

## Regional Club Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2006

Gary Connolly, Chair of the Regional Club Advisory Committee called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, Thursday January 5, 2006. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Gary Connolly–Chair	Dennis Placzek-Territory III-Zone A
Eric Beene’–ApHC Vice President	Jennifer Holtgrew-Territory III-Zone B
Norb Hansen- ApHC Director	Rachel Marx-Territory III-Zone C
Chuck McWhirter – ApHC Director	Lora Marshall-Territory IV-Zone A
Laura Lyon–ApHC Director	Charlie Hall-Territory IV-Zone B
Lori Larsen-Territory I-Zone A	Gail Phillips-Territory V-Zone A
Marjorie Keck-Territory IV-Zone C	Kay Bures for Mike Roberson Territory V-Zone B
Floyd Vickery-Territory VI-Zone A	Tracy Meisenbach-Territory V-Zone C
Lori Wunderlich-Territory VI-Zone C	Carla Straus-Territory VI-Zone B
Doug Nickel-Territory I-Zone C	Keri LeForce – ApHC CEO
Leslie Foxvog-Territory II-Zone A	Merida McClanahan-Regional Club Coordinator
Diana Olson-Territory II-Zone B	
Anne DeGraff-Territory II- Zone C	

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Regional Club Advisory Committee Members not in attendance:

Frank Larrabee – ApHC President  
Eddie Buchanan-ApHC Director  
Dawn Hill-Territory I-Zone B

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### Old Business

#### **Multi Judge Zone Show Permit Proposal** (no motion made or seconded, no vote)

The following proposal as written by Rachel Marx

The Regional Club Advisory Committee recommends that one “Zone Permit” be issued to any zone meeting four (4) of the following seven (7) criteria:

1. Ten (10) or less regional shows held throughout the entire zone in the previous calendar year.
2. 2,000 or less entries at throughout the entire zone in the previous calendar year.
3. 50 or less members throughout the zone per regional club.
4. A zone where Regional Clubs are already cooperating to host a show.
5. A zone where total entries at 3 or more shows have been less than 100 per judge.

6. The application must exhibit resources to support hosting a show of this size.
7. A zone that has had shows cancelled do to insufficient entries to host an approved show.

In addition to the above criteria consideration should be given to the zones who are exhibiting critical signs of downward trends/exhibitor participation.

To obtain the "Zone Permit" for any of the above listed zones a minimum of 3 Regional Clubs in good standing with the Appaloosa Horse Club and chartered within the hosting zone must agree to Co-Sponsor a "Zone Show". Any Regional Club in good standing with the Appaloosa Horse Club and chartered within the hosting zone will be eligible to Co-Point a "Zone Show". A "Zone Show" will be eligible for approval of eight (8) Judges. The "Zone Show" must be held over three (3) or more days with no more than 4 judges actively judging at the same time. The "Zone Show" must be at least 300 air miles from another approved show and may not be held on the same days as any other show within the hosting zone. Approval fees will stand as published per judge, which is currently \$50 per judge. Applications for the "Zone Show" must be postmarked no later than December 20<sup>th</sup> of the year prior to the show and the Appaloosa Horse Club Show Department will base approval on the best-submitted applications. Minimum class requirements will remain the same as any other show. The first year to host a "Zone Show" will be 2007.

**Purpose:**

- The purpose of this motion is to stimulate growth and exhibition of the Appaloosa throughout some of the zones that are demonstrating low growth rates.
- In addition, this should help the economic feasibility for regional clubs by working together and not absorbing the financial strains of being the sole host of a regional show.
- Furthermore exhibitors seeking World qualification or Year End Award recognition are realizing a large economic impact by decreasing show attendance in approved zones.
- Additionally members seeing increases in exhibitor numbers should be encouraged to re-enter the arena.

Committee Discussion:

Rachel Marx amended the sentence Approval fees will stand as published per judge, which is currently \$50, to read " Approval fees will stand as published \$50 per judge.

Item # 3 under criteria is changed to read 50 or less members throughout the zone per regional club.

Keri LeForce pointed out that there was some corruption in the data that the ApHC provided for this proposal. Keri will be reviewing data and new revised data compiled and sent to Rachel Marx.

Committee members discussed Item # 1 and general consensus was to re-evaluate the number of shows per zone based on new data to be provided from the ApHC office.

Item # 2 & item # 5 will also be re-evaluated based on the new data to be provided by the ApHC office. Determination will need to be made if these items will be revised to be total number of horses instead of total number of entries. Discussion concluded that number of entries does not accurately portray the number of horses in attendance at the show.

Committee agreed unanimously that the “Multi Judge Zone Permit” needs to be limited to one show per year per zone.

**¼ Point Proposal**(no motion made or seconded, no vote)

The following proposal as written by Tracy Meisenbach

#### **¼ point qualifying rule change**

This is the rule that we have in effect now.

#### **701. SHOW PLACINGS**

A. All nationally pointed open classes shall count towards national point system based awards. Points shall be earned according to the number of horses shown and judged in a class as follows.

Number of horses	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
2		1/2					
3-7		1	1/2				
8-12		2	1	1/2			
13-17	3	2	1	1/2			
18-22	4	3	2	1	1/2		
23-27	5	4	3	2	1	1/2	
28 and over	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2

B. Actual participants judged shall be counted as the number of horses in a class, rather than horses entered. Scratches do not count for total number of horses when points are determined. In most cases, disqualified entries are considered judged.

C. Judges must place the top eight entries in each class except in classes of fewer than eight entries or in instances of lack of merit. No class is complete until all ties through point-earning placings are broken. If a tied contestant is disqualified in the run-off, (s)he is not to be placed any lower than the lowest position for which (s)he was tied.

Contestants

disqualified during the first run are not considered to be tied for a place even if there were fewer than eight entries in the class.

The problem with the current rule is that it awards points based on the number of horses in a class, but gives no value to someone who shows and makes the effort to attend

the show. Consequently many people who are starting out and know they are not at top levels simply don't make the effort to attend breed shows since they know they will never get points by placing third or lower (in the average size class which is pretty small right now.) The new 1/2 point qualifying rule for Non-Pros was a big issue because in some events, and some areas, getting even 1/2 a point is going to be a hardship. With the rising cost of equine related expenses and the poor economy showing has become a real hardship for some members.

One way to encourage attendance and reward people for high entry fees and the National Point Fee is to give them a 1/4 point merit for just being in the class. I propose a 1/4 point merit be awarded within the next four placings AFTER the final 1/2 point placing. This would allow a person to be rewarded for attendance, to gather points in low participation events and to qualify as a non-pro based on effort, not placings. It will NOT allow someone to qualify for big open halter or WP classes 1/4 point at a time unless they spend a boatload of money. Even at a 4 judge show the most you could walk away with is 1 point, after spending a hefty wad of money. It would take 6 four judge shows, placing within the top twelve, to get the 6 points necessary to qualify for aged stallions at halter. Objectively, that person has then spent a major amount of money supporting regional clubs to qualify a 1/4 point at a time. I say if someone wants to spend a couple of thousand, trying that method, then more power to them, more money for the regional clubs and I wish them luck. Should someone actually reach a world qualifying number of points a 1/4 point at a time and wants to spend the money to go to the Worlds then we need to smile, take their check and admire their fortitude. I really think this type of point system would be easy to implement and would work especially well in the new single judge show system, because it encourages participation at all levels.

# of horses	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
1	1/4											
2	1/2	1/4										
3-7	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4						
8-12	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4					
13-17	3	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4				
18-22	4	3	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4			
23-27	5	4	3	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4		
28 +	6	5	4	3	2	1	1/2	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4	

This type of merit system would keep points within the top 12, which is still in the upper half of our largest class participation listed. Another thing it would do is encourage participation in the early season shows because green horses and foals are not going to be penalized for a bit of off behavior as long as they show in the class. They can gain 1/4 points and then by the time the summer and fall shows arrive they will be on their way to being qualified, without having to do a mad trailer race in August and September.

ROM and Medallions: In order to retain the merit and distinction for the ROM and Medallion programs a horse must earn at least 3/4 of the points in active competition in

order to qualify for the award. Active competition is defined as earning ½ points and above.

Committee discussion was primarily on the topic of programming changes that would be required for the ApHC system. Keri LeForce advised that initial review of this programming effort would take 3 programmers approximately 6 months to complete. This would be 6 months that the ApHC IT staff would not be working on any other priority projects. This type of effort requires approval and prioritizing from the ApHC Board of Directors. The committee requested a feasibility study to include budget for this effort before voting on this proposal. Keri will put together this information and it will be provided to the committee prior to the next scheduled meeting.

Chuck McWhirter (ApHC Director and Judge) expressed concerns that have been forwarded to him by ApHC Approved Judges. He explained that a number of judges have expressed dissatisfaction with a ¼ point system because:

- 1) they do not believe in giving points to horse for showing up
- 2) it would lessen the points awarded to quality horses
- 3) ¼ point system would not be necessary if the clubs could create more interest and involvement
- 4) points would be awarded to horses that are undeserving

Other discussion was centered on how to increase entries in classes where there are usually only one entrant and the impact a ¼ point system would have on ROM's and Medallions. A number of committee members felt that this type of a point system would encourage entries at regional shows and would help create an avenue for non-pro's to qualify for the World Show.

## **New Business**

### **National Point for Regional Show – Don Malone**

This agenda items was skipped

### **Regional Horse Fairs – Gary Connolly**

Gary requested that all committee members forward names, dates, locations of horse fairs in their areas to Merida. The ApHC will be posting a fair calendar on the ApHC website. This information will also be used by the ApHC to help determine future plans for promotional materials that could be offered to regional clubs attending these events.

### **Regional Club Newsletter – Merida McClanahan**

The first issue of the regional club newsletter went out the first week of December 2005. The next issue will be out by the first or second week in February 2006.

Additionally, Merida and Keri requested that the committee members and the regional clubs forward ideas for articles and suggestions for promoting clubs and events to Merida for publication in the regional club newsletter.

### **ApHC Horse Show Management Guidelines – Merida McClanahan**

The book is currently being compiled and will be going through internal quality control and review. Initial draft to be submitted to the ApHC directors, Show Committee and Regional Club Advisory Committee is anticipated by the end of January.

### **Regional Club Membership Rosters – Merida McClanahan**

Regional Club Membership Rosters are now available via email. Requests must be submitted in writing by standard mail, fax or email and online at <http://www.appaloosa.com/regionalclubs.shtm> by a current officer of the regional club. The membership roster will be returned to the officer who made the request via email in a spreadsheet format. An officer of that club can submit updates to the regional club membership roster, officers, club contact information, etc to the ApHC c/o Merida via email in any digital format.

### **Other Items**

Committee members should try to attend as many **Regional Club Banquets** and meetings as possible and encourage their ApHC Director to attend as well.

**Regional Club Annual Reports** are due to the ApHC Office c/o Merida by February 15, 2006. The report was included in the December issue of the Regional Club Newsletter and is available online at <http://www.appaloosa.com/pdfs/RCReport.pdf>. **Failure to return this report by "February 15, 2006 shall result in a \$50 fine. Failure to comply by September 10, 2006 may result in loss of charter after notice and hearing."**

### **Next Meeting**

Monday February 6, 2006 at 4:00 pm Pacific Standard Time.