

Utah Horse Council Judges and Rules Committee

April 11, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Price, Utah

Clif Goble (Judge at Large), Nephi Noyes (Horse Council President), Kim Byington (President Elect), Kathy Putnam, Eldon Whittle, Wendy Whittle, Pat Evans, Linda Gaz, Kathy Borrett-Capell

Clif—Reining Patterns

Rule Book page 19, pattern 6 –fence is on the wrong side. Be sure to make changes and let counties and judges know. He has fixed his copy and will email the page so we can replace it or, if possible, have Scott fix it on the website so it is correct.

Run in patterns need consideration for the future. It's hard on 4-H horses who are used to running in for speed events. Hard to make a nice beginning for the performance. We need to bring them in under control, then start the pattern. Especially hard on the juniors.

Last year the State Show went well, but we need to cut down the arena to make the pattern smaller to save time in reining. Kids will use all the arena they have. Use barriers to keep the size more efficient.

Discussion of arena conditions in outdoor arenas, changing events, working it deeper.

Clif--Speed Events and the Danish System

We need to keep a balance between judged events and speed. At first kids felt that you had to have a super speed horse to win the all around, now we have that balance.

If an 18 second pole run knocks a pole and gets a 5 second penalty, it is still a 23 second run—still fast, and still probably a blue ribbon. The breaks need to be not so tight that we eliminate the balance of blues, reds, whites.

Nephi—after the first email where this subject was brought up, he researched—unless you have a standard, it's not the Danish System, but what other kids do shouldn't have an effect on scores. It changing the rule doesn't have a positive effect, leave it alone.

Clif—At one time we thought we needed to have that pre-set standard. We didn't know horses could run. If a horse knocks down a pole and everything below is red, it ruins the balance. In judged events, really only three or four are excellent rides, we use the others to fill spots.

Eldon—I agree. If we make rules to govern speed events, it becomes a judged event.

Kathy Putnam—5 second penalty is already a penalty. If that penalty keeps it blue, more power to them.

Nephi—Last five years of State times were within a few tenths

Eldon—At State, it takes care of itself. Counties are small enough that a knocked pole could still win. If a kid knocks a pole and still gets 2nd or 3rd, the proposal was that the

knocked pole was the highest red ribbon—penalized everyone below—knocked pole was the fastest red, everyone else was below—penalizes more kids—double penalty.

Clif—23 seconds is still a fast poles run

Wendy—Judged events sometimes have misses and nobody ever steps up to correct the judge. We just take it and know we got a break.

Clif—We need to keep it positive

Eldon—I think Clif once said, “Let’s find more ways to reward kids, not find more ways to penalize.” Good goal. We are struggling with numbers. Kids say 4-H has too many rules and are going to riding clubs to have fun. We all agree that 4-H learns more about horsemanship—we need the balance to keep it fun and keep them learning. Lots of kids live for the second day when they can let loose and run. Other states say it’s impossible to have one horse do all events.

Clif—I judged Nevada—kids had a different horse for each event. One horse is an equalizer in Utah 4-H.

Eldon—There are lots of avenues for kids with one event.

Clif—That’s where we want them to go.

Nephi—There are lots of mistakes in a pattern that take time—bad turns, etc. 5 second penalty is enough.

Kathy Putnam—Who or what makes the breaks at State?

Clif—When my kids were showing, we used the first show to set times. I used the knock down to set up times, then gave up on it. We used natural breaks—thirds. How do we decide? Is there a set criteria or natural breaks?

Eldon—Thirds, but they can be tweaked

Nephi—Most emails said that speed events should be Danish System—speed is not Danish System.

Clif—Judged horses used to go home after the first day. There’s a better balance now. Basically, keep the system the way it is.

State Judges--For July meeting, come with judge’s names that can judge State. Last year keeping them there for two days was good. Submit names so we can discuss.

Linda—are we going to require that judges be on a certification list?

Clif—We'd prefer that.

Pat—Certification was developed—how do we get 4-H qualified judges? Education.

Clif—we used both lists.

Nephi—for a wreck, get judges that haven't been trained with 4-H.

Pat—We get feedback. People on list are good. List is going to become more helpful. Everyone on list is electronic. Judges can put personal info on website—what they judge, expertise, bio, whether they will accept apprentice, etc. Show managers can evaluate judges and post comments. Everything will go through Pat for review before being posted.

Discussion of pros and cons to moderate “trash” on website comments.

Pat—Next year certification will expand list

Eldon—Go apprentice at a show or steward

Linda—Clif, are you going to do statewide judges clinic?

Clif—We backed away to support certification

Linda—We need them.

Eldon—What are we paying judges? Fuel costs are influencing.

Clif—Altamont and Roosevelt have increase. Emery is at \$150.

Pat—Kathy Copell and I did clinic for parents and leaders “From a Judge's View”.
Limited riders, critique the run, parent education.
Next one is May 8 in Davis County at the Farmington Arena at 5:30.

In reining, a horse coming out of a roll back on straight line gets higher point for correct lead. Wrong lead is average. Needs to pick up lead by the curve. Reins and finger through—needs to be index finger.

Clif—In the rule book we need to take away all the old stuff and go with the changes.

Nephi--Bottom line on Danish System and speed events—unless we have something that is significantly an improvement, keep it the way it is.

Meeting adjourned.

Utah Horse Council Meeting
April 11, 2008, 8:00 p.m.
Price, Utah

Clif Goble—Judge at Large, Nephi Noyes—Horse Council President, Jim Keyes—USU Extension San Juan County, Pat Evans—USU Extension, Jim Jensen—USU Extension Utah County, Shirley Slaugh—Uintah County, Sherri Allen—Uintah County. Kathy Putnam—Rich County, Chris Adams—Rich County, Sheila Erickson—Rich County, Ashley Mortensen—Utah County, Brandy Mortensen—Utah County, Eldon and Wendy Whittle—Emery County, Heather Bosh—Sevier County, Tracy Frost—Uintah County, Alicia Moulton—Wasatch County Peggy Marshall—Uintah, Linda Gaz—Weber, Kathy Barrett-Copell--Weber

Meeting called to order by Nephi Noyes, President.

Pledge of Allegiance

4-H Pledge

No minutes of previous meeting, no budget report

Nephi—Are we ready for State Show? Do you need help?

Vernal People—there are more hotels, but haven't gone down in price. Make reservations early. Any suggestions or problems?

Clif—Everything went well. Use dividers to keep arena smaller for reining to speed thing up. Footing in outdoor arenas was bad.

Vernal people are aware of it and will work on it. They said to tell people that RV has no sewer, just water and electricity.

Pat—We have students available for stewards.

Clif—It goes through Horse council responsibilities.

Nephi—State 2009. Problems finding facilities in Salt Lake County. Nowhere else available.

Jim Jensen—Spanish Fork is next on rotation but there are no motels. Tooele doesn't want it. Let's put it out on bid for 3-5 years. St. George and Salina .

Heather Bosch—Salina wants it. 300 new stalls, motels.

Discussion—average State Show has 300 kids, Two-Hand 100
Three days State in Heber city brought \$200,000 to community

Jim—Find the areas that want it, submit a proposal, Horse Council evaluate

Nephi—Should we let Region that should host bid it out? Is Utah County out?

Jim—Let communities vote. Central Region is next. Salina wants it.

Nephi—Panguitch is still using money from State. The community recognizes the benefits.

Scott Christensen was in Panguitch, now in Salina. He wants to do it.

Discussion of differences in areas to support.

Jim Jensen made a motion to put it up for bids or proposals, must be in by State Contests of the year before. How long for bid? Horse Council should decide by committee. One representative from each district, proposal for three years to host.
Motion seconded.

Eldon made a motion to amend the motion to make Horse Council the committee and to keep it at two years.

Discussion

Pat—Bigger facilities could be enticed by longer time commitments.

Jim—First year is tough, second is easier, by third it's good.

Kathy—It's hard on volunteers

Vernal people agreed.

Discussion on bidding for 2 or 3 years. If the host Region wants it, they get it, if not, bid it out.

Kathy Copell—is horse facility or Horse Council bidding?

Jim—Combination of facility, motel, food, volunteers

Eldon—Can't let facilities get involved. They can't do it without volunteers. It's fun for kids to go to other places; don't want to get too locked in. USU more willing if it's passed around, not just Wasatch Front.

Two years is a nice period. Volunteers are worn out after that.

Agreement that two years is good. Horse Council is the committee.

Horse Council Executive Committee will iron out rotation.

The proposal has to be in by the July meeting to be voted on in September,

Motion as amended, seconded, passed.

Jim—how do we disperse information to counties?

Nephi—Email through Scott to County Agents.

Working Ranch Horse Program—Jim Keyes

Working in San Juan County to retain older boys. Branding, sorting doctoring, has written a training manual to add to **Horses and Horsemanship** and **Horse Science**.

Nephi—Travel Council donated \$10,000 for gathering to be held in October in Garfield County.

Jim Keyes—Good family involvement.

Heather Bosch—Clinic in Salina on Thursday

Nephi—Danish/speed events—problem was to incorporate the system into speed events and to set a standard.

Clif—We are pointing by Danish System; establish the criteria before the show. Even it up for number of ribbons for kids in both judged and speed. Using the Danish System has made that balance.

Question—How are points broken?

Clif—By thirds, natural breaks.

The computer makes the breaks, a person checks.

Nephi—If it's not considerably better than what we are doing, just leave it alone.

Clif—Explain the issue.

Nephi—A knocked over barrel is an imperfect pattern and doesn't deserve a blue. It can't win, nobody gets a blue.

Clif—Establish the criteria—if you can hit a barrel and still run a fast time, why not blue?

Discussion of five second penalty.

Clif—In judged events, first place is the best ride. Judge sets criteria, next places aren't perfect. 18 seconds poles plus 5 is 23 seconds—if it's fastest, it's a blue ribbon run.

Discussion—if it's still the fastest, it should win.

At State there were a couple who did it.

Five seconds is the penalty, don't double it.

Nephi—In speed events, mistakes cost time and are built in penalties.

Linda—If it works, don't change it. It won't affect many kids and takes care of itself.

Eldon—Judged is judged, speed is speed.

Jim—Each county can do what they want.

Clif—New rule books are on-line. One more correction in Reining Pattern 6. Change the fence.

Improper diagram for the verbiage. Clif redrew it. We will repost or send it out. We will get it corrected. Make judges aware.

Question—Can you put full size diagram on website?

Agreement to have Scott do it.

Clif—Run in patterns were hard on horses, especially juniors. Encourage to walk in, then start the rundown. Look at patterns again. Bringing them in one at a time is hard on horses.

Are we ready for new showmanship patterns as long as it's not something they haven't been taught?

Discussion—Good way to learn. Kids need variety, get tired of same patterns.

Clif—Try something at State. Set patterns, teach basics

Pat—Needs to be a 30 second pattern, challenge kids.

Clif—Don't change for juniors. Patterns must be posted one hour before the show.

Linda—It's a thinking game.

Clif—We'll mix it up a little, keep it fast, teach the basics and let them do it.

Eldon—I understand what you are saying, but a good judge can separate out with simple things. Creative is good, but keep it simple. Judges try to trick kids. Class can be separated by trot, back, stop. Don't throw out the simple. Challenge, but don't get carried away. Be creative in meaningful ways.

Pat—Showmanship is limited and simple. Child should show the best pattern. Seniors need to do more.

Nephi—Can you make a list of maneuvers?

It's on page 13 in rule book.

Linda—If you have teams for Horse Bowl or judging, we need at least five Hippology teams or we will lose that contest. Most of National trip is paid for.

Question—Can we mix counties?

Not in Utah. You have to have a full team. You can mix, but they can't win.

Work it out so we have teams. We need to change the rules or clarify.

Nephi—Do we have judges for State Contests? Need to get with Wendy Bennett-Davis.

Pat—Pile it on Scott while he's not here.

Clif—Submit judge's names for State Show.

Meeting adjourned.