

Northwest Miniature Horse Club

Winter General Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: January 31, 2026

Time: 1:15 PM – 4:45 PM

Location: All Good Things Café, Aumsville, Oregon

Call to Order

The Winter General Membership Meeting of the **Northwest Miniature Horse Club** was called to order at **1:15 PM** by **Helen Halderman, President**.

Establishment of Quorum

A quorum was established with **37 attendees present**.

Thirty-six members were present and signed in, constituting a quorum

People Present (37)

Sheryl Peterson(M), Sharon Hardt(M), Brian Smith(M), Becky Nicol(M), Kaila Mosher(M), Eden Hart(M), Judy Howard(M), Jean Howard(M), Kathy Howard(M), Cherie Smith Jensen(M), Kelly Jensen(M), Wendy Wright(M), Kim Grist(M), Debbie Bigham(M), Linda Darnall(M), Charissa Alldredge(M), Mary Christine Houts(NM), Joanne Ross(M), Shannon Cooper(M), Danna Ash(M), Leslie White(M), Kellie Egilske(M), Roberta Hardy(M), Olivia Tucker(M), Kayla Stone(M), Lisa Brostad(M), Tammy Osgood(M), Dorothy Whiteman(M), Helen Halderman(M), Lisa Abboud(M), Matt Davern(M), Margarite Dulak(M), John Langley(M), Amy Engelman(M), Sharon Dickens(M), Linda VanFleet(M), Katie Hansen(M)

Introduction of Officers and Directors

Officers and Directors introduced themselves and shared their current roles and committee involvement.

Election of Recording Secretary

Motion: Sheryl Peterson nominated **Becky Nicol** for the position of Recording Secretary.

Second: The nomination was seconded by **Sharon Hardt**.

Discussion: Becky Nicol introduced herself and shared her interest in supporting youth participation and improving the club's meeting documentation through the use of recordings and improved recordkeeping practices.

Decision: Hearing no further nominations, nominations were closed and **Becky Nicol was elected Recording Secretary by acclamation**.

President's Report – Helen Halderman

Report Summary:

President Halderman welcomed members and thanked outgoing officers for their years of service. She emphasized the importance of volunteer participation and outlined goals for 2026, including a schooling clinic/show, one combined R-rated show, and three regular shows (not including State Fair). She stressed the importance of conservative spending and clear communication between the Board and membership.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Treasurer's Report – Sharon Hardt

Report Summary:

Treasurer Sharon Hardt reported the following balances as of December 31:

- **Checking Account:** \$53,242.83
- **Certificate of Deposit:** \$15,106.67
- **Youth Scholarship Fund:** \$1,815.53

She reviewed **specific estimated annual expenses**, including judges' fees, arena and facility rentals, insurance, ribbons and awards, show management expenses, and general administrative costs. Club insurance for the year has been paid and covers all scheduled shows and events. Sharon discussed the implementation of online payment processing and emphasized the importance of clear communication regarding payment timing for events such

as clinics and banquets. The possibility of moving additional funds into a certificate of deposit to earn interest was noted for future Board consideration.

Ribbon and Streamer Vendors

As part of the Treasurer's Report, ribbon and streamer sourcing was discussed. Cost differences between vendors were reviewed, and members expressed support for using **Royal** as a local/regional business, even though pricing is slightly higher.

There was a vote for doing all ribbons through hedges - vote failed with 11 votes for going with Hodges, 12 votes going against (in support of Royal) leading to the following motion.

Motion: A motion was made to use **Royal** for show streamers, including Grand and Reserve streamers.

Second: The motion was seconded.

Decision: **Motion carried with 13 yes and 6 no votes.**

Additional Discussion:

The use of **Royal and Hodges** for first and fourth-place ribbons was discussed. It was agreed that updated information would be requested from **Royal**, and this matter will be revisited at a future meeting. No motion was made on this item.

Decision:

Treasurer's Report presented for information only. The table below represents projected Club costs - not just show costs.

Projected Show Cost for 2026						
Costs reflect expenses for Schooling Show, Western Washington, Summer Classic, Emerald Valley						
	Schooling	Western WA	Summer Cla	Emerald Valley		
Judges (2 per show)	\$ -	\$ 3,400.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00	\$ 10,200.00	*subject to change w/3 d
Arena	\$ 675.00	TBD	TBD	TBD		
Gate Mgmt/measure	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Announcer	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Show Management	\$ -	\$ 1,925.00	\$ 599.00	\$1,465.00	\$ 3,989.00	
R show Stewart	\$ -	500 + camp spot				
Trailer Mileage	\$ UK	\$ UK	\$ UK	\$ UK		
Ribbons	\$2,410.30	pending final ribbon maker selected			\$ 2,410.30	est
Insurance	\$176	\$176	\$176	\$176	\$705	/by 5 events including Fall banquet
Taxes & Preparation						
Card processing	UK	UK	UK	UK		
State/Federal fees	50				\$ 50.00	Est.
AMHA fees	35				\$ 35.00	Est.
Estimated Annual costs					\$ 19,789.30	

AMHA Director's Report – Sheryl Peterson

Report Summary:

Sheryl Peterson provided an update from the AMHA Board, including national initiatives and governance topics currently under discussion. She described a proposal under development by the AMHA Performance Committee to transition to a futurity-style program. This proposal will be reviewed during upcoming Board workshops, and no changes are expected for the current show season.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Show Committee – Dorothy Whiteman

Report Summary:

The Show Committee reviewed the 2026 show schedule, including three A-rated shows, one

combined R-rated show, and one schooling clinic/show. Discussion included show locations, judges and stewards, announcers, arena availability, measuring logistics, gate management, and volunteer staffing needs.

Filled Roles

- **Announcer:**
- Catherine Ayers (confirmed returning)
- **Show Management:**
 - **Rinda Pullen** managing two shows
 - **Sharon Hardt** managing one show
- **Gate Management (A Shows):** Syndi Kanzler
- **Steward (R Show):** Annette Littleton
- **Measuring (Eugene Shows):** Syndi Kanzler

Roles Still Needed / Open

- Gate person for Western Washington R Show (Saturday only)
- Measuring support for Western Washington, depending on show timing
- Volunteers for course setup, measuring assistance, and general show support
- Trailer hauling volunteer for the Summer Classic (mileage reimbursement available)

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Shows

Schooling Clinic / Show

Report Summary:

Joanne Ross and Brian Smith shared details about a **rotating clinic format** designed to educate members across a variety of topics, including halter, driving, ring procedure, and general show readiness. The clinic is intended to be educational and welcoming to newer members. A message will be sent to the membership inviting volunteers to teach clinic sections and to sign up for show-day roles.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

State Fair Update – Matt Davern

Report Summary:

Matt Davern provided an update on participation in the State Fair. **Mary Christine Houts agreed to partner with Matt** on this effort. They will prepare an update and bring it back to the **Directors for review**.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Back Number Reservations – Judy Howard

Discussion Summary:

Judy Howard discussed back number reservation procedures.

Motion: A motion was made to allow back number reservations as discussed.

Second: The motion was seconded.

Decision: Motion carried.

New Class Proposal – “Newbie” Classes

Discussion Summary:

A proposal was presented to add two non-rated “Newbie” classes (one halter and one driving) to each of the club’s three shows. The intent is to encourage first-time exhibitors and provide an educational entry point into showing.

Motion: A motion was made by **Leslie White** to add the two Newbie classes to all three club shows.

Second: The motion was seconded by **Kelly Jensen**.

Decision: Motion carried.

Belt Buckles – Linda VanFleet

Report Summary:

Linda VanFleet displayed the **finalized belt buckle** for the year-end awards, consistent with the club’s established practice.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Year-End Awards – Katie Hansen

Report Summary:

Katie Hansen provided an update on year-end awards, including award categories, planning considerations, and anticipated presentation at the Fall banquet.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Fall Meeting / Banquet

Report Summary:

Discussion occurred regarding the Fall Meeting and banquet, including possible locations and the need to identify chairs to assist with planning. Volunteer coordinators were identified as Chrissa Alldredge, Linda Darnall, and Mary Houts.

Banquet Location - Moved/Seconded/and approved that Langdon Farms be the location for the fall 2026 banquet. Majority vote was in favor - motion passed.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Gelding Incentive – Katie Hansen

Report Summary:

Katie Hansen provided an update on the Gelding Incentive program, including its current status and ongoing promotion.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Website – Brian Smith and Helen Halderman

Report Summary:

Brian Smith reported that work is underway to implement **online payments** and that he will

explore integrating the club's Facebook page as a scrolling feed on the website's front page. Helen Halderman discussed updating website content, correcting spelling errors, and removing outdated information.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

Publicity

Report Summary:

Publicity efforts were discussed, including promotional videos produced by **AMHA and a California club**.

Decision:

Report presented for information only.

New Business

Embroidery – Debbie Bigham

Discussion Summary:

Debbie Bigham presented a proposal to offer embroidery services using the club logo. She agreed to remit **10% of each sale to the club**, with proceeds designated for the **Gelding Incentive Fund**.

Motion: A motion was made by **Becky Nicol** to approve Debbie Bigham's use of the club logo under the proposed terms.

Second: The motion was seconded by **Leslie White**.

Decision: Motion carried.

Albany Horse Expo – Mary Christine Houts

Discussion Summary:

Mary Christine Houts presented an idea regarding potential club participation in the Albany Horse Expo.

Decision:

Consensus supported further exploration of this opportunity. No formal motion was made.

Drawings

A drawing was held for **hot pink show certificates**, each providing a **\$25 credit** toward entry fees at one of the 2026 club shows to help reduce exhibitors' overall show costs.

Winners announced were:

- Olivia Tucker
- Lisa Brostad
- Carissa Alldredge
- Tara Crawford
- Kelly Egilske

Adjournment

Motion: A motion to adjourn was made by **Sharon Hardt**.

Second: The motion was seconded by **Carissa Alldredge**.

Decision: Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at **4:45 PM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Nicol

Recording Secretary

Northwest Miniature Horse Club

Minutes reflect discussion and actions taken during the meeting.