

CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING
November 21, 2009

The Central New England Regional Council held their Annual Business Meeting at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park in Westford MA on Saturday November 21, 2009. The Business Meeting began at 10:15 a.m., immediately followed by the fall Regional Council Meeting. There were 23 members in attendance. They included the following: Betsey Reeves, Elizabeth Kohler, Curtis Renner, Shelly Patrick, Karen Marcotte, Janet Oliver, Lori Decato Metz, Amanda Ellis, Lara Hubner, Debbie Power, Beth Platt, Elena Wohl, Esther Lutz, Wendy Johnson, Iris Realmuto, Lisa Doyle, Helen Robinson, Verne Sullivan, Rita McConnon, Judi O'Neil, Elaine Brazeau, Allison Blood, and Vicky Lochiatto.

Betsey welcomed the group and began the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. We definitely had a quorum with 13 out of 14 clubs and 1 riding center present.

Next, Betsey delivered the RS report. In 2009 attendance was down in the region, reflecting a national trend in Ponyclub. However, we had great participation at our inter-regional Standards Clinic which we hosted with Southeastern New England Region. Our Horse Management is strong, rallies were fairly well attended due to the fact that we combined the qualifying and non-qualifying rallies for most rallies and did not have to cancel any rallies this year. The UL program was well attended but few candidates from CNE ended up testing. We had a number of participants from out of region. Many of our local clubs have been able to work together to share programs. Despite the economy our region is very strong. Betsey closed her report by thanking everyone for their support over the year. A motion was made to accept the RS report as read; it passed unanimously

Next, Beth presented the Treasurer's Report. She pointed out that we will either need to raise funds or stop paying for Championship entries next year. A temporary estimate of half the current Championship expense was used for the budget. During our next meeting, we will discuss fundraising and what we want to do for 2010. Also, it was pointed out that it is hard to budget for the UL program because so many candidates drop out part way through the year, often after the clinicians have been hired. A motion was made to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

In an effort to save time, all year end reports from the other Coordinators were emailed to the Council prior to the Annual Meeting. There were no questions or comments. A motion was made and all reports were accepted unanimously.

Karen Marcotte followed with the Report of the Nominating Committee. She presented the slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee. All officers will remain the same for one more year. During the discussion period, Iris Realmuto asked Curtis if he was prepared to be RS. He answered that he would do it if there were no other volunteers. There was a motion made to accept the slate as presented; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Central New England Regional Officers for 2010 are as follows:

Betsey Reeves- Regional Supervisor
Curtis Renner- Vice Regional Supervisor
Beth Platt- Treasurer
Wendy Johnson- Secretary

We will need to replace the RIC this year as Carol Seale will not continue as the Regional Instructional Coordinator. Betsey described the RIC as a “go to” resource person. Within our region we are fortunate because we have excellent inter-club communication and benefit from being small and centrally located compared to some other regions. Please let Betsey know if you are interested.

The Regional Calendar of Activities was next on the Agenda. The Council moved to address the calendar in more detail in the non-business meeting to follow.

There were no policy amendments to discuss. Betsey will check with Audrey Wicker to see if she is interested in staying on the policy committee. Otherwise the committee will stay as is.

At 11:00 a.m., with no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Reed Johnson
Regional Secretary