**Minutes from HPTR meeting 12-19-20**

Meeting was called to order at 1:08pm per Amanda Meier.

Those in attendance were as follows:

Amanda Meier Mary Baujan Wendy Dunn Rich Dunn

Wendy Dunn Brittany McGillivray Ali McGillivray Cameron Anderson

Jennifer Roden Mandy McCormick

Correspondence was reported per Brittany McGillivray and Amanda Meier. We received a thank you letter from the Byers school for the holiday break meals and holiday meals we provided for families in Byers over this Christmas break. We also received our renewal notice for our insurance for 2021. The paperwork for our insurance was filled out and returned and we are awaiting a quote from Equipride at this time.

We installed the members of the Board for HPTR for the 2021 season and they are as follows:

President – Amanda Meier Vice President – Cameron Anderson

Treasurer – Mary Baujan Secretary – Brittany McGillivray

Western Chair – Jennifer Roden English Chair – Mandy McCormick

Gymkhana Chair – Amanda Meier Board – Wendy Dunn

Board – Kent Roberts

Brittany M moved that we accept the installation of these members into these positions as the 2021 HPTR Board. Wendy Dunn seconded the motion and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

Next, we discussed splitting the adult age group into two age groups to allow for an older adult class as well as a younger adult class. Following discussion, it was decided that at this time we just do not have the member numbers to adequately fill out two separate classes for the adults if we separate them. However, it is something that will be revisited year to year if we have adequate growth and participation.

We discussed changing the age groups but decided that at this time there were no changes that needed to occur.

It was discussed to possibly change the walk/trot group to a novice/green horse class instead. After some back and forth about the pros and cons of each it was decided to leave this the same at this time and revisit this as needed going forward in years to come.

The lead-line class for gymkhana will be enforced as a separate class from the peewee class going forward and will have its own class listing on the show bill moving forward and they will be placed within the other lead-line contestants separate from the peewee division. Lead-line is clarified as any time that any participant has assistance that crosses the timer line during the course of the rider’s run.

Riders must be entered 15 mins prior to the beginning of their discipline’s classes. This will allow for the office to begin each discipline without having to wait for late entries before getting the gate sheet to the gate person and the announcer.

Office fees will be waived for those participants that pre-enter for the shows. Pre-entries can be emailed to the club email in the days leading up to the show. We are trying to encourage and incentivize people as much as possible to pre-enter for the shows. Entry fees can be paid on Paypal or in person when the riders check in for the day. If for some reason the rider is unable to attend the show that day, then the entry can be rolled over to the next show.

There was an exceptionally long and in-depth discussion about weighted points, how this impacts overall points, and how to manage English regarding lack of participation. Everyone present was able to have input and voice their opinions on the matters and then have any options presented discussed. We discussed completely separating “show” classes from “gymkhana” classes and doing away with all-around. It was discussed that we require “all-around” to participate in all 3 disciplines. After a lengthy discussion, the options that were most agreed upon were to either leave everything as it was last year, or completely remove English classes. Middle ground was found by keeping English Pleasure and English Equitation but separating them out of the overall. There will be a daily High Point for English, but it will not go towards the all-around and will not accrue towards the end of the year point totals. We will be combining the walk/trot classes for Western and English in both the pleasure and the pattern class and these will also not accrue points towards the end of the year. At this point Mary Baujan moved to keep points weighted related to the number of riders in a class, reduce the English classes to Pleasure and Equitation, separate English points out of all-around and end-of-year totals, combine the walk/trot classes for Western and English, and to change our all-around to only include the points from the Western and Gymkhana classes with the previous requirements of participating in at least 3 of each discipline to remain the same. Wendy D seconded the motion and the motion passed with unanimous approval. This does not represent the full discussion in its entirety but is a very brief synapsis of some of the key points discussed. Just this aspect about points and such was debated for nearly an hour, so there was a lot of thought and consideration put into this decision.

We will not be removing the Trail class. Ranch Riding and Reining will stay as they are but the patterns will have some adjustments.

Brittany M moved that ties breakers from now on will be based on who has the most 1st placings, followed by 2nd-6th as needed until the tie is broken. If the tie remains, then it will be broken down into averages with non-placing or a disqualification being assigned a numerical value. Mary seconded the motion and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

It was decided to increase the fees for non-members to $11 per class and to keep member fees to $7 to encourage more memberships early in the year. Brittany M made the motion and Jennifer Roden seconded; the motion passed with unanimous approval.

Discussion was presented to change the number of volunteer hours required of those members that are having to accumulate hours for multiple people as is typical in a family membership. Following the discussion Mary B moved that we change our volunteer hour requirements to be 16 hours total for the individual membership and 30 hours total for the family membership. Wendy seconded and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

Point accrual related to membership status was discussed next as there was confusion at the beginning of the year related to this topic among the Board members. Mary moved that points will only count toward end of the year totals if the membership is paid in full at the beginning of the show. The exception to this is the first HPTR show of the year, at which memberships can be paid up through the end of the day of the show. Wendy seconded and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

It was noted that we had some riders, across a variety of the disciplines, that were signing up in a way that had them “competing against themselves.” Mary B moved that no horse/rider team may run in the same class twice. Jennifer R seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous approval. This will be added to the rule book in the appropriate places for each discipline.

We will be adding more clarification to the rule book in any area necessary regarding being disqualified for breaking the timer line barrier when it is not an intentional starting or completing the pattern in any timed event. This is to include being disqualified for breaking the timer line when preparing to begin your run or while circling. Disqualification will also happen when the rider breaks the timer line AFTER completion of the run while attempting to stop their horse. Should the rider cross the timer line during the running of their pattern, that is not intended to complete their pattern, then that will result in a disqualification.

We added to the Gymkhana section of the rule book, a section that applies additionally to safety. Mary B moved to have added, the Gymkhana Chair or HPTR Board members have the discretion to dismiss a horse from any class at any time due to being uncontrollable, dangerous, or a safety concern to themselves or others. This dismissal may be for the class or the day on a case-by-case basis. Jennifer seconded and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

Brittany M moved to approve the 2021 calendar of events at this time for show dates and barrel races. Wendy D seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous approval.

Brittany M moved to approve paying the arena fees for Elbert County related to the shows, barrel races, and deposit. Wendy D seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous approval. $518 in arena fees for shows, $370 in arena fees for barrels, $290 in tractor grooming fees.

Patterns for English and Western will be sent to members of the board for proofing and approval.

Brittany M brought up the idea of sponsoring the Elbert County royalty through their fundraiser Gymkhana at Messer. She will investigate what this would require from our insurance. Brittany M moved that HPTR sponsor the Elbert County royalty fundraiser event and add the event to our insurance after talking with the insurance company. Mary B seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous approval. Brittany M will look into this with our insurance and contact the rest of the Board with any further information.

Money for Mandy McCormick’s scholarship will be paid out as soon as Mandy can get Mary B the needed information. The money to Allegiance Ranch from the Veteran’s Fundraiser will be paid as well after we get ahold of them and make arrangements to get that check to them.

Brittany M moved that we adjust the age requirement of the scholarship to 10-18 as of January 1st of the current year. Mary B seconded the motion and the motion passed with unanimous approval.

There were some suggestions that did not directly impact the rules or bylaws and those were tabled for a later discussion at the meeting next month due to the length of this meeting already. All the changes and adaptations will be done to the rules and bylaws and sent out to the members of the Board for proofing. Once the rules and bylaws are approved then they will be posted and sent to for printing. Rule books with the bylaws will be available from the office this year.

Mary B moved to adjourn the meeting at this time. Wendy D seconded the motion and the motion passed with unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.