



"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

The Iowa Quarter Horse Association Board of Directors held a virtual meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 via Microsoft Teams. President Tammi Adix called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Attending on the call were Tammi Adix, Lori Mennenga, Jennifer Horton, Codi Jo Heesch, Kim Strong, Mary Ebnet, Brian Hamrick, Sarlynn Heston, Jackie Kincaid, Mateer Strong, Loren Meyer, Rosalie Carlson and Ann Luebbers. Guests included Jennie Schut, Kelly Birkenholtz and Kris Klingaman.

President Report: Tammi Adix reported on the meeting held with Iowa State Fairgrounds on February 25. It was requested primarily to clarify details for Mayflower, including the stalling situation, but included items added to the agenda by ISF regarding the Fall Classic. Tammi requested details on move-in/move out dates for Mayflower and Fall Classic and Mary Ebnet had suggested FFA kids could be utilized to assist in stall cleanout. There was also word of a new policy regarding food in the barns that Tammi wanted confirmed. The ISF explained their process for stall cleanout and turnover between events and the limitations they had in their contract labor and the landfill that affected the turnover between events. The ISF has a new policy to not allow food to be served in livestock areas for safety concerns, which will affect us serving pizza in the barn or the youth serving pancakes. They are insistent that IQHA provide one person as the point of contact for all communication regarding the event. They did agree to allow a secondary agent able to communicate if necessary and the arena drag/water needs can be relayed by arena personnel. The ISF addressed what they saw as operational challenges in the 2025 Fall Classic and Ranch Horse Futurity. New District 6 Director Doug Brown joined the call. Kim requested to be included in meetings with ISF regarding the Fall Classic. Tammi explained her intent was to have at least one or two meetings specifically to plan for Fall Classic. Codi felt we needed to be firm on our needs.

Vice President Report: Lori stated she had been studying the financial reports to learn. She plans to return from Arizona at the end of March.

Secretary's Report: Jennifer had emailed out the February minutes following the meeting. Sarlynn made the motion to approve, seconded by Cody, minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Codi presented the report showing bank account totals and her preliminary budget based on January information. Tammi shared the profit and loss report from Kelly Birkenholtz. Kelly is willing to continue as our bookkeeper for \$700 per month and requested that IQHA increase their QuickBooks subscription to the needed level for detailed information. She would move the Breeders Futurity and Ranch Horse Futurity data from her personal QuickBooks program to the association's. Kim made a motion to accept Kelly's bid and increase our QuickBooks subscription if we can change the contract we have with the current accountant. With a second by Rosalie, motion passed. The amateur committee is opening a CD for \$8,000.



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Ex-Officio: Loren Meyer reported that Karl Stressmann was relieved of his duties from AQHA just weeks before he was set to retire. He noted the national directors looked to have a busy convention and he wished them luck. He and Jodi went to the World's Greatest Horseman and encouraged anyone interested to go.

Social Media: Jennifer reported the directory would be going to print and hitting mailboxes soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Snowflake: The financial report showed a profit of \$8,500. Stalls were sold out again, the show ran great and it was a fun show. Jennifer reported a judge from Snowflake was at Sun Circuit and he commented on what a nice show it was. Scott Schumann joined the call at 7:23 as a guest.

Raffle Update: Mary Ebnet was at Snowflake selling tickets. She will not be at Mayflower since they are going to Ohio. Tammi reported additional donations for the AQHA paver were \$500 from Districts 5, 6 and 3. Rosalie offered \$500 from District 7 and Hamricks were donating \$250.

Horse Fair: Jackie had dropped from the call.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget: Codi will present an updated budget at the April meeting.

Horseback Riding Program: Discussion was held regarding the horseback riding program awards and the way to simplify them to make them the same as the show awards - with \$50/40/30/20 to the top four places and have the award winners select from the current awards catalog. Jennifer reported Tiffany Pease was doing another sponsorship this year from Hay Chix for a random draw from the log sheets turned in from the first quarter. Brian asked for reminders to be put out for people to get their hours logged and turned in. Rosalie made the motion to utilize the awards catalog and award values for the horseback riding program, seconded by Codi, motion passed.

Horse Fair: Jackie returned to the call and reported on her horse fair booth tent and sponsors for giveaways. April 20 will be the deadline for sponsorships.

Mayflower: Jennifer reported the Mayflower committee had met the night before to talk about what we learned from the ISF meeting and our stall situation. We were surprised by the cattle barn stalling rather than the sheep barn that was not our request. We addressed traffic safety and were told they are able to block off public traffic on the streets during our show. The pavilion



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will be open 5:30 AM to 11:00 PM every day. We will prioritize Jacobson warm up to the classes that are showing. We have not received the contract from ISF yet. We are asking to revisit the stalling location to see if we can get some stalling in the sheep barn. The no serving food may affect pizza lunch and youth pancake fundraiser. Once we get the contract we will go through it. We learned the contract details govern the situation. We were told pricing was the same this year but increases are likely for next year. The stall form is ready to go, we are doing the same as Snowflake in requiring credit cards to reserve stalls but payment can be made at the show with card or check. Deadline to cancel or change stalls will be April 20. After that anything reserved will be paid by the credit card on the order if not paid at the show. She is waiting to learn from ISF on the stalls for sure before that form is released.

Fall Classic: Kim went over the proposed show schedule. It's a new schedule with changes in arenas and days. The intent behind developing a new Fall Classic daily class schedule was to address the long show days experienced in past years, provide more open ride times for practice, and make the best use of all available show pens by adjusting for class sizes and their intended purpose. The East Arena will be a trail arena the entire time. Ranch Futurity rail classes will be held in Jacobson. Hunter under saddle on Wednesday is scheduled for the pavilion with the arena available all morning that day, HUS classes on Sunday will be in Jacobson. Showmanship has been moved to Thursday. The NSBA stakes classes have been removed but if they get a sponsor it could be added back in. The AQHA classes will have sidepots. Brunch with the Breeders is being planned for Friday and Craig Johnson will do a clinic on ranch riding. Open walk/trot ranch classes will be held in the first set of judges. Yearling conformation has moved to the Jacobson. Carson Griggs will be doing the trail. Announcers will be Gary Gleichman, Chris Sommers and Ron Miller with Pat Miller at the gate. Jennifer commented she was glad to see the blended schedule rather than the separate shows. She asked if the leadline scheduled for Jacobson on Thursday could be held in the pavilion with the AQHA ranch riding classes to encourage children who may be in the ranch group to participate. Brian made a motion to approve the schedule, second by Doug Brown. Motion passed with Sarlynn not voting.

Photographer: Kim stated two bids were received: bar H Photography and Ace High Photography. After brief comments on both bids, Rosalie made a motion to select bar H Photography. It was seconded by Brian. Ann expressed personal concerns she had with bar H Photography's pricing. Codi stated she felt it was a conflict of interest to have the vote with Jennifer on the call that it should be a ballot vote and Jennifer should not vote. Rosalie amended her motion to hold the vote at the April meeting.

Kim stated they would have vendors on the mezzanine. She asked Jennifer about the Purina hospitality sponsorship and Jennifer went through it. They are working on the livestream for this year.



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High School Rodeo Buckles: Last year as an outreach program we sponsored four buckles each for High School and Junior High School Rodeo. It was noted that no written thank yous were received. Codi made a motion to do the eight buckles again this year, with a second by Rosalie. Motion passed. Jennifer asked who would be in charge of them, she did them last year. Tammi asked if she was volunteering again, which of course she said yes.

Ranch Horse Incentive: Kim explained the ABI Ranch Exhibitor Incentive for the Mayflower, Denison, Scenic City and Hawkeye Classic shows to award \$100 to the high point open and amateur and \$50 to the youth with a buckle series to present an overall champion buckle at the end. Kris Klingaman volunteered to track the points for the series. They are also doing the award incentive to the Iowa State Fair open show but it will not be included in the buckle series. Jennifer made a motion to approve based on the rules as clarified from the original version Kim had previously sent out. Doug seconded, motion passed. Tammi complimented them on the recent newsletter she had seen on Facebook and asked that it be also sent to the board and also for a copy of the binder the committee had presented at the annual meeting.

Loren made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Brian, meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Emailed Director Reports:

Mary Ebnet

National director:

Our public policy committee had a call with Julie Broadway of the American Horse council. Some highlights from the call was The horse protection act was scheduled to go into effect once again (way different verbiage to it) however it was postponed again until 12-31-2026. Julie said it has been honed down to Tennessee Walkers, saddlebred, and derivatives thereof. Julie stated USDA has a new leadership team and is a more conducive group to work with. Only time will tell what other changes will be made to the act between now and the end of year. Julie also stated this is the first time ever that equine is being listed separately in the Farm Bill.

Director: nothing to report

Committees:

Sponsorship and fundraising: The raffle is going well, I sold a few books at Snowflake. We all need to take the responsibility to get our tickets we have sold . There are still books left that have not been passed out. For this to be a success we all need to take ownership in it.

I applied for a \$49,112 grant from Prairie Meadows. In a nutshell, it would cover the judges, scribes and horse show management fees if we are lucky enough to be awarded this grant.

Outreach: I have spoken with the team captain of the IHSA team, they are interested in helping with the Fall Classic as a community service project.



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By-laws: Nothing to report

Brian Hamrick

District 2

As many of you may have heard, the Hawkeye Ranch Horse Classic was the # 1 Versatility Ranch Horse Show for AQHA in 2025. Three years in a row we were a Top 5 Show. District 2 members and I are very proud of these accomplishments. It proves that if you set goals and work hard, good things will come your way. With that success comes new challenges. Our goal in 2026 is to plan, organize and work to provide a quality, fun show with great prizes at an affordable price. We had our second meeting of the year, Sunday, March 1st and had a great turnout. We completed the advertising aspect plus the show schedule and are in the process of ordering our awards and other prizes for the Hawkeye Ranch Horse Classic slated for August 20-23.

Below is a list of the buckles that will be awarded:

VRH ALL AROUND BUCKLE AWARDS: Open Junior & Open Senior Horse; Amateur, Limited Amateur, Rookie Amateur; Youth, Limited Youth, Rookie Youth. (8 Total)

AQHA All AROUND BUCKLE AWARDS: High Point Open Junior Horse, High Point Open Senior Horse; High Point Amateur Horse; High Point Youth Horse. (4 Total)

All BREED WEEKEND BUCKLE AWARDS: High Point All Age Horse, High Point Youth Horse. (2 Total) We will also recognize and have awards for our Ranching Heritage Challenge horses.

RHC AWARDS: High Point RHC Open Horse, High Point RHC Amateur Horse, High Point RHC Youth Horse, High Point RHC Limited Amateur, High Point RHC Limited Youth.

District 2 will present Circuit Awards for all AQHA & VRH Classes. Back by popular demand, we will have free T-Shirts for every exhibitor that attends the show.

Golf Cart rentals will also be available from Lake Life Rentals of Clear Lake. Reservations will be required as the golf carts have to be delivered to the fairgrounds.

District 2 is also planning to have 1 or 2 Trail (day) Rides at locations and dates TBD.

Lori Mennenga

District 3

On February 24, District 3 held a virtual Teams Meeting. We had 6 members respond online.

The Hortons gave an update on the Scenic City Show and it sounds like everything is progressing as it should. The District 3 Director vacancy was discussed with a few names being mentioned. It was decided that the prospective candidates should be contacted first and have a discussion about their willingness to take on that role before actually having our election.

The Pattern Clinic in April is coming along nicely, except for the Hunt Seat portion.



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Cathi L. suggested adding a Ranch Riding session in place of the Hunt Seat if we don't get enough interest.

The Top of Iowa Show at the North Iowa Fair showbill is completed, the judge hired, ribbons and back numbers ordered. Looking for volunteers to help with the gate, ring steward, office help, announcer, etc. I can announce if we are unable to get anyone else, but would rather be free to help in other ways.

Planning on hosting a Potluck dinner (trail ride?) in early September. Will probably be held at Brushy Creek near Fort Dodge. We also discussed donating funds to other IQHA events and to AQHA for the paver in honor of IQHA 75th Anniversary. It was decided to concentrate on our Scenic City Show this year, with perhaps donating after we settle up there. Also looking into donating towards improvements at the North Iowa Event Center. Cathi said we would be getting a letter from the Fair Board about fundraising for ceiling fans in the horse arena since we are hosting a show there in August.

I did do a brief email a week after the meeting re: the AQHA paver. Everyone that responded was in favor, we will be moving forward with that.

