

Nova Scotia Driving Society
MINUTES
2011 Annual General Meeting

November 26, 2011

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Intertape Polymer Group Building
50 Abbey Avenue
Truro, Nova Scotia

Present: Gillian Allan, Lisa Belliveau, Colin Brenton, Hazel Brenton, Bruce Collins, Douglas Creelman, Kim Fortin, Gary Harris, Allen Greene, Louise Greene, Louise Haycocks, Brian Irving, Peter Jackson, Sue Karrel, Nancy Pineo, Kim Saville, Judith Scrimger, , Don Wescott, Ron McKenzie, Pam McKenzie, Kirsteen Thomson, Danny Walsh, Gordon Young, Bev Young

Regrets: None received

1. **Call to Order.** President Sue Karrel called the meeting to order.

2. **Approval of Agenda** The following changes were made to the agenda:

8.1 Request from NS Morgan Society for feedback on proposed changes to annual Morgan Show.

8.2 Events schedule for 2012.

Move the approval of the agenda as amended, G. Young, seconded, B. Irving.
Motion carried.

3. **Approval of Minutes** of 2010 AGM (January 16, 2011 circulated by email)

Moved by Bruce Collins, Seconded by Peter Jackson that the minutes be approved. Motion Carried.

4. **Business Arising** From the Minutes/Action Items

4.1 Policy on what events NSDS will sponsor. (Karrel/Irving) S. Karrel reported that guidelines ha been drawn up but sent back to the board by the membership for elaboration of the safety inspection item. This has not yet been done but will be referred to the 2012 Board of Directors. Bruce raised a number of questions that need to be answered in the first instance: Does the club wish to sponsor events other than those run by the club; If so we need to look closely at our insurance which require due diligence by the organizers. D. Westcott noted that there was a difference between the Sherbrooke Village event which is jointly sponsored by the club and the museum and the Deverness CDE which is run by Deverness and covered by Deverness Insurance. He noted he would not expect the club to sponsor an event like his. It was noted that at this time NSDS does not have Directors' insurance which leaves our directors open to expensive law suits. It was generally agreed this is something we should have. B. Young noted that Morgan Club pays about \$800 for their directors' insurance. Action: The Executive will research and will buy insurance for directors.

4.2 NSDS brochure update (Karrel). The executive edited the photos and prepared brochures and used them at the events through the year.

5. **Standing Reports** of Committees and Directors

5.1 President/Directors (Sue Karrel)

I would like to thank all the members and the Board of Directors for the club's success in 2011. The society held meetings in February, May and October and had a full slate of activities this year.

NSDS Directors and members participated in the Atlantic Horse Fair in Truro in April. Purina was kind enough to share their table with us and we gave a short presentation on the club and driving and gave out brochures and magazines. There was good interest with some people coming as a result of the advertising.

Six NSDS members attended the Robin Groves Spring Tune-Up clinic in Sussex. Robin was outstanding as usual. Lessons were learned from each other as well. I give a special thanks to Ron Mackenzie for his demonstration and teaching about the positive effect of calmness when working with a horse.

Gillian Allen sponsored a Fun Drive at her lovely Folly Farm in May followed by a GREAT potluck supper. We had nine horses and ponies and a pair with a special treat when 2 drivers made the trip from PEI.

Next up was Nancy Webster-Pineo's CDE at her stable, Bona Farms. It was a good turnout with horses, ponies and another pair. Nancy had a new course and mostly good weather.

The two-day Nova Scotia Driving Society Horse Show was held on July 9 and 10th. This was a great show and our most successful in years. Again, this included horses and ponies and also our first pairs classes. NSDS joined the ADS as a member club and followed ADS rules for the show. This year we added another new class, Super Reinsmanship, which was great fun. A special thanks to Bruce Collins for donating 5 ADS rule books to the club so we can be more informed.

In July, Don & Elaine Westcott organized a day of Traditional Carriage Driving at Sherbrooke Village. Everyone was dressed in their old-style Sunday best and participated in a Cross Country competition and a cones course followed by driving in the village. It was a super event and received a lot of media coverage. Thanks to Don and Elaine.

In September Don & Elaine organized a Robin Groves Clinic at their Denverness Stable in Brierly Brook. As usual Robin gave great instruction to the 9 participants with a special emphasis on dressage and cones.

October rapped up the season with Nancy Webster-Pineo's 2nd CDE and an ADT at Sue Karrel's. Both events had a small but enthusiastic turnout with good food and fun.

NSDS members also competed in driving classes at the regional Fairs and Exhibitions.

This year also saw members travel to Bromont, Quebec to observe and compete in the Combined Driving Show. Gary Harris and Nancy Webster-Pineo competed and were very successful. They also inspired the peanut gallery to get ready for next year's event.

Each of the events this year had learning opportunities with regard to safety and driving. We have started a Driving Safety Tips document for the club which we will complete and share before the next season begins.

It would seem that Equine Canada and the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation who have been estranged for the past two years have mended fences and we will have a united equestrian body. Our Club will need to evaluate how this will affect us and how we want to participate, going forward into 2012 and beyond. Don Westcott has represented our region well on an EC driving committee this past year and has passed the torch to Gillian Allan who will represent us this coming year. We are very fortunate to have such capable people agree to work on our region's behalf.

We have had tremendous success in growing our membership these past few years. At last count we had over 70 individual club members. This rivals any club for size in Canada and many in the US. We need to build on that by ensuring we address the needs of all members and especially new members and beginning drivers. Our website and excellent communication from Peter Jackson has helped keep us all informed and organized. Pam Mackenzie has used her excellent photography and writing skills to keep us in pictures and the media. Add to that our Secretary Judith Scrimger, a Bromont buddy, who keeps writing those great driving articles!

We have had our most successful show in years and our club is growing and in good financial shape. Special thanks to Brian and Hazel and all the members and directors who work so hard to organize and carry out all our plans.

It has been a privilege to be President of such a great group. I look forward to 2012!

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Susan Karrel in cursive, followed by the text "BN RN C H R P" in a simple, blocky font.

Sue Karrel
NSDS President

5.2 Membership (Hazel Brenton). H. Brenton reported 33 single members, 18 family, for a total of over 70 individuals. Hazel circulated the current list and asked people to update/change their contact information.

5.3 Show (Hazel Brenton)

We had 29 entries consisting of 9 Mini's, 7 Ponies, and 13 horses, (up 8 from last year.) Steady rain on Saturday (July 9) led to holding over several classes until Sunday, which turned out to be a beautiful day.

Judge – Jean Northrup, from Hampton, New Brunswick.

Show Manager – Brian Irving.

Show Secretary – Hazel Brenton

Announcer – Lisa Belliveau –Chantal Hamilton announced for the Dressage class.

Ring Master – Danny Walsh with some assistance from Peter Jackson

Runner with ribbons and prizes – Chantal Hamilton

Course Designer – Brian Irving

Courses were set up by Brian Irving, with assistance from Steve Karrel, Louise Haycocks, Danny Walsh, Debbie Leslie, Peter Jackson and Bob MacCallum.

Gate people- Maris Mills & Abby Smith.

Photographer – Judith Scrimger

The canteen was run by Bruce & Joan Collins, who donated all the cost of supplies, their labour and the proceeds in the amount of \$622.50 to the club.

Judith Scrimger helped in the canteen at lunch time on Sunday.

There were 50 tickets sold for the Pork Chop BBQ. Jean Hamilton organized the dinner, made the biscuits, and she and Ralph picked the strawberries. Chantal Hamilton, Judith Scrimger and Hazel Brenton served the dinner and Ralph Hamilton, Ryan Hamilton and Brian Irving were the chefs. Ralph borrowed 20 chairs from the North River Fire hall, and Colin borrowed 3 tables from the Old Barns United Church.

Following the dinner a draw was made for an Equine Massage Therapy Session donated by Kim Saville, and was won by Morgan Burnard.

Kim Saville helped the judge with scoring for the obstacle classes, and calculated the points for the Dressage class, and Judith Scrimger was the scribe for the Dressage class. Brian Irving, Steve Karrel and Colin Brenton prepared the grounds and trails before the show. Those who helped clean up after the show were Brian Irving, Gary Harris, Steve & Sue Karrel, Wayne Roode and Colin Brenton. Lois Ruggles and Hazel Brenton cleaned the Club House.

Don Wescott and Rennissance had an unfortunate accident on Saturday, but the good news is that he only suffered bruises, nobody else was hurt, and the cart was fixable.

After the show Judith Scrimger sent thank you letters to every sponsor including pictures of the winners of the classes they sponsored.

Total sponsor money was \$1,685.00, up \$480.00 from last year. Other sponsor prizes included: 3 summer horse sheets from Greenhawk, a Mini Summer sheet from Willow Pond Ponies, 3-\$20.00 gift certificates from Wayne's Saddlery Boot & Harness, a \$20.00 gift certificate from Amherst Country Store, a \$50.00 gift certificate from Steady Brook Saddlery, a fleece blanket from Bona Morgans, 3 bags of feed from Scotsburn Co-op Services, and a driving apron from Ideal Harness.

I sent an article (written by Judith) about our show and our club plus pictures to the Truro Weekly News for their Thursday July 7th addition. On Thursday afternoon Monique

Chaisson phoned me for an interview, and she wrote an article for their Friday Daily paper which they printed including a picture. Then on Sunday Jason Malloy arrived at the grounds and took pictures for their Monday July 11th addition. As a result we had phone inquiries asking directions to the Equine Park, and we had approximately 30 to 40 spectators over the weekend.

The date for next year's show is July 14 & 15, 2012.

Respectfully submitted by Hazel Brenton, Show Secretary

5.4 Website (Peter Jackson) We paid \$90 in March for the web access though our current provider for the year which is a good deal. Peter noted "we are way behind" in posting photos, though the Bromont pictures have recently been posted and the show will up soon. Judith will send Peter photos of Sherbrooke.

5.5 Education for Driving (Gillian Allan/Lisa Belliveau). A session was held in the spring at Salmon River show grounds that attracted many new members. Brian Irving demonstrated safe and proper harnessing and Bruce Collins gave an illustrated lecture on different types of bits and their uses. A Drive Canada coaching clinic will soon be available.

6. Treasurer's Report.

B. Irving presented the financial statement. The balance in the regular account is \$221.54 and the Horse Show Account is at \$6,277. Bria noted that we were charged \$100 for clean up at the barns at Salmon River. Brian noted that Pony club was moving in when we were moving out and we were running later than usual because of carry over of classes from rain day. As a result, stall inspections were not carried out. Brian felt they had charged us fairly but encouraged everyone to remind those showing that the stalls have to be taken down to bare ground.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report by was made by Brian, seconded by D. Wescott. Motion carried.

7. Election of Officers for 2011 (S. Karrel, Nominations Committee)

No nominations were received by the nominations committee. G. Harris nominated the 2011 slate. S. Karrel asked for nominations from the floors. Hearing no further nominations, Gary Harris moved the slate of Sue Karrel, Brian Irving, Judith Scrimger, Gillian Allan, Hazel Brenton, Kim Fortin, Gary Harris, Peter Jackson, Pam MacKenzie, Nancy Webster Pineo, and Allister Smith; seconded by Bruce Collins. Motion carried. Some discussion ensued regarding the terms of office and by-laws and it was noted that we need to bring our by-laws in line with the NS societies Act. Bruce offered to do this work in time for next year's AGM. Peter Jackson will post the current by-laws on the website.

8. New Business

8.1 Request from NS Morgan Society for feedback on proposed changes to the annual Morgan Show. (Bev Young)

The society is looking at changes, more riding classes, more open driving classes, and possibly moving the show to Windsor and changing the date from labour day weekend. There was generally a positive response to having more open classes and for a change of

venue. Kim Fortin offered to be a contact for the Annapolis Valley Harness Club and Louise Greene offered to be a contact for the VSE groups.

8.2 Dates for next year. Gilian is expecting foals in the spring and won't host the Fun Drive this year. Kim Saville offered to check out a venue in PEI. Doug Creelman noted that Ross has offered to investigate the possibility of having a training/education event in Truro in April. It was agreed that since we follow ADS rules, we need to have a safety inspector on the grounds at our show in Salmon River (and other NSDS events?). Bruce Collins offered to take on that role for 2012 for the horse show.

April ??	Training/Education Event	MacMillan Centre	Ross Creelman
May 12, 13	Robin Groves Clinic	Sussex, NB	
May 26, 27 ??	Fun Drive	PEI	Kim Saville
June (second wknd)	Windsor Draft show	Windsor	
July 15, 16	NSDS Show	Salmon River	Confirmed H. Brenton
July 28	Sherbrooke Village	Sherbrooke	Confirmed D. Wescott
September 22	Canadian Show	Deverness	Confirmed D. Wescott
September 23	Deverness CDE	Brierly Brook	Confirmed D. Wescott
October 27 ??	Dare to Dream ADT	Great Village	S. Karrel

9. Other Business.

S. Karrel offered to host a Christmas party. Since there are so many events leading up to Christmas it was decided we hold a "hair of the dog" potluck in January.

9. **Adjournment** . Nancy Webster Pineo moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by D. Wescott. Motion Carried.

Action Items.

Action: A driving safety tips document has been started and will be completed in time for events this year. Executive.

Action: Secure directors' insurance. Executive.

Action: Send photos of Sherbrooke to eter. Judith Scrimger.

Action: Bring our bylaws in line with NS Societies Act. Bruce Collins

Action: Post bylaws to website. Peter Jackson.

Action: Investigate potential for training/education day in April. Ross Creelman

Action: Investigate fun drive in PEI. Kim Saville.