

WPC Meeting Minutes, April 22, 2006

Date: April 22, 2006 10:00am

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am. A quorum was present, including: Bob Arntsen, Rosemary Broome, Leslie Lee, Diane Tapscott, Christine Taylor, Susan Robertson, CJ Kolb, Christine Southgate, Patti Wetzler, Marty Raynor, Belinda Hanson, Yvette Philips, Angela Steele, Victoria Vixie, Terri Afzal, Cathy Siegler, Wendy Burger, Joy Somersett, Vandana Mathur, David Mather, and Catherine Swent

1. Minutes

The minutes for the March meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Treasurer's report - Belinda passed current financials. \$1500 was moved from checking to savings. We are in good shape.

3. Leadership – Catherine

- a) Standards and Rating Clinic April 29 – At this point, no one is schedule to go. If you change your mind, please check the Midcal page for details.
 - Examiner's Clinic April 30 for pony club members & parents – we have 2 instructors, one upper level rider, and 3 riders going. This is a very good opportunity for rating experience. The location is Martinez, so not too far. Check the Midcal site for more info.
- b) Land use renewal (Cathy/Catherine) – The hearing is still scheduled for Wed, May 17th. We don't anticipate any problems as there have been no complaints and the Town is in favor of maintaining the current use. We hope the agenda doesn't get too full and bump us into the June meeting. Will know more after May 17th.
- c) Parent Meeting structure and frequency And Policies – active vs inactive requirements and relation to ratings and rallies – discussed together.

- The Executive Board met to discuss parent meetings. The rotation on workdays doesn't work because of low attendance. All meetings will be moved to Saturdays. There was discussion about frequency of meetings, including a proposal to have quarterly meetings. Parents wanted more contact than 3 x/year. There was discussion of the current monthly schedule and the 50% mandatory meeting attendance in order for a rider to remain active. After much discussion a proposal was made to hold large group meetings every other month (6x/yr). In addition, the Executive Board will meet on opposite months. All parents are welcome to attend the executive board meetings. The 50% attendance rule will still be in place, with each parent required to attend a minimum of 3 meetings/year. Those people who cannot meet the 50% requirement will need to contribute 'meaningfully' to the club. This means parents will need to pick up a larger job in the club, i.e. horse show secretary or fundraising coordinator. We need a Show Secretary for the Fall show, someone to shadow Catherine and take over duties so Catherine can concentrate on DC responsibilities. .

- d) Website - The website needs upgrading. The Junior Advisory Board expressed some interest. Our current webmaster, Pierre, is not able to devote as much time to it. Catherine's husband, Rich, is willing to help! The club will try to use a Yahoo group for group email and postings, which should help with the email volume. It would be each member and parent's responsibility to check the group site frequently. The calendar would also be posted on the site. The website will be updated by Rich with input from the Jr Advisory Board, as they are able to contribute.

6. Membership – Introduced new member Maya and her parents, Vandana and David.

7. Riding Program –riding rules sent in email:

The arena is only to be used for lessons arranged through WPC. This includes Saturday riding, weekday open rings, and lessons which are arranged by individuals for a subgroup of the club and are arranged through Susan (for insurance coverage and posting to the club). The only exception to this is members who have permission from the vaulters to exercise the vaulting horses. This is covered under the vaulter's insurance and not USPC insurance. These individuals cannot ride non-vaulting horses at any other time except those listed above.

We have the privilege to ride at KEC in Woodside only if it is a WPC lessons. WPC lessons can only occur if insurance is arranged. If anyone rides in the arena at a time not specified above, they may loose their

privilege to ride and may be suspended from the club. I do not really want to come across too heavy handed here, but people who are not compliant with this risk loss of use of KEC for WPC and loss of insurance for all clubs in the USPC.

I would also like to clarify the loungeing issue. Loungeing is a good process to use for horses who need an extra warm-up for safety reasons. Loungeing can only be done at KEC when an instructor is present. It can only be done by a C3 or above member, or a parent/owner. Proper attire is required (boots, gloves, helmet, cavesson or bridle, lounge whip and lounge line). If your horse needs loungeing, you need to either arrange for an instructor to come a little early (may be a cost involved), or use a portion of the arena when the instructor is already there. This will only work if there are a few riders, and not a full lesson.

I am sorry if these issues seem restrictive. They are not governed by WPC, but by USPC and Equisure insurance. Thank you for your understanding.

–A. Open rings – Still occurring in 2 sessions Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs. The instructors like the split so they can gear their lessons to different riding levels more effectively. If canceling on short notice (24 hours or less), which should happen infrequently, remember to respond directly to the instructor, rather than the DC or Yvette. Copy the club and will allow others to take your place if an open ring is full.

B. May Fridays riding proposal – discussion of the change from open participation policy during Show Jumping practice to “invitation only” policy for show jumping team. Members or parents may request admission to the lesson. If the instructor finds that the rider is not at the appropriate level, the parent may contact the DC for appeal. After SJ Rally, there will be an open practice sessions for D3 and above riders. Rules are as follows:

The parent-in-charge must stay within the vicinity of the riding arena while riders are mounted. (ie, not sitting in the car)

2. The parent-in-charge may not coach, train, or ride during the session.
3. General arena rules must be followed by all riders.
4. Properly set poles may be used, but must be set so as not to disturb other riders. No jumping will be allowed.
5. As D3 & C riders, the rider is responsible for ensuring the safety and comfort of their horse by warming-up properly, working on appropriate material, and cooling off when finished.
6. Riders should respect the other riders in the arena and not offer advice unless it is asked for (no unsolicited coaching).
7. The DC's reserve the right to ask riders not to participate based on riders or parents not following the above guidelines.

There will also be a D open ring lesson scheduled on Fridays, with an instructor.

C. Dismounted Instruction – Rosemary is coordinating C's to teach 3 more sessions in April and May, before season ends. Look for email with HM details.

8. Facility – Bob Arnsten gave an estimate of what the materials would cost to replace the arena railing with pipe – about \$5,000. We would use parent labor to install, and would save as much as possible of the wood railings to replace the bottom retaining boards, or to repair other wood structures. May 20th and 21st are the mandatory clean ups dates. If you cannot make these dates, please make arrangements with Catherine to contribute in another way or at a different time.

9. Ratings – Susan stated the D1 and D2 ratings will be held tomorrow (April 23rd) with 5 riders participating. The D3 rating has been moved to June 17th at CETA. It is usually a very long day, so be well prepared. We are hoping to have practice rating to get riders ready for the actual rating.

10. Rallies – C.J.

A. Congratulation to all participants! Tori, Tessa, Chloe, Mady, and Alexa. Tori qualified for Western regionals. In EBTH April 8th, Chloe, Alexa, Tori and Maya did very well and had fun, came in first in HM.

B. Games Rally – postponed until 6/3. We lost one team member, looking for another and will continue practice until June 3rd.

C. Show Jumping Rally May 12-14 Sissy, Tessa, Alexa, Kate, Amanda to participate.

D. Eventing Rally May 26-28 vs horse trials – no one signed up for rally. A few members may attend the horse trials.

11. Clinics

A. Windance – June 10. Martha Dunn is organizing. There are 2 days of riding, mornings and afternoons. Courses include flat, stadium and cross-country. Diane Tapscott will organize the Friday night potluck. All other meals are provided. Please turn in your forms ASAP (to get the discount and provide headcount.) If you need a horse please make arrangements directly with Gail Wong at Windance. (Phone number in WPC Directory.) Camping is fairly primitive, but the weekend is always really fun.

B. Other clinics—Marty will announce other clinics in the area, and will try to arrange special clinics for WPC if possible. Most likely would be held at the Horse Park. Remember to get your membership ahead of time – otherwise there is an additional \$35 charge.

12. Horse Master's Report – CJ had nothing to report.

13. Junior Advisory Board Report Need new parent in charge. Joy and Christine Southgate will take on the leadership of the Juniors.

14. Fundraisers – Need chairperson for Fundraising. Please contact Catherine if you are interested in this role. Fundraising ideas include a Sept/Oct play day, clinics, Trophy magazine cover and other things.

15. The C camp is scheduled for June 21-26th at Eventful Acres. Rosemary will pass info along when she receives it.

16. Joy and Terry will coordinate Trainer appreciation. Belinda advises we can use \$50 each or so out of administrative budget.

17. Angela is still doing Pony Club spirit clothing and accessories orders. If you want anything, please let her know.

18. Parent Meetings – Next meeting is May 20th, 2006, 10am at KEC, immediately preceding the Clean Up day.

Meeting adjourned at 11:36am.