

**PA 4-H Horse Program Development Committee**  
**January 11, 2006**  
**Minutes**

(Subject to approval at next meeting)

Members Present: Pat Comerford, Brian Egan, Lori Benner, Jackie Simon, Kirsten Dubbs, Christine Corl, Lori Little, Tammy Eichstadt, Sharon Jodon, Patty Kelly, and Donna Zang

Patty called the meeting to order.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2006 meeting as presented.

The following sentence will be added to all rules passed during the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding classes with minimum score requirements. In no case will more than the maximum quota advance to the next level regardless of their score. Rules are amended as follows:

Beginning in 2006, participants in Novice Reining must have a minimum score of 60 to be considered for advancement to the district show and a minimum score of 63 to be considered for advancement to the state show. The quota system determining the number of participants from each district to advance to the state level will also apply. In no case will more than the maximum quota advance to the next level regardless of their score.

Beginning in 2008, participants in Western Riding must have a minimum score of 55 to be considered for advancement to the district show and a minimum score of 58 to be considered for advancement to the state show. The quota system determining the number of participants from each district to advance to the state level will also apply. In no case will more than the maximum quota advance to the next level regardless of their score.

Beginning in 2008, participants in the classes over fences must have a minimum score of 55 to be considered for advancement to the district show and a minimum score of 58 to be considered for advancement to the state show. The quota system determining the number of participants from each district to advance to the state level will also apply. In no case will more than the maximum quota advance to the next level regardless of their score. (Note: see later action in minutes on this item; minimum scores for advancement have not yet been determined.)

Discussion on the use of a leading Y in the Therapeutic Division classes continued. A motion was made to permit the use of a leading Y if not used with a curb (shank) bit. Motion died for lack of a second.

The following changes will be made to the 2006 rule book to clarify equipment requirements in the Therapeutic Division.

Under Clothing and Equipment Requirements, letter d, change to the following:

Tack: Style of tack is optional. Tack and equipment must be appropriate for the seat and class entered. Mechanical hackamores are prohibited. Non-mechanical hackamores and bosals are permitted for horses five years of age and under. Halter (or halter/bridle combinations) are required on all horses.

A lead rope is required and may or may not be attached. If attached, the lead rope may not be attached to the bridle.

(Clothing and Equipment Requirements, letter d, change to the following, second paragraph)

Tack should be appropriate for the rider's size and ability, and properly fitted to the horse and rider. Riders should ride with feet in stirrups unless unable to do so due to their condition. Adaptive equipment may be used, but in no way may the rider be attached to the horse or saddle. Safety stirrups are advised. Safety handles should be used on all English saddles.

It was moved and seconded to continue to allow the use of hay/straw bales as an obstacle in the Therapeutic Division Obstacle Trail class. Motion passed.

In the Hunt Seat division it was moved and seconded to a statement to Hunter Hack that, in the case of inclement weather, show management may permit the use of protective boots or conservative colored bandages. Discussion followed on the difference in rules for United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) regarding the use of boots/bandages in Hunter Hack. It was determined that, at this time, the committee look to USEF as the industry standard for the hunter classes. The motion was amended, that in the case of inclement weather, show management may permit the use of bell boots. Amendment seconded. Motion passed as amended.

It was moved and seconded to add a statement to clarify courtesy circles in fence classes. Additional circles are considered a major fault. Motion passed. (Note for rule book: Courtesy circles are mentioned in two places on page 41 under Hunter Seat Equitation and Third paragraph, first sentence. Page 42 under Working Hunters, fifth paragraph. The clarification statement should be included in both places.)

It was moved and seconded to add a courtesy circle statement to the Hunter Hack class following the statement, "Refusal by the horse to jump is not cause for disqualification." One courtesy circle prior to the first fence is permitted. Additional circles are considered a major fault. This statement is consistent with USEF rules. Motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to have Sharon, Patty, and Pam Nealer review the scoring system for fence classes and adjust as appropriate for our classes. Finalized scoring system to be forwarded to Brian by January 20<sup>th</sup> for inclusion in the new rule book. Guideline document to be updated to be consistent with the scoring system. Motion passed.

A statement will be added to the show management guidelines regarding lightning strikes. Patty will e-mail or fax the wording to Pat.

A clarification to the Headgear Rule will be made regarding responsibility for making sure that the appropriate helmets are being used. In the Headgear Question and Answer document the following statement will be added on page four at the end of the fourth paragraph at the end of the underlined sentence...unless the appropriateness of the headgear is questioned. This statement will also be added to the rulebook, page 5, rule 22, at the end of the underlined sentence in the fourth paragraph.

The committee reviewed and approved the additions to the document Guidelines for Bits in Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Shows (page 2, shaded area).

The committee reviewed the document that includes Obstacle Trail Guidelines. It was moved and seconded to remove the statement “performing over any reasonable conditions encountered along the trail” from page 12 under “The following obstacles are permitted:” Motion passed. It was moved, seconded, and passed to specify minimum and maximum assistance guidelines for backing as follows.

For maximum assistance, remove the statement Backing the mount into a “3-sided box” of ground poles and riding out of the “box”... Change the last statement on page 12 to: Ride into a “3-sided box” of ground poles, turn and ride out...  
For minimum assistance, statements regarding backing obstacles will remain unchanged.

On page 11, under course distances and recommendations, item 3 to be changed to: At least 30 feet of jog/trot area between obstacles when jog/trot is used.

The draft revision of the Production Project Guidelines was approved as presented.

The following requests for Horsemanship Skills and other clinics have been received. Committee will follow-up with interested counties. Priority will be given to doing trainings in counties/areas where they have not been done previously. Need to try and include other Level 3/4 examiner trainers in teaching.

Clinton County – Kirsten will be doing a Level 1/2 examiner training in Lycoming County on February 11<sup>th</sup> that will also include Clinton County volunteers.

Wayne County (northeast) – May/June – Pat and Kirsten will follow-up

Potter/McKean (north central) – Late March/April. An informational clinic was done previously in McKean County.

Erie (northwest) – no specific time requested. Donna will follow-up with Jen Fetter. Possibly involve Tammy and Christine

Somerset (southwest/south central) – no specific time requested – need general info clinic. Patty will follow-up with Joanne Stoltzfus. Donna had tried to schedule a clinic with this county in 2005 but could not come up with a date that suited.

Cumberland (capital) – April 1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>. Patty willing to work on a session for capital region counties. Pat will make the contact with the capital region and coordinate with Patty.

Huntingdon (southwest/central) – Early May. Kirsten will follow-up.

Berks (southeast) – A clinic was done in Bucks last year. May be doing a regional camp in this area and information would be covered there.

Individuals doing follow-up should confirm dates as soon as possible and get information back to Pat to publicize to the counties.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Zang

Secretary, PA 4-H Horse Development Committee