

4-H Horse Advisory Committee- 20th February, 2016

Please see end of document for attendance list

Meeting called to order at 9:34am by Rebecca Kennedy

Moved to accept previous meetings minutes: passed

Service descriptions- will be emailed if you are new to this.

Animal Science Bonanza held in Cheshire County. Very well received, great energy- the idea may be "stolen" for future events.

Quiz Bowl- well attended, a few couldn't make it due to postponement. Surveys had good feedback and suggestions. Perhaps interviews could be scheduled so horse kids could go early and be done so it won't affect quiz bowl; however, having both that day not only saves money, it also allowed horse kids to participate in interviews.

Wendy Brock is going to be retiring (will be part time through June); Let Mary know if you'd like to attend the party. Kate Guerdat is the new State Specialist and will be fulfilling many of Wendy's prior roles. Michele King will take on some additional responsibility and a new Program Coordinator will be hired.

Judging/ Hippology will be hosted by Rockingham County (in Strafford), Sun, April 10. Hilltop Equestrian center in Rochester, P.M. session at UNH. Arrange for your own transport from farm to UNH.

American Youth Horse Council Symposium- Hopefully having 2 youth+ 1 adult go will be annual (thanks to grants). Will be held in Mass. next year, so w/o travel costs everyone should consider applying/ going- more spaces may be available.

UNH Equine Education Day- emailed info just coming out, for April 22nd, 8-2:00. Run by UNH students. Let Mary know (and keep an eye on UNH facebook pages) if you would like to attend (aimed at 12 and up) RSVPs are necessary.

Farm to table trip- Any 4-H as well as "not 4-H". Drop-off at UNH, overnight, trips to local (prob. seacoast) farms, farmers markets. July 12-13^h is the tentative date (just before State Horse Show) About \$50.

State Show- July 15-17. Volunteers needed for various jobs, sign-up available or let Mary know.

No judges hired yet. Suggestions:

2 F+S: Victoria Dow, Deb Danforth's daughter, Sarah Cote, Rochelle LeBlanc, Amanda Shultz, Tricia Jones, Jackie St. Cyr. Main Ring: Mary Drueding

Ag. Discovery 2016- USDA program for ages 12-17. 20 programs at various Universities. Free 2-4 week summer program (there are travel costs; applications required) Deadline March 7, apply ASAP. Links are on website. There may be travel grants/reimbursement monies. (Given after competition)

Funding of Grants through 4-H Foundation of NH. Our fundraising (such as for state show) comes back to us almost directly; other events mentioned are also funded. For 2016 – 2017 4-H Foundation of NH awarded grants for AYHC symposium, Horse Quiz Bowl, Farm to Table Trip, Hippology, Judging and State Horse Show

New Business

Alternating of team attendance at Eastern National Horse Round Up. Our attendance is declining, same 8-10 kids seem to qualify for all the events, then have to select which event to participate. A decision was made to send only 2 teams to Eastern National 4-H Horse Round up (2 teams in each of the four events can go to regionals). This can be changed if we can increase participation- bring back novice events, include “fun” aspects at each event, get counties to encourage participation at that level, provide workshops for doing these events.

Jo noted that it was the decided “higher up” that under-12 members couldn’t participate at state level, which was when participation started to decline. Under-12s may have developed other school/ sports/ community activities, and away from 4-H, by the time they are old enough for state events. Under-12s used to be able to participate (incl. at state show) if they were ready and capable. The decision process should have included us- leaders, members, committee- instead of being decided over our heads. Several noted that dropping to 2 teams each year may actually discourage members from bothering to participate. Mary pointed out that it is a national policy that “competition” is not appropriate for under-12- however, other states seem to be including events for under-12s at state level. We have brought back quiz bowl novice event (Has to be run as a “county” event); Judging allows participation with scores given to under-12 members but not tallied or ranked.

QUESTION- If a member does (for example) a communications presentation, wins state that year but not allowed to go to KY, can same basic communications presentation be used the next year?

Mary suggested yes but the presentation would realistically need to be changed somewhat.

Noted that if there are a few “dominant” competitors, dropping two teams each year makes it likely that others get less chance of qualifying. Also, it means that a more individual event like Communications, offered only every other year, “eliminates” kids who work better solo than as a part of a team.

Another solution- if members drop out of a team, why can’t the next members- say the 9th and 10th placing- be moved up? (They could be encouraged to attend training sessions even before being moved up into the team.) The actual fact of being moved up onto a team can of itself, provide the impetus for a member to work hard and improve. Kids like that who are on the cusp of becoming a participating team member, are effectively pushed out by the 2-team rotation.

It was noted that the members who spoke on this topic, were not pushing their own trips to KY. They were almost entirely advocating for kids other than themselves! Can we use VT’s method- if there are enough for a B team, let them also go to regionals? (We would need the members for that.) Clubs

need to do their part- build the basis for the 4 events by having "Horse Jeopardy", mini-tables, hands-on activities at their own meetings.

Two Proposals were put forth on the topic. It appears we are probably stuck with the 2 teams for this year, 2016 (quiz bowl and judging). Suggest to form a committee (definitely to include kids!) to work on this- we might be able to salvage 2017. Suggest to schedule the 4 events somewhat closer together (original proposal was to do them all in the same weekend, probably not workable); so that after the last members could be asked to designate what team to be on; one problem would be volunteer turnout. Committee formed includes Elyse, Dani, Elayne, Diane, Cody, Jackie, Bill Joyce, Jack; May be via email or skype. Youth voices will be powerful, so start jotting down thoughts.

Intent to show forms. (Online animal enrollment form, but paper form- (old way) is still an option) Horses must have pictures, since other species are almost certain to have permanent ID (ear tag, chip, etc.)

Curriculum for National contests are being reviewed, older books may be replaced. Current Colorado book has shortcomings, not as up to date; once national review is done, we may want to reconsider. Possible novice book with some chosen supplements; or, choose another book entirely. Committee, Andrea Kenter, Barbara Annis, Andrea Galliher, (others?), Rhonda, Danielle Morano. Website has Colorado book for review.

Proposals:

Merrimack- reasonable accommodations clarification. Rather than trying to be too specific, need for accommodation will be handled on case by case basis (both ESE and NH) noted that request for accommodation should be made 4 weeks in advance. (Per NH rule book). Requests with less notice will be accommodated whenever possible.

Cheshire- Stable Management at State Show, to be reinstated. Emphasis to be on overall rather than individual. Will be Danish Ribbon, awarded to stable manager. (Each county should "police" their own barns, as well) This would be another way to recognize stable managers (non-riders) - possibly also pin SM's separately from riders in quiz/ judging? Fitting and Showmanship available for Stable Managers? Moved to re-instate Stable Management, 2-3 times throughout show, finished before 11 on Sunday: Passed. Mary's rubric to be used; 90% score to receive an award; this is a draft, so it can be edited- contact Mary with any suggestions. Each county may designate "open/ closed" periods in the barn so that kids can visit other counties; visitor OK in barns as safe and sane (i.e. when horses are stalled)

NH Supplement to the NE 4-H Horse Show Rule Book. New England 4-H Horse Show rules are being revised; our rule book needs housekeeping changes to bring it fully in line with New England Rules. Noted that minimum 50% member care responsibility exists for both owned and leased horses. Clarification on outside training: if you have paid someone to train the project horse, it may not be 4-H showed for 30 days. Taking a riding lesson on the project horse is ok. Asking a professional (even if not paid) to train, ride, drive, etc., the horse, is not permitted, and horse may not be 4-H showed for 30 days. Re Leasing- may be leased from a professional, but not leased just for the sole purpose of showing.

Driving: question: “reins in one or two hands” and “two or four wheeled vehicle”. Remove 4-wheeled to agree with New England (safety); also remove one hand. Moved to accept State Office changes plus above 2 changes; accepted.

Merrimack: proposal:

4:11.1 add “open to all equines regardless of height”

Add “allowed cross entry of driving horses into In-hand division”

Add “adaptation of gymkhana”

Note ESE only allows small equines (under 12 hands)

Considerable discussion regarding safety if larger equines are included, particularly in jumping. Fitting and Showmanship allows all sizes of course.

End proposal will be written, except for jumping (limited to 12 hands/ under). “Suitable for handlers” will be moved to general rules. Also in general rules note that all classes (including these) are encourages being divided Jr/ sr. (could be run together if numbers are small, but pinned separately. Proposal accepted.

Driving Proposal:

4.5.2 Suitability of size- not needed, will be covered in general rules

Age divisions also in general rules.

Passengers-this will be covered in New England. No action needed, New England rule updates will cover all.

Peter Stone Award: Should we develop a rubric for judging the winners? Normally, the essays are given to several people who rank them in order, scoring based on that. No action needed today.

State Show: How about a dress up photo booth? Several people will work on this.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:17pm

Attendance List

Name	County
Aveen Kenny Berger	Rockingham
Keelin Berger	Rockingham
Jackie Johnson	Rockingham
Cody Gleason	Rockingham
Andrea Galliner	Merrimack
Mariana Lassonde	Merrimack
Andrea Kenter	Rockingham
Conrad Moses	Rockingham
Rebecca Kennedy	Cheshire
Barbara Annis	Merrimack
Jolee Chase	Hillsborough

Maureen McLaughlin	Belknap
Steve Moore	Rockingham
Donna Farrell	Merrimack
Jody Forsyth	Belknap
Jessie Fifield	Belknap
Elizabeth Wittmershaus	Merrimack
Marcia Evans	Merrimack
Brian Gleason	Rockingham
Rhonda Watts-Hettinger	Hillsborough
Elayne Gleason	Rockingham
Kylie Edwards	Merrimack
Danielle Morano	Hillsborough
Diane Parker	Merrimack
Ramona Chessman	Coos
Shantel Corliss	Coos
Elyse Morano	Hillsborough
Jo Gelinis	Hillsborough
Karrie Cornier	Hillsborough
Jackson Thomas	Belknap
Diane Post	Rockingham
Bill Joyce	Coos
Deb Wesoja	Sullivan
Mary Davis	State Office