

Cowboy Dressage World of Colorado

Meeting Notes – 02/11/18

CH-Equine, Brighton



Those in attendance: Marion Dahlgren, Erin Long, Laura Cassiday, Pam Pierce, Abby Martin, Eliza Stowe, Avery Fails, Leeann Ribble, Diane Drake, Kathie Hibbard, Cody Harrison, Carrie Harrison, Stacey Ruel, Ken Dahlgren, Darcy Epeneter

Marion called the meeting to order, 3:30 p.m.

1. Rocky Mountain Horse Expo

- a. We currently have plenty of volunteers to run our booth, welcome new members, and help set up for clinics – hooray! A huge thank you to those who have signed up to help.
- b. The booth will be set up Thursday afternoon so that it is ready for Expo on Friday
 - i. We cannot get in to set up on Wednesday

2. Fun Shows vs. Clinics

- a. The current calendar shows a good balance of fun shows and clinics
- b. For clinics, we can use parts of the court if the indoor is not large enough for a full court
- c. Looking at trying to host a few more shows, still working on location

3. Location of Events

- a. With all funds currently coming out-of-pocket from our members, it is difficult to find a centralized and affordable location for fun shows and clinics
- b. If members would like to see something in their area, they are encouraged to host or help one of the Team organize the event
- c. Thank you, Marion, for doing extensive research on the available arena options in the Denver area. Criteria for an event space include:
 - i. Parking for horse trailers
 - ii. Overnight with hookup available for multiple day events, 4 to 6 LQ trailers.
 - iii. 70'x140' indoor arena
 - iv. Bathrooms
 - v. Stalling/pens for horses for multiple day events

4. Recouping Cost

- a. Currently the group has a number of ongoing expenses (Expo setup, promotional materials, website, digital design, etc.) that we would like to recoup the costs of to keep this sustainable
- b. Several options for this include:
 - i. Membership fees
 - ii. Sponsorship of the group
 - iii. Charging for advertising

5. Organization

- a. Kansas would like to see us continue to move towards getting 501(c)(3), just at a much slower pace – get our pieces and parts for it together, then reconsider
- b. Currently have a first/rough draft of the bylaws compiled by Erin, to be sent out in a Google Doc for comments by our members

Cowboy Dressage World of Colorado

Meeting Notes – 02/11/18

CH-Equine, Brighton



6. Point System

- a. Discussed the three potential options for a point system:
 - i. Purely score based
 1. Advantages: easy to track
 2. Concerns: scores between shows and judges are highly variable
 - ii. Weighted placement
 1. Advantages: not reinventing the wheel, several national show organizations use this with great success
 2. Concerns: doesn't reward other types of participation
 - iii. Participation awards
 1. Advantages: helps to encourage people to get involved in all aspects of the group
 2. Concerns: doesn't reward those who have done well at shows as much as other systems do

- b. Erin made the motion, 2nd by Cody

Harmony & Partnership Point System

- i. **Harmony Points** are based on your Harmony with the group and fellow competitor, to reward participation and involvement. It would be based on Kansas's current point system, and would include:
 1. Ride in a clinic – 20 points (40 point annual maximum)
 2. Audit a clinic – 5 points per day
 3. Volunteer at a CDWCO event – 5 points/2-hour shift (30 point annual maximum)
 4. Attend a CDWCO playday – 5 points per day (30 point annual maximum)
 5. Ride in a CDWCO schooling show: 15 points per day
 6. Ride in a CDWCO Regional Gathering: 25 points per day
- ii. **Partnership Points** are based on your Partnership with your horse, which allows you to succeed in the show ring. It would be loosely based on the USEF/USHJA weighted placement system, and would include (tentatively – exact point numbers are open to discussion):
 1. Points per placement to scale with the number of competitors in the class. The proposed formula for points is: (# entered in class x 2)/Placement, with the result always rounded up to the next whole number.
 2. If there is only one rider: 1st = 2 points
 3. If there are two riders: 1st = 4 points, 2nd = 2 point (corrected 180218)
 4. If there are three riders: 1st = 6 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 2 points
 5. If there are four riders: 1st = 8 points, 2nd = 4 points, 3rd = 3 points, 4th = 2 points
 6. If there are 5 riders: 1st = 10 points, 2nd = 5 points, 3rd = 4 points, 4th = 3 points, 5th = 2 points
 7. If there are 6 or more riders: 1st = 12 points, 2nd = 6 points, 3rd = 5 points, 4th = 4 points, 5th = 3 points, 6th = 2 points. (corrected 180218)
- iii. Voted, Motion Passed

Cowboy Dressage World of Colorado

Meeting Notes – 02/11/18

CH-Equine, Brighton



7. Membership Fees

- a. Discussed the difficulty in continuing to operate without any funds to operate with.
 - i. We cannot continue to rely on the generosity of a few to help make this a success
 - ii. Membership fees were proposed as an option – these would allow us to purchase year-end awards for our members, continue to operate the website, and help our organization grow
 - iii. Brought up the eventual goal of being able to subsidize clinics and shows as an organization, rather than individuals having to front the entire cost
 - iv. Membership fees would be optional – only required for those who are interested in achieving year-end awards or would like to support the mission of CDWCO

- b. Erin made the Motion, 2nd by Abby

Creating a Membership Fee System

- i. Membership fee values would be as follows:
 1. Juniors (17 and under): \$35
 2. Individuals: \$50
 3. Families (2 or more residing at the same residence): \$85
- ii. A membership year would be one calendar year
- iii. Voted, Motion Passed

8. Bank Account

- a. As we are going to be collecting membership fees and sponsorships, and making purchases as a group, it would be wise to have a bank account to work out of
- b. Discussed having multiple signers for various levels of withdrawal, and the importance of transparency in our records, as well as a receipt system for any purchases
- c. Bank to be chosen between those who are the approved signers, based on convenient locations for them, and with approval of the group
- d. Erin made the motion, 2nd by Cody

Open A Bank Account with the following stipulations

- i. Any withdrawal under \$200 will require two signatures
- ii. Any withdrawal over \$200 will require three signatures, and approval of the team.
- iii. Those approved to sign for withdrawals are Laura, Leeann, and Erin
- iv. Voted, Motion Passed

9. Point System Event Fee

- a. On Kansas's recommendation, we should ensure that those events that are a part of our point system are contributing to CDWCO
- b. This covers our costs for counting and tabulating the points, as well as further promotes events that are benefiting our group as a whole
- c. We did not want this system to penalize those event organizers who made less than others
- d. Erin made the motion, 2nd by Darcy

A \$5/rider Fee for Point System Events

Cowboy Dressage World of Colorado

Meeting Notes – 02/11/18

CH-Equine, Brighton



- i. Any event, be it a playday, show, clinic, or other event, that wishes to have its participants included in the CDWCO point system, will pay to CDWCO a \$5/rider (or participant) fee
- ii. This fee will be included on the entry/signup form as “To be paid to CDWCO for the point certification of this event” or similar language, so that riders are aware where the fee is coming from and going to
- iii. It is optional to be a part of the point system – those events that do not wish to participate do not have to charge this fee
- iv. Voted, Motion Passed

10. Advertising

- a. Brief discussion on whether we should ask a fee for advertising on our website and FaceBook pages
- b. Some concern over how we can define what is “Cowboy Dressage” friendly. Suggested qualifications included:
 - i. Within the definition of the Handshake
 - ii. Those events put on by CDWPA members
 - iii. Those events that are Cowboy Dressage specific
- c. Tabled this discussion for a later meeting

11. Next Meeting

- a. We had previously considered having a meeting at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, but are concerned everyone will be too busy and we will have trouble finding a quiet place to meet
 - i. May still do an informal group dinner for Expo volunteers – to be determined
- b. Planning on having the next team meeting in Mid-May

12. Erin made the motion to adjourn the meeting

- a. 2nd by Abby
- b. Voted, Motion Passed
- c. Meeting adjourned at 5:45p.m.