

**Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association  
Annual Meeting**

**February 8, 2014 9:00 a.m.**

*Saint Louis VFW*

*1295 W. Monroe Rd., Saint Louis, MI 48880*

DRAFT

**Call to Order 9:33am**

**Attendance sign in completed**

**2013 Executive Board and 2014 Board of Directors Introductions**

**Opening Remarks – Mike Yanz**

**Agenda**

Changes No  
Motion to Approve D13  
Second D5  
**Pass/Fail**

**Minutes**

Changes No  
Motion to Approve D1  
Second D13  
**Pass/Fail**

**Financial Report**

Changes No  
Treasurer: Discusses the financials for the year and why we have a large surplus. The executive board and board of directors is looking for ways to beneficially use the excess funds.  
Doyle – D9 DC: Commends Ginny and the board for all the hard work done over the last couple of years.  
Treasurer: If you would like more information on the report, please see her. She is proud of the organization and looks forward to continued growth.  
Financial statements are difficult and tedious but more than half of the teams and districts did not turn in the financial statements on time. It is hard for her as the treasurer to always be the bad guy, but next year please do your job and get your information in so the people down the end of the line can do their jobs.  
Chair: Comments on how large and involved the treasurer's job is with an organization this large.  
Motion to Approve D10  
Second D4  
**Pass/Fail 1 Oppose**

**Old Business:**

- A. Regional Meets 2013 – Fred Stockley
  - a. Region A – Judy Stillwell
  - b. Region B – Lauren Fetner
  - c. Region C – Hidi Morford
  - d. Region D – Doyle Fenner
  - e. Region e – Fred Stockley
  - f. Region Champions and Reserve Champions Read
  - g. 2014 regions will stay the same as 2013
  
- B. State Championship Meet 2013 – Mark DesLisle
  - a. State Show chair
  - b. A Howell res oxford
  - c. B Claire res Williamston
  - d. C Owosso res Grand haven
  - e. D Team Britton res Jackson
  - f. Working on a plan for the state show to make it run even smoother. We are moving volunteers out of the picture and trying to hire a crew. The parents will be able to enjoy their kids. We will do our best to make the experience as good as it can be.

- C. MIHA Logo Contest 2013 – Dennis Stanton
  - a. Dennis – We as an organization need to encourage our riders to submit logos. We did have good ones this year. Please encourage your riders.
  - b. Haley Neilson bullock creek winner and regional winner
  - c. Logo contest deadline is June 1st
- D. MIHA, MHC Scholarship Announcement – Dennis Stanton
  - a. Arelene Koenig and he read a lot of applications and compare their top 10.
    - i. Jessica Graves Lowell MHC
    - ii. Karen Haught Leslie MHC
    - iii. Amanda Wixson Leslie MIHA
    - iv. Sabrina Vankirk Freeland MIHA
    - v. Taylor Crew Au Claire MIHA
    - vi. All will be presented at the Michigan Horse Expo in March
    - vii. Deadline for Scholarship application is November 1st

#### **New Business:**

- A. Constitutional Changes – Joanne Kosanic
  - a. Voting will be all votes count on all rule changes. This will eliminate confusion and also make it worth the junior teams' trip worthwhile. The constitution allows the executive board to decide.
- #1: Competition
 

Dave D10: Wants it to run on an academic year versus calendar  
 Kathy: Makes it hard for juniors to transition as they were showing under a different set of rules.  
 Lauren D1: Call for vote  
 Failed by hand vote
- #2 Dressage
 

Rules chair: We want to encourage organizational growth and make dressage a recognized discipline. It will add one class to our current class totals, but make 1 English bareback and 1 western bareback  
 Doyle D9: Against the proposal. There are a few things to think about. Why MIHA was created to give participation to everyone, not to increase what a discipline can do. He takes offense to reducing other disciplines in order to make dressage more important. Taking saddle seat and lumping it in with hunt seat will make it very hard to judge. We try to encourage all kids including back yard kids. Those three bareback classes may be the only classes they can go in and participate effectively.  
 Dee D8: Agrees with Doyle. Dressage is a very specialized sport. How many judges do we have qualified to judge it? There is no such thing as dressage seat fitting and showing and dressage seat bareback. We need to fix our saddle seat program before adding something else.  
 Kathy Oxford: Recognized the board for the work put into this. She doesn't think this a clean enough break and specified dressage is dressage with the appropriate attire. Your rider should look like a dressage rider. It wasn't touched enough to make saddle seat a pure division. This needs to be truly separated and don't agree with adding additional English type classes.  
 Melinda D1: The way this is written we can't pass it this year. We hear we don't approve of a dressage saddle in saddle seat. In the breed shows and jumper shows they don't do showmanship. It was mandatory in the 70's we all showed showmanship. In the future maybe one western and one English showmanship class.  
 Lauren D1: Calls for the vote  
 Margo D3: All of our competition is equitation based. Dressage is not equitation based.  
 Vote: Failed by hand vote
- #3 Dressage in junior
 

Failed by hand vote
- #4 D
 

Brian D19: Prorating the points for D division will make the division more like the others  
 Amy D15: Does anyone know if the new computer program will allow this?  
 Shelly D6: The proposed change will make a major rewrite and it will not happen. If you have one rider she will only get one point. What will that do to the D division? Leave it at 8.  
 Unknown: Agrees with Shelly. Are you saying a saddle seat class less important than a western class?  
 Steve D16: Every district runs their districts differently. This  
 Candice D18: At regionals this matters. Children are jumping that shouldn't be. Some will go in just to get the points. As a D coach she sees this as beneficial.  
 Stacy D19: It has nothing to do with devalue disciplines. In fact it was to make them more valuable. They had kids to fill slots just to fill the slot. These kids are being rewarded for just showing up to the class not for actual performance.

Bill D4: Although he agrees with some of the comments. It's time to stop changing fundamental things to this organization. If we are looking for safety we need to look at a different avenue.

Vote: Failed by Hand vote

#### #5 Organization of Teams

Rules Chair: The rule book contradicts itself. In large districts do they have to split into different teams or one big team?

Lauren D1: School is housed in Lakeland high school but is receiving their diploma from their alternative school.

Rules Chair: If you have a school that issues a diploma you have to form your own team.

Kathy D2: They had an issue with a single campus. They are combining an East and West and forming one school. This rule does not include anything about home schoolers.

Rules Chair: Nothing changed in the part about home schoolers.

Stacy D19: How we should address junior high teams? We have 3 middle schools into one high school and forming one team.

Rules Chair:

Lucy D12: Proposed striking the words single campus. Single institution already listed would address it.

Rules Chair: Accepts the friendly amendment to remove words single campus.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #6 Assistant Coaches

Rules Chair: We have people who are coaching who have not completed volunteer paperwork. We also have people signing up as assistant coaches without consulting the head coach.

Kathy D2: Friendly amendment – Put sportsmanship back into the wording.

Rules Chair: She accepts.

Jackie D12: Problem with the wording. She has been the assistant coach for 12 years and had 5 head coaches. Does that mean she won't be able to keep her position when a new coach comes in? It should be the school's decision to accept it.

Unknown: she put in a request to be a coach and never heard anything back. Their school isn't really involved.

There is a little disconnect between who is authorizing it?

Torrie D4: Call for the vote

Tonya D9: If you are in the situation where you've been assistant that long, you are a coach not an assistant. She does have the right to change her assistant if they aren't on the same page.

Vote: Passed by Hand Vote

#### #7: Riders and Mounts

2 girls in same family registered 2 horses each and wanted to share one of them. So one would have three mounts available. This will eliminate the possibility.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #8: Limit to 4 years of competition

This will limit the participation to 4 years only.

Kathy D2: Friendly amendment – Rider cannot participate past their 12 grade year.

Rules Chair: Accepted

Tonya D9: That wording anyone held back in a previous year. This won't fix it. Their senior year is different wording. Their 12 year is still going on in her 14<sup>th</sup> year. Had the rider been on their team in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade they can be 19 and 20 competing.

D1: In the past they've had some special needs kids participate. Are there any provisions for them.? If not she would like to wait to make provisions for them.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #9 Behavior of a rider

Rules Chair: This clarifies what the options are regarding discipline of rider conduct.

Kathy D2: Friendly amendment – Line 4 – Add parents and show officials.

John - Problems more with parents than the riders.

Rules Chair: There is a whole section about parents and spectators.

Unknown: Problem with only at MIHA events. She feels it should include outside the sponsored events. She isn't sure how it would be worded.

Doyle D9: Hopes you would not accept either of the friendly amendments. We are not prepared to handle that.

Kathy D2: In response to the outside conduct. Their own rules address it.

Kim D4: Very in much in favor of this, she would like specific protocol on how to handle the issues.

Chene D12: We should also add trainers to the conduct rules.

Torrie D4: Putting a protocol on how to handle it is a good idea. Many schools don't call their Eq teams as a sport but a club. If there is something in the rulebook as a path to follow, it would be much easier.

Sandy D18: Who would be in charge of kicking her team off or another team? Who does she report it to? They have agreements all of their kids sign. She has control of her team and her people.

Lauren D1: If you have problems, that is why you have DCs. Please talk to them.

Rules Chair: She is rejecting the friendly amendments as it already stated in another spot.

Vote: Passed by Hand Vote

#### #10 Structure of Slotting Rules

Rules Chair: We are running into with D teams, they have 16 slots to 14 slots.

Dee D8: Opposed to the change. She believes this is a coaching decision. It is up to the coach to keep the kids out of the classes they are not safe to do.

Doyle D9: Call for the Vote

Vote: Failed by hand vote

#### #11 Team apparel in Trail

Rules Chair: Team apparel is only allowed in gymkhana and trail events

Vote: Passed by Hand vote

#### #12 Appropriate Clothing

Rules Chair: Spells out appropriate attire in showmanship

Melinda D1: Whips optional in western for pleasure breeds. She doesn't find that in any breed association book.

Would like to proposed a friendly amendment to remove whip.

The rule about day coat, when you change the pant type you've just turned it in to a day coat.

Rules Chair: Rejects both friendly amendments

Stacy D19: Touching base on the first friendly amendments, she has riders who do use whips.

The second amendment she would like to amend it to the coat and pants must be of similar color.

Kristi D8: she would like some specification on the shirt. A tuxedo shirt does not have buttons. Does it need to be a button down with a tie.

Dee D8: Their breed association does all carry whips.

Travis D4: Calling for the vote

Amanda D10: She has shown pleasure horses. The whip is more distracting than just having a pattern.

Rules Chair: The whip is optional. She will leave it as written.

Dressage will not be part any rule changes.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #13 Saddle seat saddle appointment

Kathy D2: Friendly amendment: Defining the flat saddle. Eliminate all forward seat saddles.

Kristi D8: She has an all purpose with no knee rolls and backed. She would like to amend it to include it.

Rachel D11: Would like to amend it to say cut back saddle.

Doyle D9: Calls for the vote

Unknown: Amend to say flat cut back English type and prohibit all purpose saddle.

Tracy D13: She has heard a lot of discussion regarding the elimination of riders with this rule. In her district before every meet they discuss saddle seat appointment. They as a district make the decision to not disqualify riders for that reason. However, at the region and state meet they need to have the correct appointment. At those levels you let people borrow to have the correct appointment.

Candice D5: A saddle seat saddle the flaps will go straight down.

Rules Chair: She really wanted to put cut back in the rule. If it makes it clearer she will put it in there.

Rule with amendment is read.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #14 Judging Format for Scoring Saddle Seat

Lauren D1: Calls for the vote

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #15 Protective head gear

Rules Chair: We are one of the only organizations which do not require an ASTM/SEI approved helmet.

Lisa D3: Expressed being dissatisfied with calling for the vote.

Lauren D1: Agrees with

Danielle D3: Wants to clarify this is in the hunt seat only area? This area needs it more so than any other discipline

Torrie D4: All for the safety thing, there is less support in saddle seat so why are we not making it mandatory for those kids. Leave it up to the parents.

Linda D1: Just for uniformity we should have the helmet rule in our book. You can wear a helmet in any discipline without being penalized.

Stacy D19: Just to clarify a point, as an association we need to protect ourselves liability wise. If we are then only association who doesn't require it, we are opening ourselves up to legal trouble.

Vote: Passed by hand vote 113 yes

#### #16 Jump Obstacles

Rules Chair: Reads the change and the rationale.

Dee D2: Friendly amendment on #9 from recommended to appropriate striding.

Rules Chair: Accepts. When the patterns are posted online it will include the appropriate strides.

Steve D16: He would like it for districts also.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #17 Eliminated

#### #18 Trail Scoring System

Brian D19: Currently we don't have one. This is to implement one.

Dee D8: At the judges conference this was brought up. It was covered there. There was a recommendation made.

Lucy D12: This is a great improvement over the lack of definition we have now. She is concerned it is defined 0-10 compared to a more subjective system.

Marc State Show Chair: Doesn't believe this will solve the problem. The scoring for someone who attempted it and someone who didn't is not compatible.

Robert D1: Any trail classes, there are trail cards with the +/- system. It is very specifically defined on every card. He sees much in our account. Why can't we supply the districts, regional and state with trail cards?

Stacy D19: The issue with the way it is written now, our rulebook states a rider gets a 0 for skipping an obstacle. Is there a way the web could have a recommendation to the districts that a rider who skips can't place above one who doesn't.

D6: She has a hard time with a rider who skips an obstacle and places above another who doesn't. In jumping you would be DQ'd for being off pattern.

Brian D19: He is willing to accept many friendly amendments and would like to bring something to the table now.

We can fail it and nothing gets accomplished or gets something done about it today.

Rules Chair: If we fail this she will draw up a score sheet.

Brian D19: Will pull the rules change with stipulation a system will be developed.

#### #16 Page 43 Causes for Disqualification

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #19 spinning in the box

Put in more than 90 degrees which coincides with 4H. Most organizations address spinning in the box.

Kristin D2: Would rather see a rider turning your horse in the box than run through the box to the fence.

Torrie D4: A lot of speed horses come to a sliding stop safely now. Other organizations don't allow it equestrian team shouldn't either.

Jackie D2: We are not 4H, why are we trying to make it 4H. Spinning in the box would be safer than running through the fence. Sliding stops have to be done in a special way.

Vote: Passed by hand vote

#### #20 Jumping Pattern #1 Option 1

Alternative 1 & 2

Danielle D3: This course is illegal. If you go to the inside line you are crossing your line. In the hunter jumper world you would be DQ'd. Option 2 looks good.

Dee D2: The original pattern submitted differently than what is in the rulebook. The diagonal line is supposed to be straight in the middle. This is supposed to be an equitation course, not a hunter course. It is meant to engage your rider.

Unknown D1: 20 is not the best course. 21 looks good. She would like to see the rider end where they come in.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: If we are correcting the incorrect jump from the original pattern we can do that.

Rules Chair: She will withdraw 20 to correct the original.

#### #21 Jumping Pattern #1 Option 2

Vote: Failed by hand vote

#### #22-25 Dressage Seat Pattern – Pulled due to Dressage seat failure

#26 Jumping Pattern #1

Brian D19: Jump from 1 to 2 is very tight in a smaller arena.

Unknown D1: Agrees that 1 & 5 need not be a diagonal.

Danielle D3: You come in on left and do the rest of the course on your right lead. It will be a hard pattern.

Vote: Failed by hand vote

#27-30 Dressage junior – Pulled due to Dressage seat failure

Pattern #2 for 2014

Vote: Passed by hand vote

Chair: Thanks

B. By-Law Changes – Joanne Kosanic

C. Rules and Regulation Changes – Joanne Kosanic

D. Rider/Team Registration Dates – Mike Yanz

a. Junior - May 14, 2014

b. Senior - August 13, 2014 early, September 3, 2014

c. Regional September 27-28, 2014

d. State October

e. Requirements for DCs:

i. Judge's information to Ginny with addresses and SS numbers by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

1. Each payment a judge gets, they are required to fill out a W9 form to be put on file. If they refuse and already judged we are in a tight spot. Send the form along with your contract. Amend your contract to include that form return.

ii. Region is due by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

iii. All districts need to have their financials in by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

1. This will be last time you will be allowed to vote if we don't have that information.

iv. Rule changes have to be in by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

v. If you have a team requesting a district change, it has to be done prior to the annual meeting.

Rider registration fees: \$20 + \$2 for junior and \$60 + \$2 for senior. These are the state fees. This does not include the extra your district may charge.

E. Patterns 2014 – Fred Stockley

a. This year we voted pattern #2. If you go on the website you'll notice a change to the home page. There is a header called patterns. All district patterns will be posted there if you so choose to use them. Seniors districts will be there also.

b. Regional patterns will be posted after the last district show is complete. Monday morning at the latest it will be posted.

c. State patterns we will post the patterns on the website the Monday after regions are complete. It is important you go to the website. We hope it will make it a little easier.

F. Nominations – Dennis Stanton

Chair – Mike Yanz,

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – Fred Stockley,

G. Elections – Dennis Stanton

Motion to close nominations for chair

D4

D1

Passed

Motion to close nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

D9

D14

Passed

**Call to the Public:**

**Adjournment: 1:18pm**

Motion to Adjourn D13

Second D18

**Pass/Fail**