

NORTHWEST GEORGIA HORSEMANS ASSOCIATION (NWGHA )

MEETING MINUTES – September 2012

Present: President Keri Davidson , Treasurer Sheri Fennell, Points Keeper Nikki Vanwyke – Public Relations and Webmaster Allison Witt, Secretary Linda Pechenino, Vice Pres Molly Wills (attending classes) All clubs were represented including Lost Mountain (new rep Jen Lovely) and the new representative for Bartow, Dawn Abbott.

Meeting Opened at 7:15 p.m. August minutes read and minor corrections made and approved.

Treasurer's report – copy available for review. Beginning balance: \$4372.29, expenses \$1012.77, deposits \$520.28; ending balance \$3879.80 Savings acct: \$10,602.48

Award money available for the end of year is \$ 2900.00 with a potential for 61 Pleasure and 35 Running awards possible. Possible award will be a halter (Champion for first) and (Reserve Champion for second place) Motion made to spend approx \$15 for each halter motion passed. Guidelines for awards:

1. Must have shown in at least 4 of 6 shows in that class
2. Must be member in good standing.
3. Duplicate awards will require designation of award or money (letter or phone call needed)

Note: Keri to try to find awards, colors are red, white, and blue. Alison will gather the list of winners.

Banquet for the end of year and awards will be held in January or February depending upon a location which is available. To be determined later. Type of banquet: pot luck or catered TBD. Members are requested to assist in locating a suitable location for the banquet.

A notice provided that a past member, Billy Tolbert, passed away. Funeral on Sunday. Sheri reported that Villa Rica Saddle Club did not return her phone call concerning potential membership.

All NWGHA qualifying shows will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week end of the month except for June which is the first weekend of the month of June 2013. Responsible organizations for the 2012 – 2013 shows are as follows:

October 2012 - Lost Mountain

November 2012 - Bartow

March 2013 - Paulding County

April 2013 - Bartow

May 2013 - Paulding County

June 2013 - Northwest

New procedures for the 2012 – 2013 show season are: Each month will have a different color state rider qualifying certification sheet. No checks for a club membership will be accepted by Northwest Any checks will have to be written to the particular club that a person wishes to join.

Proposed Rules changes: Submit in August, vote in September, apply in October show: The following changes were discussed during the July and August meeting for consideration:

Proposed rule 1 did not pass; however, year end awards will be determined later and the 2011 – 2012 show class sheet is the same except for new added Federation classes.

Proposed rule 2 passed and will be in effect for the 2012 – 2013 show season.

Proposed rule 3 for the tie breaker will be to continue down the list to determine the most number of 1<sup>st</sup> places, then most number of 2<sup>nd</sup> places, then the most number of 3<sup>rd</sup> places, etc. until a winner is determined and if this method fails to produce a winner then flip of coin is approved. This method was agreed as a final solution.

Proposed rule 4 is covered in rule 3 and is therefore voided.

1. State Qualifying show changed to 1 day from 2 days (pleasure and timed on same day) fewer classes, less money taken in, and no end of year awards/recognition for riders not wishing to or not qualifying for the state show. Additionally, rookie and beginner only classes would need to be eliminated.
2. State rider qualifying points are available at the show sign up office at each show and additionally can be reviewed on line at the NWGHA web site. Therefore, state certified riders must file a complaint for a disagreement with the state rider points no NLT May 1 of the current show year which is prior to the Audit Committee issuance of the Final Points Standing List. The audit of points is scheduled and done just before the last qualifying show. The audit of points allows the state qualified riders to be identified and announced at the last qualifying show. No state participant can file a complaint on a points discrepancy after May 1 (which would change the Final Points Standing List). If a rider has another issue to grieve which concerns the state show he/she must pay the \$50 grievance fee and show that they had no way of identifying the problem before the last qualifying show. If the grievant fails to show an acceptable reason for dealing with the issue then the Final Points Standing List will stand and the grievance will not be upheld. The NWGHA officers and board will meet and consider the grievance and will make the final decision in the matter.
3. Tie breaker method for determining state qualified riders per each class.

- a. Currently Northwest breaks the tie by the most number of shows of the tied individuals.
  - b. Second method is for the highest number of placings as tie breaker.
  - c. A third method needs to be determined and used (since these two methods did not break the tie in 2012).
  - d. Suggestions are needed.
    - i. Suggestions by attendees:
    - ii. Averaging of all placings (points earned) during the qualifying shows or averaging of the 4 highest placings (points earned).
    - iii. Another suggestion of tie breaker by ride off, or flip of coin.
    - iv. Another suggestion is the team/rider with the highest placing in the disputed class at the last show where both riders are present in the class.
4. Proposal made to have any state rider/participant notify Northwest that he/she is not listed correctly on the state points list by May 1 in any year to receive a correction to the points that is not found or corrected by the Northwest board of officers.

New 2012-2013 officer and Board nominations: Officer list accepted per the club votes.

President: Keri Davidson

Vice President: Molly Wills

Treasurer: Sheri Fennell

Secretary: Linda Pechenino

Pointskeeper: Nikki Vanwyke

Webmaster and Public Relations: Allison Witt

Sergeant-at-Arms: Jessica Nguyen

Motion made to increase each NWGHA club membership dues because the Federation has increased its membership dues. Motion made the increase club dues to \$250 per club (made by Jen Lovely, seconded by Jessica Nguyen. Motion passed.

All of our state riders should take note that at the state show there are definite procedures for making a complaint or grievance. At the 2012 show these procedures were not followed; therefore, this is a reminder that everyone should be familiar with these procedures to effectively resolve any problems.

Stall Decorations for the state show were not awarded at the show therefore, this will be done at the year end banquet, Youth, Adult, and Barn awards. A list of those who decorated will need to be created.

It has been noted that the Federation does not have a method for awarding a scholarship to any of our riders. It has been suggested that this item be brought before the Federation board for consideration. Such an award would not require any additional classes nor would the money be from Federation funds. It would be reasonable to promote a scholarship award which could be funded by donations from business and/or organizations wishing to help promote Georgia equine activities.

Bartow representative (Dawn) reported that Bartow needed to raise its usage fee to NWGHA from \$50 to \$75 per day which includes 2 hours of lights, additionally it is \$25 per hour beyond the 2 hour light limit, or a \$350 fee for all weekend with unlimited use of lights. This new rental agreement contract was signed by a NWGHA representative. Any issues with NWGHA usage of the Bartow facility should be addressed to a NWGHA contact person whose name and number should be posted at the show.

Bartow also requested that NWGHA take care of replacing the table which was broken at the August meeting which was moved into the club house. This item is pending and a suitable replacement table will be sought for the Bartow club. A quote was provided by Dawn, \$134.00; however a replacement can likely be found for less. NWGHA members explained that the room was very crowded and the persons leaning against the table did not intend for it to be broken, NWGHA expressed its regrets to Dawn for the mishap. Dawn's email is [aphanut@hotmail.com](mailto:aphanut@hotmail.com)

Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm

Linda Pechenino

Secretary