

NDQHA Open Meeting- Fargo- Holiday Inn- 11/2/19 10am

Welcome- President Ryane Bakke

It was made clear to everyone that this will be an informal meeting. This is not a vent session- and we would like problems that are brought up to be presented with potential solutions.

There is paper in front of everyone- if you would like to – you can anonymously write down any questions or comments and the BOD will collect and address on our break.

Main problem- we are not happy with the Valley City Facility- and the cost of our shows. What can we do to make them better, draw more people?

Comment- Stall Fees are too high-

Ryane Bakke- BOD- Stall Fees- we pay \$25 to the facility PER stall- if they are used at all (even if there is a piece of garbage in it or someone has tied their horse in there to groom and it pooped- we are charged because it was “used”) So please please please do not do that! The workers at the facility do walk around and re-check used stalls and do lock what they are able to. But if you use it- please claim it- we will try and police better.

Charging people if they do not show up (we have a policy in our show rules that they are charged for cancelled stalls within 72 hours of the show). Hard to enforce-

Comment- the ground in VC is unsafe-

Tessa (new facility manager at NDWS) was in attendance- she stated- ground is on their next board meeting- we are welcome to come-

date? Monday Nov 11- 6:00- at the winter show building- front offices- conference room-

She encouraged a group to come with some black and white facts for the BOD-

Arena footing is the most important issue- Ryane Bakke, Darren Buckle and Sue Karn from the BOD will attend the meeting on 11/11.

Rylan Sundsbak, Ryane Bakke and Jesse Armstrong will draft a letter to go with those attending the meeting- to explain our concerns (main one being the ground) and our requests, with a plan of action. They will also include documentation from 2015-2019 on how many stalls we have decreased (130-88 aprox) for good solid proof.

Denise Majerus is getting quotes from an excavation/aggregate company in Valley City to bring with- to take dirt out, pack base, and bring new dirt in.

It was decided that we will request at the meeting that they need to replace the dirt. We will allow them to consider this for a given timeframe, and if a solution can not be agreed upon in that timeframe, NDQHA will be forced to look elsewhere for a facility to hold their shows.

Other issues with Valley City that were brought up:

Tractor driver unavailable- when we need him it is hard to get him there-

Warm up pen- very rocky, and small, the free-standing panels are not safe.

Dragging practices- incorrect, need to train the tractor drivers- really need the cutter bar for the back of the drag to smooth.

Other Options- Makayla Dicinno did a bunch of research (THANK YOU!)

West Fargo- 2 arenas (Scholander and show arena). \$500/day/arena. If we go over 120 stalls they would have to set up temp- which are still under a covered building.

Stalls \$15/day, Shavings \$7, Camping \$25/day, Dry Camping \$15/day

Makayla- check on outside facility clean up fee?

Brian Schultz is the guy to talk to about West Fargo fees- he is the head of the Fair assn.

Minot draws- local open show people

Minot- 900/day (arena with metal bleachers) 1000/day for grandstand arena

no tractor or driver

\$20/night stalls + \$2500 to rent the stalls? Makayla is checking on that

No indoor warmup

Have to hire extra help- office is so far from arena

- Makayla will a spreadsheet together
hotel/flights/rental car, etc for all options

What about bowman? They have a very nice facility?

In regards to the Nov 11 meeting in Valley City- the App BOD needs to come also- or be aware- same with High School Rodeo, JR High Rodeo, etc. Ryane will look into contacting all of those associations. The more backing we have the better chance we have of getting them to see it from our point of view.

Show Schedule-

Improvements that need to be made- make it more social/smooth/fun/better experience for people coming

make both shows 2.5 days- start Friday at noon- helps cost- one show, all judges- June 3 judge, Sept 4 judge- everyone thought this was a good idea.

Ranch Riders/Reiners- Reining Friday- Ranch Saturday

Do trail right away Saturday morning- leave it up all night- charge the flat fee- received well

Have to haul in Thursday- negotiate price? Will keep that in mind- VC has been good about negotiating a good price for move in days.

June show- 4 judges-?(not really feasible as we are losing \$\$ already) keep it 2 shows?

Change September to 4 judges at once- Yes- good idea-

Sponsorship Committee- something is needed. The BOD is requesting more member participation/involvement in helping keep the organization rolling. This can help with show costs also. – Becky Youngs is willing to work on getting some corporate sponsors and also spearheading a committee. Thank you Becky. She would like a board member on the committee also. -

As of right now, Abra, Makayla and Andrea will help Becky. Anyone else that is interested please

step up!

For corporate sponsors- letters do not usually work. IT takes time, making personal connections and a lot of work. If we changed our tax structure to a 501C3 it would help-

Bobby Jo Krueger- we have discussed changing the tax structure at length with our accountant, and we have decided that for the time being we are leaving it as is. However, Ryane will do a little more digging and be sure we have all of the information. MNQHA has a foundation- that is C3- that is where all of their sponsorships and donations go to- then their only beneficiary is the MNQHA.

Other questions

Can the NDQHA Members vote for president? – Currently the BOD elects their own officers. The General Membership votes on the core group of BOD members. If this were to change- it would have to be a bylaw change and we are already too late for the 2020 Convention to do a bylaw change. We will address the topic with the General Membership and see if it should be pursued for 2021.

Show management- we will be putting out calls for bids again for show management for 2020. If there are any local people or members that are interested, please be sure to get a hold of Ryane Bakke so she can get you the information. We will entertain all bids!!!

Why is show management so particular about gate sheets/orders of go? Depends on the judges and show management. From this point forward we will be sure it is in the Show Management contract that they need to be aware of trainers riding multiple horses in certain events (IE Trail) and they need to be willing to change orders of go- or accommodate.

Why is Grand/Reserve not counted for Year End awards? – it never has been. IT is not in our show rules document (online for reference). We will put this on the agenda for the 2020 Annual Meeting. Since it is a rules change we can take care of it if the general membership wishes to do so. As of right now, show management usually doesn't provide the results of Grand/Reserve Halter to the points tabulator. Something we will have to look into.

Can we have increased communication between the BOD and the Membership? – Yes- more social media, more emails, more updates on the website. If there is something specific you have a question about please direct it to us and ask...

There will be 3 BOD positions available in January. Len, Bobbi Jo and Karen's terms are up. Karen is eligible to be reelected for another term. If you are interested in being on the Open BOD, please let us know!

Connie Armstrong will send email asking if anyone else wants to be on the sponsorship committee.