

## **WTPC General Membership Meeting**

### **Minutes**

June 7, 2025 @ 6:00 PM @ T90

#### **Call to order:**

#### **Roll call of Officers and Directors**

President: Robert Bouffard

Vice President: Larry Mielke

Secretary: Sarah Mealy

Treasurer: Vicki Gray

Director: Heather Anderson

Director: Veronica East

Director: Chris Gildner

Director: John Heggenberger

Director: Stefanee Hale

Director: April Yancey

Director: Jake Yancey

#### **Introduction of visitors**

None

No quorum at this meeting so not voting on anything today. Planning a General Membership meeting to occur day of the banquet.

#### **Reading of previous meeting minutes**

The previous meeting was held March 9th to elect a new board. A vote occurred and a new board was elected and planned to meet soon after.

#### **Report of Treasurer**

- QuickBooks Balance: 16,864.42
- Twinstar Checking Balance: 21,005.58
- Twinstar Saving: 19,822.73

#### **Budget forecast handed out**

Question about budget covering buckles every month – Currently, club is paying for half, sponsors are paying for remaining monthly buckle expense. Buckles in every class is not automatic at this point. July is covered.

The budget proposal handed out is a forecast. We increased award budget to pay for buckles in every class if we make our goal.

Question: what is our goal for savings? This is a forecast. Didn't come into 2025 season with enough to cover first two shows. 10-14k to run each show.

No amount required in the bank. Best practice is to have two shows worth.

Cattles costs will increase next year.

Buckles cost \$2,400 per month. Doing really well on sponsorships. 28-29K in sponsors so far with 35k goal.

Refer sponsors to chair of sponsor committee, Veronica.

Discussion about previous year award budget and expense. 42k was spent last year. This year awards budget is 35k.

Discussion on stall rentals and whether or not club should make money on stall rentals. The club is not trying to make money from stall rentals.

#### **Unfinished Business**

none

## **New Business**

### **1. Progress report year to date**

- Using survey results to guide board decisions.
- Cost savings: posse hall typically costs \$400. Was donated for previous meeting. Holding most board meeting via Zoom, no meals for the board paid for by club.
- Trying to change as little as possible, including the fees and payouts. We have some of the highest payouts.
- Labor savings: saving over 2k per show by relying on volunteers instead of paid positions. Encouraged volunteering by all members.
- Buckles every month is a big draw.
- T90 ranch: T90 was an understanding partner regarding our March show.
- Question about stall income: Two-day rental makes small of money because only cleaned once. Not changing rental fees at this time to compare apples to apples, but board will review fees for 2026. Yancey's purchased 9 pallets of shavings and did not charge club the mark up fee on shavings.

### **2. Sorting both ways**

Want to hear from the members. Some cattle wanted to run through and it would have helped to sort them the other way. At discretion of team going in. Can choose each go, don't have to sort the same way in each round. Are pens the same size. Catch pen is a bit smaller. And there is no netting on catch pen side. Suggest changing for next year.

Fairness issue if one side is smaller than the other. Need to consider that. Pens before today were 43x48, now 50x48.

Concern that sides are different sizes. Some members expressed that they should be the same.

Suggestion that club contact RSNC to see if both sides are sometimes different and when sorting both ways is allowed.

Sorting both ways will be on the GM meeting agenda for November.

To do: Measure before next month to find out size difference.

Concern about time it would take to move cows back and forth. Some members believe it would not add a significant amount of time.

Usually a pretty rare request made when it is allowed.

Will vote in November if we have a quorum.

### **3. Sorting Saturdays, penning Sundays**

It's been working really well to set up sorting pens Friday and switch over to penning on Saturday.

Concern from member: If majority of club is sorting, works this way. When penning was the majority, it made sense to switch.

If we switch it back, we'd need many more volunteers.

Penning on Sunday, cattle have been great.

1 hour 40 mins to switch from sorting to penning at June show.

2024 feed budget in half this year with better quality. Feeding haylage. Paying 45 per bale versus 60. And feeding with feeders instead of on the ground. Using loaned feeders. Board worked with cattle director to select type of feed to keep weights up.

Additional savings: moved holding pens outdoors. Gives more room to warm up and better flow for cattle changes. Keeping manure outdoors helps maintain the facility. And saves time in set up.

Club received donated glue guns.

Plan on continuing to keep sorting Saturday and penning Sunday, but want to hear member feedback and concerns throughout the season.

#### **4. 2025/2026 fees**

Did not change any fees this year. Making some money from shows, but without sponsors we couldn't do it. Our current cattle contractor has advised there will be an increase in cattle cost for 2026. Good stewardship and feeding will help to limit this increase, but board will need to factor cattle costs for 2026.

Suggestion: Perhaps a separate cattle fee.

Board will look at lots of options, want to keep this activity as cost effective as possible, but also need to keep running. Board will bring options to the November General Membership meeting.

Suggestion: Should discuss Green Novice fees that could be increased to pay for the same saddle as other classes.

In the past, Green Novice didn't get a saddle. Plan to bring increased fee proposals to members to vote on.

Suggestion: Have a meeting specifically for Green Novice riders at an event perhaps to get their input.

Suggestion: Green Novice used to have one pick and three draws. Member expressed interest in doing that again.

That's a promotional decision that can be changed.

Feedback from a member that they originally joined because Green Novice didn't have teams and it was a cheaper option; saddle was a bonus.

Discussion about amounts made on different classes based on payouts and number of riders. Board needs to continuously assess.

Takeaway, not changing fees 2025.

#### **5. Final show open to all members**

As of right now, without more sponsorships, unlikely there will be added money.

and we need all the riders to pay for the show so the last show will be open to all members.

If we receive sponsorships we can do added money.

Sponsorships can be specific, for example add money to a specific class or for buckles, etc. for smaller items such as buckles.

275-300 teams per show is a small profit so we may not be able to do a lot of year end awards.

Opt in is an option for jackets or vests, for example. Board will discuss.

Member suggested an opt in fee to be eligible for awards.

#### **6. Awards budget**

Certificates for saddles was majority preference in survey.

Sheridan for Green Novice and Jeff Smith for rest of classes

Awards to third place. Same qualify awards but less places.

Awards committee being used to do the heavy lifting and bringing back recommendations to board.

Raffle saddle will be Jeff Smith. Saddle for pictures then someone will win it.

Question: As sponsor money comes in, how is it allotted beyond award budget? To savings, added money if possible. Money in bank if needed.

Posse hall reserved at a reduced rate. Info to come on date and banquet info.

#### **7. RSNC for 2026**

Survey results showed a big majority yes.

Timing isn't working to have one for this year. Plan for next year is to make one of the show dates an RSNC show instead of 3 man. Still have seven shows. Discussion about how RSNC would work: Club can hire them or they come in a run show. Board discussion about options is ongoing.

#### **8. Numbered class system for 2026**

Majority of members had a positive response in survey.

Filled up #9 in May. Received really good feedback.

Numbered class would be all classes and would require bylaw change that members vote on.

Question: Would other club numbers carry over? No. Example: 6 here, but 4 RSNC. RSNC rates up to a 9.

Concern about people from other clubs coming and being underrated.

Balances out with handicaps.

Concern about cherry picking the low level riders.

Suggestion that lower level riders ask open riders to team up.

Numbers systems allow for riders to go in many different classes.

Suggestion to members to read RSNC rulebook to learn more about how it works.

Member feedback: numbered classes open opportunities to ride more and with more people.

Opens options with a younger horse.

Question about how awards would work. Points follow the rider. For example 4 against all the 4s.

Concern about some riders riding more than others. For example, a 2 rides way more than another 2 and wins the award.

Suggestion: accumulate points when they ride in their class, but can ride in other classes to place.

Suggestion: Use RSNC money won to money spent over the curve. Can move up or down. Frequency would be once per year.

Question: It's a matter of direction to take this club; do we want to be an RSNC.

Proposal will be in November. Send feedback to [wtpcsec@gmail.com](mailto:wtpcsec@gmail.com) in the meantime.

### **Start time discussion**

Need more volunteers if we do that. And the heat is a concern.

Not changing start time at this time.

### **Good and Welfare**

Suggestion: Keep an open riders with Green Novice penners for rest of season.

Board will discuss

### **Adjournment**

Bob motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maddie, approved. 7:53 PM