

WAHSET District 3
Minutes – August 23, 2015
Submitted by Susan Holcroft

Present: Jolene Johnson-District Chair, Susan Holcroft-District Secretary, Rebecca Waddell-District Treasurer, Camas – Cherie Quist, Carie Quist, Gabby Souter, Katelynn Daniel, NTHS – Walt Mancke, Maddie Mancke, Andrea Luper, Castle Rock – Chuck and Cindy Cram, Washougal – Cortni Morris

Treasurer Report

Our new treasurer is Rebecca Waddell from Battle Ground. Thank you! Jolene doesn't have books yet from Linda. They have been approved by Carol, the state treasurer. Rebecca and Jolene will be signers on the account.

Old Business

New bridge: Chyma's husband, Jim, said he'd build a new one. Need for trail. Old one is really heavy. Adam has a nice lightweight one to use for a pattern. Money has been approved. Need to be sure it is secure so horses don't slide if pieces move. **Action: Walt will follow up to make sure this is done for first meet.**

New Business

Event schedule: Jolene is proposing major schedule changes (attached). Other districts went to this format (gaming in the morning, performance in the afternoon/evening) and found they had fewer cases of colic, gaming horses have time to cool out before being stalled.

We don't yet have numbers for this year, but if we have 110-115 riders we'll move dressage to Saturday night. Reigning and driving to Friday night. Will try to condense meet to three days. Thursday nights will be opening ceremonies and drill practice, no competition. Cindy raised concern about IHOR and showmanship with dirty horses. Huge issue this year. Jolene says judge should follow rules and make allowances.

Action: Jolene would like input on new schedule. Please discuss with your team. Will vote to approve later. She would like to try it and see. It can be adjusted later. If we have cows on Sunday, people not doing cows could conceivably go home. Save money on hotel for judges this way.

Cows: Sorting will have schools assigned to help take down panels. Local schools assigned per meet so those with farthest to travel can get on the road. Concern raised that school assignment needs to match skills of the group. Experienced timers necessary for cows. Last year didn't have consistency, caused issues. Difficulty getting help for set up. Walt and Chuck are volunteering to continue to help for accuracy.

Volunteer Instructions: Need volunteer instructions for all positions. Some kids should not work gates. Jolene says performance might be ok. Gaming should be adults on gate. Some schools don't have enough parents, may need some help from kids who are capable for some jobs. Need consistency and clear structure to avoid confusion. Some parents don't step up because don't feel they have enough information. Anyone working events should not be on their phones!

Jolene will distribute list of volunteer needs and assignments per event/ team. Knowing ahead of time allows people to research so they know what needs to be done. **Action item: When you receive the list, choose three events your team will sign up to coordinate.**

Need scribes who are experienced, or more training. Not hard to scribe, but need to be meticulous. Jolene has materials to practice ahead of time. If you get behind on scribing, tell the judge. Had a huge hunt seat snafu last year.

Action item: North Thurston will write instructions for volunteer positions for all gaming events. Castle Rock will do cows. Woodland will do performance. Camas will do dressage and jumping. Rough draft due at October meeting for review, November meeting will vote for approval.

Stall checks: Walt says need better system for stall checks after meets. Two schools left without contacting stall checker. Need clear, consistent instructions. If people leave stalls dirty, should be penalized, \$ paid or can't participate in next meet. Local schools for each meet should be responsible for stall checking, not those farthest away. Jolene feels coaches should be responsible, if they can't stay, they should assign someone. It will be a learning experience. Walt says last year a lot of stalls were left dirty. Different venues require different levels of clean up. **Action item: Determine amount of penalty, clear instructions to teams.**

Also need better poop pick up on pavement. **Action item: Leave pick or shovel and wheelbarrow strategically located on way to arena during meet.**

Size of district: **Action item: Jolene needs team numbers by September or October.** If our numbers too big, (140 or more) will need to move a school or two to district 4. Robert McFadden is chair. There is a redistricting committee who will make decision, hope before November. Jolene says it happened quickly that Woodland moved last year, it was difficult but doable.

As of right now, no major redistricting will happen until following year. May create new district based on numbers.

If Vashon stays on, we'll have ten schools.

More Cows: Kenny (cow contractor) can do all three meets, but Brett Hills can also do meet three. Kenny will go up to \$1500 from \$1250. Suggested \$35 per rider for cows to cover costs (includes all three meets). Cows are expensive. Jolene feels that would be reasonable. If cow fees go up, then perhaps stall fees can go down to compensate. Jolene feels stall fees should not be a money maker. Go back to teams and discuss.

Concern about cow practices. Most kids don't either don't practice or not enough. Happy Trails may not hold practices, because of lack of attendance. Connie and Jimmy will have practices at Clark County Saddle Club but need commitment. Can't afford to haul cows if people don't show up. People will need to prepay. We may lose cow people if they keep getting burned with low attendance.

There should be district mandatory number of practices for safety. Parents question teams making their own rules on this.

Walt says problem with distance and scheduling, especially on school nights. Good facility in Yelm, LL Rodeo, open sorting, some Friday nights and some Saturday clinics. Silver buckle and saddle club have open sorting. **Action item: Send schedules of local events to Cindy, (email). She will create a master list and distribute it.**

Vote on cow practices: Sorting will have 4 practices required before first meet, breakaway and steer daubing will have 8 practices required before first meet. At least one practice in between meets. Practices can be with team or on their own, but must be documented with approved trainer and live cattle. Coaches will need to sign off that rider and horse are safe and approved for events, and have completed required practices. Documentation to be submitted with registration for meet or rider will be disqualified from participating. If there are kids with problems at first meet, may be assigned more practice. Approved. **Action item: Communicate this to coaches and riders!**

Chain of command: Communication about any concern should follow this chain: Kids to parents or coach, coach to district, district to state. District chair will back you up if you see a kid that needs direction, even from another team. We all support each other. Kids need to respect every adult (and vice versa). Talk to Jolene if issues. Kids are asked to support each other as well.

Battle Ground is new, asks for help with information. They are open to suggestions, direction.

Meet dates 2016:

Clark - January 21-24

Elma – March 10-13

Spanaway – March 30-April 3

Concern re Spanaway security issues. Walt had to deal with a drug addict there, Tumwater meet had another issue. Jolene has been there numerous times with no problem. Hopefully issues have changed, but if there is a problem can try to reschedule for next year with enough notice. Other districts have meets there with no issues.

Jolene will send in deposits on venues as soon as she receives the books.

Team meetings: Jolene will visit team meetings if requested to help with issues, offer information. .

Registration information: Team registration form on website. Due before first practice (can start September 1st). Athlete registration three pages but different information. Don't need insurance cards this year, just info.

Fee has been \$185 per athlete; Jolene will email us about possible increase after she gets treasurers info. May go up to \$200. Plus one time team fee \$50.

Non-athlete and athlete code of conduct is required for all attending meets. Reminder for teams to talk about social media conduct. There should be clear guidelines.

Question re insurance coverage. Does cover injuries and property at practices or meets.

Judges: Judges on the list are recommendations. Jolene asked for feedback and received none. Suggestion of Ron Bishop. Concern re "squirrel disease." Tell timers not to distract him. He is very good and gives kids good information.

All kids should go to every judges meeting for events they are in. Talk to your team about this. Different judges require different things for different events.

Tack checkers. I.e. one judge required throat latches, went over at judges meeting, some kids missed the memo because they weren't there.

Jolene working on dressage and jumping judges to go to clinics.

Team updates :

Battle Ground – 5 athletes. Looking for knowledgeable, mature coach. All new riders with only one year of experience. Last year not strong communication. Everyone still very green. Will have a few working pairs. Probably not drill.

Camas – 8 athletes. Don't know about drill

Castle Rock – 15-20. Will have drill

Hockinson – not present

NT – could have 12. Might have two working 4s'

Snohomish – 30+, probably more. Will have drill and all disciplines.

Toledo – may have 4

Vashon- won't know until September

Washougal – 8-10. Probably not drill, yes working pairs, 4s

Woodland – 15-17. Don't know about drill or working 4s

Scholarship fundraiser: Need volunteers to help raise \$1000. Can coordinate baskets at meets. Discuss next time. **Action item: recruit a volunteer**

PNWIC: need reps to attend meetings

Meetings: Maybe Longview next month. There is a meeting room at Three Rivers Mall. Jolene will confirm. Start time will be 10:00 for future.

Other business:

Camas will have a fundraiser show at Saddle Club October 17th. CCSC will donate arena, but have to commit to volunteer work, December 13th. Need raker, volunteers to promote, gate, judge, etc. Let them know if your team wants to participate and share proceeds

Proposed rule changes: These will come out soon in email. Keep an eye out. Jolene will submit Gabby's suggestion to add another jumping class. Proposed to change key hole to key poles, among other things.

State calendar: Jolene will send email to confirm all of these date, locations.

September 26th: Coaches and Judges Clinic. Strongly encourage coaches to attend. Jolene will confirm which disciplines. This one is regarding everything horse.

September 26th: Drill Clinic

November 8th: Pattern Clinic.

November 14th: West Side Clinic for advisors and coaches. This one is regarding everything team related (kids and parents). Strongly encourage attendance.

State board meetings: Cindy and Chuck will go (thank you!). October 3rd in North Bend.

Need reps to attend December 5th, March 5th. Will discuss and draft at next meeting.

Next meeting is October 4th, 10:00. Will confirm location (Woodland or Longview)

Meeting adjourned.