

State Horse Rules and Judging Committee

Date: July 10, 2006

Place: Eccles Conference Center, Room 202

Meeting Commenced: 6:05 p.m.

Attendance: Scott McKendrick, Kim Byington, Kari Byington, Kathy Putnam, Connie Neal, Teri Langston, Wendy Whittle, Gary Buttars, Darrell Eddington (scribe)

1. Update on Cliff Goble; he is on oxygen and is doing better, but is having to take it easy.
2. Rule change; (There was a packet handed out to all in attendance that consisted of pages with rules along with proposed wording changes for clarity, as well as changes of some rules themselves)
 - a. Connie Neal proposed to change rules pertaining to Horse Bowl to reflect national rules.
 - b. Statement about age eligibility on each horse contest should read; “must have completed 9th grade and be 14 years of age.” Scott said that grade and age eligibility does exist for all of state contests on the state 4-H website. The age is 14 to 19 including the summer of the year of graduation. Scott said that grade is what has been guiding participation, but age should also be included.
 - c. Verbage changes- Make changes as per National, then vote as a committee. Gary proposed, by recommendation of Kari, that Connie get input from other members. Scott suggests that these changes be prepared for a vote at the next meeting.
 - d. Wendy strongly encourages that we stick with the books and information sources that is available to all counties. Again keep the same procedures as those of National, but change the references to reflect what is available in all counties. There is a concern about financial burden for the purchase of books for each county when participation of youth in the various horse contests is down.
 - e. Concern has been expressed that this year’s participation in Horse Bowl, 13-15 teams last year to 6 this year, horse judging only had 4 teams, but Hippology increased slightly. Scott expressed that we are experiencing a down turn in participation for unknown reasons. Box Elder seniors were not available, and cache County didn’t have any participation. Thoughts of other activities, i.e. camps, jobs, etc. maybe the cause in decrease, not because of having to acquire additional texts and materials. Most counties have purchased the “Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms”.
 - f. For Horse Bowl, change rule about turn-over question. i.e. if one team does not answer correctly, then the question is dead and the moderator may give the correct answer.
 - g. There was discussion about the youth being limited to participate in Horse Bowl and Hippology in the same year. Issue was raised about the youth getting an unfair advantage by hearing the same question in two different events. Connie related a story about some youth who went to Nationals in Horse Bowl, but wanted to do hippology. But now there are two distinct groups of kids doing the bowl or hippology. Scott responded that there were quotas, i.e. the number of kids per counties removed, but not allow the same youth to participate in all events such as horse bowl and hippology in the same year. The intent was to enhance

hippology as a stand alone club and not to duplicate an already existing program. Pam Haskins was referred to as the one who may remember what the original agreement was with the State staff. The understanding was to bring in more kids to be exposed to State Contests and not to have the same kids do everything. The question was brought up as to “why are the kids allowed to do horse bowl and horse judging?” The response was; “because there is no overlap of the two events”. A proposed idea was to allow the youth who participate as a contestant in Horse Bowl may be involved with hippology as a participant. Another question was posed as “if the youth are allowed to only participate and not compete, then why would the kids be interested in hippology?” The given response was get the youth introduced to the event so that they may come back and prepare for next year as a contestant in hippology.

- h. Kari spoke in behalf of Cliff Goble regarding the names of members on the Judging and Rules Committee be put on the Internet for people statewide to call with various questions. Scott offered to get the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of those on the J&R committee on the website. Being that he is laid up, it may not always be convenient to get a hold of him. Gary suggested that there be an assistant judge-at-large to assist Cliff. Cliff has also asked that members who are knowledgeable about judging, preferably three men and three women be involved with the grievance committee for the State Horse Show. Cliff expressed his appreciation for getting the reining patterns on the website.
- i. (Doors were closed and tape turned off while there was discussion about proposed judges for the State Horse Show).
- j. Due to scheduled time, 7:00 p.m., for the General Horse Council meeting, this meeting was in recess until 8:08 p.m.
- k. General Rule #3 (page 3)- issue is that there was no mention of what the suggested penalty be for someone, other than the participant, riding the project horse during the time of a horse show. Also the rule reads that there can be no riding of a project horse on SHOW GROUNDS, when the intent was HORSE SHOW. The reasoning for the clarification was for 1. safety and liability and 2. to maintain a even and fair contest by not having someone other than the participant mellowing out the horse or tuning it up for enhanced performance. The final decision was for the participant in violation to be disqualified from the show.
- l. General Rule #12 (page 4)- review of equipment failure was conducted with the decision that no changes be made.
- m. Garry read a letter by a parent who had some questions about the timing of State Horse Show and why can't exhibitors show more than one horse in a show? i.e. one for pleasure, the other for speed events. Discussion concluded that the timing is the best we can do because of High School rodeo, jobs, college, etc. As for the number of horses in a show, it was regarded that to maintain a fairly even playing ground for competition it was deemed best to maintain only one project horse per participant. Financially it is not feasible for a lot of families to do. Also this is what makes 4-H different from breed shows. It was suggested that a person from the “ground level”, be it another parent, or leader respond to this letter rather than from someone from the State office or State Council so that there is no inadvertent appearance of having a “talk down” explanation from “on High”.

- n. Discussion occurred regarding the nature of the Judges & Rules Committee meeting not be opened to the public.
- o. A suggestion had been made to adjust or change entirely when the J&R Committee, as well as the General Horse Council meeting be changed so as not to conflict with County Night Out. 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. has been a suggested time.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30 p.m.