

1. President's Welcome (Martina)

- Martina Gates, President
- Brigit Huwyler, Vice-President
- Leslie Chambers, Treasurer
- Ebba Meehan, Secretary (thank you, Kara Noble)
- Jessica Haynsworth, Youth / Reports
- Caeli Cavanagh, Social Media
- Emily Potts, Promotion / Education
- Hannah Huss, Youth Representative

Ebba and Caeli participated via Facetime and Skype; Brigit was unable to attend.

2. Meet the Members (All)

Members introduce themselves, location, and what they do with, or enjoy most about the Icelandic horse.

3. Treasurer's Report (Leslie)

See attached report.

4. Membership Report (Amy)

See attached report.

5. 2016 Events Recap / Communication & Promotion (BOD)

- June: NEIHC Open (Leslie)
- Aug: Games Day (Heleen)
- Nov: Equine Affaire (Amy, for Kara / Margot) *See attached report.*
- USIHC Quarterly Reports (Jess)
- Social Media (Caeli) *Caeli has been posting "Meet the Board" entries on Facebook. She requests input from members re: other ideas they might have for using social media to inform and promote the NEIHC.*
- Promotion; New Member Welcome Packets (Emily) *Emily is now in charge of sending Welcome Packets to new NEIHC members who are also new to the Icelandic horse. Members may contact Em directly for Welcome Packets and copies of the USIHC Quarterly; let Amy know if a new member is also new to the Icelandic breed, and she will let Em know.*

6. 2017 Events & Activities (BOD)

- USIHC Judges Seminar (Leslie)
- Thur. April 20–Sun. April 23, St. Charles Hotel, Hudson, NY / Thor Icelandics, Claverack, NY
- NEIHC Competition Clinic (Leslie)
- Fri. April 21 and Sun. April 23, Thor Icelandics, Claverack, NY
- NEIHC Spring Schooling Show (Leslie)
- Sat. April 22, Thor Icelandics, Claverack, NY
- "Improving Tölt in Your Trail Horse" Clinic (Leslie)
- Fri. June 2–Sun. June 4, Granby, CT
- NEIHC Pre-Show Clinic (Leslie)
- Wed. June 21–Fri. June 23, Thor Icelandics, Claverack, NY
- NEIHC Fifth Annual Open Sanctioned Show (Leslie)
- Sat. June 24–Sun. June 25, Thor Icelandics, Claverack, NY
- FEIF Alternative Sport Shoeing Amendment (Jess) *Jess explained the purpose and reasons for the proposal; a link to the amendment will be posted on the NEIHC website prior to the NEIHC Open. We hope to add other shoe/boot options to the list for next year, such as the Epona shoe.*
- American Youth Cup (Caeli)
- Sun. June 25–Sun. July 2, Coast Road Stables, Santa Cruz, CA *Caeli explained how the Youth Cup was developed; Heidi Benson is hosting this year. Volunteers are needed. This is not a USIHC event – donations would be much appreciated.*
- NEIHC Games Day (Amy)
- We would like a new host – any volunteers? *We would be happy to put together a Games Day packet for anyone who'd like ideas on what was done in the past, and suggestions for future.*

- Possible Breeding Evaluation & Young Horse Assessment (Martina)
 - Date to come, possibly Cobleskill, NY – we need to estimate interest! *Kaeti Sheetz and the USIHC Breeding Committee are hoping to organize a breeding evaluation in 2018. In the meantime, Shannon Fitzgerald is tentatively planning to host a “mock evaluation/schooling show” in late September. This venue would give breeders exposure and education about their young horses in a non-intimidating environment. The clinician would help to coach the participants in understanding FEIF breeding goals and expectations.*

Martina also announced a new breeding group that she has formed, along with the USIHC breeding leader Kydee Sheetz, Katrin Sheehan, Susy Oliver, Jer Oliver and Linda Templeton. It is an activity club called the Gaedingar Club, and was just approved by the USIHC. It will be like a regional club but activity-based. The website is www.icebreeders.com.

- Equine Affaire (Martina)
 - Thur. Nov. 9–Sun. Nov. 12, East Springfield, MA
 - We need a new organizer – any volunteers?
- Eastern Regional Icelandic Horse Championships (Jess) *The NEIHC sponsored V2 this year.*
- USIHC Riding Badge Program (Jess) *Jess passed around the new Riding Badge Program book. Many thanks to the USIHC Education Committee, especially Nicki Esdorn and Alex Pregitzer, for their countless hours of work updating this program.*

7. Open Floor (All)

- Announcements from members; what other events are club members planning, or would like to see?
- Thorrablot 2018? First Sat. in March – or other date? Any other ideas or locations?

Sigrun Brynjarsdottir requested materials and information for new Icelandic horse owners interested in pleasure riding.

General discussion ensued, regarding the need for additional classes for professionals in sport competition, so that Green horses have other classes to be shown in, prior to jumping into Open classes. It was generally agreed that a proposal should be submitted to the USIHC Sport Committee, requesting V3 and T5 classes for professionals.

Leslie reported on her recent work as USIHC Regional Club Committee Chair. Regional Clubs are now labeled as “Affiliated” Clubs. Affiliated Clubs may be either (1) Regional Clubs (generally based on geography) or (2) Activity Clubs (based on special interest). For more information, see the USIHC website: [Ride/Affiliated Clubs](#).

Financial Report for NEIHC (April , 2016 to March 31, 2017)

- Checking Balance as of April 1, 2017 is \$15307.45
- Filed tax report (April 2016)
- Filed with State of MA (Oct 2016)

Specific Events/Projects:

1. Pre-show clinic with Nicole Kempf : (\$126 gain plus \$500 from USIHC Policy #31 resulting in a total gain of \$626.00)
2. NEIHC Open 2016: (\$566.68 gain plus \$1000 from USIHC Policy #30 resulting in a total gain of \$1566.68* still an outstanding income/debt)
3. Games Day: (\$145 gain minus \$75 which were memberships resulting in a gain of \$70)
4. Equine Affaire: (net loss of \$519.06)
5. Other Promotional Items: (expenses \$638.33)

Bottom Line:

NEIHC gained \$762.68 plus \$1500 from USIHC for a gain of \$2262.68

NEIHC had expenses for EA and Promotion of \$1157.39

Net gain of \$1105.29 for NEIHC Events and Projects.

Balance of monies set aside for Youth is \$804.88

4/8/17 LKC

NEIHC MEMBERSHIP 2017

Amy Goddard

Kara Noble designed a new membership tracking system this year.

This system allows members to update their contact information themselves.

Members can also choose to autopay their dues each year.

As of April 6, 2017:

102 total members

- 88 Adults

- 14 Youth

End of 2016:

161 total members

- 131 Adults

- 30 Youth

I will contact the 43 adults who have not yet renewed.

Some youth members can be automatically renewed, which I will do – or I will contact the parent if there is a question of age or interest.

46% of NEIHC members are also USIHC members.

Equine Affaire 2016

Margot Apple

Once again the usual suspects from the NEIHC put up a booth at Equine Affaire.

Kara Noble, Margot Apple and Kara's sister, Pearl set up on Wednesday afternoon. No one fell off the ladder, the Christmas lights lit and the horse video TV worked.

Meanwhile the Knights of Iceland gathered in Newfane, Vermont, through the gracious hospitality of Alice Ryan, where they prepared for their three performances in Fantasia. The Knights included Laura Benson, Heidi Benson, Carrie Brandt, Sigrun Brynjarsdottir, Vigdis Gunnarsdottir, Terral Hill, Gudmar Petursson and Isolfur Thorisson. Horses for the show were trucked in from Kentucky by Curtis Pierce, and from Vermont by Richard Davis. Visitors to the booth were delighted to find that the Knights were riding in Fantasia.

The booth was well appointed, with banners and fine photos of horses with their riders at shows, fun rides and at visits with TV personalities. The tables were full with farm literature, Icelandic riding tour brochures and recent copies of the Quarterly.

A clothesline was hung with Knights t-shirts. The display of tack and riding suits brought in some orders for these items as well. And as always, the horses who took turns in the stall were a huge attraction.

Two new books from Iceland were featured, with their authors available to autograph: "With Horses" by Isolfur Thorisson, and "Horseplay" by Helga Thoroddsen. Both books provide excellent training and riding information, aided by beautiful photos of Icelandics and their people.

The breed demonstration on Saturday was lead by Sigrun Brynjarsdottir and friends: Richard Davis, Isabelle Miranda and Becky Hoyt. The booth was well tended by faithful volunteers: Richard, Kara, Pearl, Margot, Martina, Nicki, The Knights and Leah Greenberger, who provided two horses to the booth on Sunday.

Both new and repeat visitors were happy to find us. We met some who already had an Icelandic, but did not know of the club. Someone, looking to buy a horse, visited the booth on Thursday. They texted Kara on Saturday to say that they had found a horse they wished to buy at the Vermont Icelandic Horse Farm! Not bad.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this a good year at Equine Affaire.

By Margot Apple, Suspect # 2