

Northwest Pony Club Region
July 9, 2023
Council meeting conducted via zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Julie Mowbray, RS

Clubs Present: Baywood (Rachel Akins), Carbon River (Shannon Seldal), Chehalis Valley (Alishia Hornburg), Emerald Hills (Angela Filer), Equitese (Emmeline Hopkins), Misty Mountain (Joana Figueiredo), Mount Peak (Nancy Katzer), French Creek (Sheryl Bracken), Rainy Riders (Jennifer Brenes), Sunset Valley (Donna Mitchell), Warm Beach Horsemanship (Lisa Tremain), Whidbey Island (Sonja Ringsrud), Woodbrook Hunt (Ellen Leckrone), Ranahan (Anna Swanburg) Skagit Valley (Bianca Jackson), Narrows (Abby Welch), Maplewood (Krista Winslow), Jennifer Sweet, Julie Mowbray, Sarah Doyle

20 Clubs and Leaders Present, Quorum Present.

Review & Vote on Minutes: **Joana Figueiredo moved to approve the minutes as written for Regional meeting dated November 5, 2022. The motion was seconded by Sheryl Bracken. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.**

RS Report: Club Officer requirements; We are still having the issue with Club officers not completing what is required and they are being removed from Pony Club. Sometimes the warning emails from the National Office go to junk mail or they miss the email so it is important as DCs to go in and check officer's status. You might need to help them figure out how to accomplish the requirements- seems that all age dynamics are having trouble. We are hoping to have a SafeSport session during HM camp to help get people signed-up.

Remember that new members need to submit regional and club dues. They cannot participate in regional activities if not up to date on dues. They are not a "Member in Good Standing"

Julie shared the administrative calendar on the national website. July activities for DCs could include recruiting new members for a pro-rated start in September. August- clubs need to put a nominating committee in place to be voted on by sponsors. Annual meeting notice should be send out 30 days prior to the meeting. All transactions and bank reconciliations should be current in CFRS.

Clubs will be voting on new leadership in October annual meetings. Term of office for current officers does not end until December 31st.

We will be checking in on Club Financial entries to see if they are current. Please have your Treasurer update the CFRS.

Treasurers Report: \$56,181.41 in the bank. Dues are \$45 per year for 2023, vote on increase at dues at annual regional council meeting but likely these dues will be staying the same. If a member joins September 1st through the next year, they'd pay pro-rated dues of \$56. Regional dues are due as soon as a member joins. Collect those dues right away before they start participating. Renewal of regional dues for existing members are due January 1st and if you have a new member join during the year, send a check with dues to Jennifer as soon as they start.

Currently 6 clubs that have not yet paid their 2023 dues. Please send those in! The Region bases the budget on what we anticipate in regional dues. If a member joins and drops out, their dues are not refundable.

RIC Report: Laura provided a presentation where she discussed 2023 activities, changes in certification 'titles', common certification progression questions and reflected on last year. The region did a bandaging and lunging clinic at HM Camp but there is a request from the southern part of the region to host an event in that area so she is currently looking for a facility for an October clinic. Please let her know if you have a potential facility. She updated the Standards and Certifications attendee list- this is now available to DCs. There is no longer 3 ways to say "HA"- it is now just HA. The C+ designation has been eliminated and now members say they are a C2 who has passed the riding portion of their C3 Certification. Laura provided a diagram to show how members can move between different tracks (For instance, members can no longer climb the flat Eventing track now that there is the addition of the dressage track). C2 Eventing riders CAN enter any track, otherwise, a D3 Eventing rider would have to take a D3 Dressage test to move to the dressage track. The online system does have the ability to tell you if a member is eligible to take a test.

Reflection: Standards and Certs at HM camp went really well but the Club instructors were not all present so Laura is putting together a short zoom offering for instructors. She will be looking for a new set of National Examiners for 2024 so that members can experience a diverse range of examiners. The region is considering a new format for Upper Level Prep which would include an 'adult camp'. She is creating an HB level regional unmounted lessons via zoom. She also was wondering if there is interest in a Regional C Level certification. If the region doesn't have enough National Level Candidates to hole a testing, this could be an option.

VRS, Upper Level Testing: The HB and HA this year will take place on July 29-30. Erika Martinson and Narrows PC collected the multitude of materials needed for testing. Thank you! The test is being held at Freedom Run farm. Donna Mitchell asked if you can audit an HB/HA. Laura said examiners say you can audit an HB but you need to request the organizer to audit. Auditing is encouraged. HA is different than the HB as you need to be able to bring life experience to table and some examiners don't want auditors that close to the candidates, but we can ask if they will allow auditors. Please let Angela know if you have a member who would like to audit the test.

VRS, Report Rallies/Championships: Show Jump rally is limited to 20 teams. Sign-up will be on the NW Region calendar. Last spring's PYOR was enjoyed by members and we will do it again next spring. Champs West was cancelled due to low participation.

An email will be sent out to DC's when the show jump sign-up goes up on the NW Region website.

HMO Report: Working on getting a chief for Show Jump Rally in Monroe. Alishia reminded DCs at all rallies, that the final packet of HM forms is handed to someone in the club at the end of the rally. That information is valuable for you as a DC to recognize potential weakness in the Club's programing. As DCs, you want that information to help you assess where your club members need help. If you would like Alishia to do a zoom HM prep for a rally for your club, please reach out to her. She is happy to help clubs prepare for HM curriculum or prepare for rallies.

Election of NW Regional Nominating Committee: The committee as selected: Rachel Akins (Baywood), Anna Swanberg (Ranahan), Sonja Ringsrud (WI PC). **A motion was made by Donna Mitchel to accept the slate as presented. Motion was seconded by Sheryl Bracken. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.**

Old Business: Clubs need to make sure that adult members have all their requirements. They should not be participating in lessons or club activities if those are not done.

New Business:

We are looking for presenters for HM Camp. Send those to Alishia. Looking for clubs to help with segments of HM Camp (i.e. SafeSport Training).

We are looking for NYC delegates. Julie will send out the application information. Members must be 18-23 years old and have an HB or above.

Donna Mitchell's club is looking for a bookkeeper/treasurer- they are willing to hire a bookkeeper. Julie Mowbray said she would be willing to do that task if no one can be found. A club treasurer has to be a sponsor. A sponsor must present reports at sponsor's meeting even if you have a hired a bookkeeper.

Donna Mitchell moved to Adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM. Motion seconded by Joana Figueiredo. All in favor, none opposed. Meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Doyle, NW Region Secretary