

# Agenda

## WTPC General Membership Meeting

**Held at:** Taylor Mountain Ranch

**Scheduled meeting time:** January 28, 2017 **from** 11am to 1pm

**Call to order:** by President Robert Bouffard @ 11:02 AM

Introduction and roll call of Officers and Directors:

President: Robert Bouffard

Vice President: Mike Guyton

Treasurer: Stefanee Hale

Secretary: Elaine Olson

Director: Lisa Maxey

Director: Jackie Towle

Director: Ken Hicks

Director: Penny Aske

Director: Dave Buckner

### **Announcements:**

WTPC 3 Man Sorting Show scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. This decision was made for two reasons; last year we lost money on both Three Man events, and there are potentially too many events within a short amount of time this season (2 Three Man Competitions, 2 Clinics and the first WTPC show within an eight week period).

**Review of minutes** from the General Membership meeting, January 23, 2016. Minutes from the previous meeting were included in the packets for the members to review. Connie Robins moved to accept the minutes, Suzanne Westcott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's report:** 2016 year-end financial report was included in the packets for the members to review. Stephanie Hale and Elaine Olson reviewed the reports for the members. There were many questions and much discussion, particularly around the differences between the Income/Expense Report, and the Profit and Loss Report included in the 2016 Year End Financial Report.

At the time of the General Membership meeting:

- We have about 18K in our accounts, including the deposits for the clinics (about \$6k) and the sale of the three-wheeler (\$3K). This leaves us about 9K in our account to start the first show of the season. If attendance is good for the first show (historically it has been well-attended) we should be ok. Get out and promote these events!
- We have about 3.5K in our accounts from sponsorships right now, which is more \$ than last year at this point in the season.
- We forecast about 2.5K in taxes (sales and use tax for awards) and 1.5K for insurance for the 2017 show season.

#### Overview of the Income/Expense Report:

- We lost about 5K in net income during the 2016 show season due to a 19% drop in membership and a 32% increase in cattle cost from 2015 to 2016.
- Meals & Mileage on the report includes water, muffins and coffee provided at the general membership meeting and other club events, and dinner for directors at regular board meetings. There were no requests for mileage reimbursement during 2017.

Steve Bovan moved to accept the treasurer's report, Jeff Serrine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### Unfinished Business:

- A Rating and Appeal Process (attachment #1) that the board developed to answer specific questions raised at the 2016 General Membership meeting was presented by Elaine Olson.
  - There was discussion about the role the Board plays in the rating process.
  - Questions were asked regarding the status of trainers who are not rated as open riders. In most clubs, anyone who trains horses is automatically rated as an open-level rider. We have not consistently applied that rule, but agreed it should be a consideration in the rating process.
  - Clarification about how to report or who to ask about how to make changes in ratings if you have been riding at WTPC for a while. Penny, as the incoming chair of the ratings committee, stated she would do her best to get that process clarified and communicated to members.
  - There was discussion about removing the due date for the appeals, to allow rating appeals to happen throughout the year. There was no motion made or seconded.
  - Jake Yancey moved to add bullet #5 to read "if the member received any income for lessons or training with horses within the previous year, they could be rated an open-level rider". Aaron Shields seconded the motion. Motion passed.
  - Jake Yancey moved to strike the last sentence in September and first sentence in October section to ensure the integrity of the board as an independent eye on the rating committee's decisions. Wes Cannon seconded the motion, motion passed.

#### **The section previously read:**

**September:** Within 14 days after the September show, the rating committee(s) chair will provide a written report to the board with each member's rating recommendation for the following season by submitting it to the club secretary. The board will review and respond to the rating committee(s) with any recommended changes at least one week prior to the October show.

**October:** the rating committee(s) will consider the board's recommendations and observe any riders in question at the October show. The finalized list will then be delivered to the board no later than one week before the end of the year banquet.

**The newly approved section reads:**

**September:**

Within 14 days after the September show, the rating committee(s) chair will provide a written report to the board with each member's rating recommendation for the following season by submitting it to the club secretary.

**October:**

The rating committee(s) will deliver the finalized list to the board no later than one week before the end of year banquet.

**New Business:**

- Revision of by-laws (attachment #2) regarding item 21. Severe Adverse Rule Change: Robert read the proposed rule change. Denise Guyton moved to accept the revision as read, Jeff Sirrine seconded the motion. There were clarifying questions around the impact of the words "severe and adverse". No vote was taken. All of the following by-law and rule changes were approved by more than a 2/3 vote.

**The section previously read:**

Any single rule that has a severe adverse effect on the majority of the voting membership may be changed by the following procedure: A two-thirds vote of all members of the Board of Directors must be obtained prior to re-writing the rule. After the two-thirds vote of the Board, a majority vote of the voting membership must be obtained. If any or both of the conditions are not met; the rule stands as written for the remainder of the season.

- Jake Yancey moved to amend the language of Section A of the proposed rule change by moving the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence in the existing rule regarding severe and adverse impact to the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence in section A of the proposed language. Mark Crowley seconded, and the motion passed.
- Tohni Rainwater moved to amend the language of Section B to delete the word "attending" and add the phrase "simple majority vote of members". Mark Crowley seconded, the motion failed.
- Connie Robins moved to accept 21 B & C as written, motion was seconded by multiple members, and the motion passed.

**The newly approved section reads:**

- A) Proposed rule amendments shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, via the Executive Secretary, for consideration. The Rules Committee will review the proposed amendment and provide its recommendation to the Board of Directors. A two-thirds vote of all members of the Board of Directors must be obtained prior to re-writing the rule. Accepted amendments will be put into writing and submitted to the General Membership for a vote.
- B) Any rule amendment must then be approved by a simple majority vote of the General Membership attending, or voting by proxy at a regularly scheduled or special meeting.

C) Rule amendments will take effect before the season begins unless a different effective date is provided in the rule amendment.

- Revision of by-laws (attachment #2 continued) regarding Article IV Section 4.02- Directors and Officers: Robert read the proposed change. Jeff Serrine moved to accept the revision as read, Bill Grimmett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**The section previously read:** The appointment and installation of Officers will take place at the regular meeting held during the first ninety (90) days of the Fiscal year, after the installment of Directors, as outlined within the current Bylaws of the Corporation.

**The newly approved section reads:** The appointment and installation of Officers will take place at the transition meeting held following elections. Officers will assume the duties of their position effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

- Revision of by-laws (attachment #2 continued) regarding Article IV Section 4.04- Directors and Officers: Robert read the proposed change. Connie Robins moved to accept the revision as read, Dave Olson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**The section previously read:** The installation of Directors will take place at the regular meeting in January.

**The newly approved section reads:** The installation of Directors will take place at the transition meeting held following elections. Directors will assume the duties of their position effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

- Revision of by-laws (attachment #2 continued) regarding Article VII Section 7.02- Board of Directors Meetings: Robert read the proposed change. Dave Olson moved to accept the revision as read, Aaron Shields seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**The newly added & approved sub-paragraph reads:** 4. Transition meeting to be held after Board of Directors election results: Newly elected Board members will meet with existing Board members to exchange information, elect officers for the new Board, update banking requirements and discuss any other business helpful for transition to the new Board. New Officers and Directors will assume the duties of their position effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

- Revision of by-laws (attachment #2 continued) regarding Article XI Section 11.02- Standings: Year End Awards: Robert read the proposed change. April Yancey moved to accept the revision as read, Jake Yancey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**The section previously read:**

1. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Penning Year-End Awards, the member must be a “Member in Good Standing” and participate in at least the member’s own designated division of penning at 70% or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Penning events in a given year.
2. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Sorting Year-End Awards, the member must be a “Member in Good Standing” and participate in at least the

member's own designated division of penning at 70% or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Sorting events in a given year.

- April Yancey moved to delete the phrase in paragraph 1) *the member's own designated division of penning or PAN at*, and to delete the phrase in paragraph 2) *the member's own designated division of penning or Pro-Am at*. Jake Yancey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**The proposed section read:**

1. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Penning Year-End Awards, the member must be a "Member in Good Standing" and participate in at least *the member's own designated division of penning or PAN at 70%* or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Penning events in a given year.
2. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Sorting Year-End Awards, the member must be a "Member in Good Standing" and participate in at least *the member's own designated division of penning or Pro-Am at 70%* or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Sorting events in a given year.

**The newly approved section reads:**

3. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Penning Year-End Awards, the member must be a "Member in Good Standing" and participate in at least 70% or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Penning events in a given year.
4. In order for a WTPC member to be eligible for Sorting Year-End Awards, the member must be a "Member in Good Standing" and participate in at least 70% or more of all regularly scheduled WTPC Sorting events in a given year.

There was much discussion and concern around this amendment. The overall consensus of the group was that by providing year end awards for PAN and Pro-Am we are rewarding members who ride these classes, as well as the classes within their division, for extra participation. PAN and Pro-Am have traditionally been considered an "extra" or "bonus" class. WPTC has been providing year end awards for the top three spots for each division in the PAN and Pro Am. This amendment should only affect the number of jackets earned, not saddles or any other year end awards.

- Green Novice Penning Changes: (attachment #3) Robert read the proposed change. Dave Olson moved to approve. Tohni Rainwater seconded. After discussion Dave Olson withdrew original motion and made a new motion changing the number of shows from four to three, and the Open/Am rider is always the turn back position. Tohni Rainwater seconded the motion. Motion passed.
  - Tara Moore moved to amend the new rule to change the words "Open/Am" to "Open, Am or Novice" rider. Heather Anderson seconded. Motion passed.

**Previous procedure (in 2016):** First four shows, an Open or Am rider rides with two green Novice riders (to form a team of three). The Open rider must do turn back and cannot go into the herd unless it is after a cow that has returned after being cut first by one of the green novice riders.

**Proposed procedure for 2017:** First three shows, Open/Am rider rotates through the three positions so all Green Novice riders have an opportunity to ride all positions at least once before they are on their own.

Show #1: Open/Am rider is turn back on all teams

Show #2: Open/Am rider is off-wall on all teams

Show #3: Open/Am rider is first in on all teams

**The newly approved procedure (for 2017) reads:** First three shows, an Open, Am or Novice rider rides with two Green Novice riders (to form a team of three). The Open, Am or Novice rider must do turn back and cannot go into the herd unless it is after a cow that has returned after being cut first by one of the green novice riders.

- Member request – Move PAN: Mike Guyton read the proposal (attachment #4):  
We were wondering if it could be discussed the timing of the PAN class. It is extra, and since it has grown to be the largest, it is putting the regular classes finishing really late. Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate it. - Craig and Rachel Baar
  - Denise Guyton made a motion that we move the PAN class back to the end of the day. Kayring Delikat seconded. Motion failed.
  - April Yancey made a motion that we move the PAN class to after the Am class and before the Novice. Dave Olson seconded. Motion failed.PAN remains the same as it was in 2016, after the Open.

#### **Lunch Break from 1:10 to 1:30 pm**

- Member Request- Sorting Draw Change: A member requested that we discuss a change in the number of minimum draws for all sorting classes (Open, Armature, Novice and Green Novice classes have a draw requirement) from one to two. No motion was made by the group.
- Member Request- Minimum time commitment for each member to volunteer or an opt-out payment of \$20 per hour with a two shift minimum (a cost of up to \$40 per season). Serving on a board or committee would fulfill season shift minimum. Tohni Rainwater made a motion to accept as read. Denise Guyton seconded. Motion failed.
- Future Financial Sustainability (attachment #5): Robert introduced the Income and Expense Sheet to the membership. In summary, the 2016 season we lost income because of a 19% drop in membership and costs went up because of a 32% increase in cattle rental. We lost only \$5k over the course of the season, and made up the rest of the funding losses through gains in sponsorships. The Board requested input from the membership regarding changes in the upcoming season, so that if the downward trend in membership continues, the club can maintain financial sustainability. Many ideas were presented: All of the following are

advisory in nature and not binding, including the motion made at the end. It will be up to the board to determine the year end budget for awards, banquet, and participation awards.

- Discontinue the Green Novice Saddle Award: award should reflect similar percentage of award-vs-entry cost ratio of other classes, with a focus on the instruction/coaching as a benefit. It is structured as a learning class, as opposed to an award-based incentive class.
- Change the banquet to a potluck
- Discontinue the Finalist Jackets as participation awards
- Charge per-person fees for food at the banquet
- Membership Drive
- Change Finalist Jackets to 50% funded by club, 50% by member (if qualified)
- Charge partial cost for member, non-member pays full price for food at the banquet
- Change Finalist Jacket award to Top 10 only, all other finalists get sweatshirts
- Increase Membership Fee- this would make budgeting simpler because we would receive these funds at the beginning of the season
- Implement an Awards Fee- a flat rate of \$35 or \$40 with an opt-out clause for those who are not interested in earning year end awards
- Change first place Green Novice year end awards from saddles to tack sets
- Change first place PAN saddle awards for each division to only one over-all high point saddle for PAN
- 50/50 fundraiser at events
- Silent Auction at August BBQ
- Side pot for fastest time of the day (use as 50/50)
- Advertise in local magazines, put up flyers, and post on Facebook groups about our events
- Ask for sponsorships for the Finalist Jackets in exchange for advertising space on each jacket
- Change Three-Man Events so that they are run by member/volunteers only, negotiate a price reduction for cattle fees, and restructure payouts so the club increases profits
- Wes Cannon made a motion to take an advisory vote of the membership about which costs we would like to decrease this season, if our membership doesn't increase. His motion was to:
  - Charge a \$15 plate fee at the banquet
  - Eliminate volunteer awards
  - Eliminate Finalist Jackets as a year end participation award

Steve Bovan seconded the advisory motion, motion passed.

Jeff Serrine made a motion to adjourn the General Membership Meeting, Denise Guyton seconded. Motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM