



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN HORSE CLUBS**

Minutes 8/29/2006
Leek residence, Kalkaska, MI

Meeting convened: 7:25 p.m.

Previous Minutes: 7/31/06 approved: Motion by Tallie, 2nd by Sandy, approved by all.

Treasury: Approved: Motion by Mike, 2nd by Pam, approved by all.

Present: Jada, Pam, Mike, Sarah, Deb, Sandy, Shelly, Tallie

Absent: Annelise, Danielle, Goldie (excused)

Topics:

Ongoing Business

➤ **Year End Awards:**

1. Award budget is currently set at \$3,750. Tallie made a motion that any remaining funds from the awards budget will be added into awards for next year. 2nd by Sandy. The motion was approved.
2. Specialty awards – Member of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Buckles – will be paid for out of the awards budget unless sponsors can be found. Currently there is a sponsor for the Most Improved Rider (Mike Zerbe), Sportsmanship (Mary Wilcosz) and 3 belt buckle sponsors.
3. If no award choice is made by the member by the deadline, then the award for that member will be a gift card from Tractor Supply.
 - a. Amount Per Class: There are 49 classes which qualify for year end awards. The award amount is \$75.00 per class to be divided as follows:
 - i) 1st place – 25
 - ii) 2nd place – 20
 - iii) 3rd place – 10
 - iv) 4th place – 8
 - v) 5th place – 7
 - vi) 6th place - 5
 - b. Gift Cards: Schneider's, eBay, Millbrook and Tractor Supply

New Business

➤ **Website:**

1. Add minutes, officers, last newsletter with the proposal forms voided.
2. Suggestions to improve the website include adding banners (paid), classifieds (paid) links, and sponsors.

➤ **General Membership Meeting:**

1. There was discussion on when to hold the general membership meeting. In past years it has been difficult to get a good turn-out. It was suggested to have the Membership meeting at the awards banquet when a good attendance is possible.
 - a. Membership meeting to be held from 11:45 – 12:20 during the socializing time
 - b. Members can email a wish list of items to be added to the meeting agenda
 - c. New board members will be introduced during the meeting

➤ **Membership:**

1. A member inquired about having points count from both days of the Cadillac show. The membership form was not received by any member of the board or show committee until the end of the 1st day of the show. It was decided that the points for the second day, but not the first day would count as the member had not joined the club until the 1st day showing was complete
 - d. The need for a member complaint policy was discussed. Suggestions included having a form for members to fill out, having a designated board member to field complaints during shows, and having a members submit a form with a fee to have the complaint reviewed by the board.
 - e. Memberships which come in at shows should be sent with the class lists to the point secretary in order to eliminate confusion.

➤ **Awards Banquet:**

1. Board members need to bring one item for door prizes to the banquet.
2. Members will be encouraged to bring an item for the auction.
3. The auction will be a silent auction with a live auction after the silent bidding has been completed.
4. It was suggested that members have a ticket for the auction and are then able to checkout.
5. Another suggestion was to have members pay for membership fees with a separate check. It was decided that the checkout form would be designed to accommodate tracking what each check was paying for.
6. Having the banquet next year as a potluck was suggested. This could be an agenda item for the Membership Meeting.
7. Banquet invitation should be mailed to members in the September and October newsletters.

➤ **Election:**

1. Vacant Board Seats: Nominations received and accepted for Mike Zerbe, Danielle Ruiz, Emily Round and Kristin Leach. Angela Kirby was also nominated but had not yet accepted.
2. Secretary: Shelly Murphy and Pamela Gilbert were nominated.
3. President: Kristen Leach, Mike Zerbe and Pamela Gilbert were nominated. Mike declined, Pam is considering.
4. Bylaw proposals:
 - a. If show is double judged then the trail class must also be double judged
 - b. Change to a 6-point system
 - c. Change wording so that it reads showmanship AND halter classes must be run before performance classes
 - d. Membership forms must be completed by the first class of the day for points to be accumulated

Show Ideas:

1. A discussion regarding show ideas and how to increase membership and show attendance generated the following ideas.
 - a. Hold a "Fuzzy Show" after the annual spring clinic.
 - b. Look into hosting a show in the Big Rapids area. They have nice arenas and facilities and no other association is holding shows there.
 - c. Tamara Schill is looking for new management for the NMOF Futurity

Motion to adjourn: There was a motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. by Tallie, 2nd by Sarah, approved by all.

Next meetings: **Wed, Sept. 27, 2006**
 Lakeside Charlies, Cadillac

October 30, 2006
Windsongnet Stables

Respectfully submitted by
Shelly Murphy,
NMAWHC Secretary