

**CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGION
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
October 22, 2016**

The Central New England Regional Council held a Council Meeting at Andrea Nelson's home in Westford MA on Saturday October 22nd at 10:00. There were 14 members in attendance. Attendees included the following: Stephanie Patrick-Chalfant, Andrea Nelson, Karen Marcotte, Susan Hanna, Amanda Ellis, Wendy Johnson, Stephanie Infante, Antonia Bunaes, Lara Sloan, Sue Amendola, Maudie Braswell, Vicky Rule, Donna Lapierre and Lelo Reeves-Curtis. There were 8 clubs and riding centers represented overall.

The meeting commenced with introductions and a welcome to new faces. Antonia and Lara are starting a new club in Rhode Island and will be joining Central New England Region. Shepley Hill PC Riding Center is also now officially a new center with CNE.

First topic of discussion was the desire to hold a leadership camp in the region this year. With all the new DCs and CAs, Amanda feels it is important to hold a symposium on leadership and will speak with the National Office for details. In the meantime, Stephanie Patrick-Chalfant has offered to get a price and availability details for the Johnson Theatre at UNH. There will need to be more discussion as to the best time, location, whether to extend the offer to neighboring regions, and National Office involvement. More details to come.

We next started a brief rally discussion. Ocean State PC has offered to look into organizing regional preps prior to this year's Quiz rally. The topic of sharing horses at rallies came up. It appeared that most everyone thought it was beneficial and an opportunity for more members with limited access to horses to be able to participate at rallies. We also need to develop a policy for horsemasters that is fair to all competitors at rallies. Stephanie Infante volunteered to draft a policy for review at the annual meeting regarding both topics.

Next, we reviewed the treasurer's report as prepared by Laura Smith. She was not able to attend the meeting, but sent detailed income and expense reports. We've had a good year financially. Increased attendance at Quiz and D Rally, plus better focus on cost controls, left a rally net budget surplus. The National Certification program made a profit due to the large number of attendees from out of region, and camp ran at a profit as well due to increased attendance.

The CNE Policy Committee will be presenting proposed updates to the regional policies at the annual meeting. If you have any comments, please email Stephanie Patrick-Chalfant.. Recommendations will be brought to the council meeting for a vote.

Next, Wendy gave a summary of the HB program and Education Program. Both programs were well attended, and we ended up with 7 new HBs for 2016. We also have a new C3 who certified out of area. Lelo gave a brief update on Championships. All the Central New England teams did very well in horse management this year. It was noted that the competitors helped each other across disciplines. Everyone agreed that the situation was not what we expected at Tryon this year, but we will know better what to expect if Champs are held there in the future. This coming year is Festival, and Lelo has reserved rooms in Kentucky, but needs to have an approximate headcount at the next meeting as to how many members each club believes are interested in qualifying and in which discipline. It was agreed that the BBQ should continue, and that good coordination at the CNE tent is important. The region will hold a mandatory Champs prep at camp again next year.

The Annual Meeting will be held in Los Angeles this January from the 25-29. Information is detailed on the USPC website. It is highly recommended for new DCs and Center Administrators. Two members are interested in attending the National Youth Congress this year. We will send Samantha Baer and Ava Nadeau to represent Central New England.

Membership renewals are done online now, and a check for the regional dues must be sent to Laura Smith directly. Remember that regional dues are now \$20 per member.

Next, in an effort to improve communications, and to support clubs on the regional level, there will be a conference call hosted by Lelo on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:00 pm, starting in November. She will send out a reminder email and instructions. This is an opportunity for clubs to check in and discuss any issues they may be experiencing. A representative from each club should call in at that time each month. We will still have our regular council meetings in early February, April, September or October, and November. Amanda will also arrange a closed face book page for DCs to discuss topics of interest.

Amanda needs to be copied on all club correspondence as required by the National Office. Wendy also needs to be advised of new officers as soon as possible to update the contact information.

Finally, we had a brief discussion regarding the tentative schedule for 2-17. Some of these dates are not confirmed yet, but this is the proposed schedule:

Quiz Rally March 24 in Haverhill MA
HM Clinic April 9 location TBD
Standards Clinic May 6 location TBD
Eventing Rally May 21 Course Brook?
HB prep camp at UNH end of May
Show Jumping Rally May 27 Fremont NH
Dressage Rally June 10-11 at UNH
HB Certification June 26-28 at UNH
Regional Camp June 27-30 at UNH
Games Rally June 25 at Green Acres in Madbury NH
Championships/Festival July 17 – 24
D Rally September 30 at Groton Fairgrounds Groton MA
Again, these dates are tentative at this time.

At 1:00 p.m., with no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Reed Johnson
Regional Secretary