

Minutes of the 2008 Central East Trillium
Annual General Meeting
November 30, 2008
Delta Meadowvale, Mississauga

Called to order at 1:30 pm.

Chair: Gary Yaghdjian

In attendance:

Karen Medd, Jane Harrison, Susan Legge, Christine Reupke, Christina Rolston, Allison Doyle, Deborah Thompson, Bruce Brown, Jeremy Denouden, Jenny Lineker, Sally Sainsbury, Pam McGregor, Cliff Haines, Emily Yaghdjian, Jordan Harrison Perry, Lindsey Reeve, Danielle Yaghdjian, Stephen Ferguson, Nicole Scott, Lisa Avann, Ken Denouden

Motion to approve agenda. Moved by Christine Reupke, seconded by Susan Legge.

Carried

Motion to accept minutes of 2007 AGM. Moved by Jane Harrison, seconded by Cliff Haines.

Carried

Zone Rep. Report

Delivered by Ken Denouden.

It was a good year for the most part. Attendance was generally up at the shows. Weather was an issue for a number of shows this year. Also, one early show did have to be cancelled as a result of a virus. The Central East zone was involved in running the Trillium Championships this year. As a zone we had a good showing at Championships. Added by interim rep. Gary Yaghdjian.

For the information of those who may be unaware, I am currently acting as interim zone rep., replacing my wife Danielle Yaghdjian. Briefly, Danielle resigned from the position as a result of the lack of support from the Central Trillium Committee in reference to who was actually qualified for Trillium championships. The issue has been sent back to the Central Committee and to OEF where it is being resolved.

Horse Shows: The Year in Review

Joker's Hill Horse Shows- Ken Denouden

The February show was about the same as it has been for the last several years, with 190 entries. The March show was unfortunately cancelled as a result of a virus on the RCRA property. The April show saw increased numbers and the May show continued that strong trend. The Aurora show had good numbers, but typically is somewhat lighter than May as a result of end of school year examinations. This year JHHS took over the management of the Chance Stables show. It was held at the RCRA location and numbers were up significantly.

In 2008 each hunter division had the final o/f class numerically scored. This was well received by competitors and will be carried on for 2009. JHHS also held handy hunter classes and would like to do something similar in 2009. Finally, JHHS is looking at creating some sort of jumper specialty class for 2009.

Pickering Horse Centre/Trillium at Palgrave- Gary Yaghdjian

Trillium at Palgrave continues to be a well attended, high quality event held at Caledon Equestrian Park. As a result of the additional expenses created by utilizing this venue, it is recognized that the schedule is designed to get people to stable in order to support the show. We will continue this trend and hope to offer the Trillium level competitors access to this great facility for years to come. Welcome to Steve Ferguson, a partner in Trillium at Palgrave for the first time in 2008.

The Pickering Horse Centre created an improved warm-up area and more stabling for the 2008 shows. In addition, a series of "Old Style" hunter classics and derbies were held as a series (in conjunction with the Trillium at Markham show). All these improvements were a great addition to the shows. Unfortunately, the Pickering shows were the victim of torrential rains in 2008 and so attendance was down.

Trillium at Markham-Susan Legge

Trillium at Markham enjoyed our second great year at the Pickering Horse Centre facility. Thanks to Gary and Danielle for supplying a top quality venue for our horse show. As the third and culminating show in the "Old Style" classic and derby series, we enjoyed great numbers and fantastic weather. A wonderful show, we hope to work even more closely with Pickering for 2009 to produce a series of shows that are competitor friendly and fun for all.

The Zone Classic- Christine Reupke

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We had 290 horses. The weather held very well for the first time in several years. We will continue to offer the open jumper schooling in the Grand Prix ring on Friday for 2009. This year we hosted a great exhibitors' dinner for 140. We hope to do this again in 2009. Due to the overwhelming response to the hunter classic the show ran very late on Sunday. We will remedy this for 2009 with a day before entry. New for 2009, we are looking at a potential sport horse demonstration/sale and perhaps numerical scoring in the hunter classes.

2009 Show Dates:

February 6,7,8,14,15	JHHS
March 6,7,8,14,15	JHHS
April 3,4,5,10,11,12	JHHS
May 1,2,3	JHHS
May 29,30,31	Trillium at Palgrave
June 12,13,14	Aurora
June 26,27,28	Pickering
July 10,11,12	Chance
July 24,25,26	Pickering
August 7,8,9	Blue Star
August 14,15,16	Trillium at Markham
August 28,29,30	Zone Classic

Treasurer's Report: Cliff Haines

As of today we have \$13,698.00 in the bank. There are some expenses still to come out. We should end up with more than \$10,000 in the bank once all has been done.

Gary Yaghdjian also has a cheque from Trillium Championships 2007 to add to this of approximately \$2,400.

Christina Ralston has requested a full financial report that will be made available.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Sally Sainsbury, seconded Jane Harrison.

Carried

Banquet Report: Karen Medd

We had a new location at the Ajax Convention Centre this year. Our numbers were slightly down, but this was not a bad thing as last year was too big. We have talked to the Convention Centre about issues with the food (especially quantity). They have assured us this will be taken care of for next year. Our one issue was with underage drinking and part of the problem was one group who brought a bus. Next year the bus must be parked and locked.

Gary Yaghdjian: This is unethical behaviour. We have to deal with this as it puts the sport at risk.

Karen Medd: Thanks to everyone for their suggestions on dealing with this, including paying a police officer to be there. Next year's banquet will be October 16th.

THJA Constitution

Gary Yaghdjian: The current THJA constitution has been problematic for many years. There are no real checks and balances in it and the lack of transparency is evident. As part of the OEF, the THJA must function with good governance. The document in front of you is the response to this situation. The central constitution has been approved. The current document references a Central East constitution to reflect the incorporation that has already taken place. Today we are tasked with deciding if the document in front of us is the right document to create our constitution. There are many issues in this document that are problematic, including membership, finances, etc. We will ask you to hear the arguments made, and then support or not support the motion for this document.

Ken Denouden: I think we are heading in the right direction, but this document is problematic. I believe there has been no accountability for many years. A committee was to be struck to meet with the lawyer concerning this constitutional situation, but this was never done. OEF has now put a drop dead deadline of December 9 on this situation. Now that the process is in motion, the deadline will most likely be extended. So much remains unstated, do we need an auditor, etc. We may need to talk to a lawyer.

Christina Ralston: In my opinion, we will need an audited financial statement.

Bruce Brown: There are large problems here. If this goes forward, who is actually a member of THJA, we are only members of Central East.

Gary Yaghdjian: All money could be paid to the zone and a fee paid to the central organization, but it isn't written that way.

Bruce Brown: I was there at the beginning. They never provided the constitution to the board. There has never been an AGM. If this happens this way it means the central THJA are still accountable to no one.

Gary Yaghdjian: If this doesn't get resolved, OEF may take over.

Steve Ferguson: How much time is OEF giving?

Gary Yaghdjian: THJA is taking steps, probably April 1 as a shifted date.

Christina Ralston: What is the solution?

Gary Yaghdjian: We would like less ambiguous wording and clarification of certain procedures. It should be one organization, perhaps representation by population for example. Similarly, money disseminated should flow the same way. There should be an AGM.

A motion to accept the document was put forward by Bruce Brown and seconded by Ken Denouden. The motion was defeated.

Ken Denouden and Gary Yaghdjian will make recommendations to the THJA to amend this document and continue the process forward in a timely fashion.

Jeremy Denouden: I would like to invite Gary Yaghdjian and Ken Denouden to the Central West meeting on December 15 to provide knowledge on this subject to the Central West membership.

Gary Yaghdjian: We would be happy to attend.

Bruce Brown motioned that we set aside \$2500 for a lawyer to give us professional advice about this document. Seconded by Christine Reupke.
Carried

Zone Rep. Elections: Elections have been deferred until the special meeting in reference to the resolution of the Constitution have been held.

Open Forum:

Christina Ralston: It would be great to see more consistency through the prize lists for each show. A standardized prize list would be much appreciated.

Show organizers gave general agreement to this point.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.