Fiddlehead Farm: Announcement

RE: Withdraw Support of FPSNA

To my fellow North American Fell Pony enthusiasts,

I have made the very tough decision to withdraw my support for The Fell Pony Society of North America (FPSNA), a member fee based 501c3 organization. Going forward, I will continue my support for the official organization, The Fell Pony Society (UK) which maintains Fell pony bloodline records and registry.

Date: December, 2025

My decision to withdraw support for FPSNA was concluded after several months of investigation into the management of FPSNA and discovery of multiple failures to abide by the organization's bylaws, failure to conduct business according to 501c3 standard parliamentary process, lack of transparency with record keeping, and misappropriation of member funds according to bylaws. FPSNA's leadership responses to members who communicated this awareness with concerns was dismissive and insulting.

The many points of concern, along with the timeline of communication to seek remedy in this matter, are too detailed to list in this announcement. I openly welcome anyone concerned to contact me, should they seek more information in order to make their own informed decision regarding starting or continuing membership with FPSNA. I will, however, provide some insight here, that FPSNA has not had a full acting council (board) with stated officer positions according to the bylaws since the beginning of 2017. This, combined with council members (also known as zone reps) not being nominated and elected according to bylaws, has led to a decline in support.

I will include here some data discovery that also weighed in on my decision. Over 75% of new members who joined from 2016-2021 are no longer members. The current chair position (who is elected by council) has been held by the same person for almost 10 years. Eight of the 10 different people involved in council from 2016-2021 are no longer members. There are more NA breeders and significant Fell pony enthusiasts who choose community outside of FPSNA rather than inside it. According to bylaws, funds collected for FPSNA membership are supposed to include FPS membership.

Even though this is a statement of withdraw of support for an organization, it is in no way a withdraw in support for the wider North American Fell Pony community. From the moment my involvement began in 2012, I still and will continue to encourage, support and network with the breeders, trainers, and owners of our beloved Fell pony breed. Again, I welcome any inquiries for more information and/or interest in increasing Fell pony connections in a grassroots way.

With Utmost Sincerity, Kimberly Dunn Fiddlehead Pony Farm hayinabag@yahoo.com