

Minutes for the August 6, 2023, USMMA Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order: 6:01PM MDT

Attendance: Lynn Kelley, Randy Conilogue, Cathy Pierce, Tia Nelson.
Absent: Aline Greene, Dana Johnsen, Carolina Peterson, and Alessandra Deerinke. There is a quorum.

Minutes Approval for March, May, and June meetings. Cathy/Lynn Moved/ seconded to approve the minutes for these meetings as written; they will be posted on the website.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Training in Brazil. (Lynn and Carolina):** We need to know what is required by the ABCCMM. Six Trainers are invited to attend and there is significant riding involved. It's happening in November; we need to identify people who are planning to attend. Tia will ask George for the list of people who are interested in it and the itinerary. Ideally, we have a conversation with George, Carolina, and Christiana or some other person in Brazil to firm this up. Passports are necessary and a VISA will be required in November. Questions remain: Where you will stay, when you will travel, and what needs to be taken with you?
- 2) Secretary Position.** Survey Monkey will be the format we use for the election. If only one person volunteers, an election will still be held. A communication will be sent to the membership advertising this position this evening and the deadline for throwing a hat in the ring is Friday, August 18, 2023.
- 3) What are we doing for the membership and for the breed?** More volunteers! It was suggested that if someone posts about their horse(s) on their personal FB page, they should share these posts

on ALL the Marchador FB pages. We may need a **Social Media Position**. The Registry is an excellent example of a service we offer. The newsletter is important as well. Advisory Groups could meet once a year to keep momentum. PR! Regional Directors' Reports for their region! Where are the horses, a map? Send photos. Send competitions. Send stories. There are ideas in the minutes! Let's follow up.

4) Refund policy. No refunds. This should be stated in the Operating Rules.

5) New events? Ideas? Cathy's suggestion. Virtual Working Competition. Compete with other breeds? Use the competitions that are already being held by other organizations. A breed award will be given to the top Marchador in the competition. This will be in the next newsletter.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- 1) **Virtual Competitions for members. (Dana)** (Tabled)
- 2) **Registrar's Report. (Randy)** There are three transfers, six or seven new registers, some issues with DNA submissions. Still working on the online database manager. The International registries are still pending.
- 3) **Regional Directors Open Positions: MW, MT, NE. (Cathy)** Jeff, Carolina, and Cathy are the elections committee. A call for candidates' letter was supposed to be sent out, Lynn will send it to the Board for approval. There are seven regions. SE, NE, MW, MT, Pacific, Canada, SW. The states and provinces should be listed in the Operating Rules. Adding an International Region may be useful.

4) USMMA Website (Lynn) Domain names are secured. We are using GoDaddy. NAMarchador.live, NAMarchador.org, NAMarchador.com are our domains.

President@NAMarchador.org, info@NAMarchadors.org, Registrar@NAMarchador.org are emails that are created at this time. USMMARCHADOR@gmail.com is in use at this time. How will the website be updated and who will manage it? Needs a more modern look. To archive posts, we need DropBox or something.

5) Bylaws update. (Tia) Good progress is being made, I hope to have the bylaws ready for the next meeting.

6) Montana Meet a Marchador Event Update. (Tia) Thursday is Provisional, Friday is Definitive, Saturday is a Pig Roast, during this event, we will do the trail ride, and George is going to do a seminar/clinic.

OTHER

NEXT MEETING September 10, 2023 6:00 PM MDT.

ADJOURN at 7:38 MDT.