

Minutes: WPaPHA Rules Meeting

October 20, 2014

The meeting of the Western Pennsylvania PHA board and general membership was called to order at 7:00 PM on October 20, 2014 by Chairman, Charlene Michael, at Atria's Restaurant in Fox Chapel.

In attendance:

- Board: Charlene Michael, John Hamm, Gretchen Zavarella, Mary Gamble
- Staff: Pat Sanders, Laurie Davis, Barbara Halpern, Rochell Heininger
- Members: Annette Danehy, Emily Wilson, Kristi Fillipiak Airgood, Dana Friday, Anne Friday, Mandy Bittner Vergerio, Cindy McCullough, Meghan Sullivan, Olivia DeCesar, Sasha Shapiro, Carly Sullivan
- Associates: Dyann Duffy Herrmann, Sue Sullivan, Arlene Hamm

The following rules were voted on:

- Three entries in a class will be required for the WPaPHA to count placings for points. **Yea**
- Combine the Adult and Children Jumper division. **Yea**
- Combine the Low Children and Adult Jumper division. **Yea**
- Eliminate the Intermediate Adult and Children division. **Yea/Nay**
 - This decision was revisited at the end of the rules and overturned to a **Nay**
- Add an OTTB division. **Yea**
 - Offered at 2'6" and 3'; however a horse can only accrue points at one fence height for the year. If a horse shows in both fence heights at the same show, the points for the 3' height will count.
- Eliminate the Low Amateur division. **Yea**
- The specs for the Low Children and Adult Jumpers set for 3' to 3'3". **Yea**
- The specs for the Children and Adult Jumpers set for 3'6". **Yea**
- Equitation divisions add "etc." to the descriptions for class inclusion. **Nay**
- Shows must submit results in either USEF or Orgpro format to be eligible for sanctioning with the WPaPHA. **Yea**
- If a show offers an equitation division that awards a champion and reserve, they will be counted towards year end awards. **Yea**
 - A division will be defined as a minimum of 3 classes consisting of at least 2 over fences classes and a flat class.
- Eliminate the Lead Line division. **Yea**
- Combine Adult Amateur age divisions. **Yea**
- Combine the Breeding divisions into one year end division. **Yea**
- Combine the Green Confirmation, First Year and Second Year Green divisions. **Yea**
- Change Working Hunter division to read High Performance Hunters set at 4'. **Yea**
- Add a Performance Hunter division set at 3'3" – 3'6". **Yea**

- For a year end prize to be awarded, 3 members must have accrued points throughout the competition year or a single member must have accrued points at 3 separate sanctioned shows. **Yea**
- USEF “AA” rated shows receive 5x points. **Yea**

The treasurers’ report was presented by John Hamm:

- The organization is financially sound and in line with previous years’ expenses vs income.
- National dues are increasing and will therefore increase dues for 2015 for both professionals and general membership.
- The organization will focus on getting corporate sponsors for horse show prizes to minimize horse show expenses for 2015.
- The organization will focus on obtaining a corporate sponsor or organization to sponsor the horse show exhibitors’ party.

The chairman called for election of officers for 2015:

The secretary distributed proposed responsibilities and compensation for board and staff members for 2015.

- Modifications need to be further made to document for compensation and responsibilities and will be revisited and revised by the 2015 board.

The following individuals were elected into positions for 2015:

- Gretchen Zavarella was nominated for chairman; she accepted the nomination and was voted in uncontested.
- Meghan Sullivan and Mary Gamble were nominated for vice chairman, both accepted nominations and were voted in as “co” vice chairman as the vote was split.
- John Hamm was nominated to remain as the treasurer; he accepted the nomination and was voted in uncontested.
- Kristi Fillipiak Airgood and Charlene Michael were nominated for secretary, both accepted nominations and were voted in as “co” secretaries as the vote was split.
- Rochell Heininger was nominated as the technology officer; she accepted the nomination and was voted in uncontested.
- Mandy Bittner Vergerio was nominated as the sponsorship committee chair; she accepted the nomination and was voted in uncontested.
- Laurie Davis was nominated to remain as the point’s secretary; she accepted the nomination and was voted in uncontested.

Additional committees will be added for 2015:

- Volunteers and sponsors will be needed for hospitality and educational committees

Additional business discussed:

- The show secretary responsibilities will be absorbed by the board secretary for 2015.
- Yearend prizes will be combined for horses or riders winning multiple divisions to conserve funds
 - 29 Champions and 25 Reserve champion prizes will be awarded
- The Junior PHA held their own rules meeting in September:
 - They voted Carly Sullivan as their Junior representative for 2015
 - They voted their meetings will be the third Monday of every month, unless they are having an event or outing in lieu of that month's meeting
 - They voted Chapter Three Farms (326 Jones Rd, Cabot Pa) as their home farm for 2015 and will attend events at other farms or locations as invited or planned.
 - Olivia DeCaesar is going to run a parallel Junior PHA chapter in the southern area of our region.
- Horse on Course owner, Dyann Duffy Herrmann, stated that the footing at her facility in her outdoor arena is under repair for the 2015 show season. She will update the organization as construction progresses.
- Mary Gamble presented the WPaPHA Charter for review to the board and general membership.

Topics tabled for later meetings:

- Deciding whether to have the WPaPHA horse show in 2015 and if so, selecting a location.
- Amendments and additions to the chapter charter

The next meeting location, date and time will be announced.