

CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 3 2003

The May Regional Council meeting was held on May 3, 2003 at the Reading Municipal Light Building in Reading MA. The meeting commenced at 10:00. Attending the meeting were Wendy Johnson, Lara Hubner, Louise Hara, Ingrid Low, Iris Realmuto, Steve Realmuto, Ted Barnard, Curtis Renner, Audrey Zwicker, Deb Maietta, Sue Ferry, Lisa Brem, Karen Liuzzo and Louisa McKown.

Treasurer's Report

First on the agenda was the Treasurer's report, presented by Curtis Renner. The Region has approximately \$18,000, the bulk in long term savings which continue to grow. Approximately \$5500 is maintained in the working budget. Curtis pointed out the problem of collecting dues for late member renewals. It was suggested that the DCs obtain a current member list from Member Services at USPC to verify members' status and ratings. If clubs have not paid their current Regional dues for late members, they will not be allowed to compete at rallies. All checks for late dues should be sent to Louisa who will forward to Curtis.

This year the clubs will be charged \$40 instead of \$60 for Clinic fees due to the cancellation of Standards Clinic. It was recommended that Curtis email reminder notices first and follow up with mailed bills. A discussion followed regarding whether the increase to \$10 per member for individual dues was meant to replace the need to charge the clubs an additional clinic fee each year. It was agreed that the discussion would continue at the fall meeting.

It was suggested that the financial statement be attached to the Regional newsletter. Also, Curtis should be carbon copied when financial information is sent to Louisa. Rally organizers were reminded to send their budgets to Louisa for approval. The budget should include the cost of the ribbons since organizers will need to estimate the amount needed to reimburse the region from the proceeds of the rally. Organizers can calculate the cost by figuring \$2.65 each for Champion sized ribbons and \$2.25 for smaller ribbons.

Reports from other Regional Coordinators

Show Jumping Rally date is September 21 not September 28 as originally reported.

Championship Prep Camp: Louise Hara is coordinating a "camp" for Championship qualifiers. It will probably be held prior to July 10th since C Quiz is on 7/13. It was agreed that the weekend of July 5th and 6th would work out perfectly for an all discipline camp, possibly with mounted prep on one day and horse management the next. Quiz participants would prep both days. Foss Farm was recommended as the location for the camp. More details to follow.

Regional Equipment: There is still missing rally equipment and a CNE banner. It was suggested we offer a reward for the missing items and post it at the rallies.

Championships: Lisa Brem announced the qualifiers for Quiz Championships. The required medical release form must have a physician's release if the last question on the form is answered positively.

Accommodations for Championships in Virginia will be at the Days Inn in Raphine. The cost is \$64 per single room and \$69 double occupancy. CNER has reserved a block of rooms and qualifiers should call and reserve rooms held under the code CNR1. The Region will provide shirts and pins to the qualifiers, parents can order extra shirts for \$16 each.

Inter-Pacific Exchange: Katherine Short is looking for a donation to help offset the cost to go to the International Exchange. A motion was made to donate \$250 from the Region. The vote was unanimous. A second motion was made to direct the policy committee to write a "broad" statement into the policies to allow us to give recognition and support to members who are selected for international exchange teams and National Youth Congress opportunities. These would be situations that involve "selection" rather than "qualifying". The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Such a donation should be carried on the Treasurer's financial statement under the category now called "meetings".

Regional Instruction Coordinator: Louise Hara spoke about the plans for the Upper Level prep programs moving along. She also recommended that kids not be afraid to ask to have the written test questions read at rallies if necessary. Rally entries could have a box to check if DCs know kids who would need this kind of help.

She spoke of the experience she had with the Equine Land Conservation Resource as an aid in helping to preserve the Foss Farm in Carlisle for equestrian use. She encouraged us all to be aware of the open land that is currently available for pony club use and the fact that it may not always be open. There is much that can be done to save "developable" land; the ELCR is ready and willing to help local equestrian groups to organize and save needed land.

Nominating: Steve Realmuto, chairman, stated that the regional Nominating Committee will be looking for feedback early this year if possible and will discuss further at the fall meeting.

Regional Equipment: Ted Barnard spoke next regarding the regional equipment. We need the ability to run power off a battery pack, a converter and carrying case. A cassette player and CD player are needed along with a transport kit and replacement of some of the radios. There was a motion by Ted to allocate an additional \$500 for electrical equipment. Louisa recommended that we approve the expenses. Lisa .Brem seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Rally schedule: Louisa is sensitive to the fact that our rally schedule this year eliminates young Ds from attending a rally until the fall. (Show Jumping is no longer in June; D Rally and Eventing Rally are both in the fall this year). There will be a DC's meeting in early September and one of the items on the agenda will be to work on the Rally schedule for 2004.

Regional Policies: Revisions to the Regional Policies were discussed next. It was apparent that most of the revisions merely involved semantics and it was decided that Steve and Louisa would put together the revised changes to present at the fall meeting.

Horse Management: Lara Hubner spoke about horse management and encouraged all Horse Management scores to be exceptional for those individuals hoping to qualify. She spoke about the clinician's list and asked for help developing a long term plan involving total horse management; ultimately, what is the best thing to do for the horse. She spoke about how the clubs can help to promote good horse management. Iris will add an area to the CNER website dedicated to horse management. Clubs can download and use HM forms with their club members. Each child should be familiar with the standards checklist for her rating. Each club should develop a strong program at the club level to provide the kids with a solid background at rallies. She urged DCs to teach from the standards.

Lara reminded everyone that there are many regional resources available-just ask!

Louisa wrapped up comments and the meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.