

**CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGION  
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING  
February 13, 2016**

The Central New England Regional Council held a Council Meeting at the First Parish Church in Groton MA on Saturday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. There were 15 members in attendance. Attendees included the following: Stephanie Patrick Chalfant, Kristie Gill, Andrea Nelson, Karen Marcotte, Laura Smith, Linda Vollinger, Paula Johnson, Julie Koss-Stephany, Susan Hanna, Amanda Ellis, Heather Dostal, Wendy Johnson, Betsey Reeves, Stephanie Infante, and Krystine O'Connor. There were 7 clubs and 2 riding centers represented.

The meeting commenced with introductions and a welcome from our new RS Amanda Ellis. First topic of discussion was a change in the calendar regarding Quiz Rally. The National Office is hosting a Certification Symposium on March 19<sup>th</sup> in Bethany CT. This date conflicts with our original Quiz date. **Quiz will now be held on April 2.** RER will still be able to host the Mega Room although Heather will not be available the day of the rally.

Regarding the Certification Symposium, it is highly recommended that DCs, club instructors, and local examiners used on the club level, attend the symposium. NEs will be attending as well to review the changes to certification standards. More information will be forthcoming but please be aware of the date. Quiz will be moved to April 2 and the regional standards clinic will be rescheduled to a date to be determined.

Next, Amanda confirmed the HB certification in Central New England has been approved for July 11-13. Last date to sign up online is 4/18/16, however it was recommended not to wait until the last minute due to potential issues with the new Pony Club website.

The CNE Policy Committee will be meeting to update the regional policies. Amanda will contact the committee to arrange communications. Recommendations will be brought to the next council meeting for a vote.

Immediately following today's council meeting, there will be a brief rally organizer meeting to review budget expectations.

Next, Stephanie Patrick-Chalfant brought up a suggestion for the Dressage Rally. She would like to possibly offer a lead line dressage division to encourage lower level participants. Her thought was to increase participation and provide a safe option for lower level members. Several ideas were proposed, including offering a concurrent one day rally for lead line, a separate division within the regular rally, or offering a D Dressage rally option. She will look into feasibility. Dressage Rally is scheduled for June 11-12<sup>th</sup>.

A Games Rally is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>, either at Groton Fairgrounds or in Hamilton MA. A grasshopper division will be offered. Wentworth will be firming up detail and hosting. More information to come.

Betsey is still working on details for an Eventing Qualifier. At this point, Valinor Horse Trials falls on the same day as the Dressage Rally and could be an issue.

Next, Amanda discussed some of the updates from the Annual Meeting. There is a change to Dressage qualifications. In order to qualify for Champs, the score on the third test must be at least 55 or higher. Also, there are some changes to the Games rules for Champs. Quiz will offer an HB division, competitors must be D2 HM for Champs, and there will be no Jr. D conferring allowed

at Champs. We will still confer at our regional Quiz Rally this year. Champs will be held in North Carolina this year at Tryon International Equestrian Center. Be sure to get your reservations in and plan ahead. This is a state of the art facility and should be a great opportunity for competitors.

Rolex tickets are available through Amanda, but must be requested by March 13<sup>th</sup>. Please contact her directly.

The National Office would like the region to offer a leadership training camp this year. Betsey and Andrea have offered rooms/hospitality if necessary. More discussion will follow.

The Junior Board is being revamped. Heather Dostal and Stephanie Infante will be meeting with potential Junior Board members immediately following today's council meeting and clubs can also send members to future meetings. The goal would be to have at least one representative from each club or riding center attending meetings. The next meeting will be held at Quiz Rally.

Next, Karen Marcotte updated the group regarding RIC information from the Annual Meeting. Each club or center is expected to provide the RIC with a written overview of their plans for 2016, including unmounted lesson topics, mounted lesson plans, certifications, and club activities. DCs can email their plans directly to Karen Marcotte. She also mentioned that Horse Masters will be certified as of their attained rating in Pony Club.

The next Annual Meeting will be held in Los Angeles.

The HB preps are continuing along with about a dozen participants attending monthly meetings. The interest in C3 certification was very low, so we will not host a certification in the region this year. Available 2016 C3 test sites are listed on the USPC website. We still plan to offer preps, both mounted and lungeing and bandaging this spring and summer. CNE camp will piggy back with the HB certification on July 11-13 at UNH, Please notify members so they can plan to attend the regional camp. There will be some excellent clinicians this year. Camp will run from the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> with mounted and unmounted tracks available.

Last order of business, Iris Realmuto has agreed to continue to volunteer as the webmaster for CNE. She has offered to host the website for \$150 per year, or we will need to have someone else adapt the website to the new USPC platform. We agreed to have Iris host the CNE website.

Immediately following the council meeting, there will be a Junior Board meeting and a rally coordinators meeting, lunch will be served, and then the region will host an educational clinic with Allie Hayes and her freeze dried legs and hoofs.

At 12:00 p.m., with no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Reed Johnson  
Regional Secretary