

Central Maine Team Penning Association

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 9, 2008 - Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm

Officers Present: Lynn Boynton, President, Tom Ross, Vice President,
Dawn McNutt, Secretary, Beth Kelley, Treasurer

Directors Present: Linda Bailey, Cindi Briggs, Al Golick, Garrett Lambert, Brian Randall

Next meeting: April 20, 2008, 1 pm, Maine Farm Bureau, Augusta

I. Treasurer's Report

Beth reported that there is currently a balance of \$7667.97 in the checkbook. The treasurer's report was accepted by the board.

II. Secretary's Report

Dawn e-mailed the minutes from the previous meeting to the directors. There were no concerns. The secretary's report was accepted by the board.

III. Comments from CMTPA Members

There were no comments from the general membership.

IV. Old Business

A. Windsor Fair

Lynn and Dick met with the Windsor Fair committee regarding their concerns about having us return this year. They were concerned about the cost to them, so they will no longer be purchasing award coolers. They were also concerned about where we park our horse trailers and stabling our horses. There will be new parking arrangements and they are working on doing something different with the draft horses.

B. Farmington Fair

Tom reported that Farmington Fair will pay \$1600, same as last year, but with hesitation. There may be changes there next year.

C. Skowhegan State Fair

There was a meeting with officials. They will again pay \$1800 to have us there. They are promising that the barrel racers will be finished by 4 pm and we can start penning at 5:30. There was much discussion about when we can bring the cows in and set up our pens. There are a few more details to iron out. One suggestion for our banners was to hook them on top of the barrel racers' banners, rolled up, and then simply unroll them when we are ready.

D. Rochester Fair

Al is having a hard time getting a definite answer because their fair committee meetings keep getting cancelled due to bad weather. At this point a penning during the Rochester Fair will be put off until next year.

E. Panel Purchase

Tom is picking up 2 - 16 foot panels at Hemphill's.

F. Insurance

Farm Family has quoted \$1,050 and they are planning on sponsoring us. We are still waiting for a quote from Miles Carpenter. We are applying for a liability policy which protects the public, not the riders. Riders must sign a release. Dick reported that there has never been a claim in the history of the club. We are applying for a \$500,000 policy, and Brian questioned if that was enough for the fairs. Dick explained that the fairs have never asked for proof of insurance from us, so we must be covered under their policy.

G. Budget

Lynn presented a budget for the board to review. There was some discussion on cutting costs, especially at the fairs. Linda Bailey will be investigating other award options - coolers are too expensive. Dick suggested an engraved plaque and explained that they are better for displaying.

H. Rule Change

Tom read the new Pro-Am/Pro-Nov rule as it was written at the November meeting. He proposed that it be changed as follows:

"It is the rider's and the team's responsibility to comply with rider rating and class specifications for Pro-Nov and Pro-Am classes. At call-back time, however, the judge will review the rider ratings of the top 10 teams. If there is an error, the call back teams will be renumbered accordingly. At payoff time, however, if there is an error, all monies will be forfeited, and monies will be distributed to each of the next place

teams, in descending order. (For example: if the class pays 5 places and the 3rd place team is eliminated, the 4th place team moves to 3rd, 5th to 4th etc. through the 6th place team, which moves to 5th.)”
Dick made a motion to accept the rule as rewritten. The board approved.

V. Committee Reports

A. Sponsorship Coordinator

Linda reported that she made packets, which members can also print off the website. There are 2 new levels of sponsorship at \$2500 and \$5000. Linda is following up with corporations that received the packet to get feedback. She has called members to see if they will get their renewals. She said that Gary Foss will be getting his renewals to her soon. Lynn called Pam Chandler about the Kennebec Morgan sponsorship and learned that may not be as big a sponsor this year. Linda and Dawn are going to do photographs with the banners to present to each sponsor with a thank you letter inviting them to attend an event. Dick suggested that we offer people the opportunity to sponsor a cow during our events. This would be announced during each run that cow was involved in. Cindi will be putting together a script for the announcer. Sponsors might have something specific that they would like to have announced. Tom asked Linda to send invoices to certain sponsors. The deadline for sponsors to be in the program book is April 1st.

B. Events Coordinator

Tom reported that he has appointed Al Golick to get all the show managers lined up. He has created a list which explains their responsibilities and will create lists of what needs to be done to set up an event in case he or Dick can't be there.

C. Membership Coordinator

Cindi sent letters to all the names she collected at the Horseman's Conference, telling them about the clinics. She is also going to send a letter about the new 'Rookie' class. She will be sending membership forms to people who haven't renewed yet this year. She is looking for volunteers to attend other equine events with our information. Lynn would like her to contact Deb Plengey (sp?) from the Maine Horse Council in the hopes of trading mailing lists.

D. Show Secretary

Mary Powers won't be working as the show secretary this year. Pat Woodbury will be taking over and has someone to help her. This year, labels will be available the night before each penning. Tom has a laptop that we can use in the show secretary's booth. The problem is that the dust ruins the computer. Lynn will look into an inexpensive used computer.

E. Public Relations

Janette sent photos from the awards banquet to The Horse's Maine. Lynn contacted Village Net Media, which owns the Citizen and Times for Rockland and Belfast. They will not pay for a sponsorship, but will offer us advertising in exchange for a banner. Janette will be flyers for the fairs. We need to make sure that we get advertising in the Kennebec Journal, highlighting penning as a cowboy event, to attract spectators to the OK Corral. In another week, if we don't have any more reservations, we will start advertising the Robin Stang clinic in the Uncle Henry's. Lynn said that we can get Public Service Announcements on the radio as long as we give them the information 2 weeks before our events. Garrett is going to try to line up a live broadcast for Farmington and possibly Leeds.

VI. Robin Stang Clinic

Everything is all arranged. There are 4 slots left in each clinic.

VII. USTPA Sanctioned Event

Tom presented an Income/Expense sheet for the event. Ras will use 150 cows for that weekend, instead of the usual 120. Dick doesn't think it is good timing in our schedule, so we would really need to promote this event and make money with it - see sheet 2. We would need to make sure that we started early and finished early in order to make sure the out-of-state teams have time to drive to Canada. After much discussion, Tom made a motion to revote on whether or not to hold the event. Brian seconded and the board decided to revote. The board decided against holding a USTPA sanctioned event this summer.

VIII. New Business

A. 12 cows in Ranch Sorting

There should be 2 blanks in the herd. This issue passed.

B. Pins

Linda Bailey will be purchasing name tag pins for all the board members so that members can easily identify us during events, in case they have questions or concerns.

C. Rider Rating Process

Cindi had a request from a member that perhaps our rating system needed to be changed. It is subjective now, but we should follow the rules in our book. The rules state that money earnings are the first consideration when deciding to change a rider's rating, but it is up to the board to decide if there needs to be a change. The board agreed that the system works and shouldn't be changed.

D. Rookie Class

The rookie class will be held during our 2-day events. Rookies pay \$10 each - all to Ras. The experienced #1 penners that will ride on the rookie teams do not have to pay for the class. Each rookie will get 1 ride in the Rookie Class. There will be no call-backs and nothing to win.

E. Job Descriptions

Tom & Janette have put together a list of duties that the board members should review. Please bring any changes or questions to our next meeting.

F. Promotional Items

Linda Bailey will be looking into getting items for the club to sell - t-shirts, hats, bumper stickers, etc. We should ask Mary about putting a shopping cart on the website.

G. Taping of Board Meetings

Lynn suggested that we tape the board meetings to assist the secretary in the typing of the minutes. The tapes would be used to supplement any notes taken and be erased when finished.

H. Vaccinations

There was discussion about requiring our members to provide proof of negative Coggins test. Cindi Briggs will collect this information. This should be mentioned in the Program Book. The board approved this motion.

I. Stalls, etc.

We can house horses in the sawdust barn through August. Bring your own panels to set up in there. If riders wish to stall their horses in the sawdust barn, they will be charged \$7.50, bedding included (\$ to Ras). The board approved the purchase of 8 - 12 foot panels to be set up beside the arena and rented for \$5 per day (\$ to club) on a first come, first served basis. These panels will also be used for Ranch Sorting. Tom will purchase them at Hemphill's. There will be 15 camper hookups provided this year - electricity \$10/day, water \$5/day - \$ to Ras. It will be the show manager's job to make a list of who owes what and provide that list to the show secretary so that the rider can be charged when they cash out at the end of the event. Lynn will contact Ras about the possibility of installing showers.

J. Game Show

There will be a game show held at Leeds, in conjunction with the Ellis River Riders on July 25, 2008. Lynn will suggest to Deb Cayer that they limit the number of classes run so that the event doesn't go so late at night this year. We will enforce an 11 o'clock stop time. There will be no stalls available to ERR members - penners will be using them.

IX. Reduce Rider Rating

Garrett asked the board to lower the rider rating for Laura Searway because she hasn't penned in a few years and has a new horse to ride. The board agreed to lower her rating to a #2, but we will be watching her.

X. Rules Review

A. Hats

The old 'keep your hat on your head' rule needs to be removed from the book - it was voted out previously. If a rider wishes to be exempt from wearing a hat, they need to provide a doctor's note each year. Rider rep is responsible for asking riders to try to make sure that their hat stays on during each ride - suggest stampede string.

B. Dogs

There is a rule that dogs must be kept on a leash during our events. This rule needs to be enforced.

C. Entries

The number of rides needs to be changed to 4 in the Program Book.

D. Judge

Pam asked about her authority as a judge, based on our rules. She has the authority to give a warning for unsportsmanlike conduct, and then call on the board of directors to provide disciplinary action, if necessary.

XI. Work Weekend

There are several projects that we can do to improve the facilities at Leeds. We will be building a platform for doing photos, displaying a sponsor's banner and serving as a mounting block. We will be building a roof over the flag judge's stand. Lynn will ask Ras to buy 15 outdoor electrical boxes, which we may help him install. The work weekend is scheduled for May 3rd, beginning at 9 am.

XII. Dedication of Program Book

The board is asked to think about someone we could dedicate the book to and present their idea at the next meeting.

Brian made a motion for the meeting to adjourn at 5:20 pm. Al seconded. All in favor...

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn McNutt, Secretary