

Annual Spring Meeting
Atlantic Canada Trail Riding Association

April 8th, 2018

Blake Storey called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Official attendance was not taken (oops!) therefore there names of those present will not be listed. Regrets were sent by Board members Carrilee E and Nicole M. Sylvia G agreed to record minutes in the absence of the secretary.

Sylvia G read the minutes of the AGM held November 2017. Minutes were amended to remove the term “in error” with regards to payment of vet incentive funds. Eric D moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Jacqui T seconded, motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Breed awards: Sylvia Gillies reported that the breed awards committee met and developed criteria (see Schedule A) for a new breed awards system which would include all ride types rather than the previous system that only included Competitive Trail. Bev E moved that for the 2018 year the breed awards include the following categories; JP Trail, CTR/IDR conditioning, End/LD top ten, and follow the current point system for year-end placings. Eric D seconded. During discussion Donna Lee C moved to amend the motion to include CTR trail. There was no seconder. Lynn B moved to amend the motion to remove Judged pleasure rides from the Breed award category. Seconded by Betty Dwyer. Vote on amended motion resulted in five nays one abstention. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: April Haliburton gave a report on the state of the treasury and membership. (see schedule B and C) During discussion Eric D moved that the Board come up with a new membership fee schedule to be presented at the 2018 AGM. Eric D and Blake S also agreed to look into some possible fund raising ideas over this year.

Statistician: Sylvia G reported that at this time her main focus has been on making mileage corrections from the 2017 competition year. She asked that if any members found conflicts with their mileage numbers could they contact her to get it clarified. At the fall AGM the board appointed a membership person so those numbers will be presented in a different report. She also mentioned that the awards missed from the 2017 ceremony will be presented at the end of the meeting.

Sanctioning: Donna Munn reported that so far this year there is seven weekends of rides, five Jp's, two CTR's , five twenty –five mile LD's, four fifty mile endurance, one seventy- five mile endurance, and one ten mile intro ride pending. She stated that as per our rules there must be three of each type of ride in order for awards to be offered at year-ends. As it stands now there is not enough IDR's or CTR's. Betty D moved that we reduce the number of rides required for year- end awards from three to two. Seconded by Chester G. In the discussion Chester stated

that he felt that the club would benefit more from having available trophies given out rather than having them stored away. He also spoke of the challenges that the club is facing with such things as lack of riders, ride managers and the resulting lack of income, and how our future tasks should focus on improving these issues.

Public Relations Report: presented by Russlyn P-D (see Schedule D). There was some discussion about ride conflicts with AERC rides in the states. The general feeling was that riders will pick their rides of their own accord and there is very little that the club can do.

Rules: Pat R reported that she will be getting the rule books today for future distribution. She mentioned that the minimum distance rule for introductory distance rides was inadvertently left out of the rule book. That will be re-added in the near future.

Newsletter: Jacqui T-T would like to see more ride results and member input for the newsletter. There was discussion on recreating the ride recap form that used to be included in the sanction kit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Russlyn P-D expressed interest in organising a clinic possibly for next spring. She approached past member and elite level endurance rider Robert Gielen and he agreed to be a guest speaker if the club was willing. There was some discussion on type of clinic and the importance of meeting the needs of new members as well as challenging the ones that want to move up. It was agreed that Russlyn and Betty D will make a plan and present it at the AGM in the fall.

The issue of keeping the members current with rule changes in between rule book publishing years was discussed. It was decided that we should approach our website manager Roy Drinnan to add an electronic amendment page to track rule amendments. This would make it easier for members to readily access rule changes. It was also suggested that a separate “cut out” page be added to the newsletter so members can print it off and add it in their current books.

April Haliburton reminded members that our insurance policy requires that all members riding in sanctioned competitions must be a member of their Provincial Sport Organization. Failure to comply with this will result in the insurance Company NOT responding in the event of an incident.

There was some discussion around the possibility of resurrecting the challenge cup competition Lucy and Elwood agreed to host this and do trails, if it happened, as long as someone else looked after the ride management particulars. Garnet G offered to look after the necessary repairs to the trophy.

Betty Dwyer moved that for the 2018 year ACTRA will allow the sanctioning of an introduction to endurance (fun ride) to be held in conjunction with other endurance rides. Seconded by

Kim. In the discussion Betty mentioned that she felt that offering this would provide a number of advantages. 1) It would be an excellent learning tool for education and information about the sport of endurance in a lower mileage, lower stress atmosphere. 2) It would be easier for endurance ride managers and veterinarians to have only one type of scoresheet rather than having to use both a CTR sheet and an endurance sheet. 3) There will be no points or placings submitted to ACTRA. Some members also mentioned that while AERC does not allow the collection of miles for this type of event, ACTRA would allow riders who participate in these events to have their mileage recorded. A vote was held on the motion, four were contrary minded. Motion carried.

Betty D brought up discussion on changing the name of the club. She felt that the words "trail Riders" in the name is not reflective of the competitive nature of our sport and links us instead to pleasure groups. There was lots of discussion on this topic with some feeling that a name change is not necessary while others agreeing that it is time we distinguished ourselves from non-competitive trail riding. April H also mentioned that the ACTRA insignia is already taken up by a television organisation and we would not be able to use it should our club decide to become registered with Canadian Clubs and associations.

It was decided to continue this discussion to the year-end meeting and have a motion made at that time. It was also suggested that the idea be published on the web page and perhaps the newsletter so people could send ideas for a new name to the BOD.

Donna lee C educated riders on an App that can be added to your phone that will direct the rider along a marked trail. This would be useful in the event of sabotage. The basic app is free but the advanced version is fifty dollars. It is also available to clubs for a fee of two hundred and fifty dollars US. Members interested in this app can look up RIDE WITH GPS.

Sylvia G agreed to look after the year end ceremony.

Meeting was adjourned.

SCHEDULE A
Criteria for Breed Awards (created 2018)

- Equine must be registered as a lifetime mount with ACTRA.
- Owner/lesser and rider must be a member of ACTRA.
- If the horse is registered with a breed association, a copy of the registration papers must be on file with the ACTRA statistician, otherwise they will be placed in the Grade category.
- Equines must compete in a minimum of two eligible rides in order to qualify for a breed award. Eligible rides are: Introductory Distance Rides, Competitive Trail Rides, Limited Distance and Endurance.
- Breeds that have an award/ trophy available with ACTRA will be awarded regardless of the number of horses of that breed that are competing in the year. Other breeds must have two or more horses competing in a given year in order to be placed in a separate category from OTHER.
- Equines ridden by junior riders will be ranked by ride score among the senior competitors.
- Categories for Breed Awards are as follows:
 - Purebred**- Any purebred horse registered with a breed association with a copy of papers on file with ACTRA statistician.
 - Part bred**- Any part-bred horse registered with a breed association with a copy of papers on file with ACTRA statistician.
 - Grade**- unregistered horses or any other horses that do not have a copy of breed papers on file with ACTRA statistician.
 - Other**-1) Any Pure or part bred equine registered with a breed association with a copy of papers on file with ACTRA that does not have at least two horses competing in the year **and** does not have a trophy/award currently available with ACTRA.

SCHEDULE B
Treasurer's report

ACTRA Spring Meeting 2018

Beginning balance Nov. 17, 2017 \$8361.75

Revenue

Year end (M &Mount)	670 (include auction 275)
Membership & Mount reg. Dec.-Mar31	890
Outside miles	10
Total	+ \$1570

Expense

Year end hotel	1206.98
Intercity Insurance Services	350
NSEF Club Membership	50
NBEA Club Membership --form unavailable	xx
Web Hosting- CR Software	164.44
Keeper Plaques 2017	102.75
Ride Incentive 2017 *****	600
Jackets 2017 Year End	125.97
Scotiabank ACTRA cheques	97.26
Jan Thaw Booth	75
Office supplies (stamps, paper, envelopes)	41.38
refund membership overpayment	20
SC - Service Charges Scotiabank	31.5
Total	- \$2865.28 (Loss 1295.28)
 Balance March 31st, 2018	 \$ 7066.47

Note for Ride Managers:

Modified ACTRA Cheque Request Form to include name of veterinarian DVM for Ride Incentive program. Must be submitted within two weeks of ride date to collect ride incentive.

Respectfully,

April Haliburton, Treasurer

SCHEDULE C
Membership Report

ACTRA Spring Meeting

64 total memberships:

new memberships 14
membership renewals 50

Family memberships 11 (total 26 total people)
Single memberships 38

Juniors 6
Seniors 58

Mount registrations:

14 new mount registrations --7 from new members and 7 by existing members

Membership welcome to ACTRA packets for new members including a cover letter with some online reading suggestions, a membership card, and a rule book. Some to be handed out to new members attending the spring meeting--the remainder will be sent by mail.

January Thaw:

Booth cost \$75; \$170 in memberships were paid at January thaw-- Good exposure for ACTRA, many visits to the booth

Submitted by Nicole Mattatal, Vice and Membership

Typed and read by April Haliburton, Treasurer

SCHEDULE D

Public Relations report

Actra Spring Meeting 2018

In December 2017, I created an article for Horse and Pony magazine to advertise ACTRA. It was put into their February 2018 issue, pg. 9. At this time I would like to encourage members to create their own personal articles to be placed in our local Horse and Pony magazine, as it is a great way to let the equine community know that we exist.

Also in December I assisted in changes made to the Cheque Request Form.

In January 2018, I initiated a BOD discussion on the subject of a mentoring program for ACTRA. It was decided by the BOD, that we should create a mentor liaison to be available for ACTRA rides. I was asked if I would like to become the mentor liaison for ACTRA, which I accepted. Therefore, in the future, if ride managers or riders want a mentor, they should contact me @ prdirector@atlanticriders.ca, and I will try and find a mentor for their rider.

In January 2018, I composed an advertising poster primarily for ride managers, but which could be used by members as well. It can be found on ACTRA's web-site, by linking to forms. Make as many copies as you like and place them for example in Tack shops, feed stores or stables to mention a few places. Hopefully this will aid in growing our club.

In February, I had the Spring into Stanley ride placed in the March and April NBEA newsletter and website calendar. I will continue to place all 2018 ACTRA sanctioned rides in the NBEA newsletters.

In March, Spring into Stanley ride was placed in the Horse and Pony magazine in their What's Happening column. I will continue to place all 2018 ACTRA sanctioned rides in this magazine.

Also in March I received a letter from Nancy McAlinden, NBEA Communications, asking for our input on NB trails. I will read the letter as follows:

Greetings.

I am reaching out, on behalf of the NBEA, to you folks who may have a vested interest in the New Brunswick trails system.

We are working with the lovely people at Sentier NB Trails as they undertake a couple of projects related to horse riders' use of public trails.

Their first project, scheduled for launch in mid-April, is the creation of a section of their website dedicated to horse-friendly trails. They are going through their maps and isolating and highlighting trails throughout the province that are horse-friendly. What they may need from us is help with any gaps in their information, such as footing conditions, access points, things to see, etc. I haven't had any specific inquiries along these lines yet, but I am hoping you folks will be interested in standing by as contacts for us should any questions come up.

A second goal they have is the creation of a feature video, something showcasing horses and riders using an NB trail, perhaps with drone footage. They are looking for people interested in participating.

I will quote here part of a conversation with NB Trails marketing manager, Charlotte Hill:

"

For the feature trail video, I would love to come out for a trail ride on one of the NB trails that we will identify as horse friendly! I am a moderately experienced rider and would love to come out with you guys and take some footage to promote the trails. I'm sure Poul Jorgensen would love to come along as well. We would do a similar video to the ones already up on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NBtrails/videos> I would ideally like to tie this in with the launch of the horse friendly trails section of the site.

If your clubs would like to add trails to the existing network, they must become a Local Trail Partner. Benefits to this would include trail liability insurance, promotion on the website and at events, trail development support, and several other items. If your clubs have any questions regarding this membership we can send them a Local Trail Partner program package. "

If you can be of help, or your group is interested in the Local Trail Partnership program, you can reach out to Charlotte at: marketing@sentiernbtrail.com. Mention my name and the NBEA.

Finally, if you know of any N.B. groups, clubs, or leaders with an interest in trails that I should contact, please let me know. I'd love to connect anyone we can think of with Charlotte and her projects.

Many thanks,

Nancy McAlinden
NBEA Communications

In March, all 2018 Actra sanctioned rides were placed in the NSEF electronic calendar. If rides are changed or cancelled it is important that Donna and myself know so that we can make changes to ride calendars. E.g. ACTRA, NBEA and NSEA.

On the meeting agenda, I will have a discussion on whether ACTRA members are interested in participating in a Long distance Clinic with clinician Bob Gielen.

Respectfully submitted,

Russlyn Patriquin Dyke
PR Director for ACTRA.