

Pennsylvania Horse Shows Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: September 24, 2002

Attending: Bob Daly, Gaye Goldemen, Rich Scarlett, Diane Boram, Doris MacDonald, Audrey Winzinger.

Visitors: Sue Hansen

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM at Rich Scarlett's house.

Breeding Committee Report

The breeding committee met on August 19, 2002 to formulate recommendations to the Board on various issues. The number of PHSA breeding members is steadily increasing, 2001 totals: 86 horses, 16 ponies, 114 members, 8 farms
2002 totals: 96 horses, 21 ponies, 140 members, 19 farms

Doris presented those recommendations from the breeding committee to the Board.

1. Receipt of Show Results

Certain show secretaries for breeding shows (and as was reflected from the discussion, also certain performance shows) are not submitting their show results to the PHSA point secretaries in a timely manner. This is causing problems in posting points and distributing those points to the PHSA membership both through the mailed point sheets and on the web site. It was determined by the Board that timely submission of show results is mandatory and Doris and Diane will make the Board aware when results are late and their requests to the show secretary have been unsuccessful. Should certain show results be late at the time of the distribution of the point standings, then the standings will be distributed with a notation that the show's results are unavailable at the time the standings were prepared. A letter will go out to show managers alerting them that point standings will begin being updated twice monthly on the web site, and it is even more important for their results to be submitted timely.

2. Breeding Show Judging

Although the committee requested no Board action, the committee made note of the apparent lack of variety of hunter breeding judges hired during the PHSA breeding show season.

Prior to the breeding committee's meeting, Audrey had requested that they consider formulating a letter for Board approval, that would be sent to the Devon Horse Show management recommending that the Devon pony breeding classes be judged exclusively by judges holding a USAE "R" in hunter breeding. There was some miscommunication in the wording of the actual request between Audrey and Doris, therefore the request to the breeding committee was somewhat different. After discussion of the actual request, the Board approved the writing of a draft letter for final approval by the Board. Audrey will draft the letter and fax/email it to the Board members for final approval.

3. Young Hunter Pony Under Saddle

The Board approved a recommendation by the breeding committee to add this class to its breeding show roster of classes. The Young Hunter Under Saddle (for horses) specs will be used as a template, this will be a hack class with a conformation component. It will be noted that professionals, amateur adult riders and juniors can ride ponies in this class.

4. Grace Period

Doris has received requests in the past from members that they be given a grace period, and be allowed to submit their registration or membership forms with payment to come at a later date. The Board reinforced the PHSA policy that points will only be tabulated for exhibitors and equines registered and paid in full.

5. Young Hunter and Young Working Hunter Under Saddle

The Board supported the breeding committee's recommendation to keep both of these classes, one with a conformation component and one without, in the roster of breeding classes.

6. Definition of Pennsylvania Bred

Currently this term means foaled in Penna.. The breeding committee recommended to the Board that the definition should be changed to foaled in Penna. or sired by a stallion standing in Penna.. It was mentioned that this proposal would expand eligibility and participation in the Penna. bred classes. The Board approved this recommendation.

7. Amateur Handler Class

Doris expressed the breeding committee's concern that this class is being judged more on the horse's/pony's conformation instead of the handler's abilities. The breeding committee recommended that the conformation component be dropped from the specifications of this class, and the Board approved this recommendation. Furthermore, the current PHSA specs require that the handler be both an amateur and the owner of the horse/pony being shown. The breeding committee recommended that the "owner" requirement be dropped, and the Board approved this recommendation as well.

Doris explained to the Board that over the years the specs for the Amateur Handler class held at Devon and the PHSA specs for this class have become very different from one another. This appears to be due to the Devon specs remaining constant and the PHSA specs evolving over the years without any information on the change being forwarded to Devon. Currently the PHSA specs allow a junior to show in this class, provide for a 15% conformation component and allow the entry of both ponies and horses. The Devon specs however, do not allow juniors to exhibit, provide for a 25% conformation component and allow only horses to show. Doris will draft a letter for final Board approval to be sent to Devon management asking that they adopt the most recent PHSA specs for the Amateur Handler class, allowing it to be counted for PHSA points.

8. Breeding Show Schedule

A recommendation was presented to the Board, from the breeding committee, to shorten the breeding show season. The breeding show season currently runs from April 6 to June 27 including 15 shows. The proposal was to shorten the season to 12 shows. The Board did not approve this recommendation based upon a position that shortening an already short season is not prudent and because dropping shows arbitrarily is not within the authority of this Board.

Secretary's Report

Audrey reported that a PHSA congratulatory ad would be placed in the Zone 2 Finals program book. It will congratulate qualifiers, show the PHSA logo and web site address.

An open membership forum is scheduled for Monday night, January 13, 2003 at 7:00 PM at the Awards Banquet site of The PineCrest Country Club. Diane will advertise it through the point standings mailings, Sue will post information on the web site & it will be announced at the Banquet. Audrey will arrange for the meeting room and refreshments.

The PHSA has historically been granted space in the Devon Horse Show prize list. Over the years this space has accumulated allot of information, not all of which is relevant, but this space could be a tremendous free advertising vehicle for this organization. Audrey has called the Devon office and they are receptive to PHSA submitting a new ad. Sue and Audrey will work out the text and submit it to Devon for their approval.

Audrey is working on both the officers' insurance and the bylaws and will distribute an update soon.

www.PennHSA.com Report

Sue presented some statistical data regarding hits on the web site. The site was developed in January 2002 and experienced 493 hits for that 1st partial month. This activity has increased to an August 2002 total hits of 27,564. Sue attributes this activity increase to the point standings being made available on the site. The initial objective was to update the point standings on the site once every month. This is being done now. The revised objective is to update the point standings more frequently and to utilize a format similar to that of the USAE site where a visitor can click on a horse's name in the standings and be taken to a screen showing a list of the shows posted for that horse and the ribbons won. This format will be very helpful to exhibitors wishing to check their PHSA points online. Diane is currently consulting with someone from the AHS site to formulate a program that will work for the PHSA site.

New Business

The 2-point secretaries are in need of some new equipment to fully accomplish their work. Doris has purchased a new fax machine since her prior one expired & she uses a fax regularly for PHSA business. She is requesting reimbursement for only ½ the cost of the fax. The Board approved the expenditure. Doris will submit a copy of the paid invoice to Barbara for reimbursement.

Diane has been using her employer-supplied computer to maintain both the PHSA and EPPHA points and this now poses a problem. It was suggested that if Diane were to purchase a laptop to be used for maintaining the point standings of each organization, that both the EPPHA and the PHSA should reimburse her for ½ each of the cost. The Board voted to approve the PHSA's reimbursement for ½ the cost of the computer. Rich and Diane will present the proposal to the EPPHA.

Gaye proposed the development of a PHSA class specification booklet. Gaye will develop a draft of the spec. booklet for the Board's review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM