

American Saddlebred Versatility Association (VERSA)
Meeting Minutes
(DRAFT)

Date: July 20, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm -8:10 pm CST

Location: Virtual via Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:05, pm, roll call was taken; a quorum was established.

Members Present

Name	Role/Position
Rebecca Stewart	Co-Secretary/Member Engagement
Katherine Costanza	Co-Secretary, records
Janet Thompson	Secretary
Deidre Stuhlman	Treasurer
Shiela Wetter	Vice President

Members Absent

Name	Role/Position
Darryl Leifheit	
Juliann Sechrest	

2. **Approval of Minutes:** There were no minutes to present from the previous meeting(s). Going forward, all minutes will be distributed to board members for review in DRAFT form prior to any scheduled meetings.
3. **Treasures Report:** The Treasurer’s Report was submitted by Deidre Stuhlman. A copy of report is attached as Exhibit A. VERSA has a total of \$9321.89 on hand. Treasurer noted that the recent increase in the balance was due to an uptick in membership. Further discussion focused on continued sponsorship of the Hattie Francis Monarch Championship Cass at a cost of \$250 per year. All members were in agreement that the sponsorship should continue with the acknowledgement of VERSA as a sponsor in the official show program. J. Thompson will reach out to show management regarding acknowledgement of VERSA as sponsor of the class. Additional upcoming annual expenses were discussed. This included yearly business filings due in August and filing fees associated with reinstating the organization's 501-C3 status with the Internal Revenue Service. All upcoming costs outlined in Exhibit A.

4. **Old Business:** Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation were emailed to all board members on July 20th. This material is to be reviewed for further discussion.

5. **Action Items/New Business:**
 - A. **Membership Works:** Discussion occurred regarding the feasibility of using Membership Works (MW) a database driven program on our website. MW would potentially eliminate much of the confusion on how membership enrollment interfaces with payment data and provide better information for recordkeeping and annual membership billing. **A motion was made to explore the feasibility of adding MW to our web site, contingent upon additional research and cost. Rebecca Stewart to provide additional information concerning costs, to expedite, the Board would vote via email once information is provided. Motion carried unanimously.**

 - B. **Increasing Dues:** The Board discussed increasing dues to \$25 for adults and \$15 for junior members. It was noted that we have to offer something of benefit to draw interest if dues are increased. The possibility of offering scholarships for members to attend clinics or class sponsorship was discussed. Reaching out to Academy riders at lesson barns was also discussed as an option. The increase in membership fees would become effective upon integration of Membership Works (MW) platform on the VERSA web site. **A motion was made to raise dues as indicated above, motion carried unanimously.**

 - C. **Scholarship Program:** The Board further discussed incentives for membership. Scholarships and class sponsorships were mentioned. The scholarship program would be modeled after the scholarship programs offered by the Southern Eventing & Dressage Association with criteria for applying and follow-up by scholarship recipients. Total scholarship amount would be of \$250 to attend clinics in any discipline. A scholarship review committee would be established. **A motion was made to establish a scholarship program as discussed above. Motion carried unanimously.**

 - D. **Do We Still Support Saddlebred Rescue?** VERSA has noted in outreach information and on our public web site that it supports the mission of Saddlebred Rescue. A brief discussion ensued regarding multiple organizations involved in the rescue of the American Saddlebred horse. Therefore, we will no longer publicize our support for a single organization due to the fact that there are multiple organizations providing vulnerable horses with a safe haven, rehabilitation and ultimately at chance at adoption.

6. **Date and Time for Next Meeting:** Next meeting to be scheduled for September, date and time to be announced

7. Meeting Adjourned @ 8:18 pm, CST