

Northwest Miniature Horse Club

Directors' Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2026: 3:00 PM – Zoom

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **3:10 PM** by President Helen Halderman.

Roll Call

Directors present:

Helen Halderman, Becky Nicol, Brian Smith, Dorothy Whiteman, Tammy Osgood, Sheryl Peterson, Sharon Hardt, and Lisa Brostad.

A quorum of Directors was present.

Approval of April 21, 2026 Directors' Meeting Minutes

The April 21, 2026 Directors' Meeting Minutes were reviewed.

One minor correction was identified to remove the name of a prospective member referenced in the President's Report and replace it with a more general description.

Motion: Minutes approved with the noted correction.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

President's Report – Helen Halderman

Membership Update

Helen reported continued membership growth following the Western Washington show.

Current membership includes:

- 39 Individual Members
- 14 Family Memberships
- 1 Youth Member

Five new members have joined the club.

Helen shared that one new member, **Darryl Anderson**, attended the Western Washington show as a spectator and was impressed by the welcoming atmosphere and camaraderie among exhibitors. Although he has owned miniature horses for many years, he has never shown competitively. Following his visit, he joined the club, expressed interest in volunteering at future shows, and is now searching for another driving horse with the possibility of returning to showing in the future.

The Board discussed the positive impact of creating a welcoming environment for prospective members and exhibitors.

Secretary of State Renewal

Helen reported that the Oregon Secretary of State annual renewal notice has been received and forwarded to Sharon Hardt for completion. The filing is due in July and is expected to cost approximately \$50.

Helen also noted that the club has filed for a **Doing Business As (DBA)** registration for the club acronym at the recommendation of the bank to protect the organization's financial accounts. The DBA filing carries a \$50 fee every two years.

Exhibitor Meetings

Helen recommended reinstating an exhibitor meeting at the beginning of every sanctioned show.

The Board agreed that the exhibitor meeting held prior to the Western Washington show improved communication and helped the show run more efficiently. Future meetings will be used to review show procedures, ring expectations, gate policies, announcer procedures, and other important exhibitor reminders before the start of each show.

No formal motion was required. The practice will be implemented beginning with the Summer Classic.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Hardt

Financial Update

Sharon reported:

- April ending balance: **\$49,916**
- Current account balance remains in the **\$45,000–46,000** range while May reconciliation is completed.

Several credit card transactions from the Western Washington show will appear on the June bank statement due to processing timing and do not reflect a financial concern.

Western Washington Show Financials

Preliminary financial results indicate:

- Approximately **\$13,962** deposited
- Approximately **\$7,589** processed through credit card payments
- Preliminary net profit of approximately **\$3,464**

Final financial reporting is still pending receipt of several invoices and reconciliation of remaining deposits, including silent auction proceeds and ribbon expenses.

Sharon confirmed that enough neck ribbons remain in inventory for the remainder of the 2026 show season.

The Board discussed ensuring future specialty award sponsors, including Debbie Bingham, are recognized during award presentations by coordinating with the announcer and ring steward.

Conversation with Tax Preparer

Sharon reported meeting with the club's tax preparer, Kerry, regarding outstanding tax filings.

Recommendations included:

- Transitioning club finances to QuickBooks.
- Purchasing the version that allows accountant access.
- Allowing the accountant to review records periodically and prepare tax filings directly.

The Board discussed hiring the accountant to complete outstanding tax work after Linda Soto completes as much reconciliation as possible.

Directors agreed this approach would likely save volunteer time while improving accounting accuracy and ensuring the club remains current on required filings.

Show Committee Report – Dorothy Whiteman

Western Washington Show Recap

Overall feedback from the Western Washington show was positive.

Discussion focused on several operational improvements, including:

- Better communication with exhibitors regarding completion of entry forms.
- Importance of submitting complete registration paperwork before the show.
- Ensuring exhibitors provide AMHA membership numbers, horse registration numbers, and all required documentation.

The Board recognized that incomplete entries significantly increase the workload for the show secretary and delay show preparation.

Brian Smith suggested exploring a future digital entry process that would require all mandatory fields to be completed before submission.

Additional ideas included:

- Educational emails before each show.
- Short educational Facebook videos.
- Simple instructional materials explaining common entry mistakes.

Summer Classic

Dorothy reported that entries are arriving steadily for the Summer Classic.

Approximately thirty stalls have been reserved or requested.

The committee continues working with exhibitors to resolve incomplete entries prior to the show.

Oregon State Fair

No significant updates were available regarding the Oregon State Fair show. Discussion was informational only.

Club Trailer

Helen Halderman confirmed she will transport the club trailer for the remainder of the 2026 show season. The Oregon Horse Center is approximately 58 miles from her home.

AMHA Director's Report – Sheryl Peterson

Sheryl reported on discussions from the recent AMHA workshop meeting.

Topics included:

- Financial challenges facing Regional Shows.
- Low sponsorship participation for the World Show.
- Ongoing discussion regarding the future structure of Regional Shows.
- Exploration of allowing local clubs to host Regional Shows under the AMHA banner while reducing financial responsibility for AMHA.
- Continued arbitration regarding the AMHA lawsuit. No new developments were available.
- Upcoming AMHA Director elections in several regions.

Discussion also included opportunities to pursue larger corporate sponsorships for future AMHA events.

New Business

Western Regional Show 2026

Lisa Brostad presented an update regarding support for the Western Regional Show hospitality efforts.

The Board discussed providing financial assistance to support meals, refreshments, and hospitality throughout the event.

Motion: Lisa Brostad moved that NWMHC donate **\$200** to support hospitality expenses for the 2026 Western Regional Show. The check will be made payable to Lisa Brostad, who will purchase needed supplies and coordinate with the event organizers.

Second: Tammy Osgood.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Western Regional Show Ideas

Sheryl shared preliminary ideas being discussed within AMHA regarding future Regional Shows.

Concepts included:

- Local clubs hosting Regional Shows under the AMHA designation.
- Clubs assuming operational responsibilities while maintaining Regional status and triple-point opportunities.
- Seeking local sponsorships to offset facility and award costs.

Discussion was informational only.

Western Regional Show 2027

Becky Nicol shared preliminary information gathered regarding possible Oregon venues for a future Western Regional Show.

Discussion included:

- Albany Fairgrounds as a potential future venue.
- Estimated facility costs.
- Future increases in arena rental fees throughout the region.
- Additional venue considerations for future planning.

Discussion was informational only.

Old Business

Clinic / Schooling Show Survey

The Board briefly discussed the post-event survey from the Clinic and Schooling Show.

No formal action was taken.

Additional Business

Show Manager Compensation

Dorothy Whiteman noted that recent tax reporting threshold changes now allow payments under \$2,000 without previous reporting concerns.

Motion: Increase the Show Manager compensation from **\$600 to \$1,000** per show.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

The next Directors' Meeting will be held:

July 14, 2026

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned following completion of business.