

Great Lakes Distance Riding Association

September 16, 2025, Minutes (Approved)

- i. Call To Order- President Jan Wylie
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Jan Wiley @ 7:31 pm.
- ii. Roll Call and Reading Of Minutes – Secretary Jennifer Shooshanian

The attendees were:

 - a. Jennifer Shooshanian, Carl Dosmann, Barb Kurti, Linda Hammrick, Sara Hall, Jan Wylie, Michelle Wiegand, Kristen Mikula, Kathy Macki, Pat Wierengo, Becke Grams, Layla Saatchi, Stephanie Boomgard.
 - b. Kathy motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Becke seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
- iii. Treasurers’ Report- Kristen Mikula
 - a. Kristen shared the summary of the account from July 15 to September 15, 2025.
 - i. A copy is on file with the secretary.
 - b. There is an additional \$1,200 in the checking account that was transferred from PayPal after the report was generated.
 - c. Jennifer motioned to approve the reports as presented, Kathy seconded the motion, and the report was approved.
- iv. Committee Reports:
 - a. Executive: No report.
 - b. Veterinarian: No report
 - c. Michigan Horse Council (MHC) & Trails:
 - i. Shore to Shore ride.
 1. Charges have been brought against the disgruntled resident who harassed and threw firecrackers at the riders. Court date has not been scheduled. The trail in Oscoda has been rerouted, so riders do not ride in front of her house.
 2. Michigan Horse Council declined to support the Shore-to-Shore 2025 ride.
 - a. Barb had been working with MHC since January to be a sponsor for the ride.
 3. Michigan DNR Support
 - a. The DNR trails committee is working on the trails at Hopkins Creek that were closed for equestrian usage.

- g. Awards: No Report
- h. Memberships: No Report
- i. Newsletter-No Report
 - i. Continued appreciation was expressed to Sara for her efforts.
 - ii. Layla inquired about the deadline for stories. This is the 10th of each month.
 - 1. Discussed Layla & Stephanie writing a story about Diane.
- j. Promotions: No Report
- k. Web Page- No Report
 - i. Points need to be updated.
 - 1. Jan will talk with Heather.
- v. Old Business:
 - a. Bylaws Update:
 - i. Kathy noted the need to send out the revisions before the annual meeting. It is believed it must be completed 60 days in advance of the annual meeting, but that needs to be confirmed via the policy or by laws.
 - 1. Jan will forward the bylaw revisions for posting:
 - a. Website- Heather Stafford
 - b. Newsletter – Sara Hall
 - c. Mailchimp – Sara Hall
 - b. Membership Forms & Fees:
 - i. There was discussion regarding the age of membership for GLDRA juniors to be under the age of 18 for a family membership.
 - 1. It was clarified on the membership form.
 - ii. There was much discussion about the lifetime membership price.
 - 1. It is on the new form.
 - 2. Kathy & Barb confirmed, based on the previous annual meeting notes, that the lifetime membership was raised to \$250 at the last annual meeting, effective May 1.
 - c. Apparel Store Update:
 - i. Revisited prior notes and discussions regarding the apparel store, utilizing Shopify or a 3rd party resource like the one used for Shore To Shore.
 - ii. Jennifer shared Heather's feedback and concerns about the difference in earning potential.
 - iii. Kathy suggested we take the easiest route, as this has been under discussion since the annual meeting, and use the third-party resource

so we can begin earning income and then continue the discussion about using Shopify if desired in the future. There was also discussion about utilizing the store for awards, with input from Lisa Germann.

- iv. Jan motioned using Barb's connection to open the GLDRA SWAG store, and Stephanie seconded the motion, and the vote was approved.
- v. Next steps:
 - 1. Barb will get started on the online inventory, then we can update it over time, using the MTRA store as an example.
 - 2. Layla motioned that we begin the inventory on the GLDRA SWAG Store. Michelle seconded, and the vote was approved.
- d. Update the GLDRA policy for Novice/Intro riders' awards and determine the award types.
 - i. Novice Awards
 - 1. Sara Hall reached out to Lisa Germann briefly about the Novice awards, which will be as follows:
 - a. Purina sponsorship/donation of items such as Outlast treats, Replenish, and a certificate.
- vi. New Business:
 - a. Review the proposed membership form and mileage form.
 - i. Forms will be fillable.
 - ii. Agreed to remove: "Check this if you need paper copies for the Ride Flyers mailed to you; please add \$10 to the above fees."
 - iii. Carl is adding a version # to the form.
 - iv. Sara would like the form to be emailed as a membership reminder. Kathy will add it to the timeline.
 - v. Workflow:
 - 1. Membership Form: (Shannon)
 - 2. Personal Rider Mileage Form: (Kathy)
 - 3. Sara will be adding a note that the forms have been updated and will put it in the October newsletter.
 - a. It can also be emailed via the website and paid via PayPal.
 - b. Improve the search function on the GLDRA website to create better user experience. (Heather is not present)
 - c. Review who qualifies for the Position of President.
 - i. It is in the bylaws.

- ii. Jan would like to get some names in place for those in our organization who are eligible to be voted in as president.
- iii. Qualifications include: Member in good standing with GLDRA, board member for the past year.
- iv. Agreed to put all positions and the qualifications required in the newsletter.
 - 1. Kathy will provide Jennifer with the information for the write-up.
- d. Shore To Shore Virtual Event – Fundraiser for GLDRA
 - i. Kathy motioned to approve the virtual event, with Jennifer heading a committee and the committee being determined by the next meeting. Sara seconded the motion, and the vote was approved.

vii. Next Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, November 4 @ 7:30

Kathy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jan seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Shooshanian

Action Items			
Subject	Date Due	Person Responsible	ü
Send the Sept 30 th clinic flyer out via Mailchimp	9/17/25	Sara Hall	
Audit 2024 finances	Before Year-End Banquet	Kristen Mikula	
Send Kathy the preferred newsletter format for points and mileage	11/4/25	Sara Hall	
Write an article for the newsletter about Diane Meinders and send it to Sara Hall	10/10/25	Layla Saatchi / Stephanie Boomgard	
Send bylaw updates to Heather Stafford & Sara Hall for posting on the website, newsletter, and mailing out via Mailchimp. Timeline needs to be confirmed in policy and/or bylaws	Before Annual Meeting	Jan Wylie	

Action Items			
Subject	Date Due	Person Responsible	ü
Begin online inventory for GLDRA SWAG store	Timeline?	Barb Kurti	
Membership Form: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove: "Check this if you need paper copies for the Ride Flyers mailed to you; please add \$10 to the above fees." Add version # to the form. 	11/4/25	Carl Doseman	
Add a membership reminder to the timeline	11/4/25	Kathy Macki	
Provide the GLDRA website link for the membership form in the newsletter.	11/4/25	Sara Hall	
Provide information about positions and the qualifications required to Jennifer to develop a summary to post in the next newsletter	11/4/25	Kathy Macki	
Determine the committee for the Virtual event	11/4/25	Jennifer Shooshanian	

Open Items			
Subject	Date Due	Person Responsible	ü
New tracking system for points and mileage	TBD	Kathy Macki	