

07/14/2010

Call to Order: 6:20 PM

Roll Call: Districts Present – 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20

Introductions:

None

Agenda:

Motion to approve
District 2 – Motions
District 18 – Seconds
Passed

Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes
District 5 – Motions
District 6 – Seconds
Passed

Treasurer's Report:

Balance \$24,180.45

Motion to accept minutes
District 11 – Motions
District 6 – Seconds
Passed

Old Business:

A. Rulebook Compliance with Dissolution Clause in Regards to Obtaining a Gaming License

Chair – All paperwork is filed & waiting for the state

B. Coach and DC Training

Rules Chair – Hiring Judges

Handed out a recent copy of the 4H horse judges list. This list doesn't contain all qualified judges but is a good start in locating judges which have been evaluated by the 4H Judges Committee.

Get your show dates set. Do not wait until the last minute to hire your judges.

It is important to have balance when you hire judges. Try to hire judges which each have different backgrounds and specialties.

The 4H horse judges list is primarily stock horse judges.

Some people go to breed association sites to find judges. There is nothing saying you can't. Just keep in mind if you choose someone from a breed list you will have someone who specializes in one breed.

The 4H horse judges list focuses on the horse, safety and being well rounded.

2nd Vice Chair – Some of the breed judges get their card online.

Rules Chair – The best way to get people more pleasure oriented is talk amongst yourselves. There is nothing wrong with taking the time to speak with other DCs about their experiences and likes or dislikes about judges. In the rules chair's judges list she highlights names. Blue for judges she will not hire again, pink for recently used, green for good to hire, orange for like to try, yellow for those to hire under the right conditions. A good attitude and a sense of humor are important. Get out and watch people judge. The rules chair will offer up names of judges she feels are qualified if asked. It's important to assess what your needs are. She doesn't like judges to go to the mic, but will allow limited comments during a junior meet.

Contacting Judges

Calling judges takes up time. The rules chair prefers email.

District 18 – Can you relay to some judges to get an email address?

Rules Chair – Doesn't negotiate on the price and never pays one judge more than she pays another.

She always tries to get one pleasure and one stock horse judge to provide balance to the meet.

It is difficult to ask one judge what the perfect pleasure horse is. They usually will describe a stock horse.

Make sure to include a contact phone number. Make sure to set a timeline and stick to it.

Rules chair will send a map and reminder about a month ahead of the show.

As a judge she notices some of the contracts are vague. For 4H shows she makes sure if the contracted judge cannot make it they find a replacement.

With an MIHA meet she does not do that.

District 16 – What about rain outs?

Rules Chair – Should we cancel beforehand she pays \$100. If the show doesn't finish she will pay half the fee. Be sure to put it in the contract. Stating nothing in the contract means you owe the whole amount.

Rules Chair will send out sample contracts.

Has there ever been a round table between DCs to discuss judges? No.

It isn't helpful to ask people within your own district about judges.

District 20 – How do you feel about the amount being paid?

Previous to the fee schedule change it was \$350. Now it may be different.

In August \$300 may not seem an appealing amount to a judge but in September when the show season is winding down they may be more interested.

District 20 – Maybe we should see other district's contracts.

District 18 – What about mileage?

Rules Chair – Many are going to a flat fee.

District 20 – Makes a request for the showmanship patterns early.

District 6 – Creates the showmanship patterns and sends them to the judge.

District 20 – Hands out a pattern packet

Rules Chair – Also sends the judge a pattern packet

What month do you hire your judges? Maybe at the January or February meeting go over possible judges with DCs.

Also ask 4H shows about their dates and who their judges are.

Communicating with Coaches and Teams

Rules Chair – the majority of the email she replies to pertains to miscommunication.

Make up a schedule to hand to your coaches. That way there is no confusion on dates.

Email is a good way to communicate, but it's not the end all, be all. It's important to have face to face meetings.

Work rosters are important. Parents need to be working. This frees up coaches.

Have someone police the job list. Delegate.

The slots for the team need to be filled.

District 14 – They had their slots filled. Each team shows at 3 of the 4 shows. If you aren't showing you're working. If they don't work they get fined and money goes to the team that filled in or to the district.

C. Rulebook

Patterns on the web are incorrect. The correct ones will be up on Friday. The copy on the web is write protected.

District 18 – Have we balanced out the savings vs. the frustration?

Chair – We will be buying a program to convert the rulebook and allow us to edit it for next year.

District 6 – Are you sending the judges rulebooks?

District 18 – Every judge on the website get a rulebook?

Chair – Yes

District 20 – What about her judges she sent?

Chair – Are they on the web?

Rules Chair – Receiving a lot of slotting questions again. The DC's need to be on top of slotting.

Rules Chair – That will be in the coach's training.

District 11 – Still looking for a training location in their district.

Rules Chair – The best solution would be at the Novi expo and the East Lansing expo. There are still gray areas in the rulebook

Rules Chair – Sent the training schedule.

New Business:

A. Junior Steering Committee

On hold until August

B. SOPs – District 4

District 4 – Asks the DCs opinions on what SOPs are?

Someone told him SOPs cannot supersede the rulebook. He has checked website looking for insight on terminology.

Our SOPs are how we operate.

Robert's rules has some information.

The SOP is law until put in front of the membership.

District 18 – There are time sensitive things needing attention now.

District 14 – SOPs deal with things not controlled by the rulebook.

District 15 – Agrees SOPs cannot supersede the rulebook, but we cannot change a rule with an SOP.

District 4 – Agrees for competition but not the bylaws.

District 4 – Annual registration example is given. Our rulebook still states annual registration. We are not legal as coaches. We know because we discussed it. An outsider doesn't know the new process. We are superseding the rulebook.

District 4 – Do the SOPs stand?

Rules Chair – Always sees SOPs as a clarification not a change. It could mean different things.

District 4 – Are the SOPs effective?

District 4 – The SOPs are there to become rules.

District 3 – Are we to follow the SOPs or not because they aren't in the rulebook?

District 4 – What is the BOD's opinion?

Rules Chair – Whatever passes as an SOP stands until it becomes a rule.

BOD – Agrees if an SOP is voted in it is in effect as operational.

1st Vice Chair – We haven't been making a practice of SOPs going to the rulebook.

Chair – Some aren't meant for the rulebook.

District 16 – Looking for clarification on the coach's list vs. the coach's form.

Rules Chair – Inquires if everyone knows how to perform a CSC.

Yes

Chair – The guy who wrote the program is ill. His wife was unable to make the meeting.

Chair will work on getting the program.

District 20 – Wants to know how her computer person is to get the program.

C. Junior Steering Committee – District 4

District 4 – Wants to apologize to the BOD for his attitude lately.

District 4 – Had a problem with a junior coach and thought it was all taken care of. SOP for add/remove a coach was not passed yet.

There was a parent meeting and the vote was to remove the coach.

A meeting was held in June with the junior steering committee.

The recommendations of the steering committee were accepted.

The problem lies in the contacting of the coach's lawyer by one of the junior steering committee.

District 4 chair has a letter of complaint against the junior steering committee member and is asking for the opinion of the BOD if he should send it. He would like a roll call vote.

District 18 – There should be a reprimand.

District 2 – As an organization we have to be consistent on how we handle situations.

District 16 – You don't need our opinion. If it were him he'd be angry. But it is up to you. There are a couple of others who should be upset also.

District 11 – they jumped the chain of command and thwarted attempts to resolve the situation.

District 4 – Why? He's told he is bitter and is asking to make sure that isn't the reason he is sending the letter.

District 14 – This is more than the last issue like this.

District 4 – This person admitted it.

District 6 – Send the letter. No one is exempt.

District 11 – It needs to be clear that we close ranks and have one voice.
District 4 – The second question is about the junior steering committee. Is it a committee made up of appointed members?
He agrees the steering committee was formed so the BOD wouldn't have to deal with junior situations.
Now everything that has to do with juniors goes in front of the steering committee. He feels this isn't right.
This committee has no resolve.
In his opinion they should look at policies and how to improve juniors.
Disciplinary and coaching issues should go to the DC and the Executive Board.
1st Vice Chair – Recites the rulebooks for disciplinary ruling and junior issues. The rulebook contradicts itself.
District 16 – It sounds like the DC has no authority over juniors.
District 4 – this is what he's looking at. Look at the SOP for coach appointment.
District 14 – Agrees with district 4 on the vision of the steering committee.
Rules Chair – Would like to table the issue until August to hear the steering committee.
District 18 – Agrees on the suggestion to table.
District 4 – Is this a junior issue or coaching issue?
District 2 – Inquires if the procedure was followed.
Rules Chair – The executive board only has the authority for disciplinary action.
District 11 – A team can vote out a coach.
Chair – Procedures weren't followed. The steering committee wanted to help resolve the issue.
District 4 – You being the chair of the steering committee said it wasn't handled correctly.
Chair – Doesn't feel that doing this to the steering committee benefits anyone.
District 11 – After the 1st Hartland issue the DC now produces documents in writing. She would like to see what the issues are. To produce a document with both sides of a situation is difficult but gives more detail.
District 4 – Has a summary but it is only his opinion.
Chair – Wants to table until August.
District 4 to send summary document on coach issue to BOD.
District 20 – Sees two issues, resolution on how the situation was handled and the overstepped bounds.
District 4 – Would like to see the rulebook changed to clarify steering committee duties.
District 20 – When a team wants to remove a coach who votes, kids or parents?
District 11 – It's in the SOP.
District 20 - Do you all have charters?
No.
Our coaches don't sign anything stating they abide by the MIHA rulebook.
This is covered on the volunteer form.

Committees

State Show Committee – No Report

Rules Committee –No Report

Junior Committee – Tabled until August

Regional Committee – Had a meeting

Membership – No Report

Historian – No Report

Judges Committee – District 9 has all but one judge.

Patterns – No Report

Trophy Committee –Missing 3 State Meet Loaner Trophies

Finance – No Report

Nominations – No Report

Scholarship – The deadline for applications has been moved up.

District Reports:

1. Not Present
2. Minor issue with juniors but is resolved
3. Fine
4. Fine
5. Good junior meet, meeting w/coaches for senior 14 schools, 18 teams
6. August 30th meeting.
7. Not Present
8. Not Present
9. Good meets and appreciates Chair stopping to watch
10. Good junior meet
11. No Report
12. Not Present
13. Not Present
14. Fine
15. Fine
16. Fine
17. Fine
18. Fine
19. Not Present
20. Fine

Correspondence:

Received thank you notes from scholarship recipients.

Call to the Public:

Farm Bureau and Facebook

Motion to adjourn
District 11 – Motions
District 4 – Seconds
Passed

Adjourned 8:00pm

Motions:

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Minutes:

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Treasurer's Report:

District 11 – Motions
District 6 – Seconds
Passed

Adjourn:

District 11 – Motions
District 4 – Seconds
Passed

Tasks:

Rules Chair will send out sample contracts.

***Secretary – Write an SOP for the rulebook to be printed and available by August 1st. Rulebook active year will be August 1st through July 31st.*

Chair will work on getting the program.

District 4 to send summary document on coach issue to BOD.

Email Address Verification:

2009 MIHA Executive Board

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