

**2008 PA 4-H Horse Program Advisory Committee
Minutes
April 21, 2008**

* **DRAFT** (subject to approval at next meeting)*

Call to order: Chair Patty Kelly called the meeting to order in the Penn State Meats Lab.

Introductions: The district representatives introduced themselves. All districts except district XI were represented. Members of the Development Committee present included Patty Kelly, Pat Comerford, Christine Corl, Betsy Ullrich, Lori Little, Dave Gallaher, Andrea Graeff, and Donna Zang.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007 PA 4-H Horse Advisory Committee meeting as distributed.

Information on the role of the advisory committee, the responsibilities of the district representatives, and procedures for rule changes was distributed. Pat Comerford emphasized the importance of representatives to the advisory committee communicating information between the districts and the state committee. Pat emphasized that the Advisory Committee meeting provides an opportunity for review and input on all aspects of the program, not just the state horse show. It is important that volunteers and parents understand that input from the county level goes on to the district level for discussion and is then forwarded to the advisory committee for input to the PA 4-H Horse Program Development Committee.

Lists of information regarding the district shows and district representatives were circulated for review and correction as appropriate.

Lori Little and Sharon Jodon served as the nominating committee for election of representatives to the 2008-2008 Development Committee. Nominated for Extension Educator representative were Donna Foulk, Northampton County and Jackie Simon, Philadelphia County. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the nominations for extension educator be closed. Nominees for volunteer representative included Sue Shuman, Columbia County and Nina Hill, Franklin County. Pam Nealer, Indiana County, was nominated from the floor. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the nominations for volunteer representative be closed. Donna Foulk was elected as Extension Educator representative. The vote for volunteer representative was tied. The Development Committee met and voted unanimously for Nina Hill to serve as the volunteer representative and appointed Pam Nealer as an industry representative to fill the current vacancy on the Development Committee.

Patty and Pat provided an update on the 4-H Horse Program Assistant positions. A large number of applications were received for the positions. A screening committee of 12 volunteers and educators from across the state reviewed the applications and are considering applicants for interviews. A smaller selection committee of volunteers and educators will conduct phone and face to face interviews and make recommendations to Dr. Terry Etherton. It is hoped that the positions will be filled at some point this summer. Phone interviews with selected candidates will be held on April 23, 24 and 28 and on additional dates if needed. Face to face interviews are tentatively set for June 5 and 6. Individuals that are hired will be visible in the districts and will be expected to present an accomplishment report at the end of the year to be shared with the districts and counties. Priorities will be established for the associates' work based on program and regional priorities and strategic goals.

4-H Horse Program Endowment – The process for establishing the endowment has been initiated and is moving forward. The long range goal is for the endowment to generate enough interest to fund programs and possibly additional program associates and personnel.

References and Project Materials – Pat referred to a handout listing project materials available through county extension offices. There is also a reference list available on the 4-H horse program website that supports the project materials. A copy of the new Horse Safety handbook was available for review. The height measuring reference has been updated to be consistent with the current PA 4-H Horse Show Rule book. The PA 4-H Horse Production Project Guidelines have also been updated to be consistent with the rule book. The entry cards for the production division have been revised and MUST be used for 2008 show entries. It was pointed out that the information in the open trail and over fences guidelines has been incorporated into the 2008 rule book. The Judges List has been updated. Show officials are encouraged to submit judges evaluations.

Recreational/alternate Activities Project: Betsy Ullrich gave an update on the draft of the recreational project book. The project is designed primarily for 4-H members that are not involved in traditional horse shows and encourages involvement of all youth, regardless of their background or skill level. Youth may be involved in a wide variety of activities, including trail or pleasure riding, drill teams, etc. as well as activities with breed, discipline or other horse organizations. The project encourages youth to set goals for their area of interest and will include a “saddle log/riding hours” record as well as suggested awards. Betsy encouraged counties to review the project and provide feedback. Copies are available electronically from Betsy or Pat.

Counties shared ideas about how they are getting members to read rule books and other county activities. Andrea Graeff offered to incorporate ideas for volunteers into a database that can be included on the 4-H horse program website. Andrea also provided an update on the website. A current updates link has been added as well as an RSS feed to subscribe to for current updates. Andrea asked that people let her know if there are problems with the website or links are not working so that they can be fixed. Contact Andrea at agraeff@psu.edu or 814-863-3957.

The database for 4-H horse show entries has been updated to include an additional driving animal. Counties are asked to be aware of this when making entries. Counties will also have to watch for May 1st deadline for foaling dates when making production entries. In addition, no colts older than weanlings are allowed to be shown at 4-H shows.

2008 dates and events were reviewed. A calendar of events is available at <http://www.das.psu.edu/4h/horse/>. Pat pointed out the following: PSU Quarter Horse Sale, April 26th; Horsemanship Skills Examiner Training Clinics, May 3rd and June 7th. Northeast PA Horse Judging Contest, May 3rd; Regional Driving Clinics, five, light horse and pony and one draft horse clinic scheduled for June. Youth driving animals in 4-H shows should be strongly encouraged to participate in one of the regional driving clinics. The clinics are focused on safety, proper equipment, turnout and correct driving procedures. Other dates were reviewed including: Competitive Trail Riding Clinic, July 5th; Regional Production Shows, July 28th to August 1st; State Achievement Days, August 5th to 7th; Ag Progress Days, August 19th to 21st; State Competitive Trail Ride, September 19th and 20th; State 4-H Horse Show, October 24th to 26th.

The following dates were discussed for 2009. The Ag Arena at Penn State is reserved for February 13 to 15, 2009 for a Horsemanship Skills Clinic. This will be a good opportunity to provide updated information for educators, volunteers and youth. The Winning Ways Clinic is scheduled for March 14-15, 2009. This clinic focuses on education and includes many of the skills in the Horsemanship Skills Program. The AYHC National Youth Horse Leaders Symposium will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska on March 27th to March 29th, 2009. Volunteers, educators and youth are encouraged to consider this opportunity to gain information for local youth programming and interact with youth and industry leaders from throughout the US.

Plans for 2009 Regional 4-H Horse Forums – Currently, the plans are to have at least two forums, east and west, and possibly four. Educators and volunteers are needed to assist the program associates with planning and implementation. The forums will be a priority when program associates are hired.

Safety Program and Safety Awards – Safety awards have been given at the state 4-H Horse Forum in past years. With the change in forum structure new opportunities for presenting awards will need to be considered. Awards could be presented at regional forums or the state show.

Horsemanship Skills Program – Currently over 500 volunteers have been trained as Level 1-2 examiners. Additional Level 3-4 examiners have also been trained and added recently. There are now 32 examiners available to conduct Level 3-4 tests. A committee will be looking at suggested revisions to the skills. There has been interest from other states in the Horsemanship Skills program. Alabama has indicated an interest in adopting the program and some educators and volunteers from Alabama are planning to attend a Horsemanship Skills examiner training clinic this summer. Individuals that are trained as examiners must be screened volunteers or extension educators, but do not have to be county club leaders. Counties are encouraged to let Pat know of individuals that need to be removed from the published list as their status changes. Patty asked that counties poll their examiners for an opinion on whether or not a member should have to retest specific skills or the entire test for Level 1. There was considerable discussion on the pros and cons of requiring completion of Level 1 prior to competing in roundups in the future. The Horsemanship Skills program is currently an optional program. Individual counties may choose to establish their own requirements for completion of the skills. Some counties or clubs are already requiring completion of Level 1 skills in order to show at the county level.

Shared Horse Guidelines – Pat referred to the handout of the share horse guidelines. There was discussion on the various opportunities available to members through the program.

Outstanding Member Award – Applications are due August 25th. It was suggested that there be an interview process for the state finalists to determine the winner. The Development Committee will consider this option.

State Days Contests – The new rules for the state contests will be posted on the 4-H horse website as soon as they are available.

State Show - Copies of the income and expense statement for the 2007 State 4-H Horse Show were distributed for review. It was pointed out that expenses are increasing. Currently there is no plan to increase fees for 2008. There have been some suggestions for changes to the show schedule. These suggestions will be considered in addition to the other factors involved with the class and exercise schedule.

Pat reported on the state Model Horse Show. The show is considered tentative until details for a coordinator are resolved. Currently a coordinator has not been confirmed for the 2008 model show. If there is anyone that is interested in coordinating this event, they are encouraged to talk to Pat.

County educational exhibits and the exhibitor's dance will be continued as in the past. The silent auction was well received. This needs to be continued.

It was suggested that the awards table for the recognition program be moved to the center of the arena so that participants in the arena can see more of what is being done with the awards. Show committee will consider this recommendation.

See following pages for recommendations for program and rule changes.

Recommendations for Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Program and 2010 State 4-H Horse Show Rule Changes

Please note:

- * These are **PROPOSALS ONLY**.
- * Wording of proposed rules **IS NOT FINAL**. Proposals may be changed, accepted, or rejected after review by Advisory and Development Committees.
- * **IF approved by the PA 4-H Horse Program Development Committee, rules will become effective in 2010. Rulebook supplements will NOT be printed in 2009 and beyond, unless there is an extenuating circumstance or safety issue.**
- * Item in parenthesis indicates the district or committee proposing rule change.
DC = Development Committee; YPCC = Youth Program Coordinating Council
Items in italics (red font) indicate discussion/action by Advisory Committee.

General Horse Program Concerns

1. Develop recreational activities/project to include riding recognition/saddlelog program, trail riding, non-show activities, etc. (DC) Draft *materials are available from Betsy Ulrich or Pat. Currently being reviewed and used on pilot basis in some counties.*
2. Horsemanship Skills Program updates and revisions. Hold clinics for leaders and youth so they know what the examiners are looking for (Level 1-2 and Level 3-4). Make a video or DVD of the skills? Consider revision of skills in levels. Add therapeutic and driving skills (DC discussion from previous year) *Subcommittee of Development Committee is considering.*
3. Consider revisions to strategic plan. May need to add or delete some items to reflect recent program changes and plans and addition of new 4-H extension associates, program fee, etc. (DC) *Distributed current strategic plan. Counties and districts asked to provide suggestions for revisions. Subcommittee working on suggested revisions. Development Committee to consider revisions at next meeting on May 19.*
4. Consider revision of current calendar of 4-H horse events to change dates of county, district and state shows to earlier in the year. This would allow more time for the state show (possibly a 4-5 day show in the summer). In addition there would be more time for program planning, curriculum development, and planning for events in subsequent calendar years. Also consider various options for qualification for state show. (DC from previous years) *More input and review is needed. This is a major program change and a long term goal if implemented. Approximately half of the volunteers and educators in attendance were in favor of moving forward.*
5. Incorporate an online rating system of the 4-H Horse Show judges based on district evaluations. (IV) *No action.*
6. Revise the dress code to state that all 4-Hers be required to wear hard soled shoes when working with a horse either in hand or riding at all times at all 4-H events. (IX) *Moved and seconded. There are concerns with youth wearing flip flops and tennis shoes while working with animals on the ground. There were questions about how this would be enforced. It was suggested that enforcing at the county and district levels would carry through to the state show. Motion passed. 5 yes, 4 no*
7. Change the state show class quota to minimum 1, maximum 5. (X) *Motion died for lack of a second.*

8. Mandatory split of “group” classes, notably during the canter/lope portion of the classes. Safety issue-suggested split at over 20 exhibitors? This decision should not be left up to the judge, and should be decided by the program as it is a safety issue. (III) *No action. Refer to the 4-H Horse Show Management Guidelines for recommendations on arena/rail space and class size. Specific guidelines are included.*
9. Please send information in a format other than pdf so that counties can change deadlines, etc. to meet county program needs. (X) *No action. Some items need to remain unchanged. Have had problems in past with auto formatting in Word documents changing dates and causing problems with incorrect dates. Will try to send in Word and pdf format as appropriate.*

General Rules

1. Consider use of a Danish system *in addition to* standard placing. 4-H members must receive a blue ribbon to advance to the next show regardless of what placing they receive. (DC from previous years) *Development Committee to consider.*
2. Consider use of Danish system in classes with 4 or fewer horses. In classes with 4 or fewer horses the judge will place the class, but must ALSO assign a Danish rating to each entry. In order to advance to the next show, the entry MUST receive an Excellent (Blue) or Very Good (Red) rating. (Good is Yellow ribbon; Needs Improvement/Does Not Meet Acceptable Standard is White ribbon) (suggestion to DC; previous years)
3. *It was moved, seconded, and passed for the DC to look into incorporating the Danish system.*
4. Page 4 Rule 14; Eliminate the EIA/Coggins Test requirement since it is no longer required for many of the county fairs. (IX) *Motion died for lack of a second. DC will discuss further with PA Department of Agriculture and/or show veterinarian.*
5. Pages 5 & 6, Rule 24; Change rule to: Protective Headgear is required in all classes when riding, driving, or showing in-hand. Project animals being shown in hand can be just as dangerous as the participant being on its back. (I) *Motion died for lack of a second.*
6. Pages 5 & 6, Rule 24; Require junior exhibitors to wear helmets in Production classes. (IV) *Moved, seconded, and defeated. It was moved and seconded to require all exhibitors in production (including in hand classes) to wear protective head gear. Motion passed. 6 yes/3 no*
7. Page 7, Rule 27 Clarify rule. Add following last sentence: If the initial horse exhibiting poor mannerisms (i.e. rearing, backing, falling into others, etc.) causes other exhibitor(s) to lose their horse(s), *only* the initiating horse will be disqualified and excused. *Referred to DC.*
8. Rearrange and renumber General Rules to group rules in a more logical order. Change all other rule cross references accordingly. (DC) *Rules committee to address.*

Production Rules

1. Page 14, Rule 13; Add “long ears” division/classes for donkeys and mules. (suggestion to DC) *No action. Information only. Referred to DC. Rules committee to address.*

Performance Rules

1. Page 20, Rule 16; Change to allow riders to enter both western and English divisions. (IV) *No action.*
2. Page 20, Rule 18; Change to allow hunter riders to enter both equitation classes (over fences and flat). (IV) *No action.*
3. Page 20, Rule 19; Change to allow hunter riders to enter both hunter hack and working hunter. (IV) *Motion died for lack of a second.*

4. Page 20, Rule 24 and 25. Clarify “it must be ridden with one hand” by adding the phrase “with the exception of Novice Reining”. Refer to Novice Reining rule #1. (IX) *Moved, seconded, and passed.*
5. Stock Seat Equitation, Hunt Seat Equitation on the Flat and Saddle Seat Equitation- for classes where patterns may be or are called for, patterns should be done by all participants in the class. Dismissing all but the required number of placings does not allow for possible mistakes/eliminations being made by the horse/rider during the pattern. (I) *Moved, seconded, and defeated. 3 yes/6 no*
6. Require pattern for equitation classes. (IV) *No action. It was moved, seconded, and passed to leave the statements on patterns in equitation class rules as is. Although consideration is given to industry norms, the 4-H program should set the standards for the good of the total program and its goals.*
7. Consider 3 age divisions for all showmanship and equitation classes. (DC) *Moved, seconded, and defeated. 2 yes/7 no. Referred to DC to review.*

Open Division

1. Page 21-24, Classes 1-4, Grooming and Showmanship; Page 22, B. Showmanship item d; Change to: Pattern required for all showmanship classes. (IV) *Referred to DC.*
2. Page 21-24, Classes 1-4, Grooming and Showmanship; Review all rules for these classes for consistency with industry standards. (DC)
3. Page 24-29 Classes 5, 6 and 7, Open Trail; Implement required minimum scores for advancement to next level; possibly with a minimum of 60 points (10 obstacles or similar % thereof) to proceed to the next level. (I) *No action. Refer to DC to consider a minimum score, for 2010.*
4. Page 25. Classes 5, 6 and 7, Open Trail, Recommended Obstacles, Item 1.C: Clarify/change to read: “Lope or Canter Over – should be 5’ to 6’ for ponies and 6’ to 7’ for horses.” *(correction of typo)*
5. Page 26. Classes 5, 6 and 7, Open Trail, Recommended Obstacles, Item 3 (top of page); Clarify/add period following “Rope gate may be used”. *(correction of typo)*
6. Add a Miniature Horse Trail class. (IV, X) (see attached rules) *Moved and seconded. Is this class intended for a mini as a second project animal or for a mini as the only project animal? Further clarification of rules is needed. Motion defeated. 4 yes/5 no. Referred to DC for further review.*
7. Page 32, Classes 9 and 10, Pleasure Pairs; Increase pleasure pair quota to 2 pair per class per discipline. (IV) *No action taken.*
8. Page 30, Class 8: Split County Team into two classes-one English and one western. (IX) *No action taken.*
9. Should Pleasure Pairs and County Team classes be eliminated? Are these classes meeting their intended purpose? Safety and class quality are concerns. (DC) *Moved and seconded. Would make room for other classes and address safety issues. Some districts doing well with these classes. Consider Danish system as possible way to address concerns. Motion defeated. 4 yes/5 no.*

It was moved and seconded to require a minimum standard for advancement to district and state competition in Pleasure Pairs and County Team. Motion passed. Refer to DC.

Western Division

1. Pages 34 and 35, Classes 11 and 12, Stock Seat Equitation; if exhibitors in Stock Seat Equitation are asked to do a pattern, they should only be asked to do rail work one way of the rail. (X) *No action taken.*

Contest Classes

1. Open Contest classes to English riders. (IV, IX) *Moved and seconded. Suggested that all classes should be open to anyone that wants to participate. Motion defeated.*
2. Add Cutback class. District 9 will supply the rules and pattern so it can eventually be included in the 2010 rulebook with the expectation that eventually cutback would become a state show class similar to the process Novice Reining advanced to the state level (IX) *Moved and seconded. Motion defeated. 3 yes/6 no*
3. Page 49, Classes 24 and 25. Clarify keyhole penalty rule to address situations when a cone is flipped over and ends up in an upright position. (A judge decided that because the rule book states “knocked over” not moved, in regard to the entrance cones, the rider would not be penalized.) Recommend removing the words “knocked over” and replace with “moved” to eliminate confusion. (XI) *Moved and seconded to clarify rule as stated. Motion defeated.*
4. Add a Four Corner Stakes class. (X) *Moved and seconded. Motion defeated.*

English Division – Saddle Seat

1. Pages 50 and 51, Classes 28 and 29, Saddle Seat Pleasure, Ponies and Horses; Change classes to Saddle Seat Pleasure (trotting breeds/types) and Saddle Seat Pleasure (non-trotting breeds/types). This would allow judging of similar breeds and types within a class. This may help to encourage participation of youth with non-trotting breeds without adding additional classes to the show. Equipment requirements to change accordingly. (suggestion to DC) *Moved and seconded to split by type in horse and pony classes. May encourage more participation. Motion passed. Referred to DC.*

English Division - Hunt Seat

1. Pages 52-53, Classes 30 and 31, Hunt Seat Equitation (not to jump); Eliminate pattern work from Hunt Seat equitation on the flat. (X) *No action.*
2. Pages 53-55, Classes 32 and 33, Hunt Seat Equitation Over Fences; Have different jump heights for horses in equitation over fences and working hunter. (Ex. 14.2-15.1 at 2’6”, 15.2-16.1h at 2’9” and 16.2 and over at 3”). (IV) *Motion died for lack of a second.*
3. Pages 59 and 60, Classes 40 and 41. Drop Hunter Hack and add a low hunter jumping class with fence heights being 2’, 2’3”, 2’6”. This would allow those riders not ready to jump the higher fences a chance to ride a regular course instead of just two jumps. (I) *Moved, seconded, and defeated.*
4. Pages 59 and 60, Classes 40 and 41. Hunter Hack: Change judging emphasis to 70% jumping and 30% flat work. (IV) *Motion died for lack of a second.*
5. Pages 60, Classes 40 and 41. Hunter Hack: second paragraph, first sentence; Clarify/change “The” to “All” exhibitors will then be asked to jump two fences. (DC) *Referred to DC for clarification.*
6. Pages 60, Classes 40 and 41. Hunter Hack: second paragraph; Add following first sentence: The judge may refuse to allow an exhibitor(s) to jump if he/she determines that it is unsafe for the exhibitor(s)/horse(s). (suggestion to DC from judge) *No action taken. Judges should excuse any horse/rider if they have concerns for safety. (allowed with current rules)*
7. Pages 53-60. All over fences classes: Jumps should be lowered by 6” (VII) *Motion died for lack of a second.*

Driving Division

1. Page 65, Class 42, Pleasure Pony Driving; Clarify rule to permit draft type animals to be shown with equipment according to the draft horse driving rules. (XI) *Moved and seconded. Concern expressed that noise or “jingles” associated with full draft harness may create safety issues with other ponies. Motion defeated. Should we consider a draft pony driving class?*
2. Page 67, Class 45, Miniature Horse Driving; Change to state that drivers of mini horses 12 years of age or older not be required to have an attendant. (IX) *Moved and seconded. Safety issue vs. humane issue for minis. Suggested that 14 years of age may be a better guideline. Exhibitors and their families should use some common sense on this. Motion defeated. 4 yes/5 no Moved, seconded, and defeated to state that mini horse drivers 14 years of age or older not be required to have an attendant.*
3. Page 65, Classes 42 and 43, Pleasure Driving and Page 69, Class 45, Miniature Horse Driving; Tack and Equipment, Prohibited; Allow a twisted wire bit, which is not as severe as a Liverpool. (XI) *No action taken.*
4. Page 65, Class 44, Draft Horse Driving; Change definition of draft horse to: Open to horses meeting specifications of one of the accepted draft breeds, Percheron, Belgian, Clydesdale, Suffolk, Spotted Draft, American Creme Draft or any cross of those breeds with expected mature weight greater than 1500 pounds. (suggestion to DC) *Moved and seconded. How would weight be determined? Could require weight certificate from certified scales, weight tape, etc. It was moved, seconded, and passed to amend the motion to read...include, but not limited, to accepted draft breeds. Also add “judge at their discretion may penalize horses that do not exhibit acceptable/characteristic draft type. Motion passed as amended.*
5. Consider holding state show Draft Horse Driving classes at KILE allowing all 4-H exhibitors from all counties to attend and eliminate draft horse driving at the district level. Alternately create 4-H Draft Horse Driving classes at KILE and encourage all 4-H draft driving participants to participate in the show and related educational clinics. (suggestion to DC) *No action taken.*
6. Create a list of volunteers from PA Percheron Association and PA Draft Horse and Mule Association who would be willing to judge district draft horse driving classes free of charge. (suggestion to DC). *List has been developed and will be sent to Pat. Pat will forward to counties. Counties and districts are encouraged to take advantage of this offer and use judges from this list for draft horse driving classes.*
7. Add a Draft Pony Driving Class. (XI) *Moved, seconded, and passed.*
8. Add Obstacle (trail) Driving to state horse show. (IV) *No action taken.*

Therapeutic Riding Division

1. Page 70, General Rules, item h; The side walkers must be with the maximum assistance riders. It is a safety factor and aides should be near the rider. If they don't require side walkers, they should be in the minimum assistance classes. (VII) *Moved, seconded, and passed.*

General State Show Concerns

1. Propose that all ribbons at the State Show be tri-colored champion ribbons (which wouldn't cost the show anymore than regular ribbons through 10th place). The winning placements in these classes designate these riders/handlers/horses as State Champions. These ribbons would stand out on their displays at home. (I)
2. Use orange colored participant ribbons rather than pink. (suggestion to DC) *Refer to show committee.*

3. Can the cost of stalls be reduced if the 4-H member cleans before leaving (change in our contract)? (IV) *Stall rental costs do not change if stalls are cleaned.*
4. Stalls were too close and the walkways were really tight. (VIII)
5. P.A. system needs to be managed better. It if doesn't work from one area to another, need to be sure to have the other ring announcing what is going in and out of the other ring. (VII) *Refer to show committee.*
6. There was difficulty hearing what was going on in the ring. There was also trouble hearing in the barns and practice ring. (VIII) *Refer to show committee.*
7. No parking around electric poles if you are not planning to plug in. (V) *Refer to show committee and farm show security.*
8. Dogs in building (VI)
9. There is not enough lunging area. There wasn't anyone supervising and limiting the time in the pen. Had to wait 45 minutes to an hour or more. Should be 15 minute time limit (VII)
10. The lunging area was too small for bigger horses. In addition, there needs to be people policing that area at all times. (VIII)
11. There is a need for more lunging pens. (IX)
12. Size of the lunging pens need to be larger or larger areas need to be designated for lunging. Larger animals, circles too small and leg injuries are a major risk factor. (III) *There is limited space for lunging pens; Voted to have 3 smaller pens, rather than two larger pens; Will post signs with time limits.*
13. Exhibitors have numbers on at all times while in exercise rings. (IV)
14. Let the show committee know that we thank them for all the supervised practice time in the indoor arena. This was a great improvement over the year before and was considered much safer for all exhibitors. (IX)
15. People who requested tack change had to recheck and found out that it was not marked down. Need to be more careful to see that this is done. (VII) *Will try to address.*
16. Eliminate starting times during middle of show (ex. 11 am, 5 pm) to allow show to continue to run if earlier than expected. (IV) *This has been done where possible.*
17. Run gaming and jumping classes at the same time (take about the same time and there shouldn't be many horse usage conflicts). (IV)
18. Stagger classes at the state show so that they are not running at the same time. Rotate the western and English show schedule. (X)
19. Need to alternate show days so games are not always on Friday. (VII)
20. It was felt that it would be nice to switch the show order of the western and English classes just once. (VIII)
21. Why can't we use the large arena on Sundays? (VIII)
22. Consider moving large hunter classes to the larger arena or split classes (23 too many participants for the small arena). (IX)
23. Have all Production classes on one day, perhaps using Large Arena on Sunday or have all in hand (including grooming and showmanship) on Friday. Perhaps utilize a Thursday evening session. (IV) *Show committee will consider schedule changes.*
24. Some of the production horses, especially 2 year olds, were not well behaved at all and should have been dismissed. The weanlings and yearlings were better behaved than the older ones. It was suggested that having horses under control should be emphasized more, as well as safety, and kids should be excused sooner when having difficulty. It should also be stressed that kids handle the production horses more before showing. (VIII) *This is addressed in Production Project Guidelines. Refer to DC for review.*

25. It was suggested that during the production classes with the split arena, if the horses were to be lined up close to the rail instead of the center of the ring there would be a larger buffer zone between the classes and it would be less likely that the antics of a horse would affect the horses in the other class. (IX) *Consider splitting ring end to end rather than lengthwise.*
26. Have a designated volunteer(s) for each discipline for set-up (ex. Trail) to help volunteers in ring who may not know rules/set-up. (IV) *We already do this.*
27. Bridge in trail course- horses falling off bridge stepping into mums-keep pots away from bridge. (VI) *A bridge is an acceptable obstacle in a trail class.*
28. Jump widths need to be checked (VI)
29. Driving bits-illegal bits – need to relook at list (VI)
30. For all classes that are split, judges should be required to view both sections before announcing who will return for the final workout. (V)
31. Recommend that 2 more than the placings be pulled by the judge when pulling participants for further judging. (IX)
32. Recommend two judges per class at the State Show. (VI)
33. Need to work more than top 10 people in the Equitation patterns in case the horses and riders not being able to do patterns. (VII)
34. During the Western Equitation Senior Class this year, entries entered the ring one at a time and then left the arena at the end of their pattern. They then had to walk all through the barns and crowd to get back to the entry gate again. This caused a lot of confusion. It was also a safety hazard. Examine a better way to assemble contestants after their individual performances. (V) *Refer to show committee.*
35. It was suggested that during the games classes to have horses exit from another gate. (IX)
36. Recommend two sets of timers and a hand timer for gaming classes at the State Show. (VI)
37. Better control needs to be maintained at the in-gate of the old arena. Too many people, which spooks animals in the ring as they round that corner. Participants, 1 trainer and the ring crew are the only people who should be authorized to occupy that area. Whatever happened to the chute and/or the steps? *Steps removed to eliminate problems with spooking horses. Show committee to consider.* (III)
38. It was a huge improvement to have grooming and showmanship kids go in the ring, do their pattern and leave instead of standing in the ring. (VIII)
39. It was observed that the saddle seat classes are getting very small and it was questioned if it is realistic to continue to have a separate judge for these classes.(VIII)
40. There were shorter lines for photographs this year! (VI)
41. Jumps were beautiful! (VI)
42. Bright in new arena and new footing. (VI)
43. Positive help from division supervisors—very much appreciated (VI)

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna S. Zang, Secretary