



AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 10, 2025 at 5:00 PM EST Via Zoom

1. Call to Order – Smtih Lilly

- a. Roll Call – Board Members Present: Kristen Bagdasarian, Juli Behrends-Jones, Allen Bosworth, Sandy Currier, Jennifer Dixon, Allison Deardorff, Sophia Fischer, Larry Hartsock, Diane Hauslein, Anna Marie Knipp, Smith Lilly, Christy Parker, Clif Paulsen, John Scheidt, Chris Schubert, Rachel Seifert, Joan Todd, Malissa Welke. ASHBA Staff Members Present: Sara Mayer, Katie Porter, Kim Skipton, Samantha Robinson, Katriona Adams. Guests Present: Chapman Hawkins, Melissa Moore and Todd Graham
- b. Adoption of Agenda – includes the approval of minutes from the February 3rd meeting and the February 18th meeting. Rachel Seifer proposes two amendments to the agenda, which were approved.

2. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director, Sara Mayer, presents her priorities and discusses the data that drives the association.

3. Registry Council Report

The Registry Council report is presented by Kristen Bagdasarian, which includes discussions on the deadline for registering weanlings and the vacancy on the Registry Council. Sandy Courier was nominated and approved to fill the vacancy.

4. Prize Program Committee Report

The prize program committee presents their report, with Melissa Moore and Todd Graham leading the discussion. The board discusses a proposal related to the futurity programs and the Kentucky State Fair. They considered the potential risks and benefits of the proposal, including the possibility of the Kentucky State Fair Board not approving the proposal. The board also discussed the possibility of obtaining a written statement from the Kentucky State Fair Board to ensure their approval in advance. The board decided to move forward with the proposal with one abstaining.

The board discusses several motions related to the futurity program, including

awarding prize money. They agree to have a small committee finalize the rules and consent forms, which will be sent for board approval later. The board approves to change the deadline for application for weanlings to be postmarked from December 31st to January 15th of the following year. The board approves allowing the Prize Program Committee and Registry Council to determine an alternate venue for the 2025 amateur futurities, with board approval required for any contracts or fees.

5. Finance Council Update

The Finance Council provides a financial update by Rachel Seifert, noting timing issues affecting the statements and a positive net ordinary income. Rachel clarifies that registry revenue comprises only 26-30% of total revenue, countering claims that the merger was facilitated to acquire funds from the registry.

6. Development Council Update

The Development Council update is given by Kim Skipton regarding the positive fundraising for the sponsorships and enthusiasm for the Youth Conference.

7. Programs Council Update

The Youth Committee reports on the recent Youth Conference held in February. The conference had 270 registrants, the highest attendance in 5 years, and made over \$28,000 in ticket sales. Samantha Robinson noted they received positive feedback and are looking forward to next year's event.

8. Competitions Council Report

The Competitions Council reports that many shows will be both ESC and Star shows this year.

9. Governance Council Report

The Governance Council presents a new confidentiality and nondisclosure agreement for board members to sign, which is approved. The Governance Council is also working on draft bylaws to return board seat elections to the members starting in 2026.

10. Adjourn to Executive Session – Smith Lilly

11. Executive Session

Chapman Hopkins provided an update on the external financial review.