



## Canadian Senior Pro Rodeo Association

### Meeting Minutes

Nov 26/2022 Red Deer, AB 10:00 AM

1. President reminds the directors that the old and new directors can work together to share knowledge and thanks outgoing directors and welcomes new. They welcome New President as the head of the organization and thanks Director for their work as casino chairman and with the AGLC as well as Volunteer for all the work on the raffles for the year. Minutes from Aug 9/2022 & Sept 3/2022(emailed out prior)- errors and/or omissions.
2. **Motion** to accept the Minutes from Aug 9/2022 & Sept 3/2022 that were emailed out prior, **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**
3. Office report the General account has a balance of \$5388.29 Payout has \$6491.69, Raffle 1 has \$12051.24, Casino has \$5146.05 for a total of \$ 22585.58. The Finals Income vs Expenses for 2022 are showing a loss of \$ 56799.98 with a bill for some buckles still outstanding. President states that they have been in contact with member regarding the buckles and they are having some difficulty getting the buckle maker to contact them regarding these buckles. Director states that the silversmith does the buckles for the finals so he may be busy at this time down in the states. Director question whether this loss is consistent with other years and the office states it is. President also states that our anonymous \$10 000.00 donor had taken ill this year and we did not receive that donation. It is stated our gaming accounts are going down and we are not scheduled until Jan-March of 2024. Discussion on the possibility of having the casino moved up as well as how many volunteers we need. Question whether the amount of the loss includes the buckle expenses to date and the office confirms. It is presented that the raffle report shows Income of \$16 273.65 with \$1102.36 going to Supernova productions for the help

on specific raffles for a profit of \$15 171.29. Director questions the board for direction on when they would like to start raffles again for the 2023. It is clarified for new directors that Director had worked with AJ Neish at the start of the raffles, and we had agreed to donate 10% of the profit to Supernova productions for her help. Director is working on new raffle ideas for the future with a potential of a bigger raffle working with AJ. Representative questions whether we would rely on our members for the bigger raffle and could we state that they must sell the tickets. Director confirms that AGLC regulations state we cannot require people to sell tickets. Discussion on how other associations handle this problem of getting members to sell. Director questions the possibility of other director mentoring someone to take over the organizing of the raffles. They state they are willing to continue until we find someone. **Motions** to accept the office and raffle reports as presented. **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**

#### **4. Event Directors Reports**

LBR report. Director talks about the new rule change regarding rakes before each age group and found that it worked very well with no extra rakes as they were strategic on the number of rakes required at each rodeo based on contestants and ground conditions. They talk about implementing specific duties to each age group that were contestant throughout the year. They did receive some negative feedback from the 40's as there were fewer contestants. It was stated that in previous years there were also some complaints from members regarding the duty roster and states that new directors will need to look for what they think would work best for them. Director states that they feel that a barrel director does need to be always at the arena during the event. They talk about having thank you pictures sent out to the sponsors and are willing to work with photographer on getting those done. They talk about the US rodeo's and specifically having only one barrel racer in an age group and how that had significant effects in the 40's attitude and investment in the association. Director thinks that the board had handled the situation wrong. They say we need to look at that, as we have lost some members joining for the 2023 season because of it. They also have concerns about the approval of High River and then the committee changing its added money after entries have opened and suggests that we need to look at these types of situations as a board. Discussion on how to communicate changes to the board and membership. They would also suggest that we send out a survey to past members to find out why they have left and to also include some questions regarding the US rodeos. They would like the new board to explore the possibility of a membership rodeo as well as forming a finals committee with a budget. Director also states that the communication with the members may need to be email or mail as perhaps the website is not reaching all members as well, they have concerns regarding board meetings and using director's names as it is undermining to the board.

TDR report, they state that there were some concerns presented regarding the stock at the finals. The observation on separating from a stock contractor could be hard on our association. Suggestion that we could have stock from two contractors at the finals with one supplying Tie down and Ribbons and the other supplying the other events. It is stated they had a conversation with the contractor on our requirements regarding age-appropriate cattle as well as having fresh cattle and the contractor did not supply what we required. Representative states that perhaps we need to get our bids in earlier for the contractors to purchase the cattle in enough

time. We are reminded the board the winning bid was \$4000.00 cheaper, and we can't forget that when we hear that we have lost \$56 000.00. President states they had members approach with concerns that the board was deciding based on finances only and they hoped that they would look at the aspect of the finals being 4 runs as well. It is stated the loss would not come out of the membership pocket as it would come out of the AGLC, Director disagrees and says it is all association money. President states for Tie Down rest of the year went good other than losing the directors but we did have a member step in for the end of the year. Director questions the ability of the directors to ensure that the contractors are bringing the appropriate stock to the individual rodeos. They state we need to have early communication with the contractors. Director questions what the Tie Down are willing to do to have the more expensive stock.

BAW report by President, they thank Director for the work for the year and commends them for putting together the side pots in breakaway.

RR report, the director states that the issue with the stock has already been brought before the board so they will not go over it again. They also state there were some contestants who could not attend the US rodeos due to not being vaccinated and hopes that this issue will go away and never come up again. Discussion on how this is personal choice, and we cannot get into it. An issue that had come up over the year was that a runner may have touched the calf before the roper and that the judges may not know. Director had a discussion with the judges to make sure they are aware of the rule. President states that there is a quick guide for judges and the office states that it is sent to every rodeo in their package. Discussion that judges may try to avoid the confrontation or perhaps the angle position was wrong to see the incident.

TR report, Director had concerns about the finals stock, and they tried to build a relationship with our contractor and felt that they were not heard. Director had specifically asked for certain numbers to not be at the finals and 5 of 6 that were asked to not come, the contractor had brought. They remind the new directors to keep track of the cattle for a better awareness of the stock that is being brought for our contestants.

SW report, President states we had 3 competitors for our year with only 2 being eligible to enter the finals.

US Report, President has spoken to Representative, and they have talked to both the NSPRA and PSRA. The PSRA is hoping to have their finals 2 weeks before ours allowing for members from both sides of the border to attend both finals. They are planning on having the 2023 finals in Homedale Idaho. They state the PSRA is looking at adding a junior BAW as well as a lady's pole bending event. They are looking forward to talking to us in 2023.

Committee Report, Representative states we are in crisis mode. We have lost High River with the possibility of also losing Cardston. Within the last few years, we have lost Brooks, Wetaskiwin, Bowden. They question why and feels the main reason is because of the economic viability. The committees had some income streams available to them previously that are not available now. Some of our rules such as the ambulance rule has also hurt our committees. Rodeo committees have had all their operating expenses increase as well. They state the days of the model of the rodeo with people in the grandstand as well as full beer gardens are not realistic anymore. They say we need to help our committees to get some revenue streams

going. It is stated on the expense side perhaps having members help the committees would save them some money as well as shoot running the cattle. We need to look at the stock charge of \$5.00 per run. On the Income side raising the stock charge as well as the ambulance charge, standard event fee for all rodeo's, self-permit card, local entries, reduced rate for US members, late entry, two header, membership at entries, increase number at finals. We need to look at kicking back more money to committees. Director talks about how the Strathmore committee gets some help from the Ag Society and perhaps other committees could perhaps have some Ag Societies help as well. Discussion on how we need to pay and work to play to keep our association going. Discussion on how some of the membership feel they are already doing enough. Director states that if we need to have added money that the Cardston rodeo could not go. President questions whether all members have access to the financials from the finals, the office states they are only presented at the finals. Discussion on the financial gain with the possibility of having two runs. Representative says we need to look at small measures to work at the big problem, perhaps maybe looking at each line item on the financials and maybe trimming some of them down. Director discusses their experience on the Cochrane rodeo committee and how they have made some small changes and last year they had a record year. They say they may be more open to hosting a CSPRA rodeo and discuss perhaps marketing our association to other contestants that may be interested. Representative says they generally looks at things with a business model outlook and sees our customers as membership, sponsors, fans, and committees, they are lost sometimes on what we are trying to sell. They talk about how attracting sponsorship is hard when we have no people in the grandstand. On a positive note, Representative said Darren did talk to him regarding putting on a rodeo in Claresholm.

## 5. Tabled Items

- La Due Scholarship presented by Director will be tabled to next meeting. Office states we need to have a charitable aspect to our Banquet as we used AGLC funds for the hall rental. Director will put a presentation together for the next meeting.
- President discusses sponsorship pictures for thank you cards. **Motion** to send thank you cards to sponsors with an approximate cost of \$ 300.00. **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**
- Discount on early membership by the office. The office presents the possibility of offering a bigger discount with the hopes of enticing members to purchase membership early. Discussion on what discount would help. Discussion on having just timed event rodeos to help raise funds. Office suggests \$25.00. Discussion on different levels with different time frames. **Motion** to have a discount to \$150.00 until Jan 31/2023 with the stipulation that it is marketed. Discussion on whether we need to solve the issue of rodeos before we worry about this. **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**
- High River Payout states that the High River committee indicated to our office that they had added money in the Breakaway. Our office paid out the added money as well as the High River committee. Upon discussion with the committee, it was decided that our association would ask the contestants that received the added money to pay it back. To date we have had 3 out of the 12 members pay the money back. Discussion on how to ensure communications between the office and the committees.

- Ambulance at Strathmore by the office. The office presents that 30 minutes after the start of the Strathmore rodeo the ambulance phoned the CSPRA office asking if the rodeo was going. The ambulance had been trying to reach the contact and could not as they busy already working the rodeo. The office questions how we can ensure that the ambulance is at the location before the rodeo starts. It is decided that we will emphasize the need for a visual on the ambulance in the Committee package.
- Casino 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 by President, they remind the new board that they will need to look for volunteers for the casino. It is stated that New President and Vice President will be on the contact list with the AGLC as well as who else the board decides.
- Facility Fees/ Extra Fees by Director will be removed from the agenda as they feel this will be dealt with.
- President thanks the old and new directors again and reminds everyone to put the association first with the members at the forefront. CSPRA is a “we” not and “I” association.
- Discussion of the online entries and it is stated that TJ Nash from the Wildrose association is willing to help us set ours up. The office will contact her.

## 6. New Items

- President talks about what would we do if the association does not go, and they feel that we have so much more with what has already been built by members before. They talk about the social aspect as well as the financial future of our association. They would like to have a clear vision and understanding of what is necessary to move forward and would like to stay focused and keep on topic moving forward.
- President talks about a rule change on payout at finals regarding no catches in any event, currently it goes back to the association, and it is suggested it should go to the average. They state that the decision to add to the finals average this year was made and it should go before the rules committee as a permanent rule change. They will submit the rule change.
- **Motion** to remove Neil Howard, Angie Thomson, Mike Tucker, Lonny Olson from all accounts. **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.** **Motion** to add Theresa Oldford, Tom Thielen, Niki Makofka, and Mark Hendricks on all accounts as well to keep Bev Ganske on the General account. **2<sup>nd</sup>. Carried.**
- Charitable aspect was already covered. Director will submit proposal.
- President talks about adapting the member purchase, as we did have some people who could not enter as they missed the member purchase deadline resulting in some lost revenue. They discuss the possibility of new members purchasing memberships up until the close of entries. They will submit Rule change form.
- President will decide who they will ask to serve on the rules Committee.
- President will decide who they will ask to serve the Executive committee.
- Office read the letter from member regarding AGM. President states they have spoken with member over this issue, and it has been dealt with.

- Regarding membership, rodeos and sponsorship President states that numbers count, and they don't lie, and our numbers are hurting everywhere. they would like to open the discussion on these topics and if you have a specific thought or idea if you could follow it up as quickly as possible as people are budgeting now and as we are and we need to move with some haste. Some thoughts they have are Claresholm, Cochrane or Nanton. Representative said they need to be explored and if anyone has personal connections, they should be pursued, and asks how we can give something back and the first thought would be a raffle and they are willing to donate a groomer to a raffle and have the funds help subsidize committees. They would like to come up with a budget and be able to offer committees specific amounts. The other thing they would like to address are the fees. Perhaps a standard event fee that committees would not have to collect incorporating their penning fee's as well as the event fee, which needs to be adjusted to reflect the current charges to committees. Talk about perhaps using our gaming funds to rent arenas for committees to help with their costs. Director states that they are willing to work with together on exploring a membership rodeo and what it would look like for us to do. It is stated that Darren Shaw is willing but there is some discussion that we need to explore the possibility of some northern rodeos. Director questions if it could be a couple locations. Director says we need to start somewhere, and President agrees, and states we need to put a budget together so we can go to the committees with a realistic proposal. Director recalls that we used to do a committee draw for \$ 2500.00 and questions if we have done it in the last couple of years. President states that we had a draw last year for committees to win their approval fees back and that High River had won it. Discussion on how only one committee benefits from this. President would like to deal with committees and budget first. Representative asked if anyone has any locations that may be willing to host rodeos. Director states that Fort Macleod wants people to use their facility and will contact. President states they have looking at Rimbey, Winfield, Drayton Valley, Thorsby, Buck Lake, Wetaskiwin, and Bruce. Director states Cochrane, President mentions Benalto. Representative says we will get a package together and establish a budget and says with the Groomer Raffle and looking at the budget we could possibly give \$500.00 back to committees. President asks who is willing to put together a budget and committee package to present to the committees. The committee will be Theresa, Dave, Mark, Paige, and Millie. The discussion on how the committees spend the money would be up to them. It is also stated that the stock charge and ambulance fee should also be addressed. President lets everyone know that if they have any other ideas, please reach out as they are always available. Director discusses the opportunity of using the college facilities and having a match rodeo with the college teams. President states that maybe they should reach out and have a discussion with them to see the feasibility of it. Talks about the possibility of all members going out and getting \$100.00 in sponsorship. Representative lets everyone know that the Chinook has a casino coming up and would be willing to donate \$300.00 to the CSPRA for every shift one of our members works. President states perhaps for a membership drive we could encourage our members to bring in a friend, and perhaps having a draw at the finals for an undetermined prize. Director brings up the past practice of giving a percentage back to anyone who brings in

sponsor money. Director lets them know that the percentage has been lowered and so far, no one has asked for it. Director suggests each event to raise money for their final's buckles. President wants going forward for each director to reach out to the members and get feedback on suggestions and let them know the current situation of our association. Director brings up the possibility of cash raffles again. **Motion** to reimplement the 50/50 cash raffle. President lets director know that raffle was not a 50/50 but a \$10 000.00 raffle. Director amends the motion to state that it would be a paper cash raffle. It is stated that the board had discontinued it due to Covid and the fact that our major ticket seller would not be able to sell. Discussion on how we could encourage members to sell. President asked if the directors are willing to go forward and encourage members to participate. Discussion on whether we need to have a dollar amount on the motion. Director withdraws the motion. President would like to have a quick zoom when we have some answers to any of the questions.

- President addresses the possibility of the events raising their own sponsorship dollars. Director suggests each director speak to their members and encourage them to raise \$100.00 each. They question then where the excess money would go when the buckles are paid for. Director states they have a sponsor willing to give \$2500.00 but only for the event that is specifically requested. President states that our finals rules say all money must be divided equally. Director states we have had sponsors in the past that have withdrawn because we did not use the money as they requested. Representative and President state we need to look at some ways to be able to use any sponsorship money as directed. Discussion on how we could use the sponsor money and shift some of our other money to cover other expenses. President would like us to think about how we can come up with solutions that are not "either/or" but rather "and" solutions. Discussion on the possibility of sponsor money could be used at rodeos. Discussion on how events could possibly be responsible for raising their own money for their finals event and how that has worked for other associations. Director talks about the potential to entice more members throughout the year with the promise of great prizes/money at the finals. It is felt that while we all want to pay everything out to the competitors, we need to keep in mind that we still have an association and rodeos requiring funds as well. President states we do not want to turn sponsors away and while we all focus on prizes for the finals, we also need to think about how we have a whole year to get through before the finals and we need to make it great as well. If we had more members and had more rodeos maybe, we would not need to worry, and it could level thing out. It needs to benefit two out of three things, sponsors, members, and association. Director states the days of large sponsorship are over, and we need to focus on getting more smaller sponsors. Discussion on our sponsorship package and how it needs to be done within the next 30 days. President asked if anyone is interested in heading up a sponsorship committee. Director states they might be interested in it and believes that grants need to be included in it. President lets everyone know member is willing to be the Finals Awards coordinator for 2023. Representative talks about how the Chinook has had their designation changed and have been able to increase the revenue because of it. Director asked if they could find out what was done, and representative will find out and get

back to us. Director asks if directors are allowed to go out and get sponsors on their own and President says they can use their own discretion. Director states that along with sponsorship we also need to have a budget for the finals to have some work toward. President states the sponsorship package itself needs to be redone as a lot of the information is out of date. Representative says he has a sponsorship template and will forward it to the office for us to use on our package.

- Director would like to bring up the possibility of two runs in team roping and breakaway and thinks it is something to be explored with the potential of drawing in more members. They feel that these two events are faster as well as less stressful on the cattle and that is why they are suggesting them. Director states then we should shoot run rather than draw. President discusses how it would affect all around and then could we look at the possibility of maybe not having all around if it would benefit the association. Discussion on how the extra runs would be beneficial to the rodeo committees. Representative asks everyone how they feel regarding the event fee and ambulance fee. Discussion on how the members need to know the financial situation of the association. Director feels a letter from President needs to go out letting all members know how we have lost money as well as how all rodeo committees have lost money. Director talks about regarding the team roping it should be pick as you might lose people when you go to a pick and draw. Representative speaks that it should be pick with the same partner as it is still a rodeo not a jackpot. Director talks about roping in possibly two age groups for example they bring in a 40's partner and ropes as well in the 50's. Discussion on how you would qualify for the finals. Discussion on how it could affect the members by having the "top guns" come down and take all the money. Director suggests avoiding this we could keep everyone in the appropriate age group, they maintain that it could be two different people with the hopes of bringing in more members. Discussion on how you would decide for the finals which partner to take. President would like the next meeting within the next two weeks. They remind directors about the confidentiality of the meetings and that the items may be discussed but which director said what is not allowed.

**Motion to adjourn @ 3:13 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Next Meeting: December 13 @ 7:00 pm via Zoom