

WAHSET District 3
Minutes – March 8, 2015
Submitted by Susan Holcroft

Present: Michelle Skillingstad - 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, Chanin Holdt (District Chair), Rebecca Cantrell (District Vice-Chair), Kari Espinosa – Snohomish (via Skype), Chuck Cram – Castle Rock, Cindy Hedge – Castle Rock, Mikayla LaFrerier – NT, Jolene Johnson – Woodland, Kalee Clark – Toledo, Sara Garrow – Toledo, Sheri DeVos - Snohomish

11 voting members present.

February minutes approved.

Treasurers Report – attached

Expenses last month included tires for the equipment trailer, Meet 2 cow rental, shavings. Meet 2 venue bill still outstanding. Projected expenses include the bridge and items on agenda to be approved. Scholarships have been paid, one to Fee Harrison at Clark College, and one to Emma Baldwin, Gonzaga in Spokane. Additional donations to the fund were received.

Old Business

Equipment – Chanin is recruiting someone to build the bridge. It is in the works.

District 3 logo – A draft was presented. Suggested change to add a circle to separate names to be more readable. Question : if there will be redistricting, will there need to be another logo change for next year? Yes, but we want to have this year’s logo to reflect this year, especially for seniors. Logo can be shuffled again for next year. Shirts can be ordered online as soon as logo is finished. Patches will be available at state for qualifiers.

Yearbook – Ad deadline is March 15th to get to Trisha Reed. Or send to Chanin by March 10th. Information is on the form.

Action item: Team pictures and team stories are due March 13th. Yearbooks will be really nice this year. \$20. Checks to District 3. Order deadline will be announced.

Meet Packets: Judges evaluation forms are still due.

Meet 2 Review

Music -

Gaming: Rebecca appreciates teams that contributed music for gaming. She had to stop the music because of some negative feedback at the meet. Judge thought that athletes couldn’t hear over music. This hadn’t been clarified with the judge. It is a judge decision. Also, no way to balance sound throughout the arena. Question? Would it help to have someone on volume control during each

gaming run? Labor intensive. There was a DJ last year who did it. Also variation in output on CD's. Sound system in arena not great. Probable need to cancel music for gaming.

Working pairs: If want music louder, they are to raise their hand when in arena to let music coordinator know. Coaches need to let athletes know that the kids need to signal for volume.

Cows: Mandatory set number of practices, with proof, will be required to participate. District staff will pull riders who look unsafe, either way. Chanin will set up arena practices in the north and south ends of the district, so she can also sign off. Suggest separate breakaway and daubing from sorting. It is very apparent who has been practicing, it is definitely reflected in the box.

Question re ¾ line for daubing? Can't call it that, because they are not DQ'd if they cross it. But there can be a safety line? Still need to confirm rules regarding this. Or vote on rule change, but needs to be consistent across state or our district could be disqualified. If course set up for our meets is different from state meet, it may be confusing. We need to build state process to add suggested safety measures. Concern that gaming horses may react to the line. Suggest that it could be used at practices to get them used to it. None of this will be in place for third meet. Suggestion to use big horn instead of whistle for warning signal.

Bareback riding at practice: If official practice is over, then there could be an open ride allowing bareback.

Drill: Woodland requested that teams not be placed last in, first in. Peter (judge) has good comments that may help with state, good to use them .

Performance: Question re having western judges judge English events? Is there a way to change this? Jolene and Chanin are working on this consideration. Looking for dressage judge, jumping, working pairs. If you know of a judge to recommend, they need to get certified for next year. Selection must be based on who has attended judges clinics. We have to hire from that list. We always look at their certifications to ensure they are qualified to judge the events in which they are placed.

Driving course: Concern re wrong set up for pattern. Camas was frustrated that people were offering conflicting feedback. Rebecca says Dale is designated as arena boss. If you follow his set point, it will be correct. Start at gate. Listen to his guidance, no one else. Can't start from first start cone. Rebecca will ask Dale to be more involved for this event.

What is drawn isn't always how it's going to flow. This is why going to a patterns demo clinic is vital. That is the athletes opportunity to see how a pattern flows. Contact Chanin with questions.

Grand entry : Switch directions? Will be announced. Need controlled speed. Request a flow sheet emailed before the meet. Can we start grand entry at 4:30 to gain time for events? Participants will need to arrive at 4:00 to warm up.

New Business

2016 venues: Working on dates with Elma and Clark County. Chanin went to Tacoma Unit. They have changed some things, but still have a short arena and sketchy neighborhood. Problems in the past with theft. General agreement to take it off the list. We'll continue with Clark and Elma.

Awards banquet: Woodland volunteered to host and coordinate. Thank you, Woodland! Everyone is invited, including families. Need students to make slide show, everyone turn in pictures. There will be awards, medals, thank you to coaches. Good-bye to those departing. Could be on a Friday night, or weekend day, May 22nd through 24th. Suggest a dessert potluck, have it at a school with A/V equipment.

Award suggestions? Sportsmanship, voted by all teams in district, high point by team size, academic award highest average gpa, rookie of the year, etc. Most improved, one from each team submitted by coaches. Certificates to top 10%. All state qualifiers get certificate. Medals also get certificate.

State meet: April 22nd deadline to notify Chanin if you are going or not. Then alternates can be notified. Qualifiers will be announced at third meet. If placed in top three in at least two meets, guaranteed place at state. State qualifications are in rule book. Teams can do fundraising for state. Looking at around \$100 per stall.

Request funds for purchases:

Sorting – electric hand timer approximately \$125 plus tax and shipping . Magnets that hold timers to chutes. \$30. Total \$200. Motion, second, approved.

Cows – chute corner pads \$1000 set from Rodeo Safety. State logo and District 3 printed on them to prevent theft. Looking at these as last major expenditures for a while. \$1200.00. Motion, second, approved.

Questions re cows: Same cows at next meet? Yes, only cows available. Concern that cows seemed to be inconsistent and also zig zagged. Answer – that is the nature of cows. Practice is really important. Need to expect unexpected. Need to learn to read the cow. Cow guy is contracted with four districts, and he needs to vary the herds. They will not always be consistent

Kenney Stone, cow contractor at Clark County, spoke about having a benefit late summer to work with cows. District looking at next season, how to provide more opportunities to practice. What can board do to support teams? Promote district practices? Suggest Super Saturday practices on ongoing basis. Need commitment from families to make them work.

If athlete can only go to two practices, that is not sufficient. Suggested to try to have more in summer.

Check with Clark county saddle club? Silver buckle?

Sportsmanship concerns: Camas suggested promoting good sportsmanship and to only use encouraging words.

Chanin said they will be working on some new policies and procedures this summer.

Code of conduct: There have been behavior issues at last two meets. Curfews will not solve problem. 150 teenagers on premise. Pranks need to be more appropriate and within reason. Condoms on wheelbarrows not ok. Toothpaste on a horse is vandalism and will not be tolerated. Rude remarks regarding gender and sexuality will not be tolerated. There will be formal write-ups, and consequences such as state meet placing, points and medals taken away. Don't want to do this, but this must stop. There will be team visits if necessary and disciplinary actions.

Coaches will be notified so this can be corrected. There can be no tolerance for bullying. Some issues have been addressed, some will be addressed now. Remind kids of code of conduct. This is a high school event. Parents also have code of conduct. Every parent should have a non-competitor code of conduct. Need 100% signed copies in order to attend state, for athletes, siblings attending, adults onsite for duration. If people are camping, they all have same code of conduct.

Arena etiquette: Coaches, please talk to kids, monitor.

Do not stand in front of gate to watch.

Gaming coach should be present, don't leave it to gate person to hunt down riders, not the job of the gate volunteer. Once athlete checks in at gate, they should not leave.

One large team at a time should be in arena or two small teams. Big teams can stand outside to wait, but don't go into warm up arena until others leave.

Once you run your event, LEAVE. Cool out in extra arena, not warm up arena adjacent to main arena.

Everyone ride in same direction.

If your team is not started, step in when there are five left from the team in front of you. There should be no more than 15 in the arena at a time. May need extra volunteer help.

No rollbacks in upper warm up arena.

If there is an out of control horse in warm up arena, notify Chanin and Rebecca immediately.

Ask gate people to really watch judge to keep things moving. May need extra gate people.

Need good instruction for announcers. Have a walkie talkie at extra covered arena for heads up.

Alumni meet: Chanin had an idea for a fun fundraiser, this summer or fall. Full weekend meet for current and alumni athletes, outside of season. Performance, gaming, cows, not drill. Team events can be mixed. Would need volunteers to coordinate, one representative from each team, with alumni help to build communication list and coordination. District staff to help. No age limit, but have to be alumni from WAHSET.

Judges: Ron will clarify hand signals for gaming. Don't let arena crew talk to him, he gets distracted. 😊

Chanin will make sure she is out there for the first event for each judge/segment to check with judges on rules and consistency.

Stall check out: For next meet, coaches responsibility to check out stalls and remove cards. Walt will check each team when they are all done. One coach or advisor from each team should leave last to ensure stalls/aisle are clean. Castle Rock won the drawing for Meet 2. At Elma, stalls should be stripped to dirt, swept, and clean aisles. Pick up poop outside!

Shavings: Same plan for next meet, it worked well. Thank you to everyone who helped clean it up.

Scholarship applications: Our district hands out three awards. There are also state scholarships. Deadline is May 1st for graduating seniors to apply.

Copy your district chair on your state application to verify date in case there is a problem with timely receipt of applications. Don't wait until the last day! Ask for return receipt on the email. Form is online, front page of WAHSET website.

Auction at M3: Woodland and Snohomish bringing baskets. Washougal, Camas, NT, Castle Rock bringing money instead of basket, \$5 per athlete on team.

Auction at State: Each team should bring a basket or auction item to the state meet. .

Bottle Drive: At Meet 3, each team will be asked to collect their own water bottles and aluminum, separately, then take them in trash bags to bathroom for collection. Susan from Washougal will coordinate haulers to take them south. Teams can help get them to Oregon for 5cents a piece for the scholarship fund.

50/50 donation drawing at Meet 3: Will be asking athletes to sell tickets.

Discussion re Schedule for Meet 3:

Senior night - Chanin and Rebecca are working on it, high priority. There will be major shuffling with schedule to balance it. There will be some new things this year to make it special, including a photo booth. Coach carries in flag, each senior rides one lap, while bio is read, line up behind coach. No long personal bios, please, needs to be short summary – 1-2 minutes! We have 36 graduating. Seniors can start now writing their summaries. We need readers/announcers. Please suggest.

Discussion about schedule, how to make everything fit. Chanin will try to keep drill and senior recognition on Saturday, and to make Senior Recognition last event of the day.

There has to be quick set up and turnarounds on every event to keep on schedule. Always looking for ways to shave time. General consensus. Keep senior night last event on Saturday. Move gaming events to Friday night. Chanin and Rebecca will do their best to take everyone's suggestions into account.

Dates and Deadlines

Stalls, camping, and event sheets due by April 5th. Chanin needs it early to be able to tighten up the schedule. Patience may be required with the schedule. Please roll with it, it will be what it is.

Meet 3 – April 16th -19th

April 22nd - deadline to notify Chanin if attending state meet.

State Meet - May 14th – 17th

PNWIC – June 18-21st.

Next meeting – April 5th, 10:00 am, Chanin's house. Bring stall, camping, event sheets or send electronically. Bring bank records. .

Motion to adjourn, second approved.