled for a drug test at a show that information is confidential. With the HPA, inspections by the VMO is part of the Freedom of Information Act. The only information people would not see is the owner's address. Mary went over some logistics of the inspections. The PAC committee donated a lot of money to candidates. They identify and support the people who support AQHA.

Committee Reports

Amateur-Brenna Adkins reported they currently have 128 amateur members and are giving out \$8,500 amateur awards. Thank you Lisa Merfeld and the awards committee. Congratulations to all winners. They voted at their meeting this morning to continue the amateur sportsmanship awards. They will also continue \$100 sponsorship to 5 IQHA shows. Silent auction at Mayflower will continue and they will continue to partner with the youth for tonight's silent auction. They will continue with the Snowflake Circuit. They held 2025 committee officer elections and they are as follows. Chair-Lisa Merfeld, Co-chair Brenna Adkins, Treasurer Alex Eischeid and Secretary Christy Wilson.

Awards-Lisa Merfeld stated they went back to catalog choices again for 2024 awards and a huge thank you to the main suppliers for awards. We gave out over \$13,000 in awards for open and amateur.

Banquet-Anna Zuidema was not at the meeting but Tammi reported that we have sold 178 meals for tonight. The silent auction and cocktail hour will be held in the same room as the banquet.

Breeders Futurity and Stallion Auction -Kim Strong read Kelly Birkenholtz report. In 2024 there were 71 entries shown. We paid \$68,900 to exhibitors and \$7,884 to stallion owners. \$50,000 out of the 2024 breeders account was placed into a CD. Brian Hamrick reminds everyone all forms are on the website. Biggest rule change he's gotten a question on is mare nominations. You will not have to submit a mare nomination form the first year. We add the mare nomination fee to the purchase. You must either enter or nominate the baby in the foaling year. Stallion owners must do a mare nomination. The online auction was hosted by Pro Horse Services. We had 133 stud fees donated. We sold 62 fees during the auction and we've sold 4 additional since then. There are 67 unsold stud fees that are available to purchase still. \$78,850 sold to date. Special thanks to Lindsay Black and Shannon Walker for getting stallions nominated. Our auction is the only one that offers a hard printed catalog. Thank you to Mary Jo Hamrick for your hard work on the catalog. Costs for this catalog are as follows: \$314.78 postage, \$1,064 printing, \$650 design fee. Brian sold \$2,400 ads for the catalog so we profited a small amount and that will be put towards the futurity. Brian named off all sponsors with a huge thank you.

Finance-Codi Jo Heesch reported we had over 2 million dollars in transitions and Tammi handles all of this. She noted that sponsorship and volunteers are so important to IQHA. She has a rough budget moving forward for the 2025 board.

Hall of Fame-JR Reichert noted he has been on the committee for a few years and he would like to get some guidelines and criteria for selecting the Hall of Fame recipients. He is very happy with who is getting inducted this evening. Congratulations to those going in tonight. Craig Johnson stated it's an honor to be in there and on this committee.

Historians-Jennifer Horton commented that all the sudden she is old enough to be a historian for IQHA. Seems like that happened overnight. She noted Goodbars Glamour is being inducted into the NSBA Hall of Fame. She was inducted into the IQHA Hall of Fame already. Banquet tonight is a

throwback and we will be going through old photos that have been shared. Our 75th anniversary is coming up—keep photos coming. We did a special directly from the 50th anniversary. She will bring some tonight to look back.

Horse Fair-Jackie Kincaid reported horse fair is March 21-23. The vendor fair will be held in the Varied Industries building again at the fairgrounds. Our booth will be closer down by the bathrooms this year. She is asking for \$50 sponsorship again. You will get your logo put on our give away promotional products, on a poster, and on Facebook. All leftover products are given out at shows the remainder of the year.

IQHYA-Jennifer Horton reported 53 youth members in 2024 with new members already for 2025. The new board will be introduced tonight. The youth will do a community service project at Snowflake again. This year it will be called “Share the Love” and they will be collecting personal items for the Kirkwood pantry. There will be a dads and moms showmanship at Mayflower this year. Tonight we are also going to live auction off the Pioneer Brock Purdy jersey that Rob and Suzy Bohnsack donated. We also will be selling raffle tickets for another beautiful quilt for the kids donated by Deb Donnelly. Derby fun activities are planned for Mayflower. Kids voted to remain with their 9 and under rules verses the new AQHA small fry rules.

Directory-Jennifer Horton says ads are due February 1 and the directory comes out in March. There are color pages and black and white pages available for ads. Lots of contact info and win photos from the futurity will be included. They are doing a fundraiser with the youth for \$40 business card ads where the kids get half of every ad they sell.

Snowflake-Brenna Adkins gave a recap of this new show. It was held in February of 2024 at Kirkwood and was completely sold out. They received great feedback from exhibitors on the responsibility sharing groups for the 2025 show. The show will be held February 13-16, 2025 at Kirkwood again. They are on track to have another good year. Stalls have been sold out since Thanksgiving. There will be a pizza party sponsored by Barb Delf and Custom Tails. They are looking for more ways to give back to exhibitors.

Mayflower-Jennifer Horton reported it went from 6 judges to 4 judges last year. That change helped make a dent in the expenses for that show. This year it will be a 4 day show May 1-4. They took results from the show survey to make changes for 2025. It is Derby Saturday this year so look forward to fun activities. Jackie got blocks of rooms for Mayflower and Fall Futurity at multiple local hotels locked in for pricing.

Scenic City-Bill Horton reported the show was July 4-6, 2024. There are 139 stalls in facility. It was a good show! Getting info out soon and get your stalls reserved ASAP for this year! Judges and ring stewards have been hired. There should be an outdoor arena in Iowa Falls this year! Ann Luebbers is also on the advisory committee for Ellsworth and does a fabulous job. Janu-Ranchy is January 25 at Ellsworth and it is a fundraiser for facility upgrades. You don't pay until you get there. They had 65 horses last year and looking forward to this year.

Fall Classic-Nick Wood is the committee chair and he is absent today. Tammi reports it's a busy show and thank you to Nick for all he does. Iowa State Fairgrounds has purchased new stalls reported by Nick.

Membership-Tammi Adix states in 2024 we had 420 Iowa members. She reiterates without members we are nothing. Tack Room and Western Edge provided coupons for our members. In 2024 any first time exhibitor or new member we sent them show bucks as a welcome to our family. We reinstated membership cards for members that wanted them.

Point Keepers-Lisa Merfeld stated updates to the rules passed in last nights board meeting. Games and roping classes must show to 3 judges. Non pro green horse classes if offered to 5 judges will be offered as year-end awards. All exhibitors must have an appropriate membership for non pro green classes. If a youth is exhibiting the horse they must have a youth membership and the same for amateurs.

Ranch Horse-Loren Meyer updated that 118 stallions in 2024 with 244 offspring nominated and 486 total entries. 77 horses drew a check sired by 33 different sires \$125,979 plus \$73,000 in prizes for \$198,000 plus total given out. We now have the richest ranch futurity in the nation. Thank you to the committee members. Loren is stepping down. Kim Strong and Scott Schumann are co-chairmans for 2025.

Recreational Activities and Horseback Riding -Jodi Meyer reported they had 21 members but only 10 were active. They have \$300 in awards tonight with 19 AQHA horses and 2 all breed. Thank you to Tiffany Pease for the rope halters to give away

Social Media-Jennifer Horton noted the newsletter goes out the first of the month to your email on the membership form. Please make sure this is accurate as this is how we are sending out information. Facebook is our social media platform we have been using so stay up to date there as well.

New Shows and Improvements-Mitch Adkins stated the 2024 Snowflake was successful. Scenic City saw growth since starting in 2023. There are always going to be challenges with putting on horse shows. The amount of approved AQHA classes offered is a lot, and we have to find a balance of what to offer at our shows. He will work with the committee on brainstorming. It is very encouraging the amount of clinics the districts are doing. Keep up the good work.

Outreach-Craig Johnson talked about activities in the hopes to increase membership and participation. It is also about new ideas to grow. Need to be able to make connections with each other. This includes anyone who has an interest in horses.

New business

There was one bylaw change submitted for this year. Rosalie noted anyone can make a recommendation for a bylaw change.

Current wording in IQHA bylaws.

I. Preamble

Whereas, the members of the Iowa Quarter Horse Association, having heretofore associated themselves together as a body corporate, do hereby adopt the following by-laws for the conduct of its organization.

II. Order of Business

Regularly scheduled meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, Revised or as near thereto to as is reasonably possible. In case the Board of Directors needs to make a decision on items suitable for open session meetings prior to a scheduled board meeting, information may be sent out by email. Voting shall follow via conference calling to allow for discussion by the Board members. The Board is encouraged to plan ahead accordingly to handle business at regularly scheduled board meetings and not abuse the approval for email/conference calls.

Proposed bylaw change wordage:

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Discussion was had after the bylaw change was presented. Dave Pyle, Aaron Carlson, Ella Koch, and Janelle Ward Schaefer expressed concerns with wordage. There were several recommendations made from the floor that the board considers a video conference option for meetings to be able to reach a broader range of members. Everyone was encouraged to vote. Ballots were picked up and counted. With 9 yes and 24 no the bylaw change did not pass.

Election of officers

President: Lindsay Black nominated Tammi Adix Loren Meyers 2nd Rick Bailey moved to cease nominations. Seconded by Dave Pyle. Ballot cast unanimously for Tammi Adix.

Vice President: Lindsay Black nominates Mitch Adkins for Vice President. Loren Meyers second, Jennifer Horton moved to cease nominations. Seconded by Nikki Twogood. Ballot cast unanimously for Mitch Adkins.

Secretary-Lindsay Black nominates Jennifer Horton. Seconded by Lisa Merfeld. Rick Bailey moved to cease nominations and it was seconded by Sarlynn Heston. Ballot cast unanimously for Jennifer Horton for Secretary.

Treasurer- Loren Meyer nominated Codi Jo Heesch. Seconded by Jennifer Horton. Lisa moved to cease nominations and seconded by Nikki Twogood. Ballot cast unanimously for Codi Jo Heesch for Treasurer.

Director at Large-There are two 2-year terms available and one 1-year term since Jennifer was elevated to the executive committee.

Lindsay Black nominated Lanie Petersen, second by Loren Meyer. Jennifer Horton nominated Craig Johnson, Craig declined. Rosalie Carlson nominated Lindsay Black Jennifer Horton second. Codi Jo Heesch nominated Nikki Twogood, Nikki declined. Brian Hamrick nominated Mateer Strong, Kresney Johnson second. Rick Bailey nominated Ann Luebbers, Ann declined. Codi Jo Heesch nominated Bobbi Finarty, Bobbi declined due to personal reasons. Bill Horton nominated Mary Ebnet, Loren Meyers second. Dean Adkins moved to cease nominations. Seconded by Loren Meyer. Ballots were cast and vote results are as follows:

2-year terms-Mary and Lindsay

1-year term-Mateer

While ballots were being counted President Tammi Adix gave out appreciation awards. Jennifer Horton stated a thank you to all past presidents.

Ella Carlson moved to destroy the ballots. Seconded by Dean Adkins. Motion passed.

Rosalie Carlson moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:48 pm. Seconded by Becky Grier. Meeting adjourned.