

DRM Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2026

Location Microsoft teams (Remote)

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm

Present:

President: Christine Steendam

Vice President: Kara Popplestone

Treasurer: Wendy Nagtegaal

Secretary: Natascha Klan

Member at large: Andy Dunlop

Members in attendance:

Kelli Hayhurst

Iris Oleksuk

Chad McFarland

Erin Tyminski

1. Additions to Agenda:

No additions.

2. Approval of minutes from January 6th meeting

Wendy made motion to approve, Kelli seconded. Motion passed

3. Treasurer report

No report. Membership is at 25 members as of now

4. Fundraising report

- a. No current fundraising chair: Still need to approach Janice Lumsden regarding fundraising ideas and committee.
- b. Poker Derby (Travel Fund): Andy Dunlop will organize as she has previously done. Date coincides with Andy's birthday. So will have some extra celebrations.
- c. General club fundraiser ideas: Christine had idea about using her a Brenden's virtual ride fundraising for the "Mongol derby" and splitting the proceeds with DRM for the Manitoba Nationals team(s).

5. Communications

- a. Google account: Up to date. Kelli will add insurance certificate. Christine added a folder named "marketing".
- b. Website
 - i. Refund policy to add to website: Should also add this information to ride events on Facebook and emails and explain as to why we are doing this.
- c. Social media: Kara and Christine have been doing 2 to 3 posts per week to keep engagement/interest high. Kara has also created "spotlights" of board members soon to be followed by members who sent in the info.
- d. Email list: Christine has updated the list with all current members.
- e. Ride Communications
 - i. Update on Ride Manager Checklist: Has been added to our website now and can be found under the heading "administration"

- ii. Update on MHC calendar: Kara has listed all our events.
 - 6. Bylaws
 - a. Volunteer Bond – further discussion to prepare for 2027: Still in agreement that this needs to be done prior September 2026. Mark, Iris and Wendy are on this committee.
 - 7. Policy Statements
 - a. Annual Contribution to Travel fund
 - i. Update on whether the policy statement reflects the decision made at the Sept 2025 meeting: Under the heading “operation policies” under point 1.
 - b. it was added that “DRM will contribute 15% of net profits into the travel fund at the end of each fiscal year. Furthermore, Donations directed to the travel fund will not be included in this calculation.”
 - ii. Policy statement is up-to-date and includes this update.
8. EC Sanctioning
 - a. 2026 sanctioning: Kelli is working through all that is required. Sanctioning forms have been sent in and money paid. Just need to finish paperwork (for the “Birds Hill Boogie” ride event)
 - b. TD update: Janine and Kelli both passed the test. Ride managers are allowed to also be the Technical delegate (TD) during an event in case the need arises and we are short on volunteers to fill these roles.
9. New Business
 - a. Prairie Crocus Sanctioning update – Kara: Low interest from the Facebook poll. Unsure if it is worth pursuing this. Kara will discuss further with Kylee Tonita. Questions to ask would be: would MHC be willing to do the rule drafting based on AERC rules. Could we possibly use the DRM rules as the Prairie Crocus rules? On the positive this could encourage interclub relations. We will aim to sanction all 25 mile rides this year with Prairie Crocus provided we can have the rules finalized.
 - b. 55+ Games Update – Kelli/Christine: On June 9th DRM will put on a 25-mile ride at Bird’s Hill Provincial Park. Ride camp will be in the hunter ring close to bathroom facilities and canteen. Kara will ride manage. We have people to fill most volunteer roles.
 - c. Rider/Participant code of conduct: Kelli to add to our rules to look at Equine Canada’s code of conduct. “The consequence of a case”: All board members to read up on this on-line and discuss at the next meeting or through messenger chat. Chad McFarland to share what he has in this regard from his fencing club.
10. Upcoming rides
 - a. Sanctioning
 - i. AERC: All completed
 - ii. EC: Submitted and paid. Paperwork in progress.
 - b. Registrations
 - i. When to open registrations: At the start of April was decided.
 - c. Facebook Events: All have been created and ride managers can now edit any info

- d. Ride Sponsors: We have one: Steendam builders (Andy organized). Wendy reached out to Greenhawk but got no response yet. Will send letters to Canvasback, feed stores etc... Chad McFarland offered to sponsor a ride through his club "Valour historical European martial arts academy"
- e. Ride fees
 - i. PayPal option for US riders: Wendy to review this. There may be fees to consider on either end (payee and payer)
- f. Nationals: Facebook poll results:
 - i. 160-km Interest: Brenden Nagtegaal, Christine Steendam, Kara Popplestone, Floriane Vermeire (4 riders)
 - ii. 80-km Interest: Brenden Nagtegaal, Christine Steendam, Angie Lavalee, Wendy Carnegie, Annette Fleming, Anthony Page (6 riders)
 - iii. Unsure, but interested: Shannon Yaskiw

Looks like there is enough interest to send teams for 100 and 50 miles.
We will need to form a "selection committee" to make up teams in each distance category.

11. Next Meeting Schedule

April 13, 6:30 pm via Zoom (Kara will set up)

Motion made by Andy to adjourn meeting. Natascha seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm

Minutes prepared by Natascha Klan, DRM secretary