Meeting Date: May 17th, 2026

Meeting Time: 5:02 PM Mountain Daylight Time (MDT)

Meeting Location: Remote via Video/Teleconference

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1. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM MDT by the Board Chair, Tia Nelson. Chair Nelson welcomed everyone to the session and expressed her gratitude to Cathy Pierce and the rest of the board for successfully running the previous meeting and preparing the minutes in her absence.

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2. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

The Chair conducted a roll call of members. A quorum was established with seven (7) members present at the time of the call to order.

Attendance:

- Tia Nelson (Chair) – Present
- Mary Rose Lombardi – Present
- Randy Conilogue – Present
- Tammy Cruickshank – Present
- Lynn Kelley – Present
- Jason Lambrose – Present
- Cathy Pierce – Present (Joined during roll call)
- Elizabeth Sims – Absent
- Carolina Peterson – Absent
- Jennyfer Homem – Absent
- Claudia Bellandi – Absent

3. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting.

- Discussion: Tammy Cruickshank raised a question regarding the format of the minutes, noting they were embedded within the email rather than sent as a separate PDF attachment. Mary Rose Lombardi clarified that she intentionally distributes the minutes in a text-editable email format prior to the meeting to allow members to easily suggest corrections. She noted that final, approved minutes are always converted to PDF for archiving. Chair Nelson agreed that converting to PDF post-approval is the best practice for official website publishing.
- Amendments: None requested.
- Motion: Cathy Pierce moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as written. Tammy Cruickshank seconded the motion.
- Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

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4. Administrative Systems & Action Tracking Optimization

The board discussed ways to streamline decentralized updates for ongoing initiatives.

- Project Update Decentralization: Lynn Kelley proposed that project owners update their own progress independently rather than routing all notes through Mary Rose Lombardi. Chair Nelson and Randy Conilogue agreed, noting that an ongoing updating system allows members to log progress while actively working on their tasks. Conilogue emphasized that the board is operating under tight schedules and simplicity is critical.
- Platform Accessibility Concerns: Tammy Cruickshank suggested using a shared platform like Google Drive to facilitate this approach, but cautioned that some board members might not be familiar or comfortable with the software.
- Interim Action Tracking Assignment: To establish an immediate baseline, Tammy Cruickshank volunteered to manage the official Action Tracker for this specific meeting. She agreed to reconcile each agenda item against the existing tracking matrix and distribute the updated document to the board by the following morning for review.
- Elections Calendar Publication Policy: The board evaluated documentation guidelines for the critical 2026 election cycle deadlines. Randy Conilogue requested that key dates be explicitly embedded within future meeting agendas for rapid reference. Chair Nelson formalized the administrative protocol, mandating that due to its organizational weight, the upcoming election timeline

must be concurrently maintained within the official Meeting Agendas, Board Minutes, and the central Action Tracker across all active cycles.

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5. Committee Updates

A. Ethics and Code of Conduct

Tammy Cruickshank provided the committee update on behalf of herself and the absent Elizabeth Sims.

- Discussion on Governance Scope: Tammy Cruickshank summarized her review of the initial code of conduct draft framework prepared by Randy Conilogue. She questioned whether the organization should tightly define violations or maintain loose, volunteer-friendly text. She highlighted that the draft's provision allowing the board to suspend a member who has done "something really wrong" leaves significant room for interpretation. Lynn Kelley expressed a strong preference against over-policing individual or interpersonal disputes, stating that the board is not a traditional governing body and must maintain its core focus on the welfare of the horses.
- Interpersonal Conduct Provision: Regarding Item 3 (*Maintain Professionalism*), which requested members "refrain from public disputes or spreading unverified negative information," Tammy Cruickshank recommended striking the word "unverified" to discourage the dissemination of *any* negative information. Chair Nelson expressed agreement with this amendment.
- Review of Complaint Filing Fees: Cruickshank highlighted a clause in the draft requiring a refundable $100 fee to submit a complaint (to be returned only if the board determines the complaint has merit). She expressed concern that this mechanism creates a "pay-to-play" barrier for members with genuine issues. Lynn Kelly noted that historically the board has only managed two official complaints, but warned that without a structured format, members could easily flood the board with casual complaints consisting only of text message or Facebook screenshots. Kelly also noted that several external equestrian associations utilize filing fees to deter frivolous submissions.
- Next Steps: Cruickshank noted that the board did not express a collective, definitive stance on the filing fee during the brief discussion. She stated she will perform a comprehensive peer review of code of conduct frameworks across

other equestrian organizations to evaluate standard dispute procedures before finalizing recommendations.
- Disposition: Chair Nelson tabled further review of the document until the committee completes its comparative research and convenes internally. The item will be carried forward to the next scheduled meeting.

B. Member Breeder Directory

Lynn Kelly provided an update on the progress of the directory update and web onboarding project.

- Status Update: The outreach email to members has been drafted. Lynn Kelley is working daily alongside an external resource, Jeff, to troubleshoot administrative backend access and finalize the distribution parameters.
- Timeline & Target Dates: The target for distributing the update request email is set for June 2026. The committee established an analytical target date of July 1, 2026 to upload and launch the live online database view. Kelley noted that final deployment timing is conditionally dependent on membership response rates; if members delay updating their information, the directory will go live utilizing the verified records currently available.
- Priority Ranking: Tammy Cruickshank queried the status tier of the project. Lynn Kelley recommended setting the priority to Medium, stating that while it serves as an excellent member benefit, it is not an emergency operational requirement like the upcoming leadership elections. The board accepted the medium-priority designation.

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6. Officer Elections Planning (2026 Term)

Chair Nelson introduced the planning status for the upcoming United States Mangalarga Marchador Association (USMMA) leadership cycle.

- Call for Nominations Communications: Chair Nelson confirmed receipt of a comprehensive cover letter and introductory packet compiled by Mandy, which was distributed to the general membership on the day of the meeting.
- Correspondence Summary: The communication formally opens leadership conversations for the 2026 board term, emphasizing growth driven by volunteer leadership, breed stewardship, and community advocacy. The announcement

signals the opening of the official election lifecycle, designed to help voting members review upcoming service opportunities.

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7. Promotional Outreach & Event Calendar Review

Lynn Kelley led a review of the regional activities and official programmatic clinics tracked via the organization's central site calendar.

- Completed Field Work:
    - Ocala Exhibition: Aline Green successfully represented the breed at a showcase hosted at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala, Florida.
    - Training Clinics: Instructor Sebastian conducted two multi-day training clinics focused on standardized methods for backing and training Marchadors. The curriculum aligns with teaching models introduced by Alan Velasa during previous Arizona training sessions, establishing robust procedural consistency with overarching ABCCMM standards.
- Upcoming Scheduled Events & Inspections:
    - Late May 2026: ABCCMM Official Inspections – Tennessee
    - June 2026: ABCCMM Official Inspections – Florida and South Carolina
    - Summer Open Showcase: A regional open showcase is scheduled in New Jersey. Organizers from a local Paso Fino association under Sebastian's direction extended an official invitation for Marchador handlers to participate.
    - August 2026: The regional *Cavalgada* trail exhibition will commence at the residence of Chair Tia Nelson. Concurrently, regional inspections will be initiated across Montana, Utah, California, and Colorado.
- Calendar Modifications: Lynn Kelley noted she will update the master calendar to include the official dates for the National Show in Brazil to ensure total awareness across the membership base.

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8. New Business: Registration Database Deployment

Randy Conilogue introduced a major technological update regarding the organization's central registry software.

- Public Access Live Testing: The registration platform has achieved a stable, minimum-viable baseline and is now actively accessible to the public. Users can run active horse registry searches by navigating directly to `namarchador.org/registration`.
- Board Credentialing Protocol: To facilitate internal operational testing, Conilogue will manually construct secure profiles for active board members under the "Directors" security group. System login IDs will follow a standardized first-initial, last-name syntax (e.g., `tnelson`). Users will generate individual passwords via an automated setup page upon initial initialization.
- Authorization Thresholds: Board member profiles will grant comprehensive read-only privileges mirroring the view of an active registrar to ensure data transparency, but profiles will lack write-access parameters to safeguard existing records against unintended modification. Comprehensive platform visibility is targeted for final review by the next board meeting.

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9. Action Items

- Mary Rose Lombardi to convert the approved April 19, 2026 meeting minutes into a secure PDF format.
- Administrative Team to publish the finalized PDF version of the minutes to the organization's official website.
- Tammy Cruickshank & Elizabeth Sims to meet, perform a peer review of code of conduct platforms across external equestrian organizations, and present an updated draft at the next meeting.
- Tammy Cruickshank to update the central Action Tracker with the outcomes of the current meeting and distribute it to the board for review.
- Lynn Kelly to coordinate with Jeff to finalize backend testing, distribute the update broadcast email in June, and target a July 1 online launch.
- Lynn Kelly to add the upcoming dates for the National Show in Brazil to the website's event calendar.
- Randy Conilogue to add active board members to the registration database administrative system under read-only "Director" profiles prior to the next session.

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10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for June 28, 2026, at 5:00 PM MDT. For members joining across different regions, the local coordinated broadcast times are:

- Pacific Daylight Time (PDT): 4:00 PM
- Mountain Standard Time (MST): 4:00 PM *(Arizona / non-observing regional schedule)*
- Mountain Daylight Time (MDT): 5:00 PM
- Central Daylight Time (CDT): 6:00 PM
- Eastern Daylight Time (EDT): 7:00 PM
- Brasília Time (BRT): 8:00 PM *(For international tracking regarding Brazil operations)*

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11. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Tia Nelson called for a declaration of adjournment. The meeting was officially adjourned by board consensus at 5:53 PM MDT.

Minutes Submitted By: Mary Rose Lombardi
