**2020 membership meeting minutes**

Barb called meeting to order.

Old business:

2020 accomplishments: non-profit status achieved with IRS

Sponsorship drive with barrel covers, banners, web advertising, etc. Allowed for $2000 extra to prize package

Shoutout to 2020 directors and race producers

Will be sending a thank you letter and photo from finals to all race sponsors for the year

Financial report: $17,525 added money collected (including $4465 membership fees that get added to finals payout) $62,235 in payouts at race, $17650 in prizes (including saddles). Will start 2021 with $2000 in bank.

New business: President: Barb Pirrie (one more year)

VP- Kate Hatter

Treasurer-Karli McGowan

Secretary- Lana Schillinger

Directors- Brenda Fisketjon, Darcie Ridl, Katelyn Sponheim, Deb Madison, Devynn Schillinger, Ashley Lee

Prize committee- Ashley Lee, Ashley Fulton, Brita Ryan

Non member fee: will raise it to $15 if $1000 or more added. If less than $1000 will remain at #10. Motion put forth by Tana Canen, carried. Membership cards to be given in 2021 also

Volunteer sign up question to be added to membership form with regions (NE MT, SE MT, ND) so that director teams have a membership “pool” to call on to volunteer. Motion put forth by Tana Canen, seconded by Katelyn Sponheim. Motion carried

Finals locations: Thornton’s, Bowman, MC college arena, Baker, Sidney Fairgrounds

Discussion about possible pre entries for some larger money added races.

Meeting adjourned

**OBRA Meeting November 16, 2019 (Glendive)**

Kathy called the meeting to order after giving awards away. There were 41 members in attendance. Kathy told everyone that we had a great 2019 year and she is looking forward to a great 2020. She wants everyone to remember that we need more communication in our association and she doesn’t have the time to dedicate to being the President with Tim working out of town during the summer. She then called for nominations for President. Vicky Eskridge nominated Barb Pirrie for President and Vickie Gilje second her nomination making Barb Pirrie the new President.

Barb handed out packets with an agenda, the minutes from the last meeting in Baker, and a Treasurer’s Report. Barb asked if everyone had a chance to read over the minutes from Baker and asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes, Darcie Ridl motioned to approve the minutes.

Barb and Karli worked together to come up with an audit of the books and Barb gave a Treasurer’s Report with a break down of what races made and it also included a break down of every cost that the OBRA had during the year. At the end the books came out $260 ahead which could be Non-Member fees or Time Onlys. Ashley Fulton motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report and Elysia Huber second the motion.

Election of Officers:

**President:** Vicky Eskridge nominated Barb Pirrie and Vickie Gilje second her nomination.

Barb won with a majority vote.

**Vice President:** Tana Counts nominated Deb Ryan and Victoria Eskridge second her nomination

Deb won with a majority vote.

Barb brought up that right now in the by-laws the Secretary and Treasurer are suppose to be one person. The OBRA members needed to vote to decide if we wanted to keep the positions separated and update the by-laws or only have one person for those two positions. Barb said that in the by-laws that it states the secretary is only responsible for taking minutes at the meetings. Bailey Stuart was asked if she would consider staying on as Secretary and she said that she did not want to be responsible for going to all the races and being the secretary at every race. At this time Barb brought up her Teams idea. She believes that this idea will make the OBRA a friendly place to run where the money you spend comes back to you and will help spread out the responsibility. She then explained what the teams would consist of:

* 2 Directors on a team
* Each team is responsible for 5 races
* 1 designated Secretary who is responsible for taking entrys, the draw, and payouts
* 1 time who is responsible for taking times at the race
* 1 Announcer
* 1 time only person (we lost a lot of money on time onlys last year, this needs to be regulated)
* At the end of each race the team will have to balance the money bag before it is handed over to the Treasurer.

Mickie Stuart motioned to have separate people for the Secretary and Treasurer positions which was then voted on and won with a vote of 21. The by-laws will need updated to show that the members voted to have two separate people as Secretary and Treasurer.

**Secretary:** Kate Hatter was nominated but turned down the position since she was already a Director. Bailey Stuart will stay secretary.

Bailey won with a majority vote after Kate declined the position.

**Treasurer:** Karli McGowan was nominated by Mickie Stuart and Brita Ryan seconded her nomination.

Karli won by majority vote.

Directors:

1. Kate Hatter stayed on as a Director from the year 2019.
2. Boyd Rasmussen was nominated by Barb Pirrie and Deb Ryan second the nomination.
3. Brita Ryan was nominated by declined the nomination due to already being a director for multiple other organizations.
4. Darci Ridl was nominated by Kate Hatter and Vickie Gilje second the nomination.
5. Mickie Stuart was nominated by Jan Pauley and Kate Hatter second the nomination.
6. Brenda Fisketjon was nominated by Kate Hatter. The group had to vote on whether they wanted a fifth Director or to keep it as four. It was a majority vote to add a Director position making Brenda Fisketjon a Director.

Barb then said the responsibilities of the Directors was to be a part of a team to put on races and to balance the money bag and sign off on the money at the end of the race.

There was a discussion on limiting the number of races that goes towards the saddles. There were multiple points brought up with this topic:

1. Victoria Netzer thought it could increase the number of members.
2. Karli McGowan mentioned that it was done in past years and it didn’t change the outcome of the prizes
3. Mickie Stuart thought it could limit the numbers at the races during the year.
4. Lana Schillinger said that if there was a local race people would go and support the local race.
5. Deana Anderson thought that each Member could pick which races they wanted to go toward the prizes because it would be hard to decide which races were your best with when people run in different D’s.
6. Victoria Netzer thought it would be tough to limit the number of races that go toward prizes and it was decided in the end to keep it the same and not put a limit on the number of races that go toward the saddles.

Payouts in the Youth:

There was some discussion about paying out more places in the youth because beginner riders get discouraged when they don’t win any money back. Barb wants to encourage more youth. It was brought up that youth is 17 and younger and Autumn Dempewolf thought that a 17 year old shouldn’t have to win less of a check so that everyone in the youth gets a check. Mickie Stuart then brought up changing the splits. Karli McGowan said that we should change the splits to full second splits instead of half and then whole so that it can split up the division more giving more of the youth riders a chance to win money if they are just beginning. Kate Hatter motions to change the splits and Karli McGowan second the motion now making the splits in the youth full seconds.

Open Riding/Time Onlys:

It was brought up that the association lost a lot of money on time onlys last year and that people wanted to see a designated time for open riding. Ashley Fulton motioned that there would be 15 minutes of open riding before time onlys at each race. There would not be any barrels up in the arena during open riding. If you miss the open riding time you will have to pay for a time only to get into the arena. Mickie Stuart second the montion.

Side Pots:

During the Side Pot discussion it was brought up to see if we can piggy back and have a warm up race at some of these races. It was brought up that side pots can get expensive when running multiple horses however after looking at the money that we made off of side pots during the 2019 year Mickie Stuart motioned to keep having side pots and Kathy Wootan second the motion.

Saddles:

Prices of saddles was brought up and how the Senior and Youth don’t pay for the amount of money that they are given for a saddle. Barb Pirrie mentioned buying one type of saddle so that we could pay for the whole saddle. Lana Schillinger mentioned having a cash option instead of having to buy a saddle as long as what you buy is stamped to promote the OBRA. Ashley Fulton mentioned having saddle sponsors so that they are stamped on the saddles. Mickie and Autumn both thought that the saddle amounts should stay the same and Kate Hatter mentioned not having a Senior and Youth saddle. Kathy brought up that the Seniors donate a lot to the association and that they make up the difference in the saddle amount by all the donations they make throughout the year. Mickie Stuart motioned to leave the saddle amounts the same for the 2020 year.

Advertising:

Barb brought in $1500.00 this year from Web Advertisements. Ashley Lee brought up having a price package for the advertising. She wants to see a cheaper price so that small businesses can afford to donate. Ashley Fulton thought that we could have banners and web advertisements at different prices. It was decided that the Directors would come up with a package for advertisements with different prices and what you get for your money.

Favorite Arenas:

Barb asked what everyone’s favorite arenas were. This wasn’t disgust. Kathy Wootan spoke up and said that we everyone works hard at each race to have their arena ready and that this isn’t a topic that needs to be brought up. One arena that was mentioned was Medora since we use to have a race there.

Prize Committee:

Autumn declined being on the prize committee again. Ashley Lee said that she could get prizes cheaper through her business but she didn’t want any bad feelings with her being on the prize committee and owning a business. It was decided that there would be a board and Ashley Lee could put prize packages together and present them to the board so there wasn’t any conflict of interest. The prize committee board will consist of Ashley Fulton, Ashley Lee, and Brita Ryan.

New Business:

Karli said that Paulette Moss wants the OBRA to come back to the Wrangler. It is $8 per address and it was discussed that the $8 could come out of the memberships which would mean less money added to the finals. After discussion it was decided that there would be a box added to the membership form if you want to get the Wrangler you can check the box and pay the extra $8 on top of your membership fee. This was voted on and passed with a majority vote.

Tana Counts mentioned having a race in Circle the Sunday after the Pro Rodeo and she wanted it to be a straight OBRA race.

**Minutes for June 22, 2019 OBRA Meeting**

Treasurers Report: $2780 in Membership Fees $7203 in the Bank at this time (not correct as there are a lot of outstanding checks)

We have made $3241 from races so far this year • $462 from the Tequil Turn • $975 from J & A in Glendive • $851 from Barrel Daze side pot in Sidney • $947 from Hinsdale

We have to have $15,000.00 at the end of the year to afford our saddles. We do not have printed Treasurers reports to hand out to every member, however if any member wants to see the financials all they have to do is ask Karli and they are welcome to look at them.

Kate Hatter Motioned to accept the Treasurers report and Tina seconded it. Rhoda wants to see what each race makes so that members looking to put on races will have something to refer to. It was mentioned that Karli could put a breakdown of races on the website for Members to see but then was decided that the information could be emailed to any member that wants to see it instead of having it open to the public.

Lana Tibbets mentioned that not every member in the OBRA is there to win a saddle and that we need to think about other prizes. Autumn mentioned that no other barrel racing association gives away saddles anymore.

 It was decided that at the finals we would have all the members there vote on a prize package and whether they still wanted the option of winning a saddle. Kathy Wootan brought up scheduling races. Kate Hatter is looking at a July 28 date in Sidney but is not official yet. Tana Counts mentioned side potting week night barrel racings for extra money.

 It was previously decided that we could promote other barrel races however the points would not go towards saddles. The number of places being paid out in the Senior and Youth division was brought up. Some Members thought that they should be paid down further. After discussion it was decided to follow the NBHA payout tables. There were some concerns about not paying down further if there were added money in the race. The Members came down to two options 1. Follow the NBHA payout tables however if there is added money pay down further so more people get checks. This does not include the Youth and Senior divisions. They will still follow the payout tables. 2. Follow the NBHA payout tables however if there is added money pay down further so more people get checks and include the Youth and Senior divisions. The Members voted and decided to go with option number 1.

There was a prize committed appointed for the year end prizes. Autumn Dempewold and Kathy Wootan will be the prize committee.

Kathy Wootan ended the meeting with telling everyone that she will be resigning as President at the end of the year and that Members should be thinking of who they would like as a new president. She mentioned that we should have anyone interested in the position have a write up of what they would do if they were President so that the Members have a reason to vote for someone. Jason Twitchell asked Kathy why she was resigning and said that he thinks she has done a good job. It was then brought up what the purpose of the organization is from Karli and that everyone needs to treat each other as equals and not as children.

Lana Schillinger stood up and said that she appreciates the OBRA and that her or Devin wouldn’t be where they were now without it. Rhoda said that she appreciates the OBRA and drives 200+ miles to be able to run in our association because she loves it. Kathy Wootan said that she feels there is a lack of communication between the Members and Officers/Directors and that is a big reason she is stepping down. Tana Counts said that she would like minutes taken at every meeting even if they are small meetings. Kate Hatter motioned to adjourn the meeting and Vicki Gilje seconded the motion.

**OBRA Annual Meeting 2019 February 2, 2019**

Autumn Dempewolf mentioned that Kristin Aus wants to do an incentive for her horses breeding. Barb wants to make sure that when members enter they only enter under one horses name (preferably the registered name). If we get the registered names OBRA would be able to send standings to Equistat. We would need 80% of registered names.

Renae motioned for a non-member fee. The fee would be $10 for the Senior and Open. It was decided to wave the fee for Youth and Pee Wees unless they are also entered in the Open and then they will have to pay the $10 non-member fee also. Ashley Lee Seconded the motion.

Last years stats: • 80 Member • 21 Races • 1326 Runners/63 Runners per race • $40,893 paid out over the year It was decided that we will only do a side pot if the person putting on the race is a member.

Kate Hatter mentioned having the finals outdoors with Thornton’s as a backup. The group talked about it but decided to keep the finals indoors because of the unpredictable weather around that time of the year.

Rhoda McDonald wanted to give a big Thank You to Kay, Deb, and Karli for having the Outback. She made sure to express how supported she feels at the races and that we have such a great group. Ashley Lee and many other girls mentioned that they also felt very supported at the Outback races. It was also mentioned that if the ground doesn’t fit your horse you should not run but not to be disrespectful to the host of the race.

Kathy Wootan mentioned that the Outback is trying to make sure that the ground is safe at every race but sometimes there are obstacles that are out of our control. We had two directors resign. Jason Twitchell and Chelsea Shirk. Chelsea is going to get her Pro card this year and felt that she didn’t have the time to devote to the OBRA that it would require to be a director. Kodi Fischer, Tana Counts, and Kate Hatter were nominated for directors. Kathy Wootan motioned that all three be directors and that we add a director position however Kodi said that she couldn’t be a director. Charell Schillo motioned to close the nominees and Tana Counts and Kate Hatter became our two new directors.

Karli McGowan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Autumn took over to hand out the prizes from the 2018 year.

**2018 meeting minutes:**

New Directors: Jason Twitchell, Vickie Gilje, Deanna Anderson.

It was brought up that all directors and officers must be members of the association.

Vice President: Mickie Stuart

Director responsibilities for 2018: secure a $200 sponsorship for the association. Be able to help out where needed at races

Producer incentives: If you schedule to host a race before April 7th, you get a free 2018 membership. A producer packet will be given out of what each producer is expected to have for the race. (announcer, barrel setters, etc)

There will be 1 point per horse/rider combo awarded past 6th place in each division. Tipped barrels will still be a no time and no point will be given.

Youth saddle: reduced to $800 OR the option for OBRA to purchase a youth Corriente saddle.

Entry fees will remain at $30-open, $20-senior, $20-youth, and $10 peewee UNLESS there is more than $750 per race added, then the open amount may be increased to $40. Still 80% payback on all entry fees.

There will be a $400 “slush fund” to pay arena help if a producer cannot find volunteer work (non OBRA members), or find a way to pay the barrel setters

It was agreed upon to have a OBRA buckle series co-sanctioned with 1 Right 2 Left series in Trenton, ND to grow ND membership. Members would be able to have full OBRA membership status, attend the finals, but the races will only count for a prize for the Trenton series. If they choose to attend the saddle series they will accumulate points in that series as well.

**2015 Minutes**

OBRA will be purchasing a display to attach to our timer for races. It will possibly be rented out at larger races for $1/run

Denise Corneliuson was elected to a 3 year term as officer.

Deanna Anderson was elected to a 2 year term as officer.

Vice President- Mickie Stuart

Karli McGowan was co-secretary/treasurer with Kay Haugenoe.

Dates for race year are encouraged to be in by May 15th, to get set schedule, so other plans and jackpots can be attended if people so choose.

**Minutes March 29th, 2014**

Please look at the website to see a listing of the current race dates.

**Directors:**  Billy Harms and Bettye Knight were voted in for 3 year terms.

**Points system**: There was discussion on tracking a horse/rider combination. WE have decided by a 23-0 vote to track horse and rider combinations.

**Producers**: Please turn in a list of sponsors to Kris or Kay with ADDRESSES so that a thank you can be written.

**Also be sure to have some helped lined up if you are hosting a barrel race.**

Paying or reimbursing your help is up the producer, not OBRA.

**Entry Fees**: At some of the barrel races the entry fees will be more to help cover the costs associated with producing a barrel race. Some arenas cost more to use, more insurance, etc. . . Most of the fees will be posted on the website prior.

**Contestants: Please Read!!**

All contestants must use the SAME gate to enter the arena.

No schooling of a horse during a run. You may only go around a barrel one time. . Do not restart your run or go around the barrel more than one time.

For **exhibitions** we will continue with the ticket system. It seemed to work well except for time limits. Please realize that others are waiting and keep your time in the arena to one minute. Producers are encouraged to have a gate person who is willing to let people know when their time is up. (Barrel racing etiquette.)

**Other notes:** It was brought up that OBRA was asked to host a few benefit races. Since OBRA is run as an organization to raise money for prizes for its members, running a race where no money is made is not in OBRA’s best interest. Our services, such as office help, can be donated, but not run as an official OBRA race.

Race order—our races will always be run as peewee, youth (not rolling their times), open, and senior.

**Minutes April 28th, 2013**

Please look at the website to see a listing of the current race dates.

**Sidepots**: The pros/cons of sidepots were discussed. No decision was made. The directors are going to have a conference call to discuss this.

**Points system**: There was discussion on tracking a horse/rider combination. This is also going to be discussed during the conference call.

**Producers**: Please turn in a list of sponsors to Kris or Kay with ADDRESSES so that a thank you can be written. Some thank you’s were returned last year because of a wrong address.

Also be sure to have some helped lined up if you are hosting a barrel race.

OBRA is looking at purchasing a display for the times: The displayed could be rented out to some of the bigger barrel races.

**Entry Fees**: At some of the barrel races the entry fees will be more to help cover the costs associated with producing a barrel race. Some arenas cost more to use, more insurance, etc. . . we will try and let you know ahead of time. . . if possible.

**Contestants: Please Read!!**

All contestants must use the SAME gate to enter the arena.

No schooling of a horse during a run. You may only go around a barrel one time. . Do not restart your run or go around the barrel more than one time.

For **exhibitions** we are going to try and use the ticket system. Purchase your tickets when you enter and then give them to the gate person when you are ready. We will not be calling out names, you just get in line. If you want a time you can do you exhibition after the barrel race and receive a time. We are hoping that this will speed up the exhibitions.