

Region II Meeting August 6, 2009, Watsonville, California

OFFICERS PRESENT

President	Kelley Holly
Vice President	Susan Frankel
Secretary	Jill Hobby
Communications Director	Marianne Rose
Treasurer	Fran Hoke
Education Director	Megan Grove
High Pint Director	Carol Beutler
AVA President	Sheri Benjamin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m. August 6, 2009, Watsonville, California

II. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

VAULTING CLUB

MEMBER

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Circle of Friends.....	Carol Beutler
Morning Star/Willow Tree.....	Carolyn Conner
Phoenix.....	Megan Grove
	Kristin Grove
Starlite.....	Alethea Traskin
Pacific Coast.....	Susan Frankel
Woodside.....	Istar Walls
Independent.....	Bill Brown
	Nancy Brown
Mount Eden Vaulters.....	Sheri Benjamin
	Marianne Rose
	Jennifer Daniels
	Jessica Ballenger
Tambourine.....	Kelley Holly
	Fran Hoke
	Robin Martin
	Deirdre Frontczak
	Jim Bell
	Jeannette Bell
	Jill Hobby

### III. PRIOR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2008

Although copies were not available at this meeting, it was noted the minutes are posted on the Region II Website and members were encouraged to visit the site to download/review minutes. Member Marianne Rose offered a motion to accept prior minutes as posted on the Region II Website, Susan Frankel seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining.

### IV. TREASURER REPORT-PRESENTATION OF BILLS

Treasurer Fran Hoke advised of income and expenses incurred since the last meeting. Currently the general Region II checking account has a balance of \$24,839.95. The Region II Education account has a balance of \$4,187.15.

The balances presented are pre-payment of Region II Fest expense payment. It is anticipated that expenses will exceed income by approximately \$1,000 for this fest. Pending bills also include annual high point awards (based on prior years is estimated cost at approximately \$2,000), certificate awards still outstanding (yet to be redeemed) and arena decorations. Member Marianne Rose offered a motion to spend some funds to ensure red arena decorations for Sunday classes at this fest. Megan Grove seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining.

Bills for this event (Region II Fest) were summarily reviewed. Member Marianne Rose offered a motion to pay these bills. Fran Hoke seconded the motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining.

### V. GENERAL AGENDA

#### ➤ *Old Business*

- Current fest issues to be addressed:
  - Facility Services, supplies restroom/garbage. Marianne Rose said she would look into this with ground management to improve facility services.
  - The facility stalls were not clean at the onset. Marianne Rose will also review this issue with ground management.
  - Irregular Footing noted. The issue appears to be management use of sawdust containing various size wood splinters rather than just shavings. Everyone was encouraged to help pick up any wood pieces. Nancy to announce during competition for everyone to help be a part of the pick-up crew during rake breaks.

#### ➤ *New Business*

- HORSE CLINICS
  - Everyone agreed more horse training clinics needed.

- Member Megan Grove volunteered to sponsor one however due to her small club size she would need to work with another club.
  - Member Nancy Brown suggested utilizing a judge to instruct in a particular aspect of horse handling/training. For example how to present a horse for vet check at a competition.
  - Another suggestion was to utilize a veterinarian as a clinician for topics such as soundness and confirmation for use intended. Perhaps with examples of what might be considered marginal in build, movement, etc... This type of clinic would be most beneficial for coaches/trainers.
  - There is a possibility of holding a horse clinic at the Region II annual meeting in November 2009. However if the clinic utilized the outdoor arenas, it would be highly weather dependent. Another timing possibility would be to start the horse clinic at 9am utilizing the covered arena and aim to be done by the time to set for vaulter clinics to start.
- NOVEMBER 2009 REGION II ANNUAL MEETING
- Educational Clinics
- Educational Director, Megan Grove has been actively researching availability of clinicians and soliciting input for topics of interest to vaulters, trainers, coaches and parents. To date program suggestions include:
- ❖ African Dance (perhaps for adults more than the vaulters)
  - ❖ Conduct a couple topics for coaches/trainers in the morning between 9am and noon with the remainder of clinics for vaulters and parents to be held in afternoon.
  - ❖ During the time of the Region II meeting, offer Fun Fest type classes for kids which are supervised by older vaulters/parents not attending the meeting. This event might work better with an established class list so it is more structured for the participants.
- Other suggestions by members present:
    - ❖ Advertise and promote participation to new clubs and the general public. Would be an outreach event to come and learn about vaulting.
    - ❖ All members encourage to research and provide input for clinicians and/or topics.
    - ❖ Conduct a clinic on One Star class requirements and rules. This should cover compulsories (Still called Copper, Trot although doing One Star compulsories), freestyle, basically anything below Bronze level. Utilizing UTube could provide video of actual performances.
    - ❖ Volunteer training/orientation for adults 16 and up. This would be valuable for parents/vaulters and anyone else participating in vaulting events. This could also be utilized to develop a core group of trained volunteers – a “culture of volunteers”.

- ❖ Review of common music issues for music used in performance as well as the task of playing music during competition.
  - ❖ Review of the quality appropriateness of equipment currently available on the market or in use. Researching the options and value of renting versus the Region or club owning the equipment. How to research the type of equipment needed and how to anticipate (hopefully avoid) damage that may occur with use at a horse event. Members Nancy and Bill Brown, along with Jim Bell will be continuing to research music equipment including mixing boards, wireless mics and possibly a purchase of a system. Any purchased system would only be for use at Region II, National AVA events only; not local club events or clinics.
  - ❖ Clerking training session.
  - ❖ Management jobs such as preparing and maintain a historical and updated knowledge instructional book. Linda Bibbler is working on this task for AVA as well.
  - ❖ Raffle. Members Susan Frankel, Fran Hoke, and Robyn Martin offered to co-ordinate this event. All Clubs are requested to check with parents for a club volunteer to co-ordinate organizing one raffle basket per club.
  - ❖ Emphasis on reading prize lists. Clarifying what a class is. How to identify if class is using old compulsories. How to resolve issues and questions with fest management.
- Tambourine will co-ordinate a pasta dinner for the event as done for previous the Region II Annual Meeting.
  - High Point Awards Region II
    - ❖ Members Carol Beutler and Susan Frankel to research.
    - ❖ Historic Costs
      - 25-30\$ per high point award
      - 20-25\$ per reserve high point award
      - 10-15\$ for all other awards
  - Award Suggestions from members present
    - ❖ Certificate for vaulting shoe
    - ❖ Duffle bags with monogram
    - ❖ Back pack
    - ❖ Picture Frames with vaulters photo. Club would need to provide pictures.
    - ❖ Gift certificate to use for an order from AVA site/ or toward fest fees in Region II
    - ❖ Picture frame with a certificate for a Primo Ponies 4X6 print
    - ❖ Regional Champion poster made by Primo Ponies. This poster would be awarded to the High Point and possibly Reserve Champion. It would also be available for purchase by anyone that would like one.
  - Members to consider posting winners on AVA web site. A release would be required for posting and redacting of vaulters first name.

- Award Budget –\$ 2,500 to \$3,000 was suggested. Member Marianne Rose offered a motion to spend up to \$3,000 for Region II High Point Awards. Susan Frankel seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining
  - Member Fran Hoke offered a motion to award to the extent funds are available.
    - ❖ For Champions and Reserve Champions, A Gift Certificate from Primo Ponies to include a 4X6 photo and picture frame and Champion and Reserve Champion poster.
    - ❖ All other awardees to receive a certificate for a 4X6 photo of their choice to go in the picture frame
    - ❖ All vaulters that attended every competition will receive a certification for a pair of standard vaulting shoes from Pegasus.
    - ❖
- Marianne Rose seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining.

○ FUTURE EVENTS REGION II

- Phoenix Vaulters/Megan Grove  
Phoenix Club would like to have Medal testing in the fall. Megan would like to either coordinate or hold the test at Morning Star/Carolyn Conner's fest or participate with fall Medal testing sponsored by Tambourine.
- Morning Star/Willow Tree/Carolyn Conner  
October 2009 fest
- Woodside Vaulters/Linda Bibbler  
USEF Level only fest (Bronze and above) - October 2009, one day fest  
1<sup>st</sup> weekend in June 2010 possible fest (CVI in Canada a possible conflict)
- Mount Eden Vaulters/ Marianne Rose  
October 25, 2009 - Halloween Fest  
May 15/16 2010 Spring Classic
- Starlite/Alethea Traskin  
Alethea would like to co-ordinate medal testing with another team.
- Tambourine Vaulters/Kelley Holly  
September 2009 medal testing in Petaluma  
February 2010 Barrel Fest  
Possible spring Horse Handling/Training Clinic
- Region II 2010 annual meeting  
November 21 or 22 2010

- Region I  
Nov 7/8<sup>th</sup> 2009, vaulting fest in Las Vegas. An AVA board meeting conference call room will be available.
- Open Judges Forum  
August 29/30 2009, only one day available for auditors. Check with Sue Detol for details
- Nationals 2010  
July 29 thru August 1, 2010 in Santa Barbra at the Earl Warren Fairgrounds.  
The class list will likely consist only those for recognized events.  
There would be no preliminary trot, Copper, barrel, C team/ trot team class. (*WHAT ABOUT ONE STAR CLASES????*),  
The fest may be held over 3 days if entries are low.
- Region II Annual Regional competition 2010.
  - Options are Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley 2<sup>nd</sup> week end July 8-11  
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville \*-12-14/15 (won't count for High point if held after National competition)
  - Member Carolyn Conner offered a motion to schedule Region II annual competition for Grass Valley in July 2010. Fran Hoke seconded this motion. The motion passed with one member present opposing.
  - Member Fran Hoke offered a motion to hold the dates currently reserved with the Santa Cruz Fairgrounds in Watsonville until the availability and estimated costs of the Nevada County Fairgrounds are established. Fran moved, Megan Grove seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining.
  - Members were reminded to always be looking for and look into other facilities for this fest. Facilities need to be researched at least a year in advance for upcoming fests. Important to develop more options.
- LOANER EQUIPMENT
  - There are many inquiries and requests for loaner vaulting equipment especially to help newly formed clubs. Possible solutions/suggestions to manage equipment:
    - ❖ Region II to sponsor purchase of equipment.
    - ❖ Loan equipment with 100\$ fixer fee and a time limit for loaning.
    - ❖ Check out system.
    - ❖ Group borrowing equipment should join AVA as some sort of affiliate club.
    - ❖ Loaner equipment should include practice barrels as well.
    - ❖ The "Coaches" kit could be offered – deluxe costs approximately 85\$

- It is estimated it would cost approximately \$3,000-\$4000 for sufficient equipment to promote development of other clubs.
  - A committee was formed to organize a list of equipment to purchase for a starter kit for new clubs. Members Carolyn Conner, Fran Hoke, Megan Grove, Eric Garcia, Diedre Frontczak, Shannon Hoke and Lystra Hobby.
- Sheri Benjamin:
- With the currently shrinking numbers of competitive-recreational/vaulters (non parent non alumni) and vaulting clubs Region II needs to look for ways to expand membership. Suggestions offered:
    - Work with other equestrienne disciplines in their events, training, facilities
    - Strategize among members and the local horse community to develop vaulting programs at equestrienne facilities throughout Region II
    - Need to identify individuals willing to spearhead activities
    - AVA may be able to help with people, perhaps seed money
  - Lack of fiscal responsibility has been noted in other Regions. This general fiscal mismanagement can result in a Region being unaware its funds are fully spent. There are instances where:
    - The Treasurer is unable to determine what funds are available
    - There is no check and balance in record/accounts
    - The account statements are not reviewed or compared
  - By comparison, Region II has an annual audit conducted by a separate committee. The books and account records are always available and open for review. If anyone seeks to review this further, there are best practice for record keeping and accountability for non-profit organizations that can be found on the Internet
  - Sheri is looking for volunteer for the following positions:
    - Regional Publicity chair – for any competition/championship. Would be responsible for pre and post event public relations. This should incorporate keeping track of new vaulting programs/clubs and identifying those who need mentors.
    - Regional Alumni chair – Julie Devita is currently working on alumni programs to increase multiyear registrations. There may be 200-300 registrants possible.
    - National Volunteer Recruitment Chair – The goal is to have a roster/pool of volunteers to draw from to help fill national jobs. Regional recruiters would be solicited to support this effort.
  - Another goal is to have a Santa Barbra initiative to promote the sport of vaulting. Another idea would be a “Vault California” initiative.

- Questions for Sheri :
    - Status of a 501C status to encompass all Regions without a club fee requirement. Kelley Holly will research further.
    - Alumni vaulters– as part of membership drive in the Region. Possible incentive award might be a gift entry into a California Gold class. Maybe given to a club for every new alumni vaulter membership. Another suggestion is to offer a non competing membership for alumni—those interested need to check with Julie Devita (to avoid any potential AVA membership issue for Alumni)
  - Friendship team
    - For the demo in Kentucky, members would like to have brochures with a label identifying clubs in a particular area that can be placed on the brochure prior to handing them out. AVA office needs to co-ordinate with the Friendship team to develop the idea further.
- WEG 2010
- Horse transport – best to co-ordinate among teams for most advantage transport.
  - Fest can still use volunteers. Please sign up on web site. Use Google search under FEI 2010 games to find. Be sure to put your name under vaulting specifically unless you would like to volunteer in general or for another event. After you have registered, please let the Region II co-coordinator know. As we all know – paperwork can get lost and you could end up as a volunteer in a different horse event or in the general management. You can also email Carol Beutler once you have registered and she will coordinate with Kathryn Denison. Carol Beutler and Marianne Rose will coordinate an email for National Office regarding known Region II volunteers.
  - Due to the popularity of WEG, local housing is already sold out. Any type of reservation (housing car or otherwise, is getting hard to find. Best to coordinate among members ride shares, car rents. WEG 2010 section on the AVA forum site might be a way for sharing information between members. Contact would be Rosi Brown.

## VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business presented, a motion to adjourn was presented by member Megan Grove. Susan Frankel seconded this motion. The motion passed with no one present opposing or abstaining. The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Please send any corrections or additions to these minutes to [jchobby@dcn.davis.ca.us](mailto:jchobby@dcn.davis.ca.us)