



# Florida Whips, Inc.

## Minutes: Board Meeting August 15, 2015 @ 10:00 a.m. Grand Oaks Resort in Weirsdale, FL

- Introductions/roll call
  - Voting Board Members
    - President – Tom Warriner
    - VP – John Porter (not attending)
    - Treasurer – Mary deGreef
    - Secretary – Erika Matulich
    - Membership – Kathie Beeson
    - PH Region Rep – Lauchlin Waldoch
    - N Region Rep – Brenda Schmidt
    - SE Region Rep – Eloise Nelson
    - SW Region Rep – Linda Bennett
  - Ex-Officio Board Members (nonvoting)
    - Newsletter – Sioux Winter
    - Advertising – Harriett Jones (not attending)
    - PH Region Alt – Beth Sparkman (not attending)
    - N Region Alt – Lynda Jowers
    - SE Region Alt – Jan Petri
    - SW Region Alt – Kathy Madonna Brown (not attending)
- [Minutes of May meeting](#) approved unanimously
- Old Business
  - Website successfully moved
  - Gift card to Yvonne Griffiths, former webmaster approved; Treasurer will send
  - Payment to Mike Smith, former hosting service attempted
  - Closing of extra bank account; Mary de Greef and Linda Evans will take care of
  - Insurance review (Secretary)
    - Insurance review found we are under-insured
      - We had not been counting household members or naming them in the database (we are now)
      - We had not been covering properties when needed, but if we do cover all properties, we may be exceeding the limits of our liability to support
      - Insurance costs may double or more, but currently we have enough budget to support the increase
    - We will be able to sign a shorter insurance policy coming up to move insurance in line with our show season and fiscal year
    - We have not been stating a “no alcohol” rule in our shows, which is required for our insurance. Much discussion took place as to how to enforce such a policy. Erika will look into appropriate wording for event fliers and entry forms.

- Officer Reports
  - President
    - Tom Warriner would like to send a letter to USEF/FEI stating our strong support of seeing high-level competitions and championships include singles and pairs in driving, instead of just fours in an effort to promote and grow the sport. Board unanimously approved Tom moving ahead with the letter.
  - Treasurer
    - Treasurer reviewed the fiscal year financial statements – see addendum
  - Membership
    - Membership numbers were reviewed – see addendum
    - SE region has added the most new members!
    - Discussion of encouraging electronic membership renewal to reduce errors, handwriting interpretation challenges, etc.
    - Discussion of a Lifetime Membership fee. Board agreed that such a fee should be established and offered, pending research as to other organizations handle these fees (not only the dollar amount, but where the fee goes in terms of budget and accounts). More research needed.
    - Members not renewed by 9/15 – lists will be sent to regional directors for followup with a goal to renew all by end of October
  
- New Business
  - Event Forms for Approval: The following events were unanimously approved by the board:
    - State
      - Metta Baxter driving class / February 6-7, 2016 (budget provided)
    - Panhandle Region (all items funded by region/participants)
      - October 9 Ground Driving Clinic
      - December 11 Christmas Drive
      - February 19 Clinic/Drive
      - April 15 Clinic/Drive
      - June 10 Annual Meeting
    - Northern Region
      - Clinic and Iron Horse HDT / November 14-15, 2015 (funded by region)
      - McCulley Farm Camping Weekend / November 20-22, 2015 (funded by participants)
    - Southeast Region (all events funded by region)
      - Derby Clinic / July 11 (approved via email and done)
      - Beginner Clinic / October 10, 2015
      - Pleasure Show and 3 phase event / November 21-22, 2015
      - Holiday Drive in Wellington / December 12, 2015
      - Jupiter Fun Show / January 9, 2016
      - Derby competition / February 6, 2016
      - Safari drive / March 13, 2016
      - Driving at Van Sickle's / April 16, 2016
    - Southwest Region
      - Cypress Keep derby clinic / September 26-27, 2015 (funded by CK; per/entry fee to region)

- Camping & day drives / December 11-13, 2015 (funded by participants)
- Olof Larsson clinic / January 2-3, 2016 (funded by region)
- Cypress Keep HDT / April 30-May 1, 2016 (funded by CK; per/entry fee to region)
- Cypress Keep derby clinic September 24-25, 2016 (funded by CK; per/entry fee to region)
- The following events are still pending and need to be resolved by September 30:
  - Northern
    - Oct 24th Pony Play day hosted and held at Connie Thoreson's
      - Form received 8/16/2015
    - Dec 19th Christmas Drive at Grand Oaks
      - No form received
    - Jan 9th Clinic hosted by Margaret Mayer & held at her Ocala Farm
      - No form received
    - Steeplechase Continuous drive / February 6, 2016 (funded by participants)
      - INCOMPLETE – need addresses of all properties, and then an investigation of insurance costs of multiple property costs for a single event
    - Steeplechase Continuous drive / March 9, 2016 (funded by participants)
      - INCOMPLETE - need addresses of all properties, and then an investigation of insurance costs of multiple property costs for a single event
    - March 27 Paintball event at Black Prong
      - Mixed vote: 1 No, 2 Abstentions, 6 Yes, but only with the provision that safety and desensitizing is added; board will wait for statement
    - Apr 17th Cones Rally hosted and held at Jeanne Abbotts
      - No form received
- Budget Requests
  - Budget for corporate identity promotional items
    - Discussed decals vs. screen cleaners vs. magnets
    - Potential budget of \$2 per membership pending research on costs
    - To be sent out with calendar
  - Discussed trying to reduce cost of calendar, which is about \$12 per member
    - Proposal to change from 15-month to 12-month was rejected
    - Media mail should reduce postage and costs of calendar
    - In the future could ask for opt-in/opt-out on membership form for calendar
  - Budget for Florida Whips printed stationery
    - Searching for high-resolution TIFF and JPG files that can be posted online, and each region can handle printing of their own stationery as needed
  - Advertising in other equine publications
    - Eloise Nelson and Judi Tintera will investigate potential publications in which to advertise. Does the Barn Book still exist? Horse & Pony?
- Facebook Page and policies (Jan Petri and Tom Warriner)
  - Closed to members only for posting. As of September 1, it will be for Florida Whips members only. In September-October, non-members will be asked to join the Whips, and if they are not Whips members by October 31, they will be purged
  - Posting photos policy – please post only Whips members, and identify photos (driver name, photographer name, etc.)

- Posting content policy – post as a sticky at the top of the page a statement that the page is for Florida Whips related communications and related carriage driving content
  - Membership
    - New way of databasing/counting members: Those attached to a family membership are now databased and counted (adults noted as Household members, non-adults as Juniors)
    - Renewals and reminders: Secretary will send out renewal forms. Membership chair can post to email list about renewals. Regional directors will receive list and remind people in October.
    - Adding to a group email list – new emails will be added to the Group Email list ([floridawhops@googlegroups.com](mailto:floridawhops@googlegroups.com)) as noted on the membership database – coordination between secretary and membership chair
    - Requiring sponsorship for members – discussion as to whether new member applications should require a reference, sponsor, or other information as required by other clubs. After discussion, board decided not to adopt any requirements and accept memberships of anyone interested enough to join and pay.
  - Bylaws and policies
    - Provision for electronic/online voting by all members was discussed and unanimously approved. SurveyMonkey will be used for polling. Given our new electronic methods of communication (online voting, Facebook, email list, website), a review of bylaws is necessary. Bylaw changes must be approved by the general membership.
    - Bylaw proposed changes:
      - Article 1 – Clarification that reciprocal memberships with other clubs are free, and there are no voting privileges
      - Article 2, Section 2 – A motion was made last year to require one statewide general membership meeting per year instead of two. Discussion indicated that the mandatory December meeting was poorly attended and a busy time of year, and that electronic means of communication can suffice. We can call as many meetings as we would like, we would just not REQUIRE the December meeting. The May meeting would still take place and be required.
      - Article 3, Section1 – Duties: Remove requirement for VP to attend in-person all regional planning meetings. These items can be communicated or documented electronically
      - Article 4, Committee review: Although committees were not staffed, board agreed that committees would stay in bylaws and were needed, and that board members would take over committee roles as needed.
      - Other bylaw changes will need to be reviewed by board before sending out to membership for voting.
- Adjournment 12:45 p.m.

**Florida Whips, Inc. Financial Report  
(August 1, 2014 - August 17, 2015)**

**Profit & Loss Statement**

<u>Income</u>	
Advertising Revenue	370.00
Membership dues	7,765.00
<b>REGIONAL INCOME</b>	
Northern Region Income	1,520.00
Southeast Region Income	9,825.00
SouthWest Region Income	53.25
<b>Total REGIONAL INCOME</b>	<u>11,398.25</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>19,533.25</b>
<u>Expense</u>	
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	
1120 taxes	283.00
Accounting Fees	320.00
Advertising	160.00
Annual Report	61.25
Dues and Subscriptions	60.00
Insurance	1,181.87
Membership expense	3,010.35
Miscellaneous	351.41
Newsletter Printing	221.08
<b>Total GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>	<u>5,648.96</u>
<b>REGIONAL EXPENSES</b>	
NR Expense	2,082.85
PH Expense	53.25
SE Expense	8,522.31
SW Expense	420.67
<b>Total REGIONAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>11,079.08</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>16,728.04</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>2,805.21</u></u>

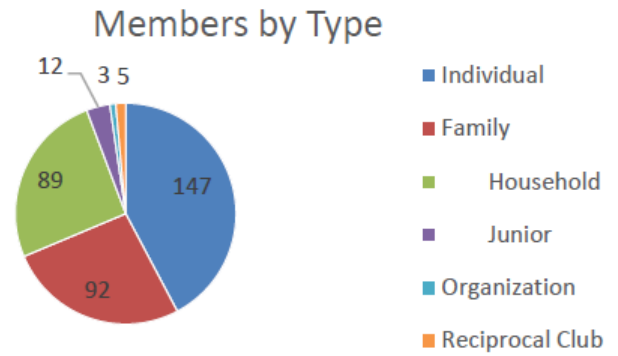
**Balance Sheet**

<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
BOA-5237	1,147.22
BOA-7187	
GENERAL FUND	10,178.48
N Region	3,608.16
PH Region	150.77
SE Region	6,026.56
SW Region	3,105.96
<b>Total BOA-7187</b>	<u>23,069.93</u>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>24,217.15</u>
Other Current Assets	
Risk-Free CD	5,768.42
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>5,768.42</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>29,985.57</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>29,985.57</u></u>
<u>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</u>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Accrued income taxes	311.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>311.00</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>311.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>311.00</u>
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	17,873.63
Retained Earnings	11,532.77
Net Income	268.17
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>29,674.57</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>29,985.57</u></u>

Florida Whips, Inc. Summary Member Report as of August 15, 2015

Members by Type:

Individual	147
Family	92
Household	89
Junior	12
Organization	3
Reciprocal Club	5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>348</b>



Members by Region:

Northern	175
Panhandle	10
Southeast	90
Southwest	60
Out of State	13
<b>Total:</b>	<b>348</b>

