

**2007 PA 4-H Horse Program Advisory Committee
Minutes
April 23, 2007**

* **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: Participants introduced themselves. All districts except district XI were represented. Members of the Development Committee present included Patty Kelly, Pat Comerford, Tammy Eichstadt, Kirstin Dubbs, Andrea Graeff, Dave Gallaher, and Donna Zang.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2006 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. 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.

Jackie Simon and Lori Benner served as the nominating committee for election of representatives to the 2007-2008 Development Committee. Nominated for Extension Educator representative were Christine Corl, Huntingdon County; Jana Davidson, Clearfield County; Tom McHugh, Lackawanna County; and Kristy Myers, Dauphin County. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the nominations for extension educator be closed. Nominees for volunteer representative included Betty Coleman, Wyoming County; Betsy Ullrich, Chester County; and Nina Hill, Franklin County. It was moved, seconded, and passed that the nominations for volunteer representative be closed. Christine Corl and Betsy Ullrich were elected.

Patty and Pat discussed the proposed 4-H Horse Program Assistant position. This position is for an individual to help coordinate events and activities and do programming throughout the state. The position will focus on education in all aspects of the 4-H horse program. Emphasis will be placed on having the person visible to the members and volunteers throughout the state. Funding for the position will need to be generated from within the 4-H horse program. The proposal has been submitted to extension administration and is awaiting further action. The position is still in under development and there are a number of details to be worked out. A meeting has been scheduled for May to discuss the position with extension administration. The long term goal is to establish an endowment to fund 4-H horse programs. Dick Ely agreed to serve on the endowment committee. Pat invited other interested individuals to volunteer for the endowment committee. It was moved and seconded that the 4-H Horse Program Advisory Committee continue to support this position. There was discussion on the impact that the position will have on other 4-H program areas and how funding will be generated at the county level. Motion passed.

Pat referred to the handout on 4-H horse projects and project materials. The list provides a comprehensive summary of resources available to members and volunteers. Most of the materials are available through the website, <http://www.das.psu.edu/4h/horse/>. The 4-H

reference lists have been updated and can also be found on the website. Interactive, on-line equine resources are being developed through eXtension.

Show entry and event requirements were distributed to counties earlier in the year. Animal health requirements are consistent with the PA Department of Agriculture's health requirements.

The Acknowledgment of Risk form has been updated to include specific risks. From a liability standpoint, the updated form will help to reduce the risk of being sued and/or found negligent because we are helping to educate participants regarding the risks. The forms for non 4-H youth and adults participating in open shows sponsored by 4-H are a requirement under the 4-H liability insurance policy. All of these forms are to our advantage as event organizers because they strengthen our position under the new PA equine liability legislation.

Guidelines for trail and fence classes have been updated and are available on the website. The guidelines for the fence classes include information on scoring the classes. In addition, there are guidelines for the production project available. These documents contain information to be used in conjunction with the current 4-H Horse Show Rule book.

The *Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show Management Guidelines* are available on the 4-H horse program website. Anyone managing a 4-H horse show should use the guidelines as a tool to help plan and conduct shows.

It was announced that a horse show judge's school and show management will be held at Penn State in February 2008.

Upcoming dates and deadlines were discussed. The Penn State Equine Showcase and Quarter Horse Sale will be held on Saturday, April 28, 2007. Camps and horsemanship skills training clinics were noted. Pat asked for input on holding a horsemanship skills examiner clinic in Centre County. It was generally felt that there is a need to hold this clinic. Andrea is working on arrangements for several driving clinics. Regional production shows have been scheduled. An attempt is being made to find a new location for the state competitive trail ride. It was noted that the state 4-H horse show date is earlier in 2007. Dates for future shows are not available. Families are encouraged to reserve hotel rooms for the state show as early as possible. A list was started to determine the need for Level 3/4 horsemanship skills testing.

The PA 4-H Horse Forum held March 2 to March 4, 2007 was reviewed. It was generally felt that the sessions were informative and helpful. Attendance numbers were down. Input for future forums was requested. Can we continue to justify doing the program based on 2007 attendance? Should we look at a change in location and date? Should we consider offering the forum in conjunction with the Harrisburg horse expo? Should we invite other youth groups to participate? Should we try for another year before making changes in format? Evaluations are always favorable. It was suggested that perhaps fuel costs are contributing to reduced numbers. Suggestions for topics to be considered for future forums included tax implications for volunteers, horsemanship skills examiner training and updates, more training on level 3/4 skills, more ideas on dealing with children, club organization and management, and veterinary topics.

Safety awards were presented at the PA 4-H Horse Forum. Winners were given complimentary registrations to the forum along with other forms of recognition.

A committee has been established to review the Horsemanship Skills Program for future revisions. Suggestions for revision are welcomed and should be forwarded to Pat or Patty for the committee's consideration. Skills for driving and therapeutic riding have been drafted and will be considered for addition to the program. Pat requested contact information for individuals that may be interested in training to be Level 3/4 examiners. It is anticipated that there will be more

demand for Level 3/4 testing in the near future. The list of Level 1/2 examiners has been updated on the website.

The status of the Shared Horse Guidelines was discussed. The guidelines are currently on hold for liability insurance review.

Applications for the outstanding 4-H member award should be available to counties in the near future. It was noted that Jodi Lenhart, Westmoreland County 4-H member, was recognized as the first American Youth Horse Council Youth Leader award winner at the national symposium held in Denver, Colorado. Jodi was the PA Outstanding 4-H Horse Program Member in 2005.

Rule changes regarding the State 4-H Achievement Days contests have been posted on the website. It was noted that a number of horse judging resources are listed in the rules for the contest.

Helene McKiernan discussed the grant program that has been initiated to study the effectiveness of using electronic microchipping for identification of horses. Butler, Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, and Westmoreland counties will be participating in the study. 4-H members in those counties will have the opportunity to have their horse's microchipped for free in exchange for providing information on where the horses travel. The grant also provides for a team to travel to shows to identify horses that have been identified through the study. As part of the study, the Penn State sale horses have also been chipped. The number on the chip will be sent to AQHA and will become a part of the horses' permanent record.

The income and expense report for the 2006 State 4-H Horse Show was distributed. Information regarding stall expenses has been broken out for clarification. There has been no information on any increases to farm show fees and a stall contract has not yet been signed. There was discussion on the use of shavings for bedding. It was pointed out that there was a problem with trash and debris in the shavings. An example was blue board used under shavings to help prevent the horses from slipping. As a result, we may have to go to another hauler and the cost for removing the bedding from the show will increase significantly. How can this be policed? Representatives need to go back to the districts and discuss this problem with members, parents, and volunteer leaders. Foam blue board and other anti-slip materials are not permitted to be used in stalls. It was pointed out that adding a couple of extra bales of shavings or straw will serve the same purpose. The rule book line item is an every other year expense. Insurance has doubled in the past couple of years. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the treasurer's report as presented.

Fees for the 2007 show may be adjusted as needed to cover rising show expenses.

The state show schedule will be revised. Showmanship classes will be reversed – western classes will be prior to English. Other changes may be made in an attempt to address management or exhibitor concerns.

This year's model horse show will be the ninth. September 15th is the entry deadline. Entries go directly to Kirstin Dubbs in Clinton County. The show is open to any interested 4-H'ers. Call or e-mail Kirstin with questions.

The county educational exhibit contest will be held again this year. Deadline for entries is September 25th to Deb Dietrich in the Berks County Extension Office.

The consensus was that we continue to hold the dance for 4-H'ers at the State 4-H Horse Show. Volunteers are needed to help plan and conduct the dance.

Lists were distributed for volunteers for help with specific areas of the state show and other educational program initiatives.

Recommendations for Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Program and 2008 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 2008. 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

General Horse Program Concerns

1. Develop guidelines for a shared horse program. The Development Committee has developed guidelines and is awaiting administrative/insurance approval. *Previously addressed.*
2. Will shared horse classes be permitted in 2007? (V) *Individual counties and districts are already doing this. State-wide guidelines are not yet approved. It was suggested that no new initiatives in this area be started until a decision about the state-wide guidelines has been reached.*
3. Develop recreational activities/project to include riding recognition/saddlelog program, trail riding, non-show activities, etc. Report from committee. (DC) *Betsy Ullrich presented a draft of a recreational riding program. Suggestions are welcome. A committee is being formed to continue development of this program.*
4. Horsemanship Skills need to have a description for each skill. Hold level 3-4 clinics for leaders so they know what the examiners are looking for. Make a video or DVD of the skills. Levels are unbalanced. Revise skills in levels. (VI) *Being addressed thru sub-committee.*
5. Revise risk form procedure for open horse shows. Suggest participants at 4-H open horse shows would be provided a copy of the risk form and then be asked to sign a form showing they have read and received the risk form and acknowledge all the risks involved. Acknowledgement list would be retained on file at the extension office. (VI) *Previously addressed. Risk forms for open shows are in the 4-H policy manual. The 4-H member form is located on the website with the project enrollment information.*
6. Revise the dress code/code of conduct - female exhibitors wearing revealing attire. (IX) *Moved and seconded to revise the dress code for the state show code of conduct in regards to female exhibitors wearing revealing attire. Concerns with attire in ring and in practice areas. Two separate issues. The 4-H code of conduct may already address the issue. How will this be enforced? Motion defeated.*
7. Do not wish the state show to have its date set any earlier than the last week of September. (IX) *Moved and seconded. This idea has also been discussed at the 2006 PA 4-H Horse Advisory Committee meeting and also at the 2007 4-H Horse Forum. May not have much of*

a say unless we move to another facility. To a large extent we have to fit into the farm show complex schedule. Concern was expressed that there would not be enough time to conduct county and district shows. The demands on educators' time and their summer schedules would also need to be considered. Currently, there are conflicts with Quarter Horse Congress and indoor hunter shows. Members are forced to make a decision between shows and also 4-H contests at the Congress and it was suggested that we are losing role models that opt for larger shows. More information needs to be shared at the county and district level. Counties and districts do not have all of the facts to make informed decisions. Members may not have an opportunity to work with horses early enough in the year because of weather and no access to indoor riding facilities. It was noted that many northern and western states have their state show in July or August. Only a few states have their state show in the fall. Patty discussed some of the reasoning for initiating the discussion. The idea goes beyond just moving the show. An earlier time frame may provide opportunities for a different type of show, with more participation and more educational opportunities. The current program year does not permit sufficient time for planning and preparing for next year. What, ultimately, is in the best interest of the entire program and membership? The DC is currently seeking input. There is no set timetable for implementation if it is determined that we need to pursue a change. Everyone is encouraged to go back to counties and districts to initiate discussion and forward suggestions to DC. Motion defeated.

8. Rotate order of the regional production shows throughout the state between west-to-east and east-to-west. (IX) *Motion dies for lack of a second.*
9. 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 program planning, curriculum development, and planning for events in subsequent calendar years. Also consider various options for qualification for state show. (DC) *Previously addressed and will continue to be considered by Development Committee*
10. Do not have state show any earlier than the last week in September. (IX) *Previously addressed*
11. Continue exploring options for funding new position to work with 4-H Horse Program and develop endowment to support the program for the future. (DC) *Previously addressed*

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)
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)
3. Do not adopt the Danish system of judging for advancing from district to state show. (IX) *Motion to not adopt the Danish system as a method of advancement. Seconded. Opportunity to reward youth that may not qualify for state show but are doing a good job. Originally suggested as part of the bigger picture discussion for changes to state show. Motion defeated. (addresses items 1,2, and 3)*

4. Page 5 & 6, Rule 24. Change second to last sentence in bold in the box on page 6 to:
Protective Headgear is required in all classes when riding, driving, or showing in-hand. (I)
Motion dies for a lack of a second.

Protests

1. Page 10, Protests; Raise the protest fee from \$25 to \$50. (X) *Moved and seconded. Motion defeated. Referred to DC for further consideration.*

Production Rules

1. Page 12, Rule 5; Change minimum age/birth date for showing foals of current year shown at regional shows. Foals must be born by April 1 in order to show in current year. There are a significant number of foals shown at very young ages (less than 3 or 4 months of age). Concern that this is a humane issue and may adversely affect the health and welfare of the foal. (DC; Horse Forum). *Moved and seconded that foals must be born by April 1st in order to show in the current year. Rule to become effective for 2009. What are industry norms? Members can still carry late weanling as a project. This is a safety and humane issue. Motion passed.*
2. Page 12, Rule 6 – or add new rule; Any horse that becomes detached from its handler and is not under control by the handler will be disqualified and excused. 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. Add rule to showmanship? (DC) *Moved and seconded. Motion passed. Development Committee to clarify final wording.*
3. Page 13, rule 10; No stallions older than weanlings should be allowed in production classes. Most major breed associations do not allow youth to show stallions. (DC) *Moved and seconded. Motion passed.*
4. Should production project become a junior horse project for horses 5 years of age and under? Consider revision of production project, objectives and guidelines. Are we promoting animal welfare or contributing to problems with unwanted horses? (questions to DC) *Referred to DC*
5. Add 3 year olds to production in-hand classes. (VIII) *Moved and seconded. Motion passed.*
6. Add driving futurity for 3 year old minis. (VIII) *Moved and seconded. Motion passed.*

Performance Rules

1. Change Page 18, Rule 8; Allow a performance animal and an additional pony project for driving. (I and IV) Change rule to read: In non-driving classes of the Performance Division, a 4-H member is permitted to show only one horse. However, an additional **pony**, draft, or miniature horse may be shown in class 42, 44 or 45 (*class #'s corrected from district's submission*) respectively. Only one of the following combinations is permissible: light horse performance and miniature horse driving; **light horse performance and pony driving**; light horse performance and draft horse driving; or draft horse driving and miniature horse driving. A draft or miniature horse may be used as the member's performance horse in non-driving classes if the member does not have a light performance horse **or pony**. A production project animal may also be used as a performance project animal. (I) *Moved and seconded. Should a pony as a second project be another option beyond driving? The motion is consistent with allowing a draft or mini as a second driving project. Motion passed. Development Committee to clarify wording.*

2. Page 18, Rule 9a; Height needs to be checked after the age of 6 periodically. There were horses that were taller than 14.2 in pony classes at shows beyond the county level. (XI) *No action taken.*
3. Page 19, Rule 10; Clarify/change age of stallions to be consistent with rule for production. (DC) *Referred to DC.*
4. Page 19, Rule 16; Change to allow riders to enter both western and English divisions. (IV) *Motion dies for lack of a second.*
5. Page 19, Rule 17; Change to allow hunter riders to enter both equitation classes (over fences and flat). (IV) *Moved and seconded. Motion defeated.*
6. Page 20, Rule 18; Change to allow hunter riders to enter both hunter hack and working hunter over fences. (IV) *Moved and seconded. Hunter Hack originally intended to be a progression to working hunter. Motion defeated.*
7. Page 20, Add new rule after Rule 18; A 4-H member may not show in *both* pony and horse classes. (question to DC regarding Western Pleasure and Hunter Under Saddle classes) *No action taken. Development Committee to review and clarify if needed.*

Open Division

1. Page 24, 25, Classes 5, 6 and 7, Open Trail; Recommend judging this on the point system similar to reining and jumping, possibly with a minimum of 60 points (10 obstacles or similar % thereof) to proceed to the next level. (I) *Moved and seconded. Similar to Novice Reining. Would encourage kids to work with horses on negotiating the obstacles so that they are adequately prepared to move on to the next level. There is no standard for trail class obstacles and maneuvers. Some have simple classes, some more difficult. Motion passed.*
2. Add a Miniature Horse Trail class. (IV, X) (see attached rules) *Moved and seconded. Does mini then become performance horse? Motion defeated.*
3. Page 28, Classes 9 and 10, Pleasure Pairs; Increase pleasure pair quota to 2 pair per class per discipline. (IV) *No action taken.*
4. Should Pleasure Pairs and County Team classes be eliminated? Are these classes meeting their intended purpose? Safety and class quality are concerns. (questions to DC) *Moved and seconded. Motion defeated.*
5. Add Walk-Trot class to the state show. (XI) *No action taken.*

Western Division

1. Page 42, Class 19; Remove Reining Class 19 from the State 4-H horse show rule book since it is no longer a state level class. (X) *No action taken. Referred to DC.*

Contest Classes

1. There was a call, with some opposition, that the contest riders be separated from the western division. (III) *Moved and seconded. Clarification that does not permit contest riders to ride in western pleasure, equitation, etc. Motion defeated.*
2. Open Contest classes to English riders. (IV) *No action taken.*
3. Contest Classes, page 42, item g; Recommend that acknowledgement from the judge be eliminated in the contest classes. Recommend that exhibitors be allowed to begin their pattern as soon as they have entered the ring. (Eliminate whistle, but no running the gate) (recommendation to DC from judge) *Moved and seconded. Safety issue? Does gate have to be shut? Motion defeated. Referred to DC for further consideration.*

4. Page 42 h and j: Clarify whether or not an exhibitor is disqualified if they trip the timer at any time during their pattern, but before they are actually finished with their round. Page 42, h states "A contest class begins when the horse's nose crosses the starting line and ends when a horse's nose crosses the finish line." Page 42 j. states "...or failing to follow the course shall cause disqualification..." The general consensus was that if you trip the timer at any time during your course, but before your ride is complete, results in an automatic DQ (III) *If you trip the timer you are disqualified. No action taken.*
5. Page 44, Classes 22 and 23, Clover leaf Barrel Race; Revise distances to be consistent with AQHA rules; shorter distances more suitable for many arenas. (suggestion to DC from judge) *Moved and seconded. Motion passed.*
6. Add a small game pony class (13 hands and under) for riders using smaller ponies. (XI) *No action taken.*
7. Add Cutback class. (IX) *Motion dies for lack of a second.*

English Division (Hunt Seat)

1. Page 49, 50, 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 dies for lack of a second.*
2. Pages 53, Classes 40 and 41, Hunter Hack; First paragraph: Propose that this class be judged on a 50/50 basis and pointing down a horse/pony that refuses one or both jumps. If a horse/pony refuses a jump 3 times the 50% jumping score will not count. (I) *Motion dies for lack of a second.*
3. Page 53, Classes 40 and 41, Hunter Hack; Change 2nd paragraph to: All exhibitors will be asked to jump two fences. Refusal by the horse to jump and/or knocking down a jump is not cause for disqualification, but are considered major faults. One courtesy circle... (I) *Moved and seconded. Add "considered major faults". Clarification to judges. Motion passed. DC to clarify wording if needed.*

Driving Division

1. Add Obstacle (trail) Driving to state horse show. (IV) *Moved and seconded. Safety concern. Would need to measure wheel base for all carts and adjust obstacles accordingly. Motion defeated.*
2. Add Therapeutic Driving. (VI) *Motion dies for lack of second*
3. Add Carriage Horse Driving classes. (VIII) *No action taken*
4. Page 56, Attendants; Can there be a way to test out of having to have mini's to pull two people? It is difficult for the mini's to pull two people. The only comment was that there would be an unfair advantage for the drivers who would not need an attendant. (VIII) *No action taken.*
5. Page 59, Class 45, Miniature Horse Driving; Separate Shetland Ponies from the mini horses (VIII) *No action taken.*

Therapeutic Riding Division

1. Page 61; Is there a way to determine or better define minimum versus maximum, as well where those members with disabilities that don't necessarily affect the riding ability should be categorized? (III) *Moved and seconded. Hard to define. Need more education at the county level. Motion defeated. Refer to DC for clarification.*

2. Page 62, 63, d. Tack; Question that the lead rope be attached vs. unattached at the rider/handler discretion. It has been noted that the kids off-lead place higher than those on-lead seemingly without cause. Some parents/trainers feel that although the rider may not actually need the lead line attached, they do so for safety reasons and feel that they may be being discriminated against. (III) *Motion to refer to DC for consideration. Seconded. Motion passed.*
3. Page 62, h. Aides; Question of side walkers in addition to the leader citing safety, should the horse act unexpectedly, thus covering the horse and rider in an emergency. (III) *No action taken.*

General State Show Concerns – the following items were referred to the Development Committee for further discussion

1. Classes should place/pin to 10 placings regardless of class size. Example: This year pairs class was only pinned to 5th place instead of 6th. (I), (IX) *Historically, placings have been made to one half the quota. Moved and seconded to place to 10 in performance classes. Motion passed.*
2. Do not allow cars to park where the trailers and campers with hookups park. (I) *Hard to enforce – open parking area.*
3. Security personnel seemed short, aggressive and discourteous to people loading and unloading. Perhaps they need to be more sensitive to the fact that most of these people do this once or twice a year and may be a bit unfamiliar to the procedures. (III) *Referred to show management.*
4. Need a new hay vendor who will be open at 11:00 sharp on Thursday and stay open all day Thursday. Vendor this year opened at 11:30 under duress. Her attitude was poor. Hay and straw cost \$5/bale. (I) *Refer to show management.*
5. Concern that security guards didn't get the stall assignments until 11:00 am. They should have them sooner. (I), (IX) *Depends on stall set-up time. Take back to counties – not always easy to do.*
6. Leave directional signs posted until late in the day Sunday. Signs were removed while the show was still going on in the new arena, and those coming in for their classes or coming to watch the show Sunday afternoon couldn't find seating, etc. (V) *Referred to show management.*
7. Start recycling at the state horse show. It was felt that being a 4-H program that would be a great community service effort for the PA horse program and we could potentially make some money recycling and place it in some type of 4-H Horse endowment. (VIII)
8. No hosing of seats during practice (or at least not near the arena rail). (IV) *Will try to resolve or post signs of when hosing will occur.*
9. Not enough food vendors. (XI) *Farm Show controls vendors.*
10. Motel rates are higher than usual during the show. Is it possible to get a reduced rate? (XI) *Depends on other events in area at time of show. Will be higher this year.*
11. Entry and Exit gates should be closed while class is in progress. Excited exhibitors (sometimes with their animals) were seen rushing the gates, probably to watch a class, but spooking participants in the class. (III) *Referred to DC*
12. Open the big door in new arena to use as entrance, congestion in hallway. (IV) *Referred to show management.*

13. Carts should be prohibited from being ridden inside of the building through hallways and stable area. They should be led only. (III)
14. List all submitted entries in the show catalog even if some paperwork is missing. (IX)
Regional production show.
15. List the judge's name in the catalog. (IX) *Regional production show*
16. Make parents and trainers abide by the code of conduct. There was an adult riding during the warm-up session that was purposely running up on, bumping into, and cutting off other horses and their riders just for the fun of it. (IX) *Regional production show*
17. It was noted that the behavior of some adults in attendance during the timed events was inappropriate. (V)
18. Everyone needs to be reminded that 4-H does not allow dogs (leashed or otherwise) anywhere in the Farm Show Complex despite signage to the contrary. (III) *Problem with signs from previous show.*
19. Enforce the working class order. Some exhibitors missed their call after the public address system was remedied and were permitted to run in the class. (XI)
Circumstances were such that exhibitor was permitted to work. May need to make adjustments to accommodate conflicts with other classes.
20. Too many horses/ponies in the classes, why have quotas increased over the years? (VI)
Quotas have not increased significantly. Based on number of entries at qualifying show.
21. State classes should be rotated to different days. (VII) *Moved and seconded to rotate state show schedule. Currently, the schedule is blocked to accommodate judges. Needs to be a show management decision. Motion defeated.*
22. Post signs in the lunging pens limiting the time that each person may lunge. Some people waited several hours to use the pens while the same horses were worked down. (V), (VII) *Time limits will be posted to encourage exhibitors to take turns.*
23. Scheduling issues for the warm-up areas, particularly when the over-fences participants needed the room for practice—scheduling for the warm up areas needs to be looked at more closely as this is a safety issue. (IX)
24. Need to do a better job of making sure the indoor practice times are monitored. There was a time when entirely too many horses were permitted in to practice, creating a safety hazard. (I), (IX) *Referred to DC*

It was moved and seconded that all units, districts, etc. be limited to submission of their top five state show management concerns for future advisory committee meetings. Need to prioritize and address factors that we are able to control! Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna S. Zang, Secretary

Mini Trail - *Draft Rules* from District X 4-H

Should be shown at a walk, jog or trot and lope or canter on reasonably loose lead without undue restraint. Prohibited equipment included any type of chain either over or under face or attached to the lead. Special emphasis shall be placed on the walk. Entries shall be judged on performance.

Performance shall be over and/or through obstacles such as opening, passing through, and closing gate without losing control of horse or gate; leading through water, over logs, bridge, or simulated brush; carrying objects from one part of the ring to another; backing into or leading into a dead end stall and either leading or backing out; opening and closing mailbox; and negotiating any of many natural obstacles that may be encountered along a trail. Loss of control of gate (i.e. removing hand from the gate before it is latched) will result in a penalty.

If an entry fails to completely negotiate an obstacle in approximately one minute, only partial points will be awarded, unless the nature of the obstacle requires a longer time, i.e.: complex back-up obstacles. Failure to begin to negotiate an obstacle within 30 seconds of arrival at the obstacle, or three refusals, regardless of the length of time, will result in a zero at that obstacle. Failure to follow the prescribed order of obstacles will result in disqualification. No obstacle may be passed without the permission of the judge.

Management, when setting course, should keep in mind that the idea is not to trap a horse, or eliminate it by making an obstacle too difficult. All courses and obstacles are to be constructed with safety in mind so as to eliminate any accident. Enough space must be provided for a horse to jog/trot (at least 20 feet) and lope (at least 30 feet) for the judge to evaluate these gaits.

When logs or poles are used as obstacles that the horse must cross over, they can be used in a straight line, curved, zigzag. The space between the logs is to be measured and the path the horse is to take should be the measuring point. The space between walkovers shall be 10" to 14" and jog/trot overs 20" to 26" there are to be no lope/canter overs. Lope/canter circle should be 20' in diameter and marked by cones or similar safe objects. No evaluated poles are permitted. Distance between logs in backing obstacles is a minimum of 24".

Handler's cues that are acceptable are: voice or mouth commands, soft shaking of lead rope, twirling end of lead rope, and body language. Unacceptable cues are baiting to encourage an animal to perform the obstacle is not permitted. Handlers will be penalized for physically pushing horse in any direction, stepping on or in an obstacle with the horse (i.e. walk on the bridge or step into poles) – exception- walk into square, walk/trot over poles, or by direction of the judge.