

**Northwoods Dressage Association
Board Meeting
12/11/17
Blackwoods, Proctor MN**

Present: Pam Forsythe, Alex LaFleur, Jess Amundson, Amanda LaFleur, Kate Hinz, Kathi Marshall, Jen Hovde, Natascha Artang, Leah Nelson, Teresa Kolar, Julie Williams, Jennifer Manty, Rachel Tomczak

Call to Order: 6:27

Conflict of interest: None

Mission Statement: Teresa

Treasurer Report: Checking—\$10,594.13. Money Market—\$30,028.19

- Please see the report.
- Taxes are done. We will owe a late fee of \$50/year. \$25/year to file plus the late fee. Nick is charging \$600 to do the taxes and is interested in doing them next year. Kathi has a hard copy of the taxes.
- Fair Ground bills have come in. Averaged \$1000—1200 per show.
- Paid \$550 for the stall doors. Fair Board paid 1/2 of this bill.

Motion to approve by Jess, 2nd by Kate—passed.

Secretary: Please see report

Motion to approve by Jen, 2nd by Amanda—passed

Governance:

- Updates were made to the contact list.
- Jen passed out a copy of the changes made to the Bylaws
- Region 4 director spot term is up. Anne Sushko is willing to continue with this. She has made a list of her duties if you want to look at them.

Education/scholarship:

- L program: 14 participants—4 have not paid yet—this will be followed up on. So far we have 4 demo riders. Pam has requested that the Education Committee meets after January 1st to work on firming up the plans and delegating responsibilities. More info to come as planning progresses
- Sam Martinson won the L program scholarship
- It is recommended that we have better training for our volunteers, especially Ring Stewards, Bit Checkers and Scribes. We could set up clinics for this. USDF has lots of good info available on their website for example: “mini clinics” for volunteers. We could also set up a “rule guide” for apparel and equipment. In the past we have had the TD at our shows do some informal training.
- Jess did an apprentice TD clinic with scenarios. Lots of ideas for winter education for next year
- Region 4 is trying to update their website and Facebook page. Please get education information to them
- There are National Education Incentive grants available to GMO’s for educational programs
- Awards for most helpful education clinics. There are lots of cool ideas.
- Flyer page for NWDA, Region 4 and Dressage Foundation scholarships and grants to be put in the Omnibus.

Membership:

76 members—66 individual, 10 supporting. 41 annual horses

Equipment:

Nothing new

Shows:

- We are officially registered for the 3rd Recognized show.

- Need Isolation protocol by the summer of 2018 for Recognized Shows. The purpose of the plan is to show how we would handle a sick horse at our shows. We need to get it out to the TD's and competitors the same way we provide an accident preparedness plan. The show manager (Erica) will have to submit this to USEF. Will need to meet with Erica. This rule has been updated to the Google drive if you want to review it.
- Regional changes: 2018 Qualifying fees are increasing from \$10 to \$15. 2019 Freestyle qualifying scores increasing from 63% to 65%. Open PSG, I1 and I2 increasing from 60–62%
- Dressage tests will change in 2019
- USEF drug fees increasing from \$8 to \$15

JR/YR:

- Need to confirm dates for next Play day
- Kathi will ask insurance about covering the overnight clinic

Website/newsletter:

- Newsletter went out
- Envelopes were 1/4" too large
- Suggested that we send everyone an e-copy and only mail hard copy to those who request them
- Question—should we submit our Newsletter to USDF for an award? Maybe 2 different articles, pictures and website?
- At the banquet we could have an award for the best article and then submit it to USDF for the year end award
- NWDA Volunteer of the Year Award—submit to Region 4 and then to USDF
- Next Newsletter is out in March. Deadline for articles 2/15
- Suggestion: Make a change the website to have member specific log in page. Would need to have the Membership committee add each members email to the accepted list. Website currently costs \$15/year. After the 1st of the year, we will look at the website and make changes

Fundraising:

Don't have the date for the Tack Swap yet

Ideas for clothing: winter hats; sweatshirts; loose, thick sleeve tank top—will need to look at pricing for these. Region 4 has winter hats with logo

Motion by Jen: we will increase the amount of \$\$ spent on clothing from \$600–\$1000, 2nd—Alex, passed

Awards banquet:

- Info went out. Prizes have been ordered.
- We have received the info from Carrie on the awards.
- We should have a meeting in January for the awards. Lots of people have sent in information on their awards and nominations for awards
- We should recognize the riders that went to Regionals and Nationals

Old Business:

Discussion held about changes and additions to the omnibus. Please get updates to Jess by 1/1/18.

New Business:

Will be updating brochure with show dates and pictures

Please get calendar pictures to Jess or Alex

Looked at the calendar for next year. Suggested dates for 2018 meetings as follows: January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12 (annual meeting), December 10

Next Meeting date: 1/8/18

Motion to adjourn @ 7:59: by Jen, 2nd by Pam

