

Minutes of the Montana Cutting Horse Association (MCHA)
Special General Membership Meeting

November 18th, 2025
Via Zoom

President Doug Pearce called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm November 18th, 2025 Via Zoom

Directors Present: MHP- President Doug Pearce, Jann Parker, Kelly Fraser, Cindy Fraser, John Delmonte, Mike Hoffman, Michelle Van Dyke

Directors Excused: Ashley Lee & Cody Lee

Others Present: Secretary/Treasurer Valee Miller
MCHA Members (Appendix A)

Discussion of by rule #4 change from 1. To 2.

1. Applications for approval of an in-state Montana show shall be determined by a majority vote of the Board. Out-of-state shows must be approved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

2. Applications for approval of an in-state Montana show shall be determined by a majority vote of the Board. Out-of-state shows must be approved by a MAJORITY vote of the Board of Directors.

President Doug Pearce called for a roll call. Secretary Valee Miller read the names, and filled in the blanks

President Doug Pearce opened the meeting to discussion from the general membership about their thoughts on the change of this rule. It was decided that a list of pros and cons will be sent out with a ballot in which the membership will have a week to vote on this matter.

John Delmonte- Stated Wyoming and Montana are one circuit and feel as though they should support each other and approve each other's shows. Unanimous votes give too much power to one person, what is the point of the board.

Michelle Van Dyke- Stated the history behind making this a unanimous vote is that she feels as though depending on who is serving on the board, it is either weighted heavy to approve the eastern shows or the western shows. She stated the awards come from Montana sponsors and feels that going out of state with show approvals does not benefit Montana or those who support the MCHA. Unanimous votes forces us to make the best decision.

Rob Fraser- Stated the changes since the board had changed the rules to the unanimous vote is that we are a circuit program, in which he feels will surpass the success of the regional program.

If we didn't have Wyoming we would be down to 5 or 6 shows total in Montana. He feels we still need to have 3 attendance shows in place, but we should approve all shows.

Clayton Miller- 51 in state members, 99 out of state. The numbers show that we have support so let's approve all shows and grow. If Big Piney counted for attendance, it would encourage people to come to Deer Lodge & Billings. He also stated out of the 9 board members President is Wyoming, 3 West, 2 Middle, 3 East. Approve out of state shows but keep the Montana Attendance mandatory for awards. If you can get out of state contestants with earnings it will force them to want to come to Montana shows to qualify for awards.

Kelly Fraser- We are looking for growth, we need to approve shows not only in Wyoming but Utah and South Dakota as well. I would like to see ideas brought in and vote with a majority vote so one vote does not throw away the whole thing.

Roy Oliver- We need to grow together, work together & we are a huge area, so we are going to have to travel no matter what.

Audra Crouse- Believes cutting in this circuit would not survive without supporting each other, Montana supporting Wyoming and Wyoming supporting Montana.

Gordy Bray- Affiliate- To promote cutting within the area and in the state, nothing that says they need to be a producer of cuttings they are to promote.

Cindy Fraser- It will be a board vote, and we need to have faith that we have elected the right people to approve the shows we are hoping will be approved.

Darryl Lee- Worried that if we approve too many shows, it will dilute the shows MCHA produces and possibly be the end of them. The attendance requirement needs to stay in place to protect the competitors so they cannot win enough money at 1 show to win the MCHA year end.

Kathy Foote- Is Big Piney Wyoming Cutting Horse Association Approved- NO.

Jann Parker- Shows need to send in approval applications to decide what fits and what doesn't for our schedule. Many of the western shows have converted to Treasure State Events that used to be MCHA events.

Dave Ziebarth- Unanimous vote makes it seem like a board is not needed, too much power to one person.

John Seymour- Wants to make sure the Montana Attendance stays in place. Need to approve some of the cuttings in Wyoming to keep our repour.

Kelly Fraser- 2025 show season had 1 board member say that since none of the Wyoming shows were produced by the Wyoming Cutting Horse Association they would not be approved. Which gives them enough power knowing a board member is voting no then there is no point of discussion on approving others.

Hayden Heaphy- Wants to speak in favor of a majority board vote to approve shows, once you get over that you can deal on the board level by the directors doing their jobs, reviewing applications, reviewing schedules and times. I don't think you are promoting cutting anywhere if you have a board that leaves veto power to one person on the board. You promote cutting by approving shows to benefit your members. If you are open on a majority level to approving shows, you can put a deadline on your applications to enable you to schedule appropriately. Think about the concept of region and let the board do their job to do what is best for the membership.

Kyle Clement- In favor of the majority vote, whenever you contract down to a point that a single vote can veto a movement you are in a protectionist, survivalist mode not in an expansionist or growth mode.

Shaun Musselman- Feels that there is a worry about who is going to be winning the year end prizes. He enjoys the horses & the people and wants everyone to go to good cuttings and enjoy each other and the sport they love. Promote each state that is part of the circuit and that in turn promotes the sport and the love of the horse.

President Doug Pearce adjourned the meeting at 8:04 pm

Appendix A

Cindy Fraser
Doug Pearce
Michelle Van Dyke
Sandra Brown
John Delmonte
Gordy Brady
Audra Crouse
Clayton Miller
John Seymour
Dorthy Seymour
Darrell Lee
Jeanne Reyher
Mike Hoffmann
Shaun Musselman
Kelsey Fraser
Helen Larson
Nancy LaCount
Rob Fraser
Hayden Heaphy
Andi James
Suzanne Carroll
Roy Oliver
Kathy Foote
John Foote
John Delmonte
Elaine Delmonte
Deb Simpson
Gus Hoffman
Mary Phillips
Dave Ziebarth
Kyle Clement
Jann Parker
Bruce Keller