



**FMC Meeting  
February 10, 2021  
Zoom Meeting**

**In Attendance:**

Sharon Bechler- Central California Friesian Horse Club  
Carrie Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association  
Will Bron – Northwest Friesian Horse Club  
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association  
Mark McGowan - Lone Star Friesian Horse Club  
Anna Osinga – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association  
Danielle Barrasso - Friesian Horse Association of New England  
Danielle Piascik– North East Friesian Horse Club – West Coast Friesian Horse Club  
Tiffany van der Kooi – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association  
Allison Sable – Mountain Time Friesian Chapter  
Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association  
Janice DeBoer Vermerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Association  
Klazien Sietsma - Alberta Friesian Horse Association  
Beatrice Whiteley – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California  
Lisa Baker, FHANA Education Committee

Mathew Jenkins – FHANA Board  
Jo Ann Clough– Administrator  
Kelly Twambly – Administrator

**Members Not Present:**

Tammy Ammen – Friesian Horse Association of the Middle East  
Lori Brock – North Michigan Friesian Club  
Nina Miller – West Coast Friesian Horse Club  
Kay Veinotte – Pacific Friesian Horse Club  
Greg Walsh – Sierra Nevada Friesian Horse Club



1. **Call to Order-** The February 10, 2021 meeting was called to order by Ms. Bechler at 8:05 EDT.
2. **Approval of the December minutes.** Ms. Bechler asked if there were any changes to the January minutes; it was noted that Klazien Sietsma was present at the January meeting, but was incorrectly listed as absent. The minutes were so amended. Mr. Vander Kooy motioned to approve the amended minutes and Mr. Bron seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

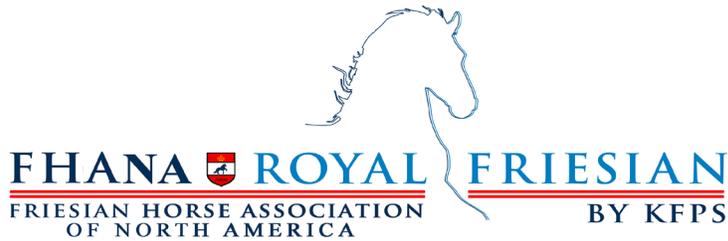
3. **FHANA Board Election Results.** Ms. Bechler offered the FMC's congratulations to this year's FHANA Board newly elected members: Erin Miley, Allison Thomas and Charlotte Dumford, and reiterated the FMC's thanks to former Board Rep Angie DePuydt.
4. **FHANA Board Update.**
  - a. Mr. Jenkins said the Board was very pleased to have Ms. Miley onboard and to retain returning Board members Ms. Thomas and Ms. Dumford.
  - b. The Board is looking forward to a very exciting 2021.
  - c. New this year, the Sports Committee is instituting a Lifetime Achievement Award for stallions that make exemplary contributions to the breed. Details coming soon!
  - d. Membership renewals are going well, FHANA is pleased with the numbers thus far.
  - e. Mr. Jenkins reminded FMC members of the virtual 2021 AGM scheduled for Saturday, 27 February and asked that all take advantage of the opportunity to attend. Asked for an overview, Mr. Jenkins said some sessions will be webinars and others will take place via Zoom. The agenda will be composed of reports by the various Board Committees, the Treasurer, and a Q & A session, with an evening Awards Ceremony to close the day. Some of those honored will travel to Lexington, KY to attend personally, while others will accept awards via pre-recorded video played during the ceremony. In response to a query from Mr. Bron, Mr. Jenkins estimated the time commitment would be in the 2-3 hour range overall. Please attend if you can, since travel isn't a factor this year.
  - f. FHANA will be seeking member input on two new FHANA LOGOs. One has a more traditional 'Royal Friesian' flavor and the second boasts a more modern, abstract aspect. Mr. Jenkins said that in providing feedback on the logos, FHANA is simultaneously seeking member input as to the future path of the organization. Mr. Vander Kooy asked if FHANA was moving away from identifying with KFPS and Mr. Jenkins stated that FHANA will continue to incorporate the KFPS logo (and align with the KFPS, of which we are part), explaining that the KFPS logo was originally created primarily for use as a letterhead and therefore doesn't lend itself to other branding efforts easily.
5. **Education Committee Update from Chair Lisa Baker.** Ms. Baker thanked FHANA



Executive Director Jason Tice for his assistance in bringing the first of the Education Committee's 4-5 webinar series on preparing a foal for inspection online. Ms. Baker also thanked Will Bron for his assistance in development of the webinar. The series will walk viewers through basic grooming of the foal for inspection, to more advanced topics, including mare and foal handling. The Committee is very pleased with the series and believes members will find them helpful and confidence-building. The expectation is that a new webinar will be released each month over the next several months. Stand by!

6. **Inspection Committee Update from Chair Jo Clough.** Ms. Clough reported that the Committee is already receiving inquiries on the 2021 Inspections, and early estimates are indicate we will have approximately 600 registrants. The Inspection Committee is preparing for a Site Hosts' meeting via Zoom, likely in April, to discuss the type of Covid-19 mitigations/protocols that hosts should plan for. Last year's FHANA Covid handbook is being updated as a resource. The Committee will be asking each Site Host for input as to their state's active Covid guidance to ensure compliance across all Inspection locations. Further to the Inspections, Ms. Clough reminded members that Chapter Renewals are due by March 31.
7. **Discussion of the Lone Star Friesian Horse Club renewal query.** The Lone Star chapter renewal included three queries, two of which FHANA asked the FMC to review. (The FHANA Board had requested that the FMC conduct a first review on new chapter proposals, as well as chapter requests that were not simple renewals and to provide input to the Board). Ms. Belcher highlighted for members that the Lone Star Chapter renewal included the following:
  - a. As a result of recent membership queries, Lone Star Chapter requested confirmation that individuals in the US are free to join any of the various Chapters, regardless of the potential member's geographic location.  
**Response:** FMC response with input from Mr. Jenkins as Fhana Board Rep was, yes, an individual may join any Chapter they wish, including multiple Chapters if so desired, however, **the individual would have voting rights only in one Chapter.**
  - b. Lone Star Chapter asked that FHANA update LS Chapter information on the FHANA site to reflect the states included in their current membership: Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kansas and New Mexico. The SCFHA Chapter opposed this request on the basis "it duplicates SCFHA's territory (as listed on the FHANA site), and Lone Star's original chapter application was approved in 2017 based only on a territory of Texas."

This spurred a robust discussion as to the intended purpose of the geographic regions included in the Chapter information (Chapters' 'territory' is defined by various clubs by zip code, a single state, multiple states or a region), and whether any actual membership limitations exist with regard to the Chapters. It was recognized that many if not most chapters have overlapping territories.



**It was determined that Ms. Bechler would clarify further with FHANA and provide additional details in the March meeting.**

- c. Lone Star Chapter advised they have had queries from Mexico and sought FHANA's guidance on responding. Jason Tice advised separately that Mexico has its own KFPS -aligned breed organization, and as per negotiation with that organization, Mexican Friesian owners cannot take part in US Chapters.

- 8. **Update on Runners from the Netherlands.** Mr. Bron advised that per recent conversations with Runners in the Netherlands, they expect to participate as per usual in the North American inspection circuit. Mr. Bron noted that excepting Covid-related travel restrictions, the Runners are planning to be part of our Keurings.

**Lisa Baker clarified that the series of webinars planned for foal inspection preparation do NOT include training for Runners.** Ms. Baker's remarks addressed previous discussion by the FMC and the Education Committee on training domestic (North American) Runners via webinar and/or in-person training sessions. This was to be a potential topic for a separate set of webinars, which are not in production at this time, and are not part of the preparation for foal inspection series.

- 9. **Update on Stallion Testing.** In response to a query from Mr. Vander Kooy as to the status of stallion testing, Ms. Bechler said testing is still moving forward, with the Dutch judges planning for travel to the US in late February or March for the second viewing. Mr. Bron said he has gotten questions from Friesian owners outside the US who believe the US is being allowed to approve stallions via video or Zoom, and asking how that came about so they can do the same. He said there was some confusion regarding the two stallions allowed to take part in testing although they were "not invited to do so by the KFPS judges". Ms. Bechler reiterated that the only stallion *invited to undertake testing* was Atze. The other two stallions were not invited to test, however, as the use of video for the first viewing is a new process, the judges agreed that if the other two stallion owners wanted to send their stallions to the testing site at their own expense, the judges would look at their horses in person when they came to the US for Atze's second viewing. Given the recent changes in KFPS Board make-up and that of the Committees, the current Stallion Testing Committee is not the same committee that made the decision regarding the other two stallions, but is honoring the decision of the prior Committee. We don't have all the details as to why this decision was originally made. Regardless, there are three stallions in training but the only stallion invited to **test** remains Atze. Ms. Bechler noted that the first viewing of stallions is the only viewing that is allowed via video; the second and third viewings must take place in person with the Dutch judges. Stallions are not approved via Zoom, in the US or elsewhere. She said that communication with KFPS has been challenging due to covid, but both the KFPS and FHANA have tried to be accommodating whenever appropriate and to address owner concerns, while maintaining the integrity of the testing process.

- 10. **FMC Chair Election.** FMC members voted for the 2021 FMC Chair position. Mr.



McGowan nominated Sharon Bechler, and Mr. Vander Kooy seconded the nomination. No other nominations were made and Mr. Vander Kooy motioned to close nominations and move to a vote, seconded by Ms. Barrasso. Members unanimously elected Ms. Bechler as Chair.

**11. Round Table Discussion.**

- a. Ms. Clough highlighted Jason Tice's call for Chapter hosts for the **2023** AGM. Chapters interested in hosting the AGM are requested to send proposals to the FHANA Board for review by May 01.
- b. Mr. McGowan thanked members for discussion of the Lone Star Chapter renewal.

**12. Next Meeting Date** – Wednesday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day), 2021

**13. Motion to Adjourn** – Mr. Vander Kooy motioned to adjourn, and Mr. McGowan seconded the motion.

Recorder – Kelly Twambly