

**WAHSET District 3  
Minutes – January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Submitted by Susan Holcroft**

**Present:** Michelle Skillingstad - North Thurston, Andrea Luper – North Thurston, Cherie Quist – Camas, Gabriele Smith – Camas, Carrie Quist – Camas, Angela Colley – Snohomish, Linda Wirth – Hockinson (District Treasurer), Susan Holcroft – Washougal (District Secretary), Grace Holcroft – Washougal, Jolene Johnson – Woodland, Kalee Clark – Toledo United, Paige Riggs – Toledo United, Chanin Holdt (District Chair), Rebecca Cantrell (District Vice-Chair), Bella Campizane – Hockinson, Kathryn Tilkin – Hockinson, Katie Surrutt – Battle Ground, Katie Cholewa – Battle Ground, Kari Espinosa – Snohomish, Desirae Harrison – Castle Rock, Sarah Hall – Castle Rock, Susan Potter – Castle Rock

Meeting started 9:12 am

**December minutes**

Correction made to reflect that there was a unanimous vote to approve cost of dance for January meet. All expenditures need to be approved by vote.

Motion to approve amended minutes. Approved.

**Treasurer's report**

**Attachment**

**Action:** Linda will send out a new budget via email, revised to include income and expense for additional riders.

**Action:** Please send in cow fees if you haven't already done so.

Audits - Let Chanin know if you are running your account through your school ASB. If you don't have a separate checking account, you don't need to worry about the monthly audit.

**Old business**

**New bridge:** Chyma is taking her bridge back to her arena. There is money in the budget for equipment. Rebecca will speak to Jim about building a new bridge. Chyma will also get new tires for the equipment trailer.

**Dance:** It was agreed that the planned dance for the January meet will be cancelled, due to time constraints with additional riders.

**District 3 logo:** Discussion about whether to add new teams to existing logo, or create new one. The majority voted to add new teams to the current logo.

**Music for meets:** Rebecca will coordinate music for drill and working pairs. There is a budget for a new sound board. Angela will create a playlist for gaming and give to Rebecca. Drill and working pairs music should be digital. Music should be on CD, mp3 format. Itunes work well, or flashdrive. Not a phone or iPod, as it is difficult to extract. Contact Rebecca with questions.

**Meet packets/welcome new riders:** Chanin will put together meet packets, and Washougal will add goody bags to welcome new riders. Washougal will also make a welcome poster. Chanin will email rider names and numbers to Washougal.

**New Business**

**Grand Entry:** Drawing was held to choose seniors to carry in flags at all three meets.

Meet one:

American flag – Hallie Wyles, Battle Ground

WAHSET flag - Mackenna Paul, Woodland

District flag - Haley Toney, Castle Rock

Meet two :

American flag - Desi Harrison, Castle Rock

WAHSET flag - Courtnie Brathovd, North Thurston

District flag - Cheyenne Scherf, Hockinson

Meet three:

American flag - Chelsea Wright, Washougal

WAHSET flag - Sarah Garrow, Toledo

District flag - Cheyenne Coleman, Hockinson

**Action:** Teams can designate a rider to carry their school flag, doesn't need to be a senior. Bring your school flag, and have the rider arrive at 4:30 on Thursday for instruction, 5:00 ride. Size approximately 3x5 feet. Jolene will send any details.

The national anthem will be sung by a different athlete at each meet. Meet one - Woodland , Meet two – Washougal, Meet three –

The judges meeting will be at 4:30 prior to grand entry at 5:00. Athletes for first event need to be ready in warm up arena during grand entry.

Flag runners and singers should arrive ready to go no later than 4:30 for instruction.

**School assignments for set up:** Attachment

**Action:** Please note that all teams help with set up and tear down for cows.

**Meet Schedule:** Concern was raised about IHOR placement on schedule, and the need for clean animals. Chanin will alert judges not to be overly picky. Horses need to be well groomed, but not immaculate.

**Working schedule:** Attachment

Times can't be published, because as soon as an event is over, the next one will begin. Events will be announced on the PA and riders need to be ready.

Coaches meetings will be scheduled at the meet.

Order of go for each event will be alphabetical by school and athlete number. There will be latitude so athletes are not riding back to back. Team grooms are helpful for quick changes.

District will try to work around schedule for students with finals.

**Action:** Chanin needs coach contact info and where they will be staying the night in case of emergency.

Concern was raised about planning a start time for drill that takes into account spectators and gaming horses that need to be ready for drill. Rebecca says this schedule has been done in the past with no issues. Drill should start by 7:00 if everyone is ready for set up on time throughout the day. District 3 hasn't had such big numbers in years, and schedule will be adjusted as needed. Chanin is talking to other districts for tips. Will reevaluate schedule for meets 2 and 3 if needed.

**Action:** Chanin will email an updated schedule with morning start times and additional tractor rakes.

Drill order for practice time:

(15 minutes per team)

Thursday

1 – Castle Rock

2 – Toledo (2 teams)

3 – Hockinson

Friday

4 – North Thurston

5 – Snohomish

6 – Woodland

**Tractor rakes:** Some venues have union contracts and will charge time and a half at end of 8 hour block. Chanin will schedule accordingly, and ask if we might do some of our own, at least the small drags for barrels.

**Judges meetings:** Will occur half hour before each day's gaming, cow, and performance blocks. Athletes and coaches for those events should be present, as it is an opportunity for questions and clarifications. Pattern videos are on the WAHSET website.

**Add/drop:** If necessary, athletes can drop events at the meet but this is not encouraged. Events can also be added if the coach comes to Chanin with special circumstances. They will do their best to work with the athletes if things come up.

#### Dates and Deadlines

**Action:** Final day to turn in events by Wednesday night the 7th. Please send electronically.

**Action:** Yearbook senior stories and pictures are due January 23<sup>th</sup> [Attachment](#)

**Action:** Each team is asked to get two ads for the state yearbook by February 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be a root beer float party at meet three for the team that gets the most ads (at least 8). Talk to family, friends, businesses. See attached.

PINWIC program also needs ads. There will be a letter coming out from state level.

**2016 venues:** Chanin asked for suggestions. Question raised, is it possible to move the April meet to March? Or the January meet to February? It is felt that momentum is lost with such a big gap between meets. Also want to avoid gap between last meet and state. Chanin will keep working on it.

#### Accommodations

Hotels: There are WAHSET block reservations at the hotels listed on the agenda.

**Action:** Let Chanin know an estimate for needed rooms at Elma, so she can reserve a block.

Woodland is coordinating camping at Clark County.

Trailers can be brought in Wednesday night and parked where assigned. Only pay extra if plugged in. Haul in and other camping can arrive no earlier than 1:00 Thursday.

**Action:** Linda will send camping worksheet for set up, please send in needed amperage and length of RV's.

Dogs are allowed at camp area, not in arena or barn.

No propane space heaters are allowed in Clark county arena.

**Shavings and Stalls:** Discussion about pros and cons of bringing in a truckload of shavings vs. bring your own bag. Chanin talked to Pat who can deliver shavings, which is much more cost effective than bags. Or we could lower stall fees and bring our own shavings.

Motion to vote on setting a \$50 stall fee and bring your own shavings or \$60 stall fee to include delivered shavings. 11 votes yes to truckload, no opposed. 2 abstained. Woodland voted for the lower stall fee.

Clark provides two small bags of shavings. Bring your own if more are needed.

With the larger number of riders, may not be room for tack stalls. Each team allowed one trailer between barn and arena for hay, tack, etc.

**Action:** Stall cards must be downloaded from the WAHSET website registration page. This is required with the larger numbers in our district. They can be laminated and used for the season. Fill in emergency contact info with dry erase markers, in case of changes meet to meet.

**Scholarship fundraiser:** Teams can bring a basket for auction to the third meet or contribute \$5 per athlete on their team. If doing a basket, suggested to pick a theme and get donations, 5-10 items. Large baskets can sell for up to \$200. Woodland is coordinating.

Labels – Bring Nutrena labels to meets.

**Cows:** Concern from Castle Rock regarding amount of work to coordinate cow practices and lack of participation or even RSVP's. Feel there is a lack of respect volunteers. Other teams having the same issue.

Suggestion: Set minimum numbers, prepaid whether they attend or not.

**Action:** Share with team and coaches. Cow events are complex and there are risk factors. Practice is crucial and should be mandatory. If an athlete or horse looks unsafe and unpracticed at a meet, they will be disqualified. Meets are not for practicing. Horses and cows are unpredictable and can be frightened.

It was suggested that it would be helpful if district or state rules are announced requiring monthly practice if signing up for a cow event. Coaches have authority to mandate practices, and to observe riders and horses with cows.

In order to put it into by-laws, there will need to be draft language that is ratified. This will take at least a month. Chanin will purchase Roberts rules of order for dummies.

A concern was raised about the practicality of coordinating cow practices if they are not offered at equestrian centers. Suggestion that teams work together to set up clinics.

### **Meet rules and reminders**

Athlete numbers, helmets, and proper footwear are required at all times while mounted. Long hair must be off of numbers. Also watch hoods covering numbers.

Helmets must be fitted and adjusted appropriately. This can be clarified online for your helmet.

No bareback riding ever.

No electronic devices while mounted. No headphones. If needed to look at patterns, do it off horse.

Adult supervision is required during open ride.

Clark County stays open 24 hours. After drill practice, the arena is open for riding all night until morning tractor rake. There is a 12 hour timer clock for lights.

No coats or sweatshirts over polo during competition.

Horse trailer parking is up above, away from barns. There will be space between arena and barn for one horse trailer per team for tack/hay.

No dogs in arena or barns (state rule). Family members/visitors with service dogs must be labeled.

No riding on paved areas.

Keep garbage in garbage cans, staff will pick up cans regularly.

We do not have to clean out stalls, but don't leave garbage or hay strings.

There are ten teams, be mindful of small kitchen appliances in barns. Crock pots will trip breakers, bring for serving, not cooking.

Pick up your poop!! They charge for every pile they pick up between barns and wash rack. No one wants to be the last one there picking up after others have gone home.

Fire lanes must be open, or there will be fines to the district. The arena is handicapped accessible, and people can be dropped off, but don't park.

Students need to be supervised by an adult at all times during the meet, state rules. If a student leaves the meet, they should be accompanied by an adult.

Question asked whether coaches are paid? No, all volunteer, over 21. Coaches are protected under good Samaritan law. If coaches are paid they are not protected. They can be reimbursed for mileage. Clinicians can be paid if they are not a member of the coaching team.

Motion to move district business meetings to 10:00 rather than 9:00. Approved.

Request to Skype from Snohomish. Hasn't worked well in the past, but may try at a future meeting. Chanin will look into equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Next meeting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am at Chanin's house.