

Canadian Connemara Pony Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

November 20, 2016

Present: Susan MacDougall (President), Margot Watson, Rick Doner, Bridget Wingate, Penny Huggons, Jocelyn Davies, Jennifer Brownlow, Janet Rowe, Anne Thibaudeau, Gayle Smith, Elsie Priddy

The meeting commenced at 1 pm PST on Skype.

President's Welcome: All were welcomed by Susan.

Reading of the 2015 Minutes: Participants had been asked to pre read the minutes. Susan moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Elsie.

Treasurer's report: Margot Watson presented the financial statement as of December 31, 2015 - ending the year with a total of \$9,406.69 in the Societies bank accounts. An interim statement up to the end of September 30, 2016 was also presented. The balance in the bank accounts was \$6,328.90 at the end of September. Margot also submitted a list of receipts and expenses for the 2016 Inspections. The net cost was \$3,458.24 with 19 ponies inspected. (see attached statements) Margot moved that the reports be accepted as read and Bridget seconded the motion.

Region Reports: Reports were submitted by Lezah Williamson for the Pacific Region, Elsie for the Prairie region, Jeannie Walsh for Manitoba and Janet Rowe for the Central Region. Overall it was a good year for having ponies in the public eye and for pony sales. (see attached reports).

Committee Reports:

Membership: Jennifer reported 5 new members and 3 new owners (without memberships). (see attached report). Bridget reported that there are 57 paid memberships for 2016 to date.

Nominations: Chair position still unfilled. Ontario is under represented on the board as it has 16 members. Janet Rowe and Rick Doner will contact these members in the new year and try to find someone who would be interested, with support, in becoming Nominations Chair.

Inspections: Committee report submitted by Margot Watson (see attached). Discussion of the 2016 inspections resulted in the conclusion that they would be improved as an educational and social event if each region organized a schedule of group activities around the inspections themselves.

Penny will update the list of approved and premium ponies and ask Tracy Dopko (web page manager) to move the list under "Ponies" on the CCPS website so that it is easier to find.

Jocelyn will contact the CLRC regarding having Approval part of the registration number on the CLRC website.

Registration: Jocelyn reported a total registration for the year to date of 23 ponies with 5 half- bred and 18 purebreds. To date, there are 27 transfers, 4 half-breds and 23 purebreds as well as 2 exports. Bridget mentioned that HWSD status on registration certificates will start with 2016 foals.

Awards: Shirley Sauve has only received two submissions to the awards program this year. If several more are not received High Point will not be awarded for 2016.

The 2016 Broodmare Award goes to Dale and Rick Doner's *Eastlands Glendearg. She is a lovely mare and a worthy recipient. Elan Priddy is creating an award certificate.

Web Page: Penny reminded us that the web page is very valuable as a source of information on such matters as the AGM, minutes, the newsletter and forms. Tracy is charging us a very reasonable fee for the upkeep. Please remember to inform Penny of any updates or additions needed. Jocelyn is working on both updating the registration forms to include HWSD status and on import registration forms.

Directory: Bridget reports the Breeder's List and Stallion Directory took in \$180 and are valuable for inquiries and income. Discussion was made regarding the positive benefit to breeders of using the hypo-mating tool on the CLRC website to calculate the coefficient of inbreeding for Canadian ponies with a CLRC number.

Promotions: Susan reports little activity on promotions. If regions would like to individually produce an embroidered item with the society logo they must check with their local embroiderer and Susan may be able to supply the file format required. If there is any interest in holding an on-line auction contact Susan. The 2016 calendars made a profit and were very popular.

Newsletter: It was requested by all that Rick continue with the yearly print newsletter and possibly one yearly electronic newsletter. Jeannie Walsh has asked for extra copies of the print newsletter to distribute at shows and tack stores. It was agreed that this would be excellent advertising but the cost is prohibitive. A possible alternative would be having copies printed at Staples from the copy on the website. Rick submitted a report showing the March 2016 newsletter cost \$723.24 for production and distribution. (see attached)

Archives: There has been no contact with Jennifer Smythe so we may need a new archivist. Bridget has a copy of each newsletter since 1978.

Arbitration: Bridget reports no problems.

HWSD: Jocelyn reported very welcome news. Currently many countries such as Canada, the US, the UK and Ireland are requiring testing of foals. No affected foals were born in Canada in 2016. The education on HWSD worldwide is much improved.

Bylaws: Bridget has been working with David Trus at Ag Canada to add testing for genetic diseases as a registration requirement and to change the half-bred registry into a part-bred registry to allow the registration of half-bred stallions. Also the limit of 1 foal per year by embryo transplant will be changed to 3 per year to comply with the ICCPS by-laws. There will be a meeting in February to vote on the by-law changes to enable the changes to be in place in time to register 2017 foals. Two thirds of the voters at this meeting must approve the changes. (see attached report)

Election of Board: Jennifer nominated Susan as a Pacific Region representative. Margot seconded the motion. Elsie nominated Jeannie and Gayle as Prairie Region representatives. All agreed. Janet proposed Rick Doner as a Central Region representative. All agreed.

AGM 2017: The date and location of the 2017 AGM will be determined at a later date. A proposal was made by Chris Carey to have the AGM in conjunction with an event which could educate and entertain members and inspectors. A suggestion was a clinic with Jillian Kreiberg who gives bio mechanics lectures, she has worked with Manolo Mendez amongst others, <http://jkinspiredllc.com/about/jillian-kreinbring/>.

Other Business: Susan suggested that Skype meetings could be held during the year by committees to enhance communications. The by-law meeting in February will also include discussion regarding promotions.

Elsie made a motion to end the meeting, seconded by Jennifer.

AGM 2016 - Reports – Bridget Wingate

Directory – We updated the Breeders List and the Stallion Directory and took in \$180.

Arbitration – No reported problems thank goodness!

Bylaws - Basically the changes to add testing for genetically transmitted diseases (i.e. HWSD) have been worked out with David Trus at Ag. Canada. This means that if the membership vote in favour then the next step is approval by the Minister.

The change to turn the Half-bred registry into a Part-bred registry (i.e. allowing half-bred stallion to stand) has been with Mr. Trus since August. Despite 4 reminders, I have not yet had a response from him on this.

We are planning a Special Meeting in February to vote on the by-law changes, and I hope that all will be lined up by then. Approval should only take a couple of months, so that all will be in place for the 2017 foals. Currently we are asking people to test foals for HWSD on a voluntary basis.

**Report on the Newsletter Initiative
for the 2016 CCPS AGM November 20,2016**

There was one 16 page full colour newsletter sent out to the paid up members of 2016 and 2015 on Mar 7, 2016. The cost for the printing of the newsletters was \$506.24 and the postage, envelopes and labels were an additional \$217.00 bringing the total expense to \$723.24.

The newsletter was well received and continues to be an important connection between members across this vast country!

Respectfully submitted
Rick Doner
Editor
The Canadian Connemara

CCPS Inspection Committee Report 2016
Held - July 14- 21, 2016
Alberta to Quebec

We were fortunate this year to once again have Tom MacLochainn and his lovely wife Maire from Ireland join us on a whirlwind Inspection Tour that took us from Edmonton, Alberta to Saskatoon to Toronto area and finally to Quebec. 19 ponies were inspected in all.

The Inspection team in Alberta consisted of Tom, of course, Susan MacDougall, Shirley Sauve, Tracy Dopko and myself, Margot Watson. We inspected 9 lovely ponies that were gathered at Jocelyn Davies farm. With one of Jocelyn's mares, Devonridge Golden Treasure receiving Premium Mare status. We appreciated great the hospitality and comradery of everyone there.

Early the next day Shirley drove the Inspection team (minus Tracy who was unable to come) to Elsie Priddy's farm in Saskatoon where we inspected 3 more lovely ponies that were gathered there. Elsie and her family took us on a tour of there many acres and showed us their Hunter Pace course that was happening the next day. Made a few of us want to bring our ponies next time and join in the fun! Again the hospitality and friendship and many laughs were had – Especially at Don's invention of the 'electric cow on wheels'!

I had to fly home as our son's wedding was just a few weeks away but the rest of the team flew off to Toronto to be joined by our other inspector, Chris Carey. The following day they travelled up to Janet Rowe's farm and inspected 3 ponies with Brambleridge March Mayhem, owned by Janet Rowe receiving Premium Mare status. Then driving down to Rick & Dale Doner's farm to inspect two more ponies with Century Hill's Maid In Realta, owned by the Doners receiving her Premium Mare status.

One more day of driving for the Team to Quebec inspecting one on route and ending up at Chris Carey's farm. They spent the morning enjoying Chris' ponies then off to inspect one more pony on the way to Montreal. Shirley and Susan carried on to Montreal for the night, ready to catch their flights back west. Tom and Maire stayed one more night near Chris'. The next day Chris drove them to the Champlain Islands in NY State where they were met by a ACPS Region I member to took them to Vermont where Tom was to judge at the ACPS Region I Annual Horse Show.

All in all it was a great learning time to be with Tom and having his expertise. It is always a pleasure to have both Tom and Maire with us. Thank you again for all who hosted us for meals and overnights and helped try to keep us on schedule. Big 'Thank You' to Shirley for doing so much driving – that was much appreciated by all of us.

Submitted by:

Margot Watson
Nov 18, 2016
Inspection Committee Chair

Canadian Connemara Report

Pacific Region

November, 2016

It's been another busy year. A number of Connemaras were out successfully showing this year in the Pacific Region, including our own pony Devon Ridge Harris Hawk in hunters, hacks, jumpers, dressage and eventing. I continue to bump into other Connemaras in my travels, and I know Dorothy Hall has taken her Connemara mare Lyrical (by Rory O'Sullivan) down to Florida to continue her eventing training. As well, a previous Pacific Region pony, Joshua 1:9, is just across the border in Washington state, doing well in eventing. The more ponies that are out there in the spotlight, the more we can spread the word about how great these ponies are!

We were thrilled in the spring to find out that our pony, Harris, had won the 2015 Canadian Connemara High Point. Harris represented the Connemara at both the Horseman's Bazaar at Thunderbird in March, and at Vancouver's Pacific National Exhibition in August for Horse Council BC's Horse Day at the PNE. There was a large number of people at both events who came through the barns, looked at the Connemara display, and asked about the breed. The Pony Club did a 40 minute jumping demo at the PNE on the same day, and since we had control of the microphone, we took advantage of the situation and told a little about the Connemara breed and relayed the story of the legendary Stroller for the crowd again as we did last year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lezah Williamson, Pacific Region

2016 Prairie Region Report

For MB report please see attachment submitted by Jeannie Walsh.

Connemaras were well represented at the SK Equine Expo in Saskatoon in February. A large number of people who had never seen Connemaras were introduced to the breed.

The first inspections ever held in SK were hosted by Priddy Farm in July, with 3 mares inspected and approved. It was an excellent gathering with many spectators including Connie Dyck and her husband who drove all the way from Boissevain MB to attend.

Inspections were hosted in AB by Devonridge Farm with a total of 9 ponies inspected and approved. Devonridge Golden Treasure received Premium status.

Interest and sales in ponies is up this year in SK and AB. Elodon Connemaras has sold all the ponies available at this time and we've been contacted by several people searching for ponies. Most of these people are looking for 3 year plus, going, large ponies. Devonridge Farm has had a very good year for sales.

Elsie Priddy

Membership Report for 2016:

We have 1 new member this year from Saskatchewan, and 4 new members from Ontario. We have 2 new owners (not members) from Ontario and 1 new owner from Saskatchewan.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Brownlow

Manitoba Report for the AGM, 2016

- Manitoba's first purebred Connemara stallion is coming of age as a stud! Connie Dyck, of Boissevain, originally purchased Elphin Whiskeyjack from Heather Sherratt, of Elphin Mountain Connemaras in Ontario. Connie and "Jack" will soon be a part of Manitoba's Connemara history.
- In the past, our Connemaras have been clustered around the Winnipeg area. That has changed since the last AGM, as Becky Labossiere has purchased a Registered purebred gelding from Jocelyn Davies, of Devon Ridge Farm, Spruce Grove, Alberta. "Devon Ridge Oliver Twist" is the name of the pony. Becky and Connie Dyck both live in the Westman region, so it is wonderful to see the Connemaras spreading further into the Province!
- We still have several young ladies who ride Connemaras. One of these young riders competes regularly and does very well against the horses! Unfortunately, one of these young riders is outgrowing her 13.2hh Connie gelding and he will be for sale. Hopefully, Drogheda Pajamas will sell and remain in Manitoba!
- Some of the Coaches wanting to bump kids up to the 16hh horses, so quickly, remains a concern for me. I am trying to spread the information that there are "large" Connemaras also and that there are some very good Connemara crosses available!
- Another "first" for Manitoba, is a Registered Half Connemara mare that recently arrived from Alberta. "Devon Ridge Cinnamon Twist" was purchased by Marilee Moss, of Stonewall, from Jocelyn Davies. Marilee is an experienced Coach who specializes in Dressage, with a focus on equine learning theory.

It is especially exciting for me, as the pony is at Catherine McCullagh's Quarry Ridge Farms, where my son, Chris, works.

Marilee has two young sons, so I am very much hoping to see another male rider (or two) competing on their Connemara in the future!

Jeannie Walsh. Prairie Division