

2025 SKMHTA Annual Meeting Minutes (pending approval)

Jan 11th, 2025 – DNR Headquarters, Eagle WI Attendees: 25
(refreshments, Power Point presentation, door prizes)

Call to Order: 10:15am by Devan L, President

Welcome, introductions, thanks and recognition to Wisconsin Horse Council and the DNR for their continued support. Thank you to Andy A and family for obstacle course upkeep. Thank you to all the volunteers that staffed the SKMHTA booth and events, sourced sponsors and raffle prizes and did project legwork!

Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Motion to Accept by Gale S, Seconded by Ann U - APPROVED

Treasure's Report – Motion to Accept by Amy J, Seconded by Duane D

Current Balances: In the Bank \$29,394.92 + Cash \$82.78 = Total \$29,477.70

Highlights: \$950 Membership Dues Collected, \$500 in Grant Monies, \$4,084 in Donations

Fall Fundraiser Total: \$6,881.84 Pack the Park Total: \$1610

Total Collected in 2024: \$24,244.33 Total Expenses in 2024: \$15,804.00

Fundraiser Report

Pack the Park Recap – we held a scavenger hunt trail ride, played BINGO for fun prizes and had a meal of freshly grilled burgers, as well as Equine Chiropractic and Massage demos. We did not keep track of attendees or meals purchased, but we believe it was 85-100 people, even with the cold, wet weather! A huge thank you to Julie of West 20 Ranch & Saddle Co for the donation of the beef! Thanks also to Dr Sperling for his chiro demo and Lisa Hannes of Two Hands Equine Massage and Body work for her demo!
Fall Fundraiser Recap – with more than 70 donations to the raffle and silent auctions, a huge tack sale, free BINGO for fun prizes, LD's fantastic dinner catering, delicious desserts provided by club members, great camping and riding weather, 2024 was a year to remember!

2025 Fall Fundraiser Date: Sept 20th – Motion by Amy M, Seconded by Jill F – APPROVED

2025 Fall Fundraiser Theme winner: Always Find Time to Ride

Trail Coordinator Report

2024 did not have a standing Trail Coordinator, and as such we did not have any planned trail or camp work days. Thankfully, Duane Domagalski is returning to the role in 2025!

DNR News & Updates

Introducing Colton Kelly, the new Deputy Superintendent of the Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit, reporting to Brian Lemke. Contact Colton at: Colton.Kelly@wisconsin.gov

Camp Host Info: the DNR is still looking for volunteers for camp hosts at Horseriders' Campground in Palmyra. Olivia Boeck is the Park Manager handling camp hosting for this location. Only those who can commit to a minimum of two weeks will be considered. There is an application process online on the DNR Volunteer Impact System, which includes a background check. If interested, apply early, as there is a few week leadtime. After applying, email Colton and Oliva to let them know to watch for your application. If you have questions, please contact the DNR HQ in Eagle.

New for 2025:

- ❖ There is no longer self-registration envelopes at trail heads for trail or parking passes. Scan the QR code on kiosk and use supplied paper to record confirmation number and display on your dashboard. If you do not wish to use this method, it is suggested you stop the HQ or a park/camp office or purchase online before you leave home.

- ❖ Vehicle Passes are now good for 12 months, they no longer expire Dec 31st!
- ❖ Campground Check Out Time is now 1pm! Check In Time remains 3pm. If you are concerned about showing up early or leaving late due to being out on the trail, it is suggested to utilize the day parking area.
- ❖ Vehicle and Trail Passes can now be purchased online, but be aware there are service fees and there is a limit to how many of each can be purchased. If you are purchasing multiples, especially the same household vehicle passes, it is suggested you purchase in person.
- ❖ Problems and no answer at the office? Call the Warden Tipline: 1-888-936-7463
- ❖ Camping fees have increased for 2025. Weekend prices are higher than weekdays. Visit the reservation website for pricing (Wi Resident Electric Weekend sites are now \$36, non-Electric Weekend sites \$26, non-resident pricing is significantly higher)

2024 Year in Review

- ❖ West 20 Ranch and Saddle Company hosted a Saddle Fit Clinic for the club this spring. Members learned about the different kinds of saddle trees, components of saddles, how fit affects the horse, and the importance of the right pad. After the classroom session, we moved outside where Julie evaluated the fit of members' current saddles on their horses, using each individual fitting as a learning experience for the group. Thank you, Julie!
- ❖ New Trail Hankies were ordered in time for the Fall Fundraiser! These new hankies were sponsored by local businesses, and their contact info is on the hankie, as well as a star to mark their position in relation to the trails! Thank you to the generous businesses that contributed to this project: BP Palmyra, Kettle Moraine Equine Hospital, West 20 Ranch & Saddle Company, The Corral Trailer Sales, Johnson Equine Veterinary Service and Rushing Waters Fisheries! Thank you also to Bridgette B for all her work on this project!
- ❖ More Corrals are coming in 2025! The club voted to purchase enough Priefert Premium panels to install 16 additional 12x12' corrals. Total cost of this purchase will be about \$18,000 plus hardware. Lead time from West 20 is 6-8 weeks (no shipping charge), Julie only asks that we don't have them delivered the week of Midwest Horse Fair. We will submit an application for a WHC Grant for this project before the end of January. Discussion was held about corral footings, Don Dane (DNR) will get an estimate and quote to Amy J for footings for 16 more pens, possible WHC grant opportunity

Old Business

Obstacle Course – signs have been measured, Amy J mocking up for DNR approval

Bob Michaels Memorial Fund – need to set guidelines for the fund so we can begin taking applications. Suggestion to have a deadline each year for applicants so we know how many people applied and can make decisions on how to allocate funds. Remaining funds after the deadline can be used for club education, training, safety supplies, etc. Application Deadline: May 1st to begin in 2026 – Motion by Ronda C, Seconded by Gale S - APPROVED

Corral Expansion – written quote has been obtained & applying for WHC grant

Additional Electrical Campsites – pending quote from electrician

Tack Sales – 3 tables each at Jefferson Co and Waukesha Co, help is appreciated

Campground Reservation Website – needs to be updated by DNR for conflicting info

New Business

Board of Directors Nominations

Current board are all willing to continue in current positions: Devan L, President; Gale S, Vice President; Amy J, Secretary; Amy M, Treasurer; Barb L, Fundraising Coordinator

Trail Coordinator – Nomination for Duane D – Motion by Amy M, Seconded by Betsy F – APPROVED

Member-at-Large – Nomination for Jill F – Motion by Amy J, Seconded by Devan L – APPROVED

Meeting Dates: Continue the 2nd Monday of each month, we will continue to look for locations that are quiet and serve food (Amy M will inquire at Red Roof Inn)

Open Discussion

We need ideas to make meetings more fun and/or educational. Discussion about alternating a fun activity with speaker/clinics. Suggested ideas were trailer maintenance, knot tying, watching a Trailmeister video.

Larger Scale Clinic Ideas for day events – Large Animal Rescue Clinic quote from Irongate was over \$3000, Rhonda Cory is also certified and willing to do the clinic this year for us, it wouldn't have the horse dummy, but would have similar information. Mounted Posse members mentioned they may hold a "Trailer Rodeo" soon, these events involve attendees bringing their own trailers, learning about trailer safety and maintenance, inspections, and a driving/backing course. They will let the club know if they hold one this year.

Congrats to all the Door Prize winners!

Motion to Adjourn by Devan L, seconded by Debbie D at 12:00pm

Upcoming Events

Jefferson County Tack Sale: Sunday, January 12th at 9am - Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Waukesha County Tack Sale: Sunday February 9th at 9am - Waukesha Co Expo Center

Rock Co Tack Sale: Saturday March 1st, Johnstown Community Center, in Janesville, WI

Racine Co Tack Sale: Saturday March 1st, Yorkville Elementary School, in Union Grove, WI

S.M.I.L.E.S Tack Sale: Saturday March 15th at 9am - N2666 County Road K in Darien, WI

Midwest Horse Fair: April 11-13th, Madison WI

WHC Trail Master Certification Course: May 18th-21st, Governor Dodge State Park

Best of America by Horseback will be at Horseriders' Campground! May 29 - June 1st 2025

2025 SKMHTA Fall Fundraiser: Saturday Sept 20th, 2025 - Horseriders' Campground, Palmyra WI