

# ALSA Board of Directors Minutes

December 11, 2024

Call to order: 7:03 p.m. CST.

## Roll call:

### Board Members:

Cathie Kindler, President  
Anna Reese, Vice-President  
Ron Baird, Secretary  
Lauren Wright (excused)  
Denise Fehrenbach  
Holly Jensen  
Timothy Smith

### Others:

Becci Kunkel, Executive Secretary  
Vern Wright, Treasurer  
In-coming Board members (non-voting):  
Harvey Pool  
Brianna Evert  
Kelly Squires

## I. Office Report:

Becci Kunkel Executive Secretary, ALSA Office

We have 6 shows sanctioned for 2025 - plus some sent to me early last year that I need to get back to for payment.

I am trying to get 2024 shows wrapped up. I'm still having issues with a few summer shows that still have not submitted results or payments. I'm not uploading their results until I have received payment.

My goal is to have all the shows uploaded and Top Ten announced in January. It would be great if we could have the awards ready in March and then delivered to shows to save costs on shipping.

I have had a connection issue with access/database, as when I am in the database working it will frequently kick me out. It has slowed down my uploading results. IDS thinks it's an issue in host gators end and with something within the database. They feel like it's something that's become outdated and just needs to be updated but are looking into it. I am still hoping to have 2020 shows corrected by the end of the year, even with the connection issue.

IDS and I have had a few conversations about the database. An estimate is a bit difficult because there are so many issues that need fixed or updated. I am including the items that need to be addressed for the new Board members.

- Adding Classic Classes back into the database
- The old site has a secure link to view show results, this needs to be unsecured
- We need to have the tables added back in to access so that members can go back to searching for their animals' results on a year-by-year basis
- Fix the Adult Showmanship ROM issue and separate them from the animal ROMS
- There are multiple error messages within the database that I'm not sure how to fix
- Is there a way to get a notification on new youth and animals that receive awards
- Cleaning up the Alpaca Classes and adding new ones

- Cleaning up the formatting for the show results, master and alpaca classes are mixed together and getting all the halter classes together
  - Adding in a yearly top ten for animals too
  - All the performance divisions and halter divisions
- For new Board members I will send out the Zoom invite early next week.  
Thanks!

**Motion: Pay Becci's office expenses of \$1,575.00 for November.  
Motion by Ron. Seconded by Holly. Motion unanimously passed.**

## II. Treasurer's Report:

Balance Sheet	
As of December 7, 2024	
Assets:	
Checking:	\$31,247.96
Savings:	50,026.31
Youth Scholarship:	<u>10,753.54</u>
	\$ 92,027.81
No Liabilities	
November Income and Expenses:	
Income:	\$ 3,808
Expenses:	<u>10,562</u>
Net loss:	\$ 6,754

Vern recommended that incoming Board create a budget for the regional and Grand National shows, which consistently have lost money. He also agreed to stay in an advisory fashion for the new Treasurer, when selected by the incoming Board.

Vern departed the meeting at 9:28 p.m. CST.

## III. Committee Reports:

**Alpaca** – Chair: Vicky Donley, Liaison: Lauren  
No report.

**By-laws and Standing Rules** – Chair: Lougene Baird, Liaison: Ron

There have been no comments from the Board or members concerning By-laws and Standing Rules changes. To this committee's knowledge, there are no current or pending ethics or complaints against this committee.

It has indeed been my pleasure to serve as chair of the committee for the past 25 or so years. Consider this my resignation.

Thank you,  
Lougene Baird, Chair

*Cathie remarked that Lougene had done a fantastic job chairing this committee for many years and that it was important to select a new chair.*

**Elections** - Chair: Kelsey Matthews, Liaison: Cathie  
No report

**Ethics and Protest** - Chair: Steve Auld, Liaison: Tim

The Ethics and Protest committee met 12/05/2024 via Zoom to discuss case 20241122.

The review included the actions of accused as seen by multiple witnesses and screen shots of social media.

The potential infraction(s) were compared to the Rules as stated in the 2024 ALSA Handbook and Guidelines. The actions of the accused were found to be in violation of three guidelines in two Parts of the Handbook by unanimous decision of the roll call vote taken of the four committee members and the committee chair.

All efforts of the committee were approached by all to be sensitive to the accused's right of free speech, right to have an opinion that may be opposed to others' opinions and his right of free choice to act on his opinion to participate in any activity.

The committee Chairman is drafting an official report to the BOD with a recommendation of penalty.

Submitted with respect,

Timothy A. Smith

Board Member,

Ethics and Protest Committee Board Liaison

*There ensued a lengthy discussion of this matter. Various Board members had previously witnessed the accused acting in similar manners elsewhere. The conclusion to the discussion was that the Judges' Committee needs to update its code of conduct for Judges in such a manner that if one violates it, one will be tactfully disciplined.*

**Motion: The Judges' Committee must update the code of conduct for Judges, setting forth penalties for violations of it. Motion by Denise. Seconded by Anna. Motion unanimously passed.**

***Finance & Budget*** – Chair: Vern, Liaison: Ron

Please refer to the Treasurer's report presented above.

***Fleece*** – Chair: Cindy Ruckman, Liaison: Denise

No report

***Grand National*** – Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Holly

**Also nationals report**

Also nationals held in Cedar Rapids Oct 4-6, 2024 ran smoothly without any mishaps, accidents, etc. Schedule was liked with more flexibility on performance course, courses ran smoothly and time efficient allowing for dinner to be served on time, performance awards given and games played. Halter ring ran smoothly on Sunday. Judges were all excellent and easy to work with, exhibitors had a good time, no complaints were received. Many volunteers stepped up to help thru out the weekend and were greatly appreciated.

Halter numbers (162) saw a nice increase of 40 from last year

Performance (38) decreased numbers by 15

Youth (33) increased numbers by 5

Fiber (88) increase numbers by 20

Premium money from \$7300 in sponsorships! Increase of \$1000 from last year.

Allowing us to give Grand champion premiums as well as fiber premiums .

Halter \$3500

Performance \$1160

Youth \$1290

Fiber \$620

Versatility \$700

Classic division had great numbers and would like to offer those classes again

Need to have exclusive fiber judge again this year. With the increase of fiber entries, many of those being finished products. Exhibitors were happy to have Saturday morning for walking as many do not arrive until later Friday or early Saturday morning.

Will need to add more tables to rental order to display finished product items.

Contract being signed for next year at Kirkwood for weekend of 3-5, 2025,

**Handbook** – Chair: Open, Liaisons: Denise and Ron  
***A volunteer to chair this vital committee is STILL needed.***

**Judges'** -- Mary Jo Miller Chair, Liaison: Anna  
Subject: Elaine Brovont alpaca HPY and fleece  
Our committee has reviewed Elaine's apprentice evaluations and are recommending your approval to certify her as an alpaca HPY and fleece Judge.

**Motion: Approve Elaine Brovant as an alpaca halter, performance, and youth Judge. Motion by Denise. Seconded by Holly. Motion unanimously passed.**

I'd like to ask BOD for approval to add Tricia Schneeberger to the judges committee effective January 1, 2025.

Although Tricia has taken a temporary medical leave from judging, she is well enough to participate in this committee and has consented to join if approved by the BOD. I'm trying to bring on some younger but experienced people with common sense and know the realities of judging.

*Discussion pointed out the Board approves committee chairs, who then select members of their committees without Board approval. It was pointed out the Board enthusiastically endorses the selection of this committee member.*

Thanks a bunch Anna.

Wishing you a blessed Holiday Season.

Mary Jo

P.S. Hopefully I won't be sending anything else!!!

**Membership, Publications, Promotions, Marketing & Website** – Chair: Becci, Liaison: Tim

Membership:

171 Adult Members for 2024 - 35 Adult Members renewed for 2025.

126 Lifetime Adult Members

132 Youth Members - 25 Youth Members renewed for 2025.

3 Lifetime Youth Members

Becci Kunkel, Chair

**Performance** – Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Denise

Recap from 11/21/24 Performance committee conference call

Members in attendance

Steve Auld

Venesa Carter

Megan Fruits

Jason Fehrenbach

Andrea Johnson

Susan Leslie, Chair

Item #1

Handbook Part G, Section 4

ALSA Performance Championship Chart

\*Novice champion includes

All ALSA, ILR and Open shows results, from Novice, youth, and Open divisions.

Minimum 5 in division, except regional and nationals shows.

4 grands or reserves in any combination

(3 judge rule does not apply)

\*Advanced champion includes

Only ALSA Show Results

4 Grands or 3 Grands and 2 Reserves  
3 different judges  
Minimum 5 in division except regional and nationals

\*Masters Champion includes  
Only ALSA Show Results  
4 Grands or 3 Grands and 2 Reserves  
3 different judges  
Minimum 5 in division except regional and nationals.

\*Elite Champion includes  
Only ALSA Show results.  
6 grands halter 6 grands performance  
1 first in production for breeders  
5 in division except regional and nationals

\*Halter Champions  
Only ALSA Results  
4 grands or 3 grands and 2 reserves  
Minimum 5 in division except regionals and nationals  
3 different judges

The committee unanimously agrees to these re-wordings and updates

**Motion: Accept the committee's recommendations as to these changes in the Handbook. Motion by Tim. Seconded by Anna. Motion unanimously passed.**

Item #2

Handbook  
Part M, Section 10 D  
Section 4-5

The section 4 portion from last handbook is missing regarding incomplete obstacles and examples and scoring .  
Skips from major faults to off course. This needs to be added back in. There was no vote or discussion to have this removed.

The committee unanimously agrees to have this line item added back in to 23rd edition.

The Board agreed this was a typographical error in composition of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Handbook and the language should be put back in the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition.

Item #3

We have 5 situations of exhibitors violating

Handbook Part M-Sect 2-B-4

Committee is using handbook Part V, Sect 2  
A .1. Violation of ALSA handbook rules  
2. ALSA rules violation

3. Penalties

a. Warning

b. Suspension

g. Forfeiture of trophies, ribbons, and prize money won in connection with animals with the offense committed.

We have listed them below with no names or numbers as I do not want owners or animals' names influencing decisions.

Exhibitor A

2024 dual novice grand -2

2024 dual novice grand -2

Entered novice at a show and was moved by show management to advanced.

No known prior offenses or warnings

Committee recommends a warning letter explaining situation.

Exhibitor B

2024 dual novice Res-2

2024 dual novice Grand -2

2024 entered novice at show.

Attended clinic in 2024.

No known prior offenses or warnings

Committee recommends placings be removed from show results and updated. A warning letter be sent and any ribbons or prize money be returned to ALSA office.

Exhibitor C

2018 senior Res —1

2018 senior Res —1

2019 New owner purchased llama.

2022 Novice Res -1

2022 Novice dual Res-2

2023 Novice Dual Res -2

2023 novice res-1

2024 entered novice and moved by show management to advanced.

No known prior offenses or warnings

Committee recommends warning letter be sent, awards and prize money be returned to ALSA office and all show results be removed and updated results posted, and awards sent to rightful exhibitor.

Exhibitor D

2024 Novice Dual Grand -2

2024 Novice Dual Grand -2

2024 Novice Dual grand-2

2024 Novice Dual Grand 2

2024 entered novice moved by show management to advanced.

No known prior offenses or warnings,

Committee recommends warning letter be sent and all awards and prize money be returned to ALSA office. All results be updated and awards sent to rightful exhibitors.

Exhibitor E  
2023 dual intermediate grand -2  
3/2024 single grand -1  
5/2024 dual res-2  
9/2024 single grand open division-1  
10/2024 dual novice grand -2

\*This exhibitor was part of implementing the rule to match the ILR of any 4 grands or reserves to bump in 2021.

\*This exhibitor received intervention in 3/2024 when entered a different llama in novice after earning 4 grands /reserves and was mentored by board member how to count them and helped her to move her animal to advanced prior to entering novice and disqualification.  
This is the second llama she failed to bump as necessary.

Committee is recommending a 6-month suspension due to history of knowledge of rules in violation and warning in 3/2024. Part V. Sec 2. A. 3 penalties, B and G  
All results be removed and updated, and all awards and prize money be returned and forwarded to rightful exhibitors.

Committee also is recommending for any above a 60 day grace period to return awards and prize money to ALSA office before a letter of not in good standing be issued for any above having earned awards.

The committee is unanimously in agreement that if in adjusting the show results to reflect the removal of llama in violation, never will we ever ask for a grand or reserve award be returned unless it is being upgraded from a reserve to a grand and we have said award in hand in ALSA office to send to them

The performance committee unanimously agreed to all above warnings, suspensions and award revocations. Please feel free to reach out to me on behalf of the committee with any questions you have.

Respectfully  
Susan Leslie  
Leslie Lane Llamas, Owner  
ALSA Grand Nationals Chairperson

Proposed letters:

1.) Dear ALSA exhibitor,  
You are receiving this letter to notify you of recent ALSA handbook violations.  
Your llama \_\_\_\_\_ ILR # \_\_\_\_\_ was found to have  
inappropriately competed in the Novice division at \_\_\_\_\_ show.  
Please see Part M, Section 2 B attached from ALSA Handbook.  
Action was taken by the ALSA Board of directors following handbook, attached Part.  
V Section 2 A 1. Individuals  
Part V Section 2 A 2. Violations  
Part V Section 2 A 3. Penalties  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ Warning  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ Suspensions \_\_\_\_\_ months  
G. \_\_\_\_\_ Forfeitures  
Below is the list of shows and awards attended  
Below are the shows that exceeded the maximum number of grands or reserves.

These results are being removed and these awards awarded to the next highest point winner. Please return to the ALSA office all trophies, ribbons and prize money won in connection with this show. A 60-day grace period is being given to locate and return these items. After this time, you will be listed as member Not in good standing and will be under suspension until these items are returned.

Please contact the ALSA office with any questions you may have.

Address to return awards

ALSA, PO Box 850, Decatur, IN 46733

2.) Dear ALSA exhibitor, you are receiving this letter after taking part in an ALSA show with your novice llama, \_\_\_\_\_, ILR # \_\_\_\_\_. It was brought to our attention that another llama had taken part in the wrong division, therefore changing the results of this show. \_\_\_\_\_ has now been named Champion/Reserve after the results were recalculated, your llama's placings are listed below for your records for use in entering the correct division in your next upcoming shows. If these placings placed you over the limit of 4 qualifying wins, there is no consequence to you, as this was a situation out of your control.

3.) We will forward you any awards or prize money collected; we have also included a novice reference chart for your convenience. Please contact the ALSA office with any questions you may have.

No information was provided the Board as to the names, shows, or animals that were believed involved in the above violations.

There ensued an extremely lengthy discussion concerning these violations, whether members knowingly or unknowingly committed them. Each was reviewed as to the person involved, the particular show, and the severity of the violation. In one case, it was pointed out that the violator had consistently disregarded the Handbook requirements for entering animals in the correct class despite receiving warnings, advice, and mentoring.

Some history as to how similar situations were managed in the past, and how the results of such affect ALSA were discussed and debated. Suggestions were made as to what would be for the good of ALSA moving forward. Several roll call votes on possible Motions were made and the final Motion was as follows:

**Motion: The Ethics Committee should send a letter to each of the above-involved members delineating their violations and recommend they follow the Handbook in making future entries. All awards, ribbons and any prize money received from these incorrect entries are to be returned to the ALSA Office. Motion by Tim. Seconded by Denise. On a roll call vote  
In favor of the Motion: Denise, Tim, Ron, Lauren (by proxy)  
Opposed: Holly,  
Abstained: Anna  
the Motion passed.**

**Regional Committee** – Chair: Susan Leslie, Liaison: Anna  
No report

**Show Management, Policy & Planning** – Chair: Kari Price, Liaison: Holly  
No report

**Youth Committee** – Chair: Jennie Hodgen, Liaison: Denise

No report

**IV. Old Business:**

None

**V. New Business:**

Discussion and selection of new Treasurer.

Solicitation of a member to become the new ALSA Treasurer had been made previously. Kristin Vargas responded, qualifications reviewed and selected. Vern has said he will stay in an advisory position for a year, helping Ms. Vargas through the familiarization process of QuickBooks and other treasury functions,

**Motion: Offer Kristin Vargas the position of ALSA Treasurer.  
Motion by Ron. Seconded by Tim. Motion unanimously passed.**

The next regular Board meeting will  
be January 8<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7:00 p.m. CST.

**Motion to Adjourn at 9:52 p.m. CST. Motion by Ron. Seconded  
by Denise. Motion unanimously passed.**

***The ALSA Board of Directors may convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, any items on this agenda or to consult with Legal and/or Accounting Counsel.***