

# CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGION

## MINUTES OF DC MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2002

The February DC's meeting was held on February 16, 2002 at the First Church in Groton MA. Eleven clubs were represented by the following members: Kathleen Collins, Ted/Pete Barnard, Curtis Renner, Mike Sullivan, Belinda Barbas, Lorna Garron, Stuart Shotwell, Deb Maietta, Jill Mudge, Iris Realmuto, Steve Realmuto, Wendy Johnson, Monique Waldron, Audrey Zwicker, Louise Hara, Susan Ferry, Judy Pelis, Esther Short, Alicia Lenahan and Ron Ignotz.

The meeting commenced at 9:30 with opening remarks from Louisa McKown, who gave a report on the Annual Meeting held in Atlanta GA. Topics of interest included the new Emergency Medical Release form, USPC Annual Fund, Horse Management updates, Communication updates, Insurance changes, National testing, and Rally updates.

Next, Coordinators' Reports were submitted and discussed. Louise Hara as the RIC, is still looking for feedback on regional resources each club uses. A list of resources was passed around and DCs were urged to make corrections and add names of clinicians, instructors and resources that have been helpful to their club. Also, the Horse Management Clinic will have a different format this year. It will be broken out into three training sessions- a barn fair style session for the kids, a parents' session led by Chief Horse Management judges, and an Instructors and Assistant Horse Management judges session. The Region needs many more Assistant Horse Management judges and anyone who would like to become a judge is urged to attend this session.

Audrey Zwicker advised that a supply of Regional clothing including shirts, hats, pins and patches is available and will be sold at rallies and clinics throughout the year as a fund raiser.

Judy Pelis asked that any DCs who have an upper level member who is also an excellent student in Massachusetts contact her for additional information about scholarship opportunities.

Deb Maietta asked that all DCs complete the questionnaire regarding accommodation preferences during Championships so that the group can stay together while in Virginia this summer. Please be sure to provide her with feedback.

The ad hoc committee appointed in October submitted their report regarding CNER Recognition Awards. The committee divided the awards into two categories of consideration; acknowledgement of members aging out and recognition for long time involvement in the Region. For the first category, a motion was made to recognize actively participating, 21 year old graduates who are in good standing and who have a rating of C3 or higher. An award would be determined annually by a person designated by the RS. The award would be of a permanent nature and not more than \$50 in value. The club's DC would contribute a personalized statement as well. The motion was seconded, discussed and passed unanimously to become effective this year.

A motion was then made to institute a second award category providing recognition for those graduates or others who have demonstrated a history of involvement at the Regional level. The motion was seconded, discussed and then withdrawn. It was agreed that more thought needs to be given regarding parameters for qualification, monetary versus non monetary recognition and other details. The committee will continue to explore alternatives and the discussion will continue at the next meeting. Thank you to the committee for their efforts.

Stuart Shotwell delivered the Treasurer's Report. He discussed his concern that only a few clubs had paid their regional dues so far this year. A motion was made to assess a late fee of \$1.00 per member to each club that does not pay its dues by January 31<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next, the statement of receipts and expenditures was presented and reviewed and the proposed budget was discussed. A motion was made to accept the proposed budget for 2002 as presented, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A discussion followed regarding the need to increase Regional clinician fees due to increased cost of running the Regional clinics. Louisa made a motion to increase the clinician fee per club from \$20 to \$40 per clinic starting next year. The motion was discussed and withdrawn. A new motion was made to increase annual dues from \$5 per person to \$10 per person effective 2003 with the understanding that the increase in dues would help offset the increased cost of clinics. Clinic fees would remain at \$20 per clinic per club. The motion was seconded and passed.

Louisa moved to establish the Nominating Committee, naming Audrey Zwicker as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Also named were Steve Realmuto and Tammy Erickson. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Louisa commented that she would like to nominate one or two additional members at the next DC's meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> during the Dressage Rally.

The next area of discussion was regional audio equipment. Ted Barnard had done extensive research into equipment needs for the Region. He presented a proposal to set up a baseline command center and communication procedures. After further discussion it was suggested that Ted will get back to the group with specific prices and look into alternatives such as leasing all or some of the equipment as needed. The Regional Council agreed to a ballpark figure of \$1000 for the purposes of costing out the most essential equipment.

Individual Rally reports were next on the agenda. Computers and tape recorders are needed for the Quiz Rally. For the CT Qualifying Rally at Apple Knoll on June 16, paperwork needs to be in to Iris Realmuto as early as possible, but no later than April 20. Because this rally is being held as part of a USEA event, competitors will need to have a USEA entry form as well as a USPC form and other paperwork. Iris passed out a sample USEA entry form, properly filled out, so that DCs could see what was needed. For Show Jumping Rally, Worcestershire will organize the mini-ring, Golden Hill will handle a ring and Pennybrook volunteered to do the overall organizing (entry, hiring of judges and officials, scheduling, etc). A club is still needed to set up and "man" the Qualifying ring. Dressage Rally plans are moving along, judges have been lined up. There is still a need for food services. Tetrathlon will be held in the White Mt. Region on June 27-28 just before Dressage Rally so there will be no conflict for kids who want to compete in Dressage Rally as well. Information about Tetrathlon rally will go out in the newsletter as soon as it is available.

Organizers were reminded to contact the previous rally organizers for detailed instructions, establish a budget and update insurance and to ask Louisa to approve the budget and the entry prior to mailing. A generic entry form was designed by Iris Realmuto to facilitate the paperwork, and Stuart Shotwell urged that all entry checks must be mailed to him before the start of each Rally.

After lunch, the group was divided into sections for round table discussions on various topics such as club successes and difficulties. Ideas and experiences were shared by all.

Judy Pelis spoke about the National History Project being undertaken by USPC on the national level. Local clubs with historic memorabilia have been asked to share their pictures and memories that will then be printed in a book available in time for USPC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to be celebrated at the USPC Annual Meeting and convention in Philadelphia in January 2004. Contact for communications for the History Project is [annejones@juno.com](mailto:annejones@juno.com).

Louisa asked Ted Barnard to look into fund raising ideas with the help of Jo Anne Masar. They will report at the next meeting which is planned for Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> during the Dressage Rally.

Finally, the Junior Board met with us following their meeting. They discussed their plans for sponsoring a poster show at Quiz Rally as well as providing food at the Rally. At the HM clinic they plan to hold a Tack Sale fundraiser and at all the events this year they plan to run a raffle and are looking for donations for the raffle. They asked that people contact them with any items to raffle and as always they urged clubs to continue to promote the Jr. Board in their clubs.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45.