



**MidSouth Region of the U. S. Pony Clubs, Inc.
Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Regional Council**

12:30 – 2:30 pm, November 13, 2010

Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by RS Nancy Smith at 12:37 pm.

2. Secretarial Report

Secretary – Allison Deaton took roll call of clubs and riding centers present. 22 of 28 clubs were present and 3 of 6 riding centers were present. Each representative presents was asked to introduce themselves, state their club, position, number of members and location. Minutes of the past two Regional meetings were emailed with the Annual Meeting announcement.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer – Sharon Leonard presented the treasurer's report and presented copies to those present. At the present time we have \$64,370 in the bank and \$16,520 in fixed assets for a total of \$80,891. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report as presented.

4. 2010 In Review - Nancy shared a power point presentation and handouts

a. Membership

Nancy shared PowerPoint map showing distribution of our regions clubs and riding centers. Currently Midsouth is made up of 28 clubs and 6 riding centers. Nancy discussed changes in membership stats from 2008 thru 2010.

2008 678 members

2009 666 members

2010 608 members

The majority of those members being at the D level, C level membership has declined the most and currently Midsouth does not have an active A.

b. Clinics/Ratings

Our region hosted 10 Clinics and rating in 2010. We discussed how the timing contributes to attendance. The regions Pass/DNMS ratio was discussed and on a whole, the ratio is very favorable.

c. Accomplishments

Midsouth has two candidates to the National Youth Congress - Congrats to Jackson Roberts and Susan Pogue.

Midsouth members were also actively involved with the World Equestrian Games from riding presentations, to volunteering at the Pony Club office to presenting awards.

d. Administrative Things

(1) **New Logo** – the new logo is finally completed, new pins available.

(2) **New Website** - the website was given a facelift. We are adding a Facebook link to help the members to be more informed and to facilitate in getting clinic/prep information directly to the members.

- (3) **New Regional Shirts** - now that the new logo is ready – new attire will be available for purchase. Shirts will be navy and two styles will be offered. Peggi Bindner will organize the order for the shirts.
- (4) **Club Policies Review** – Nancy has been busy reviewing the policies of each club in the region. She asked each club to make sure she has received a current copy of each clubs policies with their renewal.
- (5) **Club Visits** – Nancy is visiting additional clubs this year – spending time learning more about the clubs and finding the club’s best practices.
- (6) **Riding Center under Regional Governance** - USPC has changed the way riding centers are handled. They will now fall under the Region.
- (7) **4th Vice Regional Supervisor** - With the additional responsibility of the Riding Centers, Nancy suggested the region add a 4th VRS to be responsible for overseeing the riding centers. Jan Whitehouse was nominated to be the 4th VRS.
- (8) **Regional Policy Changes** - Discussion was held in regards to changing the Horse Management Seminars the region requires. Currently each club is required to attend a Horse Mgt seminar annually. Three were offered in 2010. In the past clubs were invoiced \$25 for a small club and \$50 for a large club to handle the expenses involved. Since the region has been offering this seminars in conjunction with other rallies or meetings the expenses has been nominal, so the idea of not charging was entertained. The region would like to vote on changing the policy in regards to Horse Mgt seminars to state that if the club attends the seminar there will be no charge to the attendee, however if no representative from the club attends there will be a \$50 fee.

5. 2010 Rallies - 2011 Changes/Plans

a. Rallies

- (1) **Quiz** -March 5th Becky Logsdon discussed the changes for Quiz 2011. Becky will be the Organizer for Quiz in 2011. Nancy is working with the Marriott on ways to reduce the regions liability and expenses involved with hosting Quiz there. Nancy is working on changing the banquet menu to a more kid friendly and economical choice. Ideas were also discussed on ways to increase hotel bookings by either offering a Pizza Pool Party or Crazy House Shoe Contests on Friday to entice attendees to arrive on Friday and stay at the Marriott. Entry forms for Quiz will be available the 1st of the year.
- (2) **Games** - March 26th Annie Hulbert will once again be the organizer of the games rally and it will return to the Kentucky Horse Park Covered Arena. Entry Forms will be available the 1st of the year. The region will offer Walk Trot, Junior, Senior, and Advanced Divisions. Depending on the number of teams, a Novice division may be available. However, there needs to be two teams in each division in order for Rally to be considered a qualifying rally for championships, so priority will be filling those divisions.
- (3) **Polocrosse** - May 28th Dalles Phillips will be the Organizer. It will be held at Harvest Farm near Huntsville, AL in conjunction with an APA Tournament. Horse Mgmt will be held the 1st day with formals, turnbacks and awards. Play will consist of 4 chukkas.
- (4) **MegaRally** - June 19-27 Shelley Ryan is stepping down as overall organizer and Cindi Lacy has offered to oversee MegaRally. Shelley will still be taking care of the Horse Trial and the cross country portion of mega rally. Sally Lockhart will be the organizer for tet rally in 2011, but will be retiring after this year. She would love someone to come on board in 2011 to help and the take over in 2012. Shelley mentioned the possibility of moving Dressage Rally to Masterson Station due to the issue with stalls not being ready at the Horse Park following their large hunter show the previous weekend. The only restraint at Masterson’s is the limit of 31 stalls.

b. **Horse Trial Regional Fundraiser** – Shelley Ryan will be the Organizer of the Horse Trial. Nancy mentioned the need for parents to stick around to come back to help at our Regions fundraiser. It takes a lot of volunteers to put on the Horse Trial and Shelly has always had to pull from her supply of volunteers. It would be helpful if more parents would be available to volunteer.

c. **Festival/Championships** – July 18-26 Lexington KY

6. **MidSouth Hosting of the 2011 USPC Annual Meeting In Nashville Jan 26th – 30th**

a. **Organization** - Nancy shared the Organization Chart for the Annual Meeting

b. **Volunteers** - There is an opening for a Volunteer Coordinator to organize the volunteers needed during the annual meeting. It was discussed that parents who are interested in volunteering at least 5 hours and are not interested in attending the seminars would not need to pay the Annual Meeting fee. Anyone volunteering 5 or more hours and signing up by December 15 will be given a Midsouth L/S T-shirt.

c. **Silent Auction Donations** – Sue Colliver is coordinating the silent auction. She has a donation letter and a sponsor letter if you know someone who may need it. Sue suggests ASKING everyone for any type of donation and to make sure they know it is a 2011 donation.

d. **Other Notes** - Fred Roberts has some fun options available to attendees - there will be Guitar Hero, sampling of Tet Rally and air vests demos. Friday night after the DC reception – buses will be available to attendees to tour downtown Nashville attractions. Polly Grammer has a team gathered and is working on gifts for each of the speakers. She also has some great ideas for center pieces for banquet tables.

7. **Election of 2011 Officers** Cindi Lacy of the nominating committee presented the slate of names for the elected positions. Those nominated are as follows:

Regional Supervisor – Nancy Smith

Vice Regional Supervisor – Sue Colliver

Vice Regional Supervisor – Cindi Lacy

Vice Regional Supervisor – Becky Logsdon

Vice Regional Supervisor – Jan Whitehouse

Secretary – Allison Deaton

Treasurer – Sharon Leonard

Regional Instruction Coordinator 1 (UL Ratings Focus) – Karine Gordy

Regional Instruction Coordinator 2 (Club-Level Focus) – Peggi Bindner

The slate was accepted as presented.

8. **Plans for 2011**

a. **Changes in Riding Center Governance** – to be governed by the Regional and under the guidance of our 4th VRS Jan Whitehouse

b. **Goals (2010 vs 2011)** – Nancy reviewed our progress on the region's 2010 goals.

(1) Strengthen D1-C2 Ratings (Examiner's Directory, D3 and up ratings choose examiner from outside the club, Region's offerings of Horse Mgmt seminars)

(2) Assist clubs and centers in their USPC Instructional Programs

(3) Improve communications (website, club visits)

Plans for 2011 include additional standards and ratings clinics and continued work on the Examiner's Directory and the 3 Step Process

c. **Regional Instruction**

(1) **National Ratings** – Nancy will need from each club and center the estimated number of members who will be attending ratings in 2011 so that preps can be planned accordingly.

a. 2010 Test Dates & Test Site Applications

b. Prep Clinics

(2) **Regionally-Sponsored Clinics** - It was discussed the best date for regional clinics has been in July in the past and with Festival being held in KY this year that may effect the region's offering of clinics this year. With limited funds available to our members, the best use of those funds may be attending Festival's learning opportunities.

(3) **Club Level Instructional Programs** – Peggi Binder will be our Club Level RIC. She is available to offer support and guidance with your club level instruction.

d. **Instructor and Club Ratings Examiners Directory** – Sue Colliver states this is still a work in progress. Many names have been submitted and compiled. The next step will be in developing forms in which examiner's can be evaluated and that information compiled to aid in choosing an examiner or instructor.

9. Door Prize Drawing and Recognition of Volunteers – Grace Hobbie & Shelley Ryan

10. Meeting Adjournment