

## Minnesota 4-H Horse Association Minutes—November 17, 2007

**Members Present**—Rae Ann Bartz, Curt Baumgart, Amy Bradshaw, Larry Brugger, Jamie Campbell, Jason Campbell, Gladys Carlson, Randy Dokken, Dan Dolan, Joe Dunlavy, Ann Duran, Cathy Giefer, Alleigh Hemingson, Ruth Hemingson, Penny Hormann, Bobbi Knutson, Caroline Koepp, Renee Kostick, Margaret Lawson, Becky Molitor, Cindy Nelson, Laurie Nelson, Kayla Ross, Leslie Ross, Daryl Sheetz, Emma Skaggs, Felicia Skaggs, Mark Storm, Kathy Taylor, Lynn Watland, Lynette Whittier

**Members Excused**—Allison Campbell, Leslie Christianson, Laurie Dunlavy, Cassandra Giefer, Jordan Giefer, Salli Schultz

**Visitors**—Becca Brown, Dave Brown, Nate Converse, Mary Brugger, Jan Economy, Keri Economy, Brianne Loyer, Christy Loyer, Courtney Malikowski, Kayla Nelson, Megan Nelson, Meg Sax

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Storm. The minutes from the February 10, 2007 meeting were read by Alleigh Hemingson. M/S (Dan D/Randy D) to accept the minutes. Passed.

**Thank You's**—Thank-you's were received from Patricia Prudden, Coach of So St. Louis County, and the Fillmore County Hippology team for their trip to Quarter Horse Congress.

**Miriam Tschida**—she has been diagnosed with cancer. A card was passed around for signatures. There is a benefit for her on December 9 from 4-10 pm at the Centre Pointe Training Stables (Todd Perkins & Judy Jenkins)—5756 Ehler Ave SE, Delano 55328

**Treasurer's Report**—Margaret L reported the account balances. The auditor's report was distributed. Dan D asked about the comment in the report of the lack of segregation of duties & if the recommendations were now being followed. Margaret responded that there were several procedures recommended & steps are being taken with these.

### Standing Committee Reports

**Hippology**—Laurie reported that the contest went well this year. The computer entry system was better.

**Horse Bowl**—Cindy N submitted her resignation and nominated Meg Sax as her replacement. Larry B seconded it. It was noted that Meg has been working with bowls for the last few years and has been approved by the state office. Passed. Nate Converse from Crow Wing County will also be assisting.

The dates are:

March 1	Foley
March 8	Grand Rapids and Redwood Falls
March 15	Hastings and Hutchinson
March 29	Snow Date
April 19	State Contest in Foley

Meg reported on the state bowl meeting. The state office has requested that the horse bowl contest use the Cooperative Curriculum as a reference. This is the material that the Horse Association (MFHA) rejected as reference material. This will be looked into.

Meg also reported that the state bowl committee has changed the national contest rules—at the state contest, the first place team has a choice of national contests, with second place choosing next, etc. When a team is offered a trip, they will have one week to accept or decline.

If a team withdraws/cancels after they have accepted a trip, the State Project Bowl Committee may impose consequences for that team regarding future eligibility for national trips. This is because selection of a national trip has a “domino effect” and it is extremely difficult to fill a trip if a team cancels after acceptance. Qualifying for a national judging contest or catastrophic personal circumstances are the only acceptable reasons for withdrawing/canceling from a national trip after acceptance.. These rules apply only to the bowl contest & to all project areas in that contest.

It was suggested that we re-evaluate the national trip to Denver. We have our choice of the Western or Eastern contests. Denver is getting very expensive.

**National Trips**—Rae Ann B requested a committee be set up to evaluate national contests. We have the option of attending either the Eastern or Western contest. It was suggested that they look at the fees, travel, accommodations, length of time, etc. Committee—Margaret L, Kayla Ross, Amy B, Meg S, Rae Ann B.

Some considerations of current contests:

Denver—(Western National Horse Classic)—registration fees are \$280 per PERSON (coach is \$220), awards breakfast is \$35. Contest in January. Some of the youth in the leadership sessions felt it was not all that beneficial, with only 2 workshops available.

Eastern—Fees are \$160 per TEAM, contest is in November

The Dan Patch winners (leadership) could also take part in the American Youth Horse Council Symposium as an alternative to Denver—Cost is \$75 for members (MFHA can send 10 at \$75 each with a \$100 membership)

**Horse Judging**—Ann reported that there were some issues with tabulation this year, some problems with the computer cards. She will be resigning after 2008 & wants someone to come in as co-chair now. She will be willing to help with the transition.

**Grants**—Margaret reported that there were 11 applications & 6 were approved.

**Horse Training Program**—Gladys & Bobbi reported that there were 62 entries & that the number in Level 6 was about 3 times previous years. They requested that they have the horse ID forms for Step 6 and Level 6 only. These would be received before the show with the records. It was noted that they follow up incomplete records before the show so that the 4-H'er can get them the completed set.

There was a question about the October 1 deadline for ownership for Level 6 horses. This ruling has been in place for years, but some felt that no one knows about it.

There had been a complaint that the training program as written is too restrictive. This might refer to training techniques. Gladys & Bobbi are investigating this.

There was discussion about the inconsistency in judging at the counties in the HTP, that some judges are asking for maneuvers or questions not included in a step. It was decided that they will work on the HTP judging more at the judges' seminar.

HTP quota—it was moved/seconded (Larry/Bobbi K) to increase the quota for the HTP steps 1-5 to:

1 for 1-14 enrolled in the HTP

2 for 15-28 enrolled in the HTP

3 for 29 or more enrolled in the HTP

Passed

Question—does the county PDC have the right to overrule a judge's decision? Only on rules of conducting the show, not on placings, unless they go against the guidelines for each step. It was suggested that the PDC talk to the judge before the show about the county expectations, the need to follow the booklet in regard to questions asked, maneuvers required, etc.

**EXPO**—Curt reported that the income from 2007 was down about \$24,000 from the previous year (which it was noted was exceptionally high). The unloading & reloading of the semi went well. He plans on doing some rearranging of tables, etc to get some more space. Margaret is looking into the possibility of accepting credit cards.

It was m/s (Curt/Larry) to appoint Al Vandenberghe as Expo co-chair. Passed

Dates for 2008—April 25-27. Lots of help is needed.

**Winter Roundup**—emails have been sent out and there will be a mass mailing to 4-H horse members. There was a question about youth who give speeches or demonstrations at roundup—is their entry fee paid for? The answer is that any person giving a speech, workshop, etc is paid for.

**Horseless/Horse Related**—Cathy reported that numbers were up. The rule book will be updated as to quotas (see Materials, rule book revisions)

Win-a-paint Contest—Cathy noted that there were 41 entries.

**Sales & Promotions**—No report

**Library**—Ruth H reported that usage has been growing. There is currently about \$800 in the checking account, which she plans on using for additional videos. The additional books for bowl contests have not been purchased. The MN Horse Council donated money, which was spent on materials.

**Web Page**—Larry reported that there have been changes to the page. Lynn asked about making sure that rule book changes get done. The changes from the February meeting were not made to the rule book on the website.

**Speech & Demonstration Contests**—Felicia reported that numbers were up. She is working on making the judges' score sheets more consistent with national contests. Contestants liked the room used this year in place of using the cattle barn. The signs will be redone for next year.

**Western Heritage**—Becky reported that 14 clinics were held throughout the state and 3 regional contests. Arthur Niemela has resigned as youth co-chair. Becky nominated Courtney Malikowski to replace him. Felicia S seconded it. Motion was passed.

**Horse Show**—Randy thanked everyone who helped at the show. Ruth Hemingson resigned as show secretary. Penny Hormann has agreed to take this position.

Question—concern about the safety in lungeing in the judging arena & coliseum during warm-up, practice time. Mark S stated that they will look at some options—set up certain times for lungeing, find another location, put notices on arenas about lungeing, etc

**Awards & Recognition**—Kathy Taylor read her letter of resignation—with her appreciation for many years of working with the program & the many friends. She also mentioned a concern about the Association in regards to the attitude of some individuals about extension.

It was moved/seconded (Kathy T/Amy B) to appoint Mary Brugger as co-chair. Passed.

The areas covered under this committee are Green Blood Award (given to Renee Lentsch this year), Dan Patch, and Friends of 4-H. There is a person who was supposed to have received the Friends award in a previous year, but did not receive it. It was moved/seconded (Amy T/Kayla R) to purchase a plaque for this person. Passed.

Dan Patch Scholarship—in the past there have been scholarships for the winners. Some have been donated by an individual for a specific winner. Joe Dunlavy will receive his directly from the donor. It was moved/seconded (Amy T/Mary B) that the MFHA sponsor the scholarship in the amount of \$500 for the 2007 recipient. Passed. At the February 2008 meeting there will be a presentation on possible sponsors & a plan for scholarships. One suggestion was the interest from the endowment funds.

Display—the display of the Dan Patch plaque at the coliseum does not include a plaque of explanation of what it is. It was moved/seconded (Amy T/Christy) to provide up to \$100 for this. Passed.

**Judges Certification**—Margaret reported that the dates for 2008 are March 28 (special session at the Cambridge school) and March 29 (clinic, test at the Hi Circle V Ranch). Interviewers and riders are needed.

**Materials**—Rae Ann B reported on the following Rule Book change requests:

1. Jumping Figure 8 (page 27)—change the description to a 1.5 inch diameter PVC pole, ten feet in length. Reason—hard to find 12 foot lengths, need for consistency

It was m/s (Rae Ann B/Meg S) that the pole be 1.5 inches, 80 scheduling (thickness), 10 feet in length. It was m/s (Rae Ann/Felicity) to amend the motion that it be one piece, unspliced, white. Amendment passed. Amended motion passed. (hand count)

2. Boots—to change all references to Western attire to read “Western style boot with hard soles that are smooth on the bottom with heels 2 inches or more in height. Soft rubber, patterned soles, “waffle stompers”, and lace-up boots are prohibited. Reason—safety—people are getting hung up in the stirrups with these boots. There followed much discussion, including the difficulty in enforcing this. Amy moved to specify hard soled boot. No second. Amy moved to require a smooth-soled western boot. No second. No action was taken on the request.

3. Exhibitor Number—It was moved/seconded (RaeAnn/Alleigh) to add the following to the horse show general rules: “If an exhibitor has the wrong exhibitor number on, the exhibitor is disqualified from that class.” Motion passed

4. Horse-Related.—After much discussion, it was moved/seconded (Christy/Rae Ann) to change the wording of page 3, Horse Related Exhibits #4 to: Trips will be given first to the highest ranking horse related exhibitor with a blue award NOT bringing a horse to the state show. Then, if needed to fill the quota, those bringing a horse may also bring their horse related exhibit. Motion passed.

5. Drug Policy—There is a need to reword this section. There had been a complaint at the state show. A grievance was submitted with the fees and testing paid by those submitting the grievance. The horse was quarantined and tested. It was positive for Bute only. Brad Rugg of the state office penalized the family with banning from 4-H competition for one year. Because of the ambiguity of the wording of the rule book, this was rescinded. A committee (Mark S. Rae Ann B, Renee K, and Brad R) has been formed to reword this, including the policy, procedures & fees for the grievance, testing procedures, penalties, etc.

**Budget Committee**—Budget requests need to be to Margaret L by January 1, 2008. The following were appointed to the committee to prepare the budget at Winter Roundup: Margaret Lawson, Dan Dolan, Rae Ann Bartz, Kayla Ross, Emma Skaggs, Joe Dunlavy, Laurie Nelson, Mary Brugger.

## Old Business

**National Contest Results**—Margaret L reported the following:

Fillmore—Judging Contest at Morgan National—Team 4<sup>th</sup> Overall; Individual—Lexie Eberley 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall, Alexandria Peterson 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall, Travis Freiheit 5<sup>th</sup> Overall.

Fillmore—Judging Contest at Morgan National—Team: 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Hand, 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance, 3<sup>rd</sup> Reasons; Individual—Katie Yonts 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall, & 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance, Justin Blumer 6<sup>th</sup> Overall

Kandiyohi/Meeker—Judging Contest at National Arabian—Team 6<sup>th</sup> Overall, 5<sup>th</sup> halter, 6<sup>th</sup> Performance, 6<sup>th</sup> Reasons; Individual—Marie Niles-Melchert 4<sup>th</sup> Overall 9<sup>th</sup> Halter, 3<sup>rd</sup> Performance

E. Ottertail—Judging National Arabian—Team 8<sup>th</sup> Overall, 7<sup>th</sup> Halter, 8<sup>th</sup> Performance, 8<sup>th</sup> Reasons

Hennepin—Demo at Quarter Horse Congress--Kelly Sobczak—did not place

Hennepin—Demo at Quarter Horse Congress—Katie Broeckert—didn't place

Anoka—Speech at Quarter Horse Congress—Alexandra Hemingson—didn't place

So. St. Louis—Hippology at QH—Team 5<sup>th</sup> Overall, 2<sup>nd</sup> judging, 4<sup>th</sup> stations, 5<sup>th</sup> team Problems; Individuals—Shannon Wakefield 9<sup>th</sup> Overall, Katie Amundson 1<sup>st</sup> Judging

Fillmore—Hippology at QH—Team 5<sup>th</sup> Judging, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Problems; Individual—Katie 10<sup>th</sup> Overall & 9<sup>th</sup> Exam, Jacob Gartner 6<sup>th</sup> Judging

Kandiyohi—Judging at QH—Team 5<sup>th</sup> Performance; Individual—Stephanie 1<sup>st</sup> Performance

So. St. Louis—Bowl at QH—Team 10<sup>th</sup>; Individual—Shannon Wakefield 8<sup>th</sup>

Fillmore—Bowl at QH—No report

**Ribbons**—It was moved/seconded (Dan D/Kayla R) to have different colored ribbons for the placings in the horse show classes. There was much discussion including the reasons we are currently using the top 10 all the same color, the confusion that occurs when handing out ribbons when they are different colors, the additional work in setting up (Penny has indicated she would not be willing to continue if we went to different colors.) The motion was defeated.

**Nominating Committee**—Margaret L, Emma S, Kayla R, Joe D, Mark S, Felicia S, Laurie N

**Helmets**—there was a question about requiring Western Heritage volunteers on horseback to wear helmets. Renee K reported that the ruling from the state office is that clinicians & judges that are contracted for the event do not have to wear them, whether they are paid or not, but that volunteers & parents have to.

### **New Business**

**Drill Teams**—Crow Wing County gave a presentation on their plans for a Drill Team Extravaganza next summer. The purpose is to increase interest & provide an additional outlet for counties with teams. It would include smaller classes with 4-6 riders, such as the pinwheel, mirror pairs, the cartwheel, etc. In the afternoon would be a parade of flags and the main drills.

Janet Praska will be preparing guidelines, helps, patterns to be made available to interested counties.

Suggestions were to present this at Winter Roundup, to put out the information on the listserv.

It was suggested that if the state show again has a drill team demonstration, that it be decided how to select the county that does this.

Contact person—Nate Converse, Crow Wing County Program Coordinator at 218-824-1069 or [conv0007@umn.edu](mailto:conv0007@umn.edu).

**Adjournment**—It was moved/seconded (Larry B/Ruth H) to adjourn the meeting. Passed.

Submitted by

Lynn Watland, Secretary  
Alleigh Hemingson, Youth Secretary