



**“NO HOUR OF LIFE IS WASTED THAT IS SPENT IN THE SADDLE” – Winston Churchill**

## **ACTRA NEWSLETTER – DEC 2020**

To say this ride season was one for the books is an understatement. I hope everyone got to spend some time with their mounts taking a more relaxed approach this year and stopping to smell the roses a little more often.

I remain hopeful that next year will be a little more easier on us and we can get back out doing what we love to do. I have included some writeups of what some of our members have done this summer along with some reports from the BOD members.

I hope everyone enjoys their holidays and the remainder of 2020.

-Christie Cox



## **Board of Directors**

Chair (pro term) – Patricia Rideout [atlanticriderrules@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticriderrules@gmail.com)

Vice Chair – VACANT

Secretary – VACANT

Treasurer – April Haliburton [aprilhaliburton@gmail.com](mailto:aprilhaliburton@gmail.com)

Statistician – Sylvia Gillies [mjillies@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:mjillies@nb.sympatico.ca) (506) 434-1410

Sanctioning – Donna Munn [dmunn@xplornet.ca](mailto:dmunn@xplornet.ca) (506) 839-2810

Public Relations Director & Mentor Liaison – Russlyn Patriquin-Dyke [atlanticriderpublisher@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticriderpublisher@gmail.com)

Rules – Patricia Rideout [atlanticriderrules@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticriderrules@gmail.com) (506) 756-1892

Newsletter – Christie Cox [atlanticridernewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticridernewsletter@gmail.com)

**\*\*\*Please contact Christie Cox with any discrepancies within this newsletter\*\*\***



## Tails from the Trails – 2020 Version

We moved! This spring, just as the global pandemic hit, the Eddy family moved to Windsor which meant a boarding home for our Holly. Thank to Lucy and Elwood for trailering us to Hobby Horse Farm in Coldbrook NS. Holly hadn't been in a trailer or six years and Elwood was a pro getting her on when she didn't believe me that it was all fine. Holly is a smart brave horse with a low-key personality. She avoids drama so meeting other horses is a breeze for her. She met Holiday and Thunder with no issues, was excited to see a herd of friends and has settled in very well!

- Carrilee Eddy



My season with Riddle was definitely better than I imagined it would be .

Riddle is a 16 year old OTT pacer, who had sat in the pasture for 3 years waiting for me to drive her. Last year I decided to use her as my riding horse. We tried a couple of rides, she was unbelievably easy going and took everything in her stride .

This year I intended to start her with a few JP's, I had the dates circled in my calendar, work tentatively booked off and then COVID happened. Then I saw the Warhorse 100 mile Challenge on FB. 100 miles by December. I signed up with the mindset, I'll attempt it. No-one rides the trails locally so I was a bit nervous of taking Riddle, new to the saddle, out on her own. After a non-related horse injury, I have a lot of trouble mounting and dismounting. Sweet Riddle lets me mount and dismount from a block but mounting out on the trail is a different story and something we are working on.

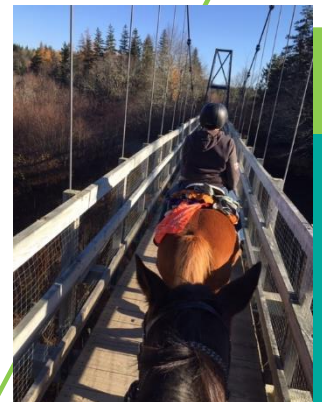
We rode.

We not only completed the Challenge but the other 4 subsequent challenges plus Jennifer's Covid Challenge and the OCTRA Virtual Ride for Breast Cancer. Some riders started to trailer over to Guysborough and I trailered to a few closer locations. Tried out camping and glamping( a two night stop over at a STB barn in Debert , the horses had hot water wash station.

Saddles and hoof boots have been an ongoing challenge. Every ride was a tweak of the tack. By the end of November Riddle and I had ridden 500 miles. Every time I ride this little mare I'm amazed at her attitude. Riddle looks after herself well on the trail, eats and drinks and doesn't waste any energy messing around. Out in unfamiliar company she likes to be at the back, she's bottom of the herd at home and she likes to see everyone in front so she doesn't have to protect herself. But if there's dithering or things the front riders are spooking at, its "let's get on with it, I'm coming through". I've really enjoyed the diversity of the trails this year, one of my trail highlights was the suspension bridge at Salmon River ,Guysborough County .

I'm looking forward to next season and other riders I've met this year are interested in riding with ACTRA in 2021 too .

- Jennifer Gorwill



With our competition year cancelled there were no events to condition towards so it was great of Jen M. to offer to track our miles for us to give us that extra little push to get out and ride. Then the virtual events started. Tuffy and I took part in OCTRA's virtual Breast Cancer Trail Ride. We rode at Betty's with Jen G., Christie and Jacqui. It was all the fun stuff of a competition weekend without the stress of actually competing. Then the Warhorse Challenges started. I watched Jen and others sign up for the 100 mile events before I actually got on board. Tuffy has completed the 100 mile Valkyrie and the 100 mile Ranger challenges. We are going to start the Journey challenge next and have logged 316 miles towards the 1900 mile Pony Express challenge which we have 7 years to complete. I enjoy that our rides do not have to focus so much on speed and we can simply enjoy the trails. We participated in two 10 km virtual events to raise money for Park your Paws in Amherst for the dog's sports field. There were actually 10 k runners who beat Tuffys time....I guess they didn't stop to eat grass. In October we did the 2 day ride at Christie's in Belmont and the trails were awesome. We stayed just down the road at the home of Tuffy's former owner/trainer. Tuffy likes the race barn as they feed breakfast at 4:30 am and they have a heated wash stall which I'm sure he enjoyed after his 18 miles on the first day. Then later in October we signed up for a Denise Keller clinic where we focused on ground work and liberty. He enjoys playing with obstacles so he did the pedestal and the bridge and he learned how to smile, shake his head no, worked on his Spanish walk and how to curtsy. Hopefully we can all be together again for a nice dry Spring into Stanley!!

- Suzanne Horne

---

2020 brought along this endurance prospect for member Nicole Mattatall, a little bay colt - MDAs Enchanted Mishka! Bred by long time ACTRA Member Delle fairclough in NS. Hopefully he will be accompanying us to rides in 2021 to experience camping and ride weekend life!

Also Junior member Ava lee Mattatall is super excited to have gained a new equine partner 'Prince' - Ballahamish Geordie bred by founding Member Patricia Rideout. She is hoping to enter some LDs in 2021!

Please wish them luck ♡

- Nicole Mattatall



What a year 2020 has been! Lots of riding Diva and Styles for Elwood and I. Thanks to Jennifer for organizing the Covid-19 mileage challenge. It was fun and gave us incentive to get out with the ponies. On one of our rides I discovered that Diva will follow the sound of a crinkling oats and honey granola bar package. She doesn't like to step into running water even when following Styles. She was happy to follow that sound and forgot about getting her feet wet! :D Her stomach rules!

What fun to see everyone at Christie's fun ride! Pizza and horse talk, what could be better!

I had the chance to watch a video of the 1988 Maine 80. It was a three day 80 CTR. Someone had taped all three days of the start and finish as well as some on trail shot. ACTRA was well represented! Pat Rideout, Marg Byers and Susan Hovey from NB and Garnet Gallant, Danny Connors, Sheila Brown and me from NS. Pam Thronton, Sandy Harvey and Lynn Cornfield traveled with us. Finishing that ride on my Standardbred, Mark Tabella was one of my proudest as a distance rider. He had the biggest heart and the fastest motor of any horse I've ridden. I remember the judges watching us trot by on a stretch of dirt road. I thought I had Mark down to a nice road trot and proudly rode by them. Written on my score card was raging trot! I still laugh over that!

Thanks for the memories, Garnet!

I hope we can have a 2021 ride season. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone!

Happy Trails

- Lucy Rudge

---

This is a picture of my 8 year old granddaughter and me on our way home from a 10 mile trail that we did with friends leaving from my house. It was a beautiful day with Naomi and I even having a race! (The result was a tie!) and, of course, when we got home we had to have a meal!

Naomi is riding Woody who at one time did competitive trail although that wasn't really his forte. What he does excel at is taking care of his rider and was used as a lesson horse for a few years at Ben Adhum Arabians and now looks after this little girl. He is 25 years old now. I am riding BallaHarnish Glen so this is definitely a bitter sweet picture for me as we had to put him down November 12th. This guy was used as a distance horse and loved this job. I guess he just loved being used and was all kinds of fun. I once said he had a lot of heart and was told he was "all heart"!



- Patricia Rideout

---

So, Hooley and I spent the summer hacking around with friends at times, thanks guys for coming out, but I'd say the best times for us was just hacking out ourselves. My crazy race brain Arab at the age of 22 has become the best bud on the trails, just the two of us, no fighting to slow down just doing what I ask and enjoying the ride. I'd say life just gets better with age for the both of us. Ride on my friends, we are blessed to live in this country and have our best buds under us. Maple Ridge hoping to schedule a ride this summer, just a heads up as Cathy has been busy creating prizes for Mavericks Miles, let's keep our fingers crossed.

- Betty D
-

## **Chair Pro Tem**

It is with great regret that I have to announce that Bev Eliot, Nicole Mattatall and Bernie Morton have resigned from the board. Because of this I volunteered to be the chair pro tem until we can meet in the spring (hopefully in person) and get the board back up to speed. In the meantime the board will carry on. Please note that if you want to reach any of us there are new contacts which are published in this newsletter and on the website. This change was necessitated as we can not use the addresses we are currently using any longer. Some of the remaining board members have some projects that they hope to work on over the winter. We will need to replace 5 board members in the spring so please consider putting your name forward so the club can move ahead when we are able.

Here's hoping for a more "normal" 2021 and that we can see each other at our favorite horse events. In the meantime enjoy the coming holidays and be healthy.

-Pat Rideout

## **Rules**

The rules that were passed in November 2019 are in the rule book as tentative additions pending the moving of the minutes. If there is a problem with anything they can be removed. There was a motion passed that requires clarification so that rule change was not added (the removal of 5.1.9)

## **Sanctioning Report**

I really have no sanctioning report as there has been nothing going on with the rides that had been sanctioned, cancelled due to the Covid pandemic. We are hoping that the vaccine arrives and the cases decrease so we are in a wait and see mode at this time. I will work with the rest of the board to have a "Covid plan" prepared so when all settles we can proceed. It has not been decided at this time when sanctioning will open.

The good news, my expenses for the 2020 year are \$0.

Donna Munn  
Sanctioning



## ACTRA Balance Sheet 2020

<b>Beginning Balance November 13, 2019</b>		7323.93
Revenue:		
<b>Membership and Mount Registration</b>	980.00	
<b>Outside Miles</b>	50.00	
<b>Total Revenue</b>		1030.00
Expenses:		
<b>2019 AGM Coastal Inn Meeting Room</b>	169.83	
<b>NSEF Club Membership for 2020</b>	50.00	
<b>Treasurer (Toner)</b>	129.94	
<b>Capri Insurance</b>	360.00	
<b>1000 Mile Blanket</b>	80.00	
<b>Engraving (2019 year end award)</b>	13.80	
<b>CR Software Web Hosting</b>	106.94	
<b>Scotiabank Service Charge</b>	38.00	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>		948.51
<b>Balance Ending November 12, 2020</b>		<b>7405.42</b>



## Statistician Report

Greetings ACTRA members,

Despite the fact that our club was unable to have a ride season this year, I do have a few items to report. I would like to start with our only milestone achievement for 2020. Congratulations are extended to Precisement and April Haliburton. Ray earned his 1,000 mile blanket this year after completing a twenty-five mile LD and a fifty mile endurance in Florida over the winter for a grand total of 1,022 miles. April also rode her other mount Elastic in a 50 mile endurance to bring his total mileage to 1,710. April herself gained 125 miles to her credit for a total lifetime mileage of 5,161. Hopefully we will see a picture of Ray sporting his new coat at some point this winter.

Other riders who gained mileage this year include Russlyn Patriquin- Dyke and myself. Russ rode her horse Ice Capades RF in a twenty- five mile LD, also in Florida, for a total lifetime tally of 3,867 miles for her and 1,310 miles for Addy. I was fortunate enough to catch a ride on a fine mare while I was down there. I gained 62.5 miles. It was the first competition I entered where I rode in the dark. Over fifteen miles. It was a quite an experience. This brought my lifetime miles to 5,772.

I would also like to send out a heartfelt thank you to Jennifer Vail-McDonald for keeping a lot of us motivated to ride by heading up the ACTRA Covid -19 mileage challenge. It was fun to read her weekly reports and see how many miles people were gaining. The prizes were wonderful. She went above and beyond to make sure those who participated will have a memorable keepsake from this crazy year.

Speaking of Jennifer, a few of our members also participated in the virtual challenges hosted by OCTRA members in Ontario, and AERC members in the United States. Many of our comrades both west of us and south of the border also suffered from ride cancellations due to Covid-19, as well as other 2020 disasters including fires and floods. Jennifer herself completed all five of the War Horse Challenges, a virtual breast cancer ride, The TEVIS cup, plus the Up Your Game ride, and the August virtual ride out of Ontario. Congratulations to her for meeting these challenges and making the best of what was offered in these strange times. I believe that Jacqui Trim Tupper, Jennifer Gorwill and Suzanne Horne also did some rides. There may be others as well. I hope they will tell their story to the rest of us. A tip of the hat to all those who participated.

Some of you have been asking why the website has not been updated with the 2019 miles. If you read my statisticians report from the AGM November 16, 2019 (I believe it will be posted in this newsletter) you will understand the issues I was having with the site and my attempts at making data entry more efficient and less time consuming. Unfortunately due to the pandemic Christie and I have not been able to get together and finalize the new spread sheet. I really hope this can happen soon. Until then I would like to assure everybody that the 2019 statistics are safely preserved in the "office" of the statistician. Perhaps over the winter I will compile a mileage list for riders and mounts and post it to the next newsletter. In the meantime I am asking for your patience as we try to deal with this matter in the face of the constantly changing and provincially varied public health regulations. If any member has any questions about the 2019 statistics/awards or would like to report an error, please feel free to phone me at (506) 485-2518 or email at [mjillies@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:mjillies@nb.sympatico.ca)

I pray that the 2021 ride season will be in full swing come the spring. The board of directors is working to develop a Covid plan that will hopefully allow us to have competitions even in the event that the pandemic is still ongoing. Keep your fingers crossed and you best hoof forward.

Respectfully Sylvia Gillies,  
ACTRA statistician



# 2019 RECAP

## Board of Directors Meeting

November 16, 2019

Coastal Inn Sackville, NB

Called to order at 1025

Present – Bev Elliott, Pat Rideout, Donna Munn, April Haliburton, Nicole Mattatall

Absent – Sylvia Gillies, Russlyn Patriquin-Dyke, Carrilee Eddy

Reports to be read at the general meeting with the exception of Sylvia's. It was read in case there was something that needed to be dealt with by the board but there was nothing pressing that the board had to take care of immediately.

There was no endurance Canada report.

Bev recommended that we not continue with a membership in the Equestrian Canada Organization. This will be brought up at the general meeting.

Donna Munn requested to read her report. (There will be a copy of this report in the general meeting minutes). It was decided that the master scoresheet should be duplicated with one sent to the newsletter editor and one sent to the statistician. This way the results of rides can appear in the newsletter and on Facebook in a timely manner. This will also eliminate the need for a ride results sheet and result in less paperwork for the ride managers.

There was a discussion around the ACTRA Facebook page. It was decided that the present one will not change as ACTRA does not "own" that page; however, we will set up a "members only" page using the chair as the admin director and moderated by the membership director. So presently this will be administered by Bev and moderated by Nicole.

Motion to adjourn by Pat

Respectfully submitted

Pat Rideout

Acting Secretary



## **2019 ACTRA Annual General Meeting**

November 16, 2019

Coastal Inn Sackville, NB

Meeting was called to order at 1245 with 17 members in attendance

Pearl Skjonsberg

Janice Macswain

Donna Lee Cole

Kaaren Lebert

Elsbeth Gonzales

Pat Rideout

April Haliburton

Bertha Harrison

Chester Gillan

Elwood Munro

Lucy Rudge

Bev Elliott

Jacqui Tupper

Garnet Gallant

Susan Hovey

Donna Munn

Christie Cox

Regrets from Sylvia Gillies, Russlyn Patriquin-Dyke, Carrilee Eddy

Minutes from spring meeting were read. Correction-previous meeting minutes that were read were from fall meeting. Correction will be made. Motion made to accept minutes as corrected by Donna Munn. Seconded by Bev. Accepted.

Minutes from board meeting of November 16, 2019 were read. Motion to accept minutes made by Jacqui Tupper, seconded by Susan Hovey. Accepted.

### **Reports read:**

**Secretary** – no report

**Treasurer** – given by April Haliburton

**Membership** – given by Nicole Mattatall

**Sanction** – given by Donna Munn

**Rules** – given by Pat Rideout. Rules are up to date on the website. We will not be having anymore little blue books printed as although they are convenient they are too costly to reprint. Please print off website.

**Statistician** – prepared by Sylvia Gillies: read by Pat Rideout

**Public Relations** – no report available except that Christie Cox has the PR box if anyone wants it

**Newsletter** – given by Bev Elliott. There was one newsletter published

**Equine Canada** – no report

Kaaren Lebert moved that reports be accepted as read. Seconded by Susan Hovey. Carried

### **Old business:**

A) Fund raising endeavors – Christie Cox did not look into any lottery possibilities.

B) Vet incentive – there was discussion as to whether we still want to do this and it was a “yes’ for now.

C) 2019 trail for placing juniors with seniors – this was tabled until the spring meeting.

D) Jean and Elliott sportsmanship award – no committee was formed. Perhaps membership can nominate someone they feel is appropriate? Perhaps even limit it to every five years? Nothing definitive was decided.

E) Electronic ride kits on the website – we need an itemized list on the website. There will be a report about this in the spring.

F) Trial for 2019 season re: intro rides held in conjunction with endurance/limited distance rides. Betty Dwyer was not present to discuss her experience re: same. Moved by Donna Lee Cole that we trial it for another year. Seconded by Donna Munn. Carried.

G) And H) Trial for 2019 season of new scoresheet and result of the survey. The results of the survey were published on Facebook prior to the meeting so members were aware of them. Sylvia Gillies' letter to the members outlining her concerns was read. After some discussion Donna Lee Cole made a motion that as a trial for 2020 we use IDR scoresheets in judged pleasures. This is to be an untimed event. Only miles will be given to horses and riders. Horsemanship is to be offered as well using our original scoresheet but again with no placings. Management can offer prizes if they wish. This was seconded by Nicole Mattatall and carried.

I) January Thaw – Nicole Mattatall motioned that funds be increased this year. Seconded by Christie Cox. Motion withdrawn. New motion – Nicole Mattatall moved that we try the Equine Review in Sussex instead of the January Thaw this year. Seconded by Kaaren Lebert. Carried.

### **New Business:**

A) Grievance – letter was read regarding the results of the grievance committee.

B) Grievance procedure – this was discussed. Kaaren Lebert moved that the rules director chair the grievance committee and appoint two others at their discretion per grievance. Seconded by Lucy Rudge. Carried.

C) Personal electronic devices – Elwood Munro moved that all electronic devices used at an ACTRA sanctioned ride are for personal use only and readings taken from these electronic devices will not be considered by ride management in official scoring or used to change or challenge a ride managers official results including but not limited to GPS, cell phones and heart rate monitors. Seconded by April Haliburton. Motion passed.

D) Mileage – Pat Rideout moved that the statistician accept the mileage for horse and rider that is put on the master scoresheet by ride management. Seconded by Lucy Rudge. Motion carried. It is management's responsibility to calculate the mileage properly.

E) Rider assistance – Lucy Rudge moved that we allow rider assistance on IDR and CTR (excluding on trail) unless horsemanship is offered; that is, assistance before the ride, at the hold and after the ride. Seconded by Bertha Harrison. Carried.

F) Non-member fee – Betty Dwyer proposed a suggestion to ask for a \$15 non-ACTRA member fee at rides. It was felt to not be a good idea at this time.

G) Pictures to website – Nicole Mattatall will check to see if pictures can be uploaded to the gallery on the website as there seems to be some difficulty presently.

### **From the floor:**

Donna Munn will update the score sheet.

Garnet Gallant moved that we delete rule number 5.1.9 from our rule book. Seconded by Janice Macswain. Carried.

Donna Lee Cole moved that if a rider missed a section of prescribed trail as posted by ride management and this error is discovered within 48 hours post ride, the horse and riders miles and placings are revoked. Seconded by Kaaren Lebert. There was much discussion about this but that motion passed with 10 in favor and 7 against.

Janice Macswain was awarded a prestigious award for the Island Horse Council. The award was read to us by Donna Lee Cole and Janice was surprised and pleased.

CR Software is to be hired again for another year to manage our website.

Nominations for positions for the Board were put to the floor. (We needed three 3-year terms and one 2-year term).

April Haliburton reoffered (3-year term)

Bev Elliott reoffered (3-year term)

Carrilee Eddy did not reoffer

Donna Lee Cole was nominated by Janice Macswain; seconded by Nicole Mattatall

Christie Cox was nominated by Pearl Skjonsberg; seconded by Kaaren Lebert

Bernie Morton was nominated by Nicole Mattatall; seconded by Peal Skjonsberg

Jacqui Trim-Tupper was nominated by Christie Cox; seconded by Susan Hovey.

Bernie (3-year term) and Christie (2-year term) won the vote and thanks to all who stood.

Chester adjourned the meeting.

## **Membership Report**

### **2019 Total Members:**

86 (8 new)

9 juniors

12 family memberships = 29 members, 57 single memberships.

### **2019 Mounts Registered:**

10

### **2018 Total Members:**

92 (23 new)

10 juniors

16 family memberships = 38 members, 54 single memberships.

I had a column added to the website under "Members"; to add the date when members joined to aid statistician in knowing who were members at the rides. Please don't forget if you aren't a current member at a ride you do not receive mileage nor points towards year end awards from these rides. So, get in your renewals early. This does not apply to new club members as they can apply to have their miles from the previous months up to a year, when they become first time members. You'll hear a bit more about that with Statistician report. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me.

Thanks

Nicole Mattatall

Membership Director



## ACTRA Sanctioning Report 2019

There were good times and bad times in the Sanctioning department this past year.

A good thing was the expenses which are only for the mailing of ride kits to RMs, for a total of \$83.20. I have given receipts to the treasurer.

This season we had 4 JPs, 5 IDRs, 5 CTRs, 2 LDs, 2 Endurance and 1 Intro ride for a total mileage of 453 miles. We had 2 weekends that had to cancel due to weather related issues which was a loss of a potential 171 miles.

The biggest thing that was an issue this year was number of miles that rides are sanctioned for. We ended up this year with the calendar saying a mileage and the master scoresheets showing something different. In years gone by a ride was sanctioned for "X" number of miles, and that is what the ride was. Occasionally mother nature would pull a fast one and trails had to be changed. RMs had riders saying mileage was wrong, RMs were not getting trail measured soon enough to advertise on the calendar when the actual mileage would be....25 to 35 mile CTR is not enough for a rider and horse to be prepared.

Another issue this year was a 2 day ride being cancelled and sanctioning was not notified, was read on Facebook, not in a notification email first. Then the ride was set up on a new date, and a different location and was advertised on FB, which is where sanctioning read about it. If a ride is cancelled Sanctioning has to know FIRST, then the RM must start fresh and apply for sanctioning all over again. If you want to play the game you have to follow the rules. This is so we can ensure there is no conflict with another RMs event. At that point it is allowed to be entered on ACTRA calendar and advertised.

A rule I forget I had read was with reference to IDRs which, when sanctioned have to have a speed of 4 or 5 mph in the sanction request, will not be sanctioned until complete. Sanction request form will be updated this winter.

RMs must use the newest forms for scoring participants and also masters for reporting ride results. No modified form can be used. If stats is jumping from one form to another we have to make it consistent for them, and I say firsthand the stats recording book, wow, not a position I would be good at. We still need to tweak the masters to make room for member number and mount numbers. The JP form has no place to report if leg protection was used (not eligible for trail horse), the CTR/IDR form for leg protection penalty has to clearly state 5 points lost per leg. I won't get on the GPS thing as I see on the agenda under new business.

It would be a shame if there was a ride where rules were not followed, incorrect forms used, etc. and none of the riders got their miles.

I was going to resign this year, as this was such a bad year for me in my position of sanctioning and my personal life. I have persevered and have overcome all. Of course if there is anyone out there that would like this position they may have it with my blessings.

Respectfully submitted

Donna Munn  
Sanctioning



## Statistician and Awards Report

Annual General Meeting November 16, 2019

Please accept my regrets for being unable to attend the meeting. I had a scheduling conflict that could not be resolved. Any member who has any questions regarding awards or sanctions can contact me directly and I will do my best to get you an answer.

For the 2019 season I tracked miles, placing and points for close to fifty horses and fifty members through nineteen rides. I also tracked, to a lesser extent, a large group of non-members.

For the most part there was an improvement in the reporting on the master sheets. The majority arrived in a more timely fashion and in an acceptable format. While the updated masters were better than the previous ones they still need a bit of work in the formatting as some of the spaces lack adequate room for filling in required information. I will work on this over the winter and hopefully we will have most of the issues resolved by the spring meeting. Ride managers are reminded that they need to use **ONLY** the masters that are provided in the kit.

This year I discovered at least three people who used their lifetime member number at rides yet failed to renew prior to attending the event. Renewing members should be reminded that if they have not sent in their annual membership prior to attending a ride they will not be awarded miles or points for year end. Memberships are quick and easy to obtain in recent years and there should be no excuses.

Related to this issue is the need for better tracing of PSO memberships. Ride managers are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that all riders are current PSO members for insurance purposes. It is important for ride managers to understand that in the event an insurance issue arises at a competition, our provider **will not respond** otherwise.

Your membership chair, Nicole Mattatall, is in the process of taking steps to better track renewals/PSO memberships. She will update the AGM in her report. Once we come up with a worded policy going forward we will add it to the membership information form.

The website has not been updated with the last rides or the 2019 accumulated miles. I will attempt to get this done prior to the end of the year. Data entry on the website is very time consuming and is my third entry point since it does not automatically accumulate miles or points for neither horse nor rider. My first point of entry is a manual ledger that, while a bit archaic, allows me to gather information in one place. My second point of data entry is a basic excel spreadsheet limited by my knowledge of such things.

While I make every effort to minimize errors in reporting it is almost impossible to avoid making mistakes. As a one woman show it takes an enormous amount of time to add and re-add numbers in multiple ways to ensure the various awards get to the correct people. I believe it is time to develop a better way. To that end I have enlisted the assistance of ACTRA member Christie Cox to help create a user friendly system of spreadsheets which will make data entry more efficient and help reduce the level of human error. Christie and I will be working over the winter on this project and hopefully we will have a template in place to present at the spring meeting. Christie has a lot of experience with this type of project and I am really looking forward to working with her and getting our system up to speed with modern technology.

Once the website is updated some of you may notice some mileage discrepancies between the accumulated miles listed and the individual mount and member details. This is because I use the miles listed on the master sheet and not what is listed on the sanction calendar. The calendar miles are automatically added to the individual rider and mount list and as of yet I haven't figured out how to edit that. Hopefully we can figure out how to get this resolved. I believe Donna Munn will be addressing some sanction issues in her report so may be able to clarify this with the AGM. At the spring meeting I recommended scoring the junior riders among the seniors at the rides to help with point values for year-end awards. While I believe the idea is sound the reporting was not as I had hoped as some ride managers were a bit confused as to how this should be shown on the masters. This was probably a communication error on my

part. I hope to continue this for the 2020 season but for now I will request that it be tables until the spring meeting when I can submit a clearer policy. I would also like to request that the report from the breed awards committee be tables until the spring meeting. This will give us more time to do a thorough review of how the new point system trials worked this year and give more educated recommendations as to how it should continue in the future. Please not that in calculating awards the new JP category was not included. Trail horse points continued to be included as in previous years.

I would like to close by offering my sincerest congratulations to all the award winners and all those who achieved any milestones this year no matter what the size! A job well done to all. Best wishes also for a great 2020 season. May you reach all your goals.

Respectfully submitted

Sylvia Gillies



## ACTRA Balance Sheet 2019

<b>Beginning Balance November 1, 2018</b>		7230.91
Revenue:		
<b>Membership &amp; Mount Registration</b>	2275.00	
<b>2018 Year End Banquet Tickets</b>	516.35	
<b>2018 Silent Auction</b>	331.50	
<b>Outside Miles</b>	160.00	
<b>Grievance</b>	10.00	
<b>Bob Gielen Clinic</b>	1560.00	
<b>Sanction Fees</b>	1010.00	
<b>Total Revenue:</b>		5862.85
Expenses:		
<b>2018 Year End Meeting Room &amp; Banquet</b>	709.59	
<b>2018 Awards</b>	588.61	
<b>2018 Sanction Expense</b>	337.00	
<b>2019 Sanction Expense</b>	83.29	
<b>2019 NSEF Club Membership</b>	50.00	
<b>2019 Intercity Insurance</b>	350.00	
<b>CR Software Web Hosting 2020</b>	164.44	
<b>January Thaw 2019 Booth</b>	75.00	
<b>Spring Meeting Room</b>	115.00	
<b>Wandlyn Inn Convention (Bob Gielen Clinic)</b>	879.63	
<b>Robert Gielen Travel Expense</b>	500.00	
<b>Ride Incentive</b>	800.00	
<b>Milestone Awards (5 Jackets &amp; 3 Blankets)</b>	640.00	
<b>Trophies, Certificates, Awards</b>	384.34	
<b>Scotiabank Service Charge</b>	92.93	
<b>Total Expenses:</b>		5769.83
<b>Total Gain:</b>		93.02
<b>End Balance November 13, 2019</b>		<b>7323.93</b>

