

North Country Horsemen Annual Meeting/Fundraiser Minutes for Feb 6, 2016

Meeting was called to order by President Sue Helm. A welcome given and Sue recognized that 2015 was a record breaking year with 80 memberships. Previous record was 2011 with 74 memberships.

Secretary's report: The NCH Annual Meeting Minutes from February 2015 was an attachment to the agenda. Dana Melvie motion to adopt & 2nd from Jack Beito, motion passed.

Treasurer's report: NCH's 2015 year-end numbers from Mardy Anderson:

- General Account: \$18,28.90
- Arena Account: \$393.21
- TTT Account: \$48,673.21

Motion to approve by Sharon Holmstrom & 2nd from Shirley Horien, motion passed.

Old business:

NCH's Youth Sponsorship Program; 13 youth sponsorship grants awarded in 2015. The several of the girls that received grants, commented on their experiences when competed at the MN State Horse Show. All were thankful to have received \$100 grants. Congratulations!

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Ava Sturgeon | • Hope Lyberg |
| • Brooke Lyberg | • Kally Wojciechowski |
| • Caprice Christianson | • Kendra Westlund |
| • Emily Novak | • Kinzie Melvie |
| • Emily Schmiedeberg | • Paige Lyberg |
| • Emma Rae Nelson | • Teahna Anderson |
| • Hallie Skadsem | |

Sue Helm gave a summary of our application for tax exempt application. The 501c3 application was submitted to the IRS on Dec 10,2014. The IRS responded on Jun 22, 2015 with requirements that TTT committee members and NCH's Board of Directors reviewed. Because the changes required would have altered how and who we would be allowed to give grants to, we voted unanimously to withdraw NCH's application to the IRS for 501c3 status. A letter was mailed to the IRS withdrawing our application on October 24, 2015.

Sue Helm stated that North Country Horsemen taxes have been filed and we now have a process in place to file each year.

Next on the agenda, **Committee Reports:**

Cancer Ride Committee: TTT grants increased to \$600 as of Jan 1st,2016. Upcoming fundraisers of two fish fry suppers and Klub supper. Also, stated that Wagon Wheel Ridge is a possible site for the 2016 TTT annual ride and fundraiser.

Arena Committee: We invested in a Land Leveler in 2015. Building a storage shed is to be a future project.

Food/Fundraiser Committee: Sharon Holmstrom expressed appreciation to all who have helped with food!

Trail Ride Committee: The committee announced that NCH sponsored trail rides, including riding in parades, will count as double hours. For those that sign up tonight, they will get to record 5 free hours.

- 2015 Trotting the Trail awards:
 - **Bronze:** Faith Lyberg, Tessany Blazek, Ronnette Anderson, Savannah Anderson and Sharon Holmstrom
 - **Silver:** Honna Westlund, Shirley Horien, Stephanie Vagle and Kendra Westlund
 - **Gold:** Hope Lyberg, Christine Foster, Sue Helm, Brooke Lyberg, Teahna Anderson and Kenzie Melvie

Show/Game Committee: Year-end awards:

- **Classic:**
 - High Point: Ronnette Anderson on Pokey - 55 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Shawn Lyberg on Tazz - 24 pts

- **Senior:**
 - High Point: Ashley McGregor on Emma - 48 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Terhya Anderson on Larry - 38 PTS
- **Junior:**
 - High Point: Trisha Vagle on Reno - 44 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Emily Novak on Ali - 26 pts
- **Intermediate:**
 - High Point: Ava Sturgeon on Shine - 48 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Emily Schmiedeberg on Spice - 38 pts
- **Pee Wee:**
 - High Point: Henry Finney on Cordelea - 67 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Faith Lyberg on Trigger - 38 pts
- **Small Fry:**
 - High Point: Savannah Anderson on Blaze - 84 pts
 - Reserve High Point: Haley Espeseth on Trigger - 28 pts
- **Buckle Award:**
 - Kendra Westlund on Fury - 13 pts
- **Dedication Award:**
 - Mady Anderson on Maverick

After asking for any further old business and committee updates, we moved to new business.

New Business:

- **Amended Articles of Incorporation:** Following a discussion of the articles that referenced 501c3 status, a motion to remove 501c3 references from NCH Articles of Incorporation was made by Dana Melvie with a 2nd from Shirley Horien, motion carried.
- **Election of 2016 Officers:**
 - **President:** Sue Helm was elected president by unanimous ballot cast by Dana Melvie.
 - **Vice President:** Ronnette Anderson was elected vice president by unanimous ballot cast by Shirley Horien
 - **Secretary:** Kristi Westlund was elected secretary by unanimous ballot cast by Kraig Melvie
 - **Treasurer:** Mardy Anderson was elected treasurer by unanimous ballot cast by Sharon Holmstrom

After asking for any further new business, Sue Helm asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shirley Horien made a motion to adjourn and that was seconded by Marc Horien.

The balance of the evening's activities included silent and live auctions and kid's games.