



**AMERICAN SADDLEBRED REGISTRY, INC.**

**Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 12:45 p.m.  
At the USEF Office, Lexington, Kentucky**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present:** Susan Aschenbrenner, Brian Curran, Sandra Currier, Bret Day, Elisabeth Goth, Gail Kline, Scott Matton, Margaret McNeese, David Mount, Matt Shiflet (by phone), Donna Pettry-Smith, Karen Richardson and Judy Werner.

**Others Present:** Lisa Duncan; Registrar, Katriona Adams; Assistant Registrar, Bob Funkhouser; ASHA President and Bill Whitley; ASHA Executive Director, Susan Cassell; Merrill Lynch, Fred Sarver, Cynthia Lowell and Allison Pettrey.

**I. Roll Call/Establish Quorum/Consider Agenda**

Mr. Curran, ASR President, called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. and asked Ms. Duncan to call the roll. A quorum was present.

**II. Introduction of Guests**

Mr. Curran noted that the following guests were present: Bob Funkhouser, Bill Whitley, Susan Cassell, Fred Sarver, Allison Pettrey and Cynthia Lowell.

**III. Merrill Lynch Investment Report**

Ms. Susan Cassell, CFA with Merrill Lynch, presented the Executive Summary of Merrill Lynch Accounts as of October 28, 2016. They recommend selling BlackRock Pacific Fund as the fund continues to underperform its Lipper peer group. Proceeds were added into currently held MFS Value Fund, increasing Large Cap Value exposure in portfolio. They also recommend evaluating cash needs for the Registry at least through year-end so that the invested fund maintains a long-term objective. The Finance Committee will evaluate these recommendations.

**IV. President's Report** (*The Board went into Executive Session*)

**a. Database Update**

Mr. Curran noted that the Pending Database Project Items for the Registry was included in the Board packets. It was agreed that registry items need to be tested

by registry staff and that protocol for this must be implemented. A discussion took place regarding the breeder address changing when members change their address online. It was agreed that a block needs to be put in place to fix this. Ms. Duncan was supposed to meet with USEF staff but a meeting was never scheduled. The Board noted that there were communication issues affecting progress. After discussion, Mr. Curran noted that we will make the next decisions regarding the database based on the report from Mr. Bosworth who is having his firm do a forensic analysis of the database project.

**b. Management Agreement and Joint Human Resources Committee**

Mr. Curran will discuss these matters with Mr. Funkhouser.

**c. 2017 Convention**

The 2017 Convention will be held January 19-21, 2017 in New Orleans. The format will be the same as the 2016 Convention where committees present reports in a group session.

**d. Small Breeder Award**

Mr. Curran reported that we had received a suggestion to add a Small Breeder Award. It was agreed to send a request to the Breeder's Committee to develop criteria for a Small Breeder Award.

**V. Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Aschenbrenner reported that the ASR Finance Committee has been looking at ways to increase income and close the gap on the shortfall that we have each year. They discussed developing a questionnaire to give to different investment firms and they are looking into ways to reduce the amount of fees charged for processing credit cards. After discussion, it was agreed to ask both the ASHA and the ASR Finance Committees to look into this.

**a. Budget Change Protocol**

Ms. Aschenbrenner reported that the Registry received a large unexpected invoice for work done by an HR consultant hired by the Association. Accordingly, Mr. Curran and Ms. Aschenbrenner sent a letter to ASHA leadership asking that a protocol be established and adhered to of notifying the Registrar who will obtain the approval of the Finance Committee for all expenses over \$1,000. The protocol is to be added to the Management Agreement between the two organizations. All agreed with these recommendations. Mr. Mount noted the HR consultant has already saved the Association and Registry a lot of money.

**b. Registry Financial Statements as of August 31, 2016**

Registry Financial Statements as of August 31, 2016 were included in the Board packets. Mary Constantine, our new bookkeeper, is working diligently to get caught up. A discussion took place regarding timesheets and payroll after which the Board agreed that we need more detail on invoices for Association staff that also do some work for the Registry.

## **VI. Registrar's Report**

### **a. Registry Statistics as of September 30, 2016**

Ms. Duncan referred to the Registry Statistics as of September June 30, 2016 and noted that we now have confirmation that these reports are pulling data from the wrong fields. This has been reported to USEF and they have asked that Ms. Duncan work with Ms. Lowell. A discussion took place regarding reports after which a suggestion was made to start manually tracking data using spreadsheets.

### **b. Broodmare Hall of Fame**

Ms. Duncan reported that she had started working on identifying eligible mares for Broodmare Hall of Fame using the new criteria and found a few mares who would also be eligible if the Three-Gaited Division Unset Tail/Snaffle Bit classes were considered eligible. The Registry Committee has discussed this matter and is recommending to the Board that these classes be added to Broodmare Hall of Fame immediately and made retroactive. Ms. Goth made a motion, upon recommendation from the Registry Committee, to accept the Three-Gaited Division Unset Tail/Snaffle Bit classes, Mr. Mount seconded and the motion was passed with all in favor.

### **c. First Time Breeder Report**

Ms. Duncan reported that six foals came out of the 2014 First Time Breeder Program and she would like to publish stories from First Time Breeders. Suggestions were made to include them in The Journal and on our website and also to contact Saddle Horse Report and Saddle & Bridle to ask if they might publish them. A suggestion was also made to combine the First Time Breeder Program with the Stallion Sweeps. This was tabled until the next joint ASHA/ASR Board meeting. In the meantime, we will compile a list of people who would be willing to lease a mare for breeding.

### **d. Other**

Ms. Duncan updated the Board on staffing changes in the Registry. Ms. Goth asked that we promote Sweepstakes deadlines more.

The Board left Executive Session and re-took the vote on Broodmare Hall of Fame where the motion to accept the Three-Gaited Division Unset Tail/Snaffle Bit classes was unanimously approved.

## **VII. Consideration of Draft Minutes of July 8, 2016 ASR Board Meeting**

Mr. Mount asked that we include the HR and overtime discussions in the draft minutes of the July 8, 2016 ASR Board Meeting. Ms. Aschenbrenner made a motion to approve the draft minutes with this amendment, Mr. Matton seconded and the motion was approved with all in favor.

## **VIII. ASR Nominating Committee**

Dr. McNeese reported that the following ASR At-Large Directors' terms expire in 2017 and all are eligible and all are willing to serve again: Scott Matton, Susan Aschenbrenner and Karen Richardson. Accordingly, the Nominating Committee unanimously agreed to select these three candidates for ratification by the ASR Board of Directors. Ms. Goth made a motion to approve the slate as nominated, Ms. Pettry-Smith seconded and the motion was passed with all in favor.

**IX. Registry Committee**

Mr. Sarver explained that the Registry Committee would like to request approval to add the following language to the American Saddlebred Registry Rules.

**SECTION III REGISTRATION**

**A. ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS**

*8. A Certificate of Approximate Age of Horse form completed by a licensed veterinarian and current photos must accompany the application for registration when the dam is listed on a stallion's stallion service report for more than one breeding season, and foals resulting from those breedings have not been registered by December 31 of their foaling year. (Effective 1/1/17)*

The intent of the proposal is to help ensure the integrity of Registry records. Ms. Goth made a motion to approve the rule change proposal, Ms. Carrier seconded and the motion was passed with all in favor.

**X. Sweepstakes Committee**

Mr. Sarver reported that the Sweepstakes Committee would like to conduct a survey regarding the two and three year old Sweepstakes classes possibly being held at the Kentucky State Fair. The committee would like to include questions regarding all relevant issues. After discussion, Ms. Pettry-Smith made a motion to approve the committee's request to do a survey, Ms. Aschenbrenner seconded and the motion was passed with all in favor.

**XI. Sport Horse Committee**

Ms. Adams explained that the Sport Horse Committee would like to request approval of a proposed rule change to USEF Rule SB-20 Dressage Suitability. The committee feels that since Dressage Suitability is an introductory class to Dressage, horses should not be required to do an extended walk, extended trot or an extended canter. The intent of the changes to SB200 Appointments is to make the rule consistent with the Dressage Division rules. The sentence that reads "*Transitions should be without hesitation and balanced*" is being moved from SB201.4 to SB201.1 so that it applies to all Gaits. The committee is also working on sample diagrams of the Walk, Trot and Canter. The Standards and Rules Committee had reviewed an earlier draft proposal to SB-20 and they supported suggested changes from Ms. Mellenkamp with USEF. Those changes have been incorporated into this revised draft which has been unanimously approved by the Sport Horse Committee.

## **SUBCHAPTER SB-20 DRESSAGE SUITABILITY**

### **SB199 General**

2. Objective: To confirm that the horse's muscles are supple and loose, and that it moves freely forward in a clear steady rhythm, with purity of the gaits, and accepting contact with the bit. The horse should show lightness of the forehand and engagement of the hindquarters. Resistance and tension of the horse to be penalized. The horse's potential as a Dressage mount ~~is to be considered~~ **should be paramount.**

### **SB200 Appointments**

Entries must be penalized for incomplete appointments but not necessarily disqualified.

1. English equipment: Horses must be shown in a Dressage-type or Hunter-type snaffle bridle with a smooth snaffle bit (as approved in DR121). Noseband must be a regular cavesson, a drop noseband, a flash noseband, or a figure eight noseband. Saddles shall be English Dressage or all-purpose English type saddle. Dressage type saddle pads are required and should be white or of conservative color.
2. Martingales of any type, draw reins, mouth controls, other artificial appliances, boots and bandages are prohibited in competition.
3. Spurs must be made of metal. Only English-style spurs are permitted, as described below. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the center of the spur on the rider's boot. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. However, swan necked spurs are allowed (curved shank directed upwards). The inside arm of the spur must be smooth and one or both arms may have rubber covers. If rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. ***Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs on the shank are allowed ("Impuls" spur). "Dummy" spurs with no shank are also allowed. The maximum length for spurs is 5.08 (2 inches) including rowels. This restriction also applies to warm-up and training areas, as well as during competition.***
4. Attire shall be a traditional ~~Hunter-style~~ **short** riding coat of conservative color, with tie, choker or stock tie **or integrated stand-up collar**, white or light-colored breeches or hunter jodhpurs, boots or jodhpur boots, **and protective headgear as defined in DR120.6 and in compliance with GR801** ~~a hunt cap, riding hat with a hard shell, derby or top hat.~~ A cutaway coat (modified tailcoat) with short tails is permitted. ~~Protective headgear may be worn without penalty.~~ Gloves of conservative color are recommended. Half chaps, gaiters and/or leggings are not permitted.
5. One whip no longer than 47.2 inches (120cm), including lash may be carried in all classes. ***An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider.***

### **SB201 Gait Requirements**

1. Innate quality movement is a priority in Dressage Suitability classes. All gaits should be pure in rhythm, and should be without tension or resistance. ***Transitions should be without hesitation and balanced.***

2. Walk. (also normal walk) the rhythm of the walk is four-beats with equal intervals between each beat. The walk is regular, free and unconstrained.
  3. Trot. (also normal trot) the rhythm of the trot is two-beats. The trot is free, active and regular. The steps should be balanced and elastic with the horse demonstrating a supple back, suspension, and well engaged hindquarters.
  4. Canter. (also normal canter) the rhythm of the canter is three-beats. The canter should be light, cadenced (rhythm with a suitable tempo combined with springy impulsion) and regular. ~~Transitions should be without hesitation and balanced. The canter should always be on straight lines~~
  5. Rein-back. The rhythm is two-beats. The feet are raised and set down by diagonal pairs. The horse should remain calm and obedient, lifting and setting down feet, without shuffling.
  6. Lengthening Stride. When a lengthening of stride is requested at walk, trot, or canter, the horse should maintain rhythm, regularity and balance, while reaching with the frame and stride. The rider should maintain contact with the bit, while allowing the lengthening. The strides should be more ground covering and the horse should remain calm and supple.
  - ~~7. Extended walk. The rhythm is four beats. The horse covers as much ground as possible, without haste and without losing the regularity of the steps. The hind feet touching the ground clearly in front of the footprints of the forefeet. The rider allows the horse to stretch forward and downwards with the head and neck, but does not release contact with the mouth.~~
  - ~~8. Extended trot. The rhythm is two beats. The horse covers as much ground as possible, while maintaining regularity and balance. The stride lengthens as a result of great impulsion. The rider allows the horse, while remaining on or slightly in front of the bit, to reach with its frame. The forefeet should touch the ground where they point. The transitions to and from should be balanced and smoothly executed.~~
  - ~~9. Extended Canter. The rhythm is three beats. The horse covers as much ground as possible while maintaining regularity and balance. The stride lengthens as a result of great impulsion from the hindquarters and the rider allows the horse to extend the neck, without losing contact with the bit or leaning.~~
- Proposed Effective Date: December 1, 2018.*

Ms. Werner made a motion to approve the rule change proposal, Ms. Pettry-Smith seconded and the motion was approved with all in favor.

## **XII. Saddlebred Record**

Ms. Duncan reported that Louise Gilliland has done a lot of research of historical show records and provided us with a new list of candidates for Saddlebred Record. Ms. Currier made a motion to approve the candidates, Ms. Werner seconded and the motion was passed with all in favor.

## **XIII. Other Business**

Ms. Werner commended Ms. Pettry-Smith for all the work she did with the USDA. Mr. Curran asked Directors to notify him of any agenda items for the January Board meeting at the Convention.

**XIV. Adjournment**

With no further business to address, Ms. Aschenbrenner made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Matton seconded and the meeting was duly adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Submitted by: *Katriona Adams*  
Assistant Registrar