

# OBRA 2023 Members Meeting minutes

## Reports

- President
- Treasurer-2023 added money \$7660, advertising income \$4200, non member fees \$945, memberships \$5355. Total income \$90,671, total payouts 58804.85. Gross 2023 profit 31866.15. expenses (office help ,arena help, arena fees, prizes etc) \$28,385.85. Net income for 2023 \$3480.30 (less a few prize packages that hadn't cleared as of meeting time.)
- Membership
  - Current Membership = 159 for 2023
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## Items for Discussion/Action

- VP position, 1 director position- Ashley Lee and Leslea Wade stepping down  
**Discussion:** Ashley is stepping down as vp but will still be a director for 2024. Trista nominates Jamie Binstock. Jamie accepted nomination and is elected by those present.
- Award committee volunteers-need a few volunteers to be part of buying awards for the 2024 season.  
**Discussion:** Cathy R, Ashley L, Molly L, and Daetyn Q  
Always open to suggestions throughout the year for ideas. Set a prize budget of \$6000 (using historical data) which will allow for prizes to be purchased throughout the year instead of after finals. Barb P motioned for prize budget of \$6000, Daetyn 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.
- Creating a “race manager” position  
**Rationale:** This position would be responsible for contacting the “host” of the race and making sure that all particulars (ground conditions, barrel help, tractor driver, etc) is line up  
**Discussion:** Autumn D volunteered to step up as race manager, and will be in contact with all hosts of OBRA races to ensure races runs smoothly.
- Volunteering at races, possibly linking them to eligibility for prizes?  
**Rationale:** OBRA is a member-run organization, and our races cannot happen without volunteers. Many step in and help on a regular basis, but we still need hands to help. Other organizations have gone to this method to encourage people to help at races.  
**Discussion:** Carrie Murnion motioned to pass a rule that be eligible for year end prizes a member must a) volunteer at 2 races; get a regional sponsor (\$100), pay a \$100 opt-out, or put on a race.  
A Google sheet will be set up on the website that people can use to sign up for volunteering. There will be all races throughout the year on it.
- Make changes to current rule 2.1.a To be eligible to run at the year end finals membership must be paid by July 1st of the competition year or a member must have competed in three races prior to the finals. Changes suggested to delete “must be paid by July of competition year”.  
**Rationale:** many people think that our policy is allowing some to not be active members throughout the year and only compete at the money added finals.  
**Discussion:** It was mentioned that those that buy a membership prior to July 1 are still paying the membership money that we all run at at our finals. And if they buy a membership and don't make our finals then the money is still in the pot for the rest of us to run at. Only a few people don't come to any other races.  
Jamie B motioned to keep rule the same. Lisa H 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.

- “ghost entering” races- adding a rule that addresses this issue.
  - Rationale:** If a race requirement is adopted to compete in finals, possibly giving members the option to enter and not run but still be counted as a “run” toward finals, especially if rule 2.1.a is changed.
  - Discussion:** Rule currently says you have to make an actual run for it to count. Ghost entering would be hard to keep track of, and could be a headache in the office.
  - Jamie B motioned for no ghost entering, Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed
- Focus on 2 day races at facilities where we have the equipment to prep and maintain the ground.
  - Rationale:** Hosts of races spent many hours prepping the ground and facilities, often at their own expense. If we can spread the cost out over 2 days, we get more use of our hard work. Only having to drive to one place also reduces travel costs for our members.
  - Discussion:** Not a rule change, just letting people know that OBRA is pushing toward 2 day races for the reasoning above. Most people agree. We can start later in the day Saturday and earlier on Sunday, so we don’t have to have such long days. Will be posted on Facebook to let members not in attendance know of plans.
- Continuation of sidepots: currently limited to 4 from previous meetings.
  - Rationale:** Sidepots were used as a way for members to get a race in at non-primary OBRA races for an additional fee on top of the main race fees. This costs our members extra, and often requires them to attend races they might not attend if the sidepot was not approved.
  - Discussion:** Less races in our area so less need for sidepots. Some races only ask OBRA to sidepot to get more entries. Can get expensive for members with multiple horses/kids. We will pick and choose sidepots as we go, no more than 4 a year.
- Regional sponsorships: having members reach out to businesses they frequent for banner or barrel wrap sponsorships.
  - Rationale:** Having members reach out can mean contact with businesses who may not know about OBRA but will support our organization if asked.
  - Discussion:** It seems like Sidney businesses get hit up a lot for OBBA regional sponsorships, but our races and members come from a much larger area. If we can reach out to other businesses to be year end sponsors we can add to our prize fund. A facebook/website link with a sponsorship letter will be added.
  - \$500 banner, \$300 barrel wrap, \$100 website
- Try to have one large race (\$7500+ added)
  - Rationale:** This would be a big money maker for OBRA, and could alleviate the need for smaller 1 day races.
  - Discussion:** Bakken Barrel Daze will now be OBRA prime race. Trista has \$2500 added, goal is \$4500 (or more if anyone wants to help with added \$).
- Mandate open riding time (15-30 minutes) before very OBRA prime race.
  - Rationale:** This has been discussed before, but a rule change would guarantee every race has open riding for those not wanting time onlys.
  - Discussion:** Autumn stated we have talked about open riding before and it should be at discretion of producer. Barb disagrees and says we are for members first, income 2<sup>nd</sup>, and we shouldn’t force people who just want to ride in the arena to pay for a time only to do so. Barb motioned to mandate 15 minutes of open riding (no barrels) before time onlys. Tana C 2<sup>nd</sup>. passes
- Main-sanctioned OBRA races need to have all year end sponsors displayed (barrel wraps and banners). Individual races can still sell banners to sponsors, but barrel wraps should be year end sponsors only.
  - Rationale:** Barrel wraps and banners are sold to businesses with the guarantee that they will

be displayed in the arena at all OBRA prime events.

**Discussion:** This was decided to be an issue for the race manager to ensure that all barrel wraps and banners are given to the producer and placed on the barrels or arena.

- Finals: dates and location, and committee for getting help to put it on. Previously the last week of August in Bowman, ND at the All Seasons Arena. (currently holding August 24-25)

**Rationale:** the All Seasons Facility has an indoor facility so finals can be held regardless of weather. It also has stalling and hookups for all members.

**Discussion:**

Everyone in agreement that it is the best facility in our area to hold finals.

Other business: WPRA sidepots: at discretion of producer.

#### **Overview of Upcoming Events (tentative)**

- May 11<sup>th</sup>- J&A Arena
- May 25<sup>th</sup>-Riding for the Brand, Clayton Graham Arena, Baker MT (double header)
- June 29-30<sup>th</sup>, Bakken Barrel Daze, Richland Co Fairgrounds, Sidney, MT (OBRA run)
- July 6-7<sup>th</sup>- Sheridan Saddle Club, Plentywood MT
- July 20-21<sup>st</sup>, Bordertown Blast, Sidney Saddle Club, Sidney, MT
- August 4<sup>th</sup>- Bowman Brawl, Bowman, ND
- August 10-11<sup>th</sup>, Sage Riders Arena, Miles City, MT
- August 17-18<sup>th</sup>, Wild Horse Can Chase, Marvin Brookman Stadium, Wolf Point, MT
- August 24-25<sup>th</sup>: OBRA 2024 finals: All Seasons Arena, Bowman, ND

**2023 prizes handed out.**