

## **MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**September 15, 2007**

The fall Regional Council meeting was held at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park on September 15, 2007 at 10:00. The following members attended: Lelo Reeves, Penny Jaques, Libbie Kohler, Anne Wilson, Amanda Ellis, Peggy Knight, Betty Staten, Shelly Patrick, Sarah Robinson, Louise Hara, Karen Marcotte, Lara Hubner, Iris Realmuto, Wendy Johnson, Audrey Zwicker, Curtis Renner, Helen Robinson, Debbie Power, and Betsey Reeves.

The meeting kicked off with an Annual Meeting progress update. Karen Marcotte reported that we are moving right along with our timeline. There are a few more coordinator positions that needed to be filled. There are also a number of areas where we will need lots of volunteers during the meeting itself. Penny Jaques and Libbie Kohler volunteered to coordinate the Research Fair. Iris will communicate with Erin Woodall at the National Office regarding changes to the website. The registration booklet is just about ready to launch. The National Office is printing it now, and it will be available in the next USPC magazine as well as on the USPC website shortly.

Carol Seale has been working on the Anatomy Room and has communicated with Tufts and UNH for donations. Nancy Fantom will be working with Betty Staten and representatives from White Mountain Region to plan the Pony Paddock and Teen Lounge. A number of National Examiners and other attendees have already indicated an interest in presenting discussions and demonstrations for both groups. Nancy has also lined up some other guests, and Betty has lots of ideas for the Pony Paddock as well. They will be soliciting volunteers from the Region. We will need to get some computers for the Pony Paddock, either donated for the week from local companies or loaned to us from pony club members. If anyone has any suggestions or wants to coordinate, please let Karen know. We also need proposals for a high speed heavy duty copier for the week (capable of making 35,000 plus copies). We will need a number of volunteers to man the copier as well. Perhaps a club could oversee scheduling copier volunteers. Again, contact Karen if you are willing to help with this area.

Louise Hara is coordinating the workshops and hospitality. She will need volunteers to take care of hospitality for the presenters. She may have to go out of region for volunteers if she needs more help. Lara Hubner has been in touch with the N.O. regarding the Trade Fair. Letters have already been sent to the national vendors. Lara sent around a list for suggestions of local business that we might approach for the trade show, Equine School representation, possible advertising, or donations. We still need someone to coordinate solicitation of local advertising for the Procedures book.

Jordan Stable has volunteered to handle hospitality for visitors. Hopefully they can start to solicit flyers and handouts from the Chamber of Commerce etc, for the welcome kits, possibly put together information about the Boston area and organize a welcome to Boston table for visitors. There will be Annual Meeting tee shirts for all the volunteers.

Anne Wilson will check with Smart Pak to see if they are interested in sponsoring the name tag holders.

Lisa Brem is ready for silent auction items. Donation forms were emailed to DCs to distribute to members. All Championship participants, clubs and members are asked to donate items or solicit donations. They can give these items to their DCs to bring to the next Council Meeting or they can make arrangements to drop off items with Lisa or Wendy. Completed donation forms can be emailed or faxed ahead of time if items are anticipated. That way we can start to catalog donations to post on the website. There will be some live items and possibly a kid's auction in the pony paddock, so we really need everyone's help. DC's, please start motivating your members. All money from the auction will go to CNE! We will also need lots of manpower to help set up, monitor and cash out at the end of the auction.

Lelo has been working on the Banquet arrangements. There will be lanterns on the table in keeping with our patriotic theme. She is also coordinating the Regional clothing fundraiser by setting up online pre-orders and onsite embroidery services.

Last minute volunteers will need to be recruited to assemble the Procedures books. Anyone with connections for discounts or donations for copy paper or binders should contact Wendy Johnson as soon as possible.

Betsey is working on firming up a key note speaker. There are several excellent options and she should have confirmation shortly.

**There will be a meeting of all coordinators with Wayne Quarles from the National Office on Saturday November 10th at 10:00 a.m. at Wendy Johnson's house in Nashua NH. We will have a "pre meeting" get together on Wednesday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in Nashua to prepare for the big meeting. All Chairs are urged to attend. Please contact Karen Marcotte with any questions. An email will go out to confirm attendance.**

Next on the agenda was a quick Championship wrap up. Deb Titus was unable to attend the meeting but she did email a report to Betsey. There were 37 competitors this year and regardless of their placing in the competition, Betsey noted how proud she was of each of the kids. She also complimented the parent volunteers. They were a great group of parents, with lots of camaraderie. There were also numerous, non competing CNE supporters there to cheer on the Region. Everyone gave a great effort, learned a lot and seemed to have a good experience.

The next topic was the UL, C3 and HB programs. We gained a number of new UL, HB, and C3's over the summer. Betsey advised we may still have 2 HAs and a B candidate testing this year. Squamscott did a great job hosting the B and HB rating at UNH. A suggestion was made to combine the HB and HA unmounted programs with Laurie Chapman Bosco this winter. Betsey will discuss with Catherine Williams.

As a note of interest, Betsey mentioned that the USPC website has had a worm which affected many of our computers, and is responsible for the high level of spam many members have experienced recently.

Louise Hara would like someone to work with her as the RIC in training for next year, as she would like to step down now that her daughter is in college. If anyone is interested in becoming the new Regional Instruction Coordinator, please contact Louise as soon as possible. The position basically involves being a resource contact for the region. DCs should look to their clubs to see if there are any parents who might be interested in the position

Next, Betsey brought up the Junior Board situation. Unfortunately, Chris and Deb were not at the meeting. We need to see if there are going to be any interested members this year. It may make sense to have their meetings in conjunction with the Regional Council meetings. It was suggested that we try to find a non-Council member to act as Jr. Board Advisor so that there is no conflict with DCs attending Council meetings instead of Jr. Board meetings. We need to figure out how to get the kids to be more active or whether we should scrap the Jr. Board for now.

Next on the Agenda was further discussion regarding inexperienced kids at rallies, specifically Games Rally and D Rally. It was suggested that we hold a mini games rally on Saturday and have the qualifying rally participants move in later in the day. Heights and weights and possibly formals could be scheduled for Saturday night and the Games could be run on Sunday. Betty advised that we still need to include out of region competitors to keep the level of competition up, and she advised that we have to reserve and pay for the whole weekend at Topsfield. With regards to D Rally, it was suggested that we limit competitors to D1s and D2s with the idea that D3s can compete at the NQ Eventing rally instead. It is too late to implement this year, but could be tried next year. The stadium and XC rounds will be scheduled back to back to try to keep the rally moving.

Curtis handed out revised Budget Statements and Balance Sheets. We still need to review the expenses and income from Show Jumping Rally since it appears that not all the income has been accounted for.

**A motion was made by Louise Hara to approve the Nominating Committee, consisting of David Merrill, Kathy Tremblay, Lisa Brem, and Karen Marcotte, plus Penny Jaques from Pegasus. Peggy Knight seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

The next Council meeting will be the CNE Annual Council Meeting, to be held on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Betsey will confirm the Tubing Park. The Annual Business Meeting will begin at 10:00 to be followed immediately by the Regional Council Meeting. Each club needs to send a representative. Clubs should begin planning the events or rallies they would like to host next year. Betsey reminded each club that they must hold their annual meeting prior to the regional meeting. Be sure to let Betsey know when you plan to meet.

A vote was taken to re-establish regional dues for next year. Iris made a motion to lower the dues from \$10 to \$5 to keep consistent with the riding center dues. The motion was not seconded. **Peggy then moved to keep the dues at \$10 for 2008. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Another motion was made by Betty to pro-rate the regional dues to \$15 to cover membership from September to the end of the following year. Iris seconded and the vote was unanimous.**

Equine Affaire is coming up in November and USPC has a booth in the Youth Pavilion again. Betsey would love to have some help manning the booth. If interested, please contact her.

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With no other business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson  
Regional Secretary