State 4-H Horse Advisory Council Agenda
January 8, 2011
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Holiday Inn - 5th Street

Present: Debbie Agnew, Bea Brown, Debbie Crummett, Lanette Currier, Jenn Daly, Bertha Durbin, NeNe Estep, Laruen Hartburg, Helen Matney, Jenny Mercer, Leslie Prillaman, Rita Schalk, Carrie Swanson, Julie Williamson, Richard Prince, Jody Toms, Richard Toms, Celeste Crisman, and Joi Saville

Absent: Peggi Johnson, Sally Johnson, Barbara Learned, Sky Long, Lisa Kovaks, Tarah Moorman, Janet Quaintance, Amy Spencer, Bonnie Tillotson, and Bob Williamson

Guests: Eleszabeth McNeel

Welcome and Introductions were made:

Reports:
- Horse Show Steering committee information - Updates from the Horse Show Steering Committee were presented.
  - Moved to move Gymkhana Keyhole Classes to Friday evening prior to opening ceremonies.
  - Added Freestyle Drill Team “Showcase” Class
    - Open to those teams entered in Freestyle Drill Team Competition at the VA State Fair Show
  - Miniature Division
    - Mini Course Walk will begin at 8:00 AM due to numbers in class. Miniature Obstacle Course will begin at 8:15 AM on Saturday morning followed by the pinning of the class and Champion and Reserve Champion Junior and Senior Mini.
    - Mini Classes due to numbers will be pinned as Junior and Senior.
    - Miniature Driving will be split into Junior and Senior Driving Classes.
    - Mini Driving Classic Class was added Saturday afternoon following Horse and Pony Driving Classics.
  - Moved to adopt AQHA Showmanship Scoring System
  - Hunter Pleasure 2nd Go and Hunter Equitation on the Flat Conflicts
    - Moved to move Hunter Pleasure Second Go to 8:00 AM in Wiley Arena
    - Hunter Pleasure Ponies will go first followed by the Hunter Pleasure Horses
    - Hunter Equitation on the Flat will be split with the ponies reporting to East Arena and the Horses in Wiley Arena 30 minutes after the
completion of Equitation Over Fences and Hunter Pleasure in each respective arena.

- Removed the Driving Cones Class and added Driving Ringsmanship Class.
- Central District Concerns - Presented by Richard Toms
  1. The hunter equitation pattern being run first in the class caused some problems in the Central District. In 2010, the hunter equitation pattern was run first and the Central District felt that the youth were not given an opportunity to work on the rail and be seen by the judge. They indicated that their youth were not used to showing in that manner and were not used to the scoring system. They felt that their youth are being forced to show under AQHA rules. The issue is that the Hunter Equitation Classes are now pattern classes with the emphasis on the pattern.
    - Julie W. indicated that she was the advocate for the current system of running the patterns first in Hunter Equitation. This gives the youth more of an opportunity in the ring with the judge’s attention. She noted that this provides the youth an opportunity to practice something different at home.
    - It was noted that the Northern District was very pleased with how the Hunter Equitation classes were held in 2010.
    - Jenn D. commented that in USEF Regulated Shows, patterns are always run first and then rail work is at the judge’s discretion. She referenced the USEF rules 1-18.
  2. Another concern of the Central District was that the patterns were not set on a large enough scale. Celeste indicated that she is the one in charge of setting up the patterns and that the youth need to note that there are no real “defined” regions in the patterns. They are designed with Hunters in mind.
  3. Julie W. has volunteered, on behalf of the Hunter Divisions, to come and visit with the Hunter youth, parents, and others involved explaining the reasoning behind the current format. She would like to see all hunter youth step up and try to make it a more competitive show for all.
- State Fair Show Review
  - The budget for the 2010 show realized a very small loss.
  - In 2010, there were 35 competitors. After the drill team competition there was an opportunity to talk with the judges.
  - In 2011, the same format will be held with a slight change to drill patterns.
  - Pas de Deux will be broken into Freestyle and Technical
  - The dates for 2011 will be October 7-8, which moves the competition to the second weekend of the Virginia State Fair
  - This will give the youth two weekends between the State Show and the State Fair
• There is a plan to visit with clubs to help market the drill team competition at the State Fair.
• The State Show will also now host a “showcase” class of the Freestyle Drill Team Competitors.
• The State Fair indicated that they do plan to move the entry gate closer to the Horse Area to draw attendees.
• VHIB is a sponsor for signage to draw fair attendees to horse area.
• A suggestion was made to have 4-H Ambassadors have flyers to hand out and direct fair attendees to horse area.
• Request to get music and patterns out as soon as possible. Youth are ready to practice.
• It was noted that this should be available on the website by the end of January.
• Suggestions:
  o Have pony walks around fairgrounds to entice fair goers to visit horse arena. Discussion will need to be held with State Fair Staff.
• It was noted that the State Fair planted a tribute tree in Memory of Connie Collier as well as featuring a display case of Connie’s trophies and ribbons in the mansion.

Committees: need changes/institute action?
• Executive Board - execute decisions if time does not allow full group.
  o Leslie Prillaman (NW), Lanette Currier (NE), Richard Toms (Central), NeNe Estep (SW), Bea Brown (SE), Julie Williamson (N), Richard Prince (NE), Celeste Crisman (at large) and Debbie Agnew (at large).

• Connie Collier 4-H Scholarship Award committee: - renamed from the 4-H Horse Program Scholarship award prior to Connie’s passing
  o Former committee consisted of Connie Collier – chair, Celeste Crisman, Tarah Moorman, Eleszabeth McNeel, Janet Quaintance, Carrie Swanson
  o There is a need to have different committee than the State Fair Scholarship committee. ~400.00 per quarter, ~1600.00 per year....
  o Currently there is approximately $33,000 in the endowment account. There was almost $8,000 in donations. From the endowment earnings, there is $2800 in the spending account available for scholarships in 2011.
  o New committee established and charged with
    1. Reviewing and finalizing details of the scholarship.
    2. Committee consists of: Lindsey Williamson, Thomas Agnew, Caitlin Flathers, Jenny Mercer, Debbie Agnew, Bonnie will be asked if interested in serving ... Celeste on committee for questions and management.
3. Questions to consider
   i. Do we initially give out more awards in 2011 to honor Connie?
   ii. How do we distribute these awards?
   iii. For the State Fair Scholarships Score cards were formed. Applications were received, scanned and sent to committee members. Committee members were asked to submit scores and scores were averaged.

- Professional Development Committee - address the needs of agents and leaders. Connie had done all the work on this - suggest putting on hold until Extension changes are complete and how that impacts us all....
  - Planning Committee: Chairperson - Connie Collier
  - Southeast Bea Brown
  - Southwest Sky Long
  - Northwest Debbie Crummett
  - Northeast Debbie Crowder
  - Northern Bertha Durbin
  - Central Peggi Johnson

- It was decided to table this committee until Extension has completed its restructuring.
- A chair person needed to be identified to handle in this in the future.
- Bea B. and Diane Merryman have some information from a prior meeting with Connie.

- Equi-Smartz (Jrs & Srs) - Lexington, VA
  - Events, numbers, and budget for 2010 Celeste and Joi
    o Overall Very pleased with this program and feels like it is growing and becoming a big asset of horse program.
    o Numbers have been consistent with previous years.
      - Hippology-
        ✓ Junior - 68 contestants/18 Teams
        ✓ Senior - 58 contestants/15 Teams
      - Horse Judging-
        ✓ Junior 4-H - 44 contestants/10 Teams
        ✓ Senior 4-H - 40 contestants/9 Teams
        ✓ Junior Novice - 9 contestants
        ✓ Senior Novice - 5 contestants
        ✓ Junior FFA - 25 contestants/7 Teams
        ✓ Senior FFA - 69 contestants/16 Teams
      - Horse Bowl
        ✓ Junior - 10 Teams
        ✓ Senior - 9 Teams
• Presentations
  ✓ Junior Individual - 9 contestants
  ✓ Junior Team - 1 Team
  ✓ Junior Public Speaking - 3 contestants
  ✓ Senior Individual - 9 contestants
  ✓ Senior Public Speaking - 2 contestants
  ✓ Senior Team - 3 Teams
• Date set for April 8 - 10, 2011 in Lexington, VA at the Horse Center
• Currently seeking additional volunteers
• Rule changes
  ▪ Horse Bowl will move to a limit of 5 Teams per new district per age category.
  ▪ A maximum of 20 Teams per age category will compete
  ▪ If the maximum has not been met, it will be open to all districts on a rotational basis until limits have been reached.
• Hippology - Bertha (stations) and Laura Bradley
  ▪ Laura to help in 2011.
  ▪ Bertha to continue on stations
• Horse Judging - Celeste
  ▪ Any help would be greatly appreciated
  ▪ Jody Toms to check on getting Arabians for class
• Presentations - Bea Brown
  ▪ Bea to continue working with this group.
• Horse Bowl - Bertha and Celeste
  ▪ Michael Ho to help with scoring program
  ▪ Bertha to write junior horse bowl questions.
• Volunteers??
  ▪ Maryland is looking at the same type of program. They would like to send volunteers to see how the weekend works. They will serve as judges for the weekend. We are assuming they will send 3 people.
• Suggestion...Can we give multiple contest rate break?
• Bertha asked to check on the status of the Virginia Tech Scan-Tron machine. Will it be useable.

Work session:
• Horsemanship skills refinement and implementation!!
  o Horsemanship Skills Committee: - Richard Toms, Julie Williamson, Jenn Daly, Leslie Prillaman, Eleszabeth McNeel, Lanette Cuurrier, and Celeste Crisman.
  o Jenn Daly will serve as the committee chair.
  o A video was shown of what is involved in a Level 1 Horsemanship Skill Test.
Minis will follow basic handling of each section, along with driving and equipment, dress, overall attitude, and confidence. [Final skill in skill sheet at each level]

See revised program for updates on wording.

It was noted that this needs to get started.

- It was suggested to have 2 or 3 people per district to pilot and test this program.
- An evaluation of the process and the examiner will be created. Jenny Mercer volunteered to create evaluation sheet.
- Pilot program is limited to 50 select youth per district at the Horse Advisory Councils discretion.

Level 1-2 examiners were determined as follows:

- Northern District
  - Jenn Daly, Julie Williamson, Carrie Swanson
  - Jenny Mercer, Debbie Crummett,
- Southeast District
  - Bea Brown, Christi Britt,
  - Lanette Currier, Shannon Lawson
- Southwest District
  - Leslie Prillaman, Tammy Nichols
  - NeNe Estep, Elisabeth Rasnic, Missy Thompson
- Central
  - Richard Toms, Jody Toms and other examiners to be determined with at least one coming from the Advisory Council.

Jenn Daly to present skills on Sunday at VA/NC Leaders Conference.

- AYHC, Virginia will host in 2012, March 22 - 25th
  - Hotel is Hilton - Washington Dulles Airport
  - Frying Pan Park is booked for the demos - Saturday afternoon
  - Need to establish committee to work on event. Must line up some awesome tours - maybe do 1) Smithsonian 2) Horse Tour (name, places, etc)
  - Jenny Mercer and Marilyn Jarvis will be part of committee and go to MI conference this year to check it out...

New Business:

- Redistricting
  - Will be incorporated in 2011
  - It was decided to change the number of district show limit. There will be a limit of no more than 4 shows per district to accommodate the larger districts.
  - SE grew the most and merged with NE
    - Currently there are still two separate horse councils
- Broke into SE Region 1 and 2
- Trying to make rules more uniform within each region
- Contact information needs to be provided from Region 1 and Region 2 with counties that belong to each region.
- Currently there are the following shows to be hosted:
  - Henrico
  - Airfield/Wakefield
  - Dressage show in Chesterfield
- N/NW - still a work in progress
  - There are different work/rule styles
  - Everyone is trying to work together
  - Trying to run all clinic and contest requests through prior Northern District
  - Trying to get more contacts in former Northwest District to help out in eastern portion and vice versa.
  - Will move to 3 or 4 district shows. Currently the following shows are approved:
    - Fluvanna county
    - Frederick County fairgrounds
- Central district
  - Expanded east more
  - Currently 2 shows
    - Amelia/Nottoway
    - Bedford/Amherst
  - Would like to cover 3 or 4 district shows
  - May plan to split north to south (region 1 and 2)
- SW
  - Currently the following shows are planned:
    - Abingdon
    - Roanoke -
      - Moving to Blacksburg this year in conjunction with Equestrian Team Benefit Show.
  - Clinics will continue to be held across district.
  - Currently they have an active district horse council
- A need arose through the redistricting to clarify the clinic qualification process
  - Needs to be more uniform throughout the state
  - It was determined by the Horse Advisory Council that all point of contact within each district will be an executive committee member of the Horse Advisory Council
    - This person will serve to approve district clinics and shows
    - Serve as main point of contact between Advisory Council and District
Executive Committee of the Horse Advisory Council will provide the final decisions in case of district disputes

Celeste Crisman will

- Send out guidelines and forms of how clinics are to be approved and handled.
- Check with each district show person to see how those rules are handled.
- Check with current district clinic people to see how they are handled.
- Change the current form on the internet to conform to the new guidelines.
  - Clinics should employ an outside clinician in order to be an approved qualified clinic
  - Clinics are designed to provide an opportunity for an off-the-farm experience for youth.
  - Clinics must be open to any 4-H youth enrolled within the district.

- Bertha D. will check on the cost of printing an evaluation form for each clinician to complete and submit with information to the youth who attend the clinics.
  - Celeste Crisman has met with Northern/NW districts to see effects of redistricting and how they are working together.

- Volunteer Leaders conference - Virginia,
  - Jan 29 & 30 at Guilford Ag Center, Greensboro
  - Registration Forms will be sent out to the listserv shortly.

- VHC Annual Meeting - February 26th, Blue Ridge Community College

- 50 Mile Ride - 2011
  - 4 kids participated in 2010
  - Jenn Daly and Carrie Swanson participated in 2010.
  - Ride is always held end of June.
    - Currently looking at June 26th - 30th, 2011, Mount Rogers State Park.

  - Jenny Mercer and Marilyn Jarvis volunteered to attend
  - VA Horse Program to provide partial support of travel expenses.
  - In 2012, AYHC will be held in Virginia
  - Committee consists of:
    - Elezsebeth McNeel, Jenny Mercer, Marilynn Jarvis (Jenny to contact), Julie Williamson, Jody Toms
  - Needs of committee:
• Line up tours for Friday (2)
  ➢ One being Smithsonian
  ➢ Other needs to be Horse Tour
  ➢ Suggestions of horse farms in Northern VA area, EMC, MARE Center
  ▪ Lunch will need to be provided and sponsored in the Northern VA area in conjunction with Horse Tour
  ▪ Suggested to look at local Farm Bureau’s/Farm Credit.

• Additions to Celeste’s responsibilities…
  o Now teaching class, Supervising Smithfield breeding farm in addition to current extension responsibilities.

• Cloverbud Curriculum…..
  o Shea Porr and Rebecca Splan are working on new curriculum with Student help at MAREC. They established a volunteer committee to review and hope to publish several modules. Hope to pilot at EquiSmartz, Cloverbud Camp at the State Show, etc.

• Other
  o Show stewards at the State Show
    ▪ Currently we are down to one.
    ▪ SUGGESTIONS:
      ✓ To bring on someone new that Carol Miller can mentor to help train them and help them understand our rules.
      ✓ Jenn Daly will check into costs and time requirements associated with the training of a USEF Steward.
      ✓ Could the VA Horse Program underwrite the cost of training a new USEF Steward in return that person will serve as steward at the State Horse Show indefinitely.

• Meeting Adjourned 4 pm.