

ALSA Board Minutes From Meeting November 10, 2005

President called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM CST

Members present

Penny Davidson – President
 Barb Laux - Vice-President
 Jeff Jones – Treasurer
 Wally Baker – Secretary
 Tami Lash – Board Member
 Lora Crawford – Board Member
 Julie Heggie - Board Member
 Cheryl Ryberg – Administrative Manager

Barb Moved and Tami seconded that the minutes from the October 19,2005 Meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Treasurers Report

Assets:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Cash and Bank Accounts | |
| ALSA Checking: | 83,286.76 |
| ALSA Investment: | 106,603.36 |
| Tony Rollins” Scholarship Fund: | 11,542.27 |
| Total Cash and Bank Accounts | 201,432.39 |
| | |
| Total Assets: | 201,432.39 |
| Overall Total: | 201,432.39 |

ALSA Administrative Manager Report

ALSA Office, First five years in Pittsburgh, PA.

The goal of the office has been to help the ALSA achieve more vast and superior recognition as the biggest and best llama show association in the world. Further goal is to create a friendly and informative environment for our members and show superintendents to collect or disseminate information.

We set out as of January 1, 2000 to double the number of shows sanctioned by ALSA.

1. We aggressively pursued clubs and fairs.
2. We worked with perspective show superintendents.
3. We created a list, which is posted on the ALSA Website to help Supers have every advantage to have a well-put together show by soliciting responses for years from show superintendents as to what worked well and what didn't.

4. We revamped the packets yearly and created a place on the website where we posted the initial packets along with about 20 pages of helpful hints to putting on an ALSA Sanctioned Show.
5. We work one-on-one with new show supers and supers' wanting to add shows or classes to their venue.
6. Shows, in their entirety for points or qualifiers were posted on the ALSA Website for the first time.
7. Clubs were offered an exchange link on our website for the first time.
8. Members were offered a place to highlight their Home Sites for the first time.
9. A business site was rented and the ALSA Office was offered to its members for 9-5 Monday through Friday for the first time.
10. Complete show records were recorded in a custom-built database, which the office helped to develop.
 - A. This enables the member to access their animal's points and show records on the ALSA website.
 - B. This enables the office, show superintendents, and members to work together to preserve the integrity of the show and point data by presenting all information that the office records in the ALSA Website.
 - C. This enables a report to be assembled every year for every animal with an ALSA Recording Number to have listed each show, placement at show, number in class, name of show and points or awards achieved at show. ALSA has never had the software capabilities to do this before 2000, although this requires much more data being entered per animal per class. Approximately 14 "fields" are required to be filled in to permit this and to permit this information of the show to be sent off to the ALSA Website.
11. In 1997, after 12 years of recording llamas, there were only around 3,500 animals with recording numbers. Today we have almost 15,000 animals with numbers and animals without numbers issued a "NA" (Non ALSA) number. This benefits our members as their "NA" animal' names and farm names show up as qualified on our website and in our shows on our website.
12. "NA" animal numbers also benefit members that purchase animals that have been shown but not with ALSA numbers. Instead of the member having to research back shows, we can at a moment's notice, inform member of every show and possible points to be able to pick up for the past 4 years. Right now, we are working with 8,626 "NA" numbers with a total of almost 23,500 animals that can be researched on the ALSA Website as well in the office database. Up 20,000 in 5 years.
13. Paid for and worked with artist to develop new logo and award certificates, introduced work and artist to the Board for final approval on this project.
14. Worked with "Animal Planet" to develop and find farms for a special project, which was produced about show llamas.
15. Worked with "Discovery Channel" on several occasions to located llama farms in various parts of the country for specific projects.

We achieved success and in the past 5 years have sanctioned 2004 shows or an average of 212 per year. 1999 had 97 shows.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Alpaca Committee

Committee is focusing on promoting more ALSA Alpaca shows.

Committee pointed out that the “spot rule” referenced in the ALSA Handbook does not specify that the spot should be in the blanket of the fleece.

The matter has been referred to Handbook Committee to amend the rule to specify, “spot in the blanket.”

The Alpaca Championship show has been cancelled for this year due to the ALSA Alpaca Show Superintendent experiencing a scheduling conflict at the time of the show. Rescheduling of the show and finding another facility was not possible for this year.

Election Committee

No Report

Ethics Committee

Committee is looking into reasons negative comments are being made by ALSA judges and other members.

Fiber Committee

Committee requested that Walking Llama Fleece Classes be a sanctioned ALSA show classes. Committee submitted the following Walking Fleece Class and Optional Fiber Classes rule revisions for Board review. Also submitted for review was a proposed Walking Fleece Score Card.

Part O. Llama Fleece

Section I. Llama Fleece

Llama fiber shows may offer full blanket / barrel fleece classes and/or the Optional Fiber classes. **Required paperwork for fleece classes and optional fiber classes can be found on the ALSA website, under Llama Fleece Show Packet.**

- A. Shorn Llama Fleece Class
2. Age Divisions for Llama at time of shearing
 - a. **Under** 24 months, full blanket / barrel fleece
 - b. **24 months and older**, full blanket / barrel fleece
3. Rules
 - b. Fleeces Shall:
 - (7)**Be displayed in clear plastic bags. The bags may also be displayed in appropriate size white boxes.**
 - d. Desired Staple Length
 - (1)Llamas **under** 24 months
 - ii **No maximum length limit**

(2)Llamas **24 months and older**

- e. It is the responsibility of the owner to apply the fleece division descriptions in Section I, A, 1. However, the fleece judge will also determine if the fleeces have been entered in the appropriate division and, **if not**, move them to the appropriate division.
- g. Additional division of classes: At the Judge's discretion, classes may be further divided **or combined** in the following prioritized order ...

B. Walking Fleece Class

This class provides an opportunity for llama owners to learn about fleece characteristics and management while receiving a professional evaluation. **It is recommended the judging take place prior to halter classes in an attempt to limit the use of grooming aids.**

1. **The judge is required to be a certified ALSA Llama Fleece Judge.**
5. **Fleece Judging Criteria: 100 points possible. The following are the judging criteria used and recorded on the ALSA Walking Llama Fleece Score Card:**
 - e. **Cleanliness: 10 points**
 - f. **Fineness and Hand: 20 points**
 - g. **Guard Hair – Fineness and percentage of: 10 points**
 - h. **Style/Architecture – crimp and lock structure: 15 points**
 - i. **Luster: 10 points**
 - j. **Overall Impression: 10 points**
 - k. **Tensile Strength and Condition: 15 points**
 - l. **Density: 10 points**
6. **After judging is completed, the entire class is brought into the show arena for presentation of awards.**
7. **ALSA points are awarded for this class.**

C. Optional Fiber Classes2. **Classes**

- a. **Hand spinner's Choice**
 - (7) **Suggested classes – sheared or brushed, divided by age (under 24 months; 24 months and older).**
- b. **Garment or Finished Product**
 - (1) **Item must be made of at least 60% llama or alpaca. The remaining 40% may be any other natural fiber produced in the U.S.A.**
- c. **Lama to Luxury – a timed team event in which lama fiber is spun and woven into a shawl of 76" – 78" x 20"- 22" in 4 hours. Measurements do not include fringe.**

Julie moved and Barb seconded that rule amendments to Walking Llama Fleece class and Optional Fiber class be approved. Motion passed.

Finance & Budget Committee

Finance Report will be discussed and distributed to the Board at a later time.

Grand National Committee

Committee recommended to board that Juvenile class at the Grand National Show have the same qualifying requirements as Regional Shows. Juvenile classes are not required to qualify for Regional Shows.

Tami moved and Jeff seconded motion that would not require juvenile classes to be qualified for the Grand National Show. Julie opposed. Motion passed.

Handbook Committee

Committee is ready to make rulebook changes approved during the Board Meeting held during the Grand National Show.

Clarification in the handbook relative to Get of Sire and Produce-of-Dam qualification requirements at Grand National and Regional Shows was discussed.

The following Rulebook amendments were proposed:

Grand National

Part F, Section 2, D-3 to reflect: All Get of Sire and Produce of Dam **must be a Champion or 1st in a class of minimum of 3 shown at an ALSA show during the current ALSA year.** Any other offspring of the same sire or dam may be shown provided the **offspring has been shown at an ALSA Show during the current ALSA year.**

Regional Shows

Part E, Section 2, E-5 to reflect: All Get of Sire and Produce of Dam award winners must show using Get and Produce that have been part of a Get of Sire or Produce of Dam entry at an ALSA show. **Any other offspring of the same sire or dam may be shown provided the offspring has been shown at an ALSA show during the current ALSA year. These offspring must be recorded with ALSA.**

Barb moved and Julie seconded the rule amendment changes. Motion passed.

Judges Committee

Committee expressed concern over ALSA judge's inappropriate conduct and unethical behavior. Board referred matter back to committee to develop appropriate judge conduct requirements.

Membership Committee

A cost breakdown for providing 1,500 ALSA brochures for the recent FFA convention in Louisville, Kentucky was provided. Cost of brochures was \$150.01 and UPS charge was \$18.28. Invoice will be sent to ALSA office.

Committee requested to replace committee member with Margaret Ricci. Also requested was to have Debbie Shellaberger to represent the Buckeye Region and Jan Gordon to represent the Eastern Region.

Barb moved and Jeff seconded committee changes. Motion passed.

Membership Committee provided the following annual recap:

- Committee was responsible for putting together an ALSA members survey. The results were compiled and supplied to the Board of Directors. The response was wonderful and lots of suggestions of the members were put to work.
- Committee provided a brochure for the Future Farmers of America (FFA) to hand out at The FFA National convention in Louisville, Kentucky, October of 2005. This accomplishment was done within an extremely compressed time frame.
- Committee established ALSA show awards for the hard working people conducting ALSA shows during the year. Committee worked diligently to obtain items and donations for gift baskets awards.
- Membership is also the Memorial Committee and stands ready to represent ALSA in supporting the families of members that are no longer with us. Committee requested that the board and other members let them know of the passing of ALSA members so they can be part of the memorial to those members.

Nominating Committee

Committee discussed information needed and time frames in disseminating Board nomination information for the next General election.

Performance Committee

Committee provided following current year goal report:

- Completed all revisions and updates to the Performance Section of the 14th edition of the handbook.
- Reviewed the last printing of the Manual for Building Performance Obstacles (1997). Committee will submit manual for Board review in the near future.
- Performance purpose for recommended changes, in both the Manual for Building Performance Obstacles and the 15th edition of the handbook will contribute positively to the increased effectiveness of ALSA Performance activities.

Following performance rule amendments were submitted by committee for Board Review:

SHOWMANSHIP:

Pg 69: Section 1., B Animal and equipment. The animal should be clean, brushed out *or for the suri type animals, fleece in a clean condition with as little disruption to the architecture of the fleece as possible.* *Be* in good condition *and* with toenails trimmed. The halter and lead should fit properly, should be clean, in good repair and safe.

Section 1., C Showing the animal. This covers following directions, leading, turning, changing pace, backing, posing and positioning, showing the animal to its best advantage, controlling the animal on the lead and in line, attention to the lineup, *consistently effectively setting up and presenting the animal and presenting an unobstructed view of the animal at all times.*

Pg 70: Section 3., H When backing, the llama or alpaca should respond to the handler's request to back a minimum 3 steps (or the number indicated by the Judge) and then move forward to the original position. *The exhibitor should stand at the animal's left side, facing the rear while backing.*

PART M. APPROVED LLAMA PERFORMANCE CLASSES

- P. 73 Section 1 A. Obstacle
 B. Pack
 C. Public Relation
 D. Pleasure Driving
 E. Obstacle Driving

Section 2 These divisions are to be used for Obstacle, Pack and Public Relations. Llamas may be entered in only one of the divisions offered for each class. *Add: Llamas may be entered in youth or non youth classes, but not both*

P.74 section 3 A. 4. Llamas who have changed their division (Novice or Advanced) status by placement in a show must be changed to the appropriate division in all future shows which were entered before the division status change. *Reword to say "Llamas who have changed their novice division status by placement in a show must be changed to the advanced division in all future shows."*

P. 74 section 4 B. A handler going off course may be dismissed. (*eliminate*)

P. 74 section 4 E. In all Pack classes the handler and the animal must negotiate the obstacles, except for loading in vehicles, and any obstacle wherein a separate handler route has been defined or provided. *Change " In all Pack classes the handler and the animal must negotiate the obstacles, including loading in vehicles. Exception is an obstacle wherein a separate handler route has been defined or provided."*

P. 74 section 4 F. It is recommended that exhibitors 8 years through 12 years of age not show intact males over 24 months of age, with the choice of acceptance or decline lying with show management and stated in their premium booklet. *Reword to say, "Exhibitors*

8 yrs. through 12 years of age shall not be permitted to show intact males over 24 months of age." This should be stated in the premium booklet.

P. 75 section 6 G. It is not recommended to use kushing in any performance class.
"Kushing is not to be used in any performance class."

P 76.section 7 A. Bridges, Ramps and Stairs

1. Minimum width 23" for Open and Novice divisions. **Minimum width 30 inches Open and Novice**
2. Minimum width 15" for Advanced divisions. **Minimum width 24 inches Advanced**
3. The recommended length of a bridge is approximately 8' and risers no more than 7".
Length 8ft, stair risers shall be a maximum of 9 inches, depth of stairs a minimum of 10inches
4. All surfaces must be treated or toughened to avoid slippery surfaces. **Recommend carpet or commercial safety treads**
6. Maximum height for Novice divisions is 24" without rails. **Maximum height for any bridge is 24 inches.**
10. Stairs shall have treads of no less than 8" and risers not more than 7". **Minimum Depth of stairs 10 inches, with risers a maximum of 9 inches.**

P. 76. Section 7B. Jumps or Barriers

1. Jumps or barriers may range from a minimum of 16" to a maximum of 24" in height.
Jumps minimum 16 inches and maximum 20 inches
2. The width of the obstacle should be a minimum of 3" **change to minimum of 4 feet**
4. Poles (cross bars) must be a minimum of 3" in diameter. The maximum depth for a solid jump or barrier shall be no more than 30" at the base. **Maximum thickness at base of a solid jump shall be no more than 12" in height and no more than 20" side to side and width a minimum of 4'.**

P. 77 J. Crawling and Ducking **eliminate the word "Crawling"**

1. This obstacle may be used in Open or Advanced Pack where the age and size of the llamas is more predictable but should be constructed so as to accommodate the tallest animal with its packs on to prevent hooking of packs on the obstacle.
Change "In any obstacle class (not just open or advanced pack)"

P. 78. L. Loading in Vehicles

1. A pickup with a stock rack or equivalent, a full size van or a trailer (minimum 10' by 5') may be used. The height of the floor of the vehicle may not be more than 30" from the ground. **Eliminate "pickups" and begin "A full size van or a trailer (minimum 10' by 5') may be used. The height of the floor of the vehicle may not be more than 30" from the ground."**
4. A pickup must have a stock rack or equivalent. **Eliminate**

P 78. M. Platform Obstacle

1. The platform should not be raised off the ground more than 18" if a turnaround is required. **Substitute Platform not more than 10"**

3. When carrying a 40-pound pack, an animal should not be required to jump down from any surface, bridge or platform higher than 16". ***Substitute: Jump down no more than 12"***.

P. 79 section 9. G. Show Management

1. Times Courses: Use of timed courses for the performance classes allowing exhibitors a time limits within which to complete the course etc. ***Eliminate paragraph " no timed courses"***

P. 80 2. Preliminary Courses: Decrease exhibitor numbers through use of Preliminary courses. The number of animals required for final courses shall by 10-15 llamas. (See E. in this section.) ***Eliminate the wording "(see E in this section)"***

P. 81 D 3. Major Faults, including but not limited to:

i. Major safety hazard (i.e., standing in the space where the llama *would jump as it is coming out of the trailer or wrapping lead rope around hand*) ***add verbiage "or having a hand on the clip where the lead and halter are attached."***

P. 84 A. Age Requirements

1. 5 to 36 months; (no weight – see B.1 this section.) ***5 to 36 months, llamas and Alpacas carry no weight. Eliminate wording "(See B.1 this section.)"***

2. 36 months and over (carry weight – see B/2 this section) ***36 months and over, Llamas carry 40 lbs. and alpacas carry 10 lbs. Eliminate wording "(See B.2 this section)"***

P. 84 B. Requirements for Pack:

2. Llamas age 36 months and over must carry a pack system with two cinches with a minimum of 40 lbs. The system is required to have removable panniers. Alpacas 36 months and over ***must carry a pack system with a total of 10 lbs.*** The packs must be proper scale for the animal's size. ***(Bolded wording is to match the wording about the weight llamas carry).***

P. 84C. Equipment for Pack Llamas and Alpacas 36 months of age and over

4. Pack systems as described in B2. ***Eliminate***

D. Equipment for Llamas and Alpacas same as C.1 through c.4. ***eliminate***

E. ***Change to D***

F. ***Change to E***

P. 85 G. Mandatory Obstacles

2. Step over or 16' maximum jump maneuver when carry 40 pounds ***Change to 12 inches (any additional height causes a llama to have to jump- at least with the back legs. If the object is to step over- then it needs to be the height for a step over.)***

P. 85 section 15 Public Relations Class

B. Conduct of the class: Same as for the Obstacle class. ***The word SAME should begin with a small letter***

D. Mandatory Obstacles

5. Petting: One standing adult strokes llama on the neck in a subdued manner. *May have 1 or 2 petters.*

P. 87 section 17 Driving Class

The following rules and guidelines apply to a driving classes.

10. Llamas may be driven in any comfortable, bite less head stall that affords the driver a full range of control over direction and speed. *To be worded: "Llamas may be driven in any comfortable driving halter that does not have a bit and affords the driver a full range of control over direction and speed."*

11. B.3. Whips are considered optional tack for the driving class. *Whips are considered tack for the driving class. (Eliminate the word optional.)*

PART N. ALPACA PERFORMANCE:

Page 94 section 1 B, 2f (7) Jumps: To be negotiated over heights from 16"- 24" maximum depending upon class level ability and safety. **Jumps to be negotiated over heights from 16" to 20" maximum depending upon class level ability and safety.**

P. 96 section 1 D, 7b Step over of 16" maximum jump maneuver when carrying 10 pounds. **Step over of 16" maximum when carrying 10 pounds. (eliminate jump verbiage)**

Tami moved and Julie seconded motion to approve performance rule changes. Motion passed.

Exhibitors with Disabilities performance classes will be evaluated further after the Grand National Show.

Committee requested that Novice Performance animals begin earning ROM points in 2006. The committee recommended that 12 points in Novice performance classes apply toward a ROM in respective Obstacle, Publications and Pack class.

Tami moved and Julie seconded motion to adopt the Novice ROM proposal. Jeff, Lora, Wally, Barb opposed. Motion failed to pass.

Committee recommended that obstacle driving be added to cart driving class at Regional and Grand National Shows.

Tami moved and Barb seconded motion to add obstacle cart driving at Regional and Grand National Shows beginning in 2006. Motion passed.

Board discussed establishing a new Cart Driving Division. The new Division would separate the driving classes from Obstacle, Public Relations and Pack in the Performance Division. The classes making up the Cart Driving Division would consist of Pleasure Driving, Obstacle Driving and optional Public Relations Driving. In ALSA shows where Driving Classes are offered, a separate award system would divide the Driving Classes from the Performance Classes, as there would be two separate performance divisions.

Wally moved and Lora seconded motion to submit above cart driving proposal to Performance Committee for recommendation. Motion passed.

Policy & Planning Committee

No Report

Promotion Committee

Committee provided an overview on National FFA Convention held in October 2006, in Louisville, Kentucky. Four organizations, ALSA, ILR, LANA and ICI worked together at the convention to produce a highly informative llama educational presentation for the 52,000 young people that attended the convention. Darrell Anderson, Merlene Anderson, Mark Smith and Barb Baker represented the four llama organizations. Three educational booths were used by the four llama organizations to present information at the convention. The following recap of the event by the numbers was provided:

52,396 members and advisors in attendance

452 "Advisor's Packets" distributed to FFA Advisors

1,046 copies of the ILR booklet s distributed to FFA members and advisors

622 copies of "Llama Facts for New Owners" distributed.

The educational presentation was highly successful and the efforts of those representing the llama organizations were extremely popular and well received by those attending the convention.

The committee will continue to pursue llama promotion ideas during the upcoming year.

Protest Committee

The protest committee voted to uphold a protest lodged against an exhibitor.

Barb moved Jeff seconded the motion to uphold the protest. Wally and Lora abstained. Motion passed.

Committee also discussed that all upheld protests shall be published in *Showring* in accordance with policy.

Publications Committee

Jeff requested an Executive Session.

After session concluded, Jeff moved and Tami seconded to resume regular meeting.

Motion passed.

Tami moved and Jeff seconded motion to replace Diane DiAngelo with Robin Ryan as committee chair. Wally abstained. Motion passed.

Barb moved Jeff seconded motion to remove Lee Steiner from Publications Committee. Tami opposed, Wally, Julie and Lora abstained. Motion passed 3-1.

Regionals Committee

Show attendance, show locations and show exhibitor travel distances to Regional Shows were evaluated. The following Regional Show boundaries changes were discussed.

Rocky Mountain Region: Add New Mexico

Great Lakes Region: North Dakota, South. Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois.

Central Region: Add Nebraska

Eastern Region: Remove Kentucky

South Eastern Region: Unchanged

Buckeye: Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky

Establish New Region: California, Nevada and Arizona. Name: South Western Region

Change Western Region name to North Western Region. States will include Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

Barb moved and Tami seconded motion to adopt Regional boundary changes.

Motion passed. Change of names for Buckeye and Great Lakes Regions will be reviewed at a later time.

The policy for 2005 to allow exhibitors the option of what regional show to attend and no restriction on number of Regional Shows desiring to attend was discussed.

Julie moved and Tami seconded a motion to indefinitely keep exhibitor option of ALSA Regionals open with no restriction on number of Regional Shows exhibitors want to attend. Motion passed.

Show Management Committee

Committee submitted following ROM amendment proposal:

The current ROM point system relative to class size would be applied to the entire number entries in a division when awarding Grand and Reserve Grand winner ROM points. All other class placements would receive ROM points based on placement in respective class. Where Division size is extremely small, no points will be awarded based on the minimum ROM number requirement for class.

Tami moved and Barb seconded the motion to adopt the ROM proposal, effective January 1, 2006. Motion passed.

Youth Committee

Committee submitted the following proposed change for youth age divisions.

Junior: 8 years through 11 years
Intermediate: 12 years through 14 years
Senior: 15 years through 18 years

Tami moved and Julie seconded to adopt the youth division age changes. Motion passed.

Committee expressed concern Youth classes are not paid premiums for youth judging classes at Grand National and Regional Shows.

Committee requested that for youth performance classes, 10 obstacles be used instead of 8. Board declined request.

Committee requested to add Tabbethia Haubold to the Youth Committee.

Tami moved and Jeff seconded motion to add Tabbethia Haubold to Youth Committee. Motion passed.

Website Committee

No Report

OLD BUSINESS

Member Survey results:

- Membership communication concerns have been addressed by the ALSA Board through:
 1. Membership questions and concerns addressed during Board meeting.
 2. Minutes on website.
 3. Urgent messages will be provided on ALSA website.
- ROM point system revision.
- Open regional participation has been implemented.
- Regional boundaries have been realigned in response to membership request.

Combined ALSA/ILR meeting is in the process of being scheduled for early 2006.

NEW BUSINESS

Included under Committee Reports.

Julie moved and Tami seconded meeting be adjourned at 6:00 CST. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

**Wally Baker,
ALSA Secretary**