

STATE 4-H HORSE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Saturday, March 24, 2007
Hardin County Extension Office
Elizabethtown, KY

The March 24, 2007 meeting of the State 4-H Horse Advisory Board was called to order at 10:15 a.m. EST by Tina Snelling, President (D3). In attendance were Kim Mills (D3), Joe Dirolf (D6), Linda Starnes (guest D6), Kathie Robertson (D4), William Robertson (D4), Thelma Hettler (D7), Melanie Kelley (D7), Rachel Talent (D7), Connie Talent (D7 guest), Faith Blair (D5), Donita Blair (D5), Kristen Harvey (Extension Spec.), Jean Smith (D4) Eric Smith (D4) and Debbie Taylor (D6)

The American and 4-H pledges were led by Kim Mills.

Kristen requested a moment of silence in memory of Courtney Steenbergen, a 4-Her who participated in horse judging and western contest. She died Thursday in an automobile accident.

Due to minutes not being available in printed form, acceptance of same was tabled.

Districts were given the opportunity to share updates. District 1 and 2 had no report. District 3 announced that they were holding a judging clinic next Saturday in Campbell County which Kristen was doing. They have two camps – one in April and one in June. Their District Show will be June 1,2, and 3 at Lakeside Arena. District 4 announced that they were having a showmanship clinic in April. Their District Show will be June 9 and 10 at Lakeside. They are planning a camp in the fall. District 5 announced that their District Show will be May 26 and 27. Muhlenburg County is having a camp May 18-20. District 6 announced that they are having a District camp April 13-15. Their District Show is in June. They are holding several clinics as well as the Mammoth Cave trail ride on May 12. District 7 announced that they had a leader forum in January that well. Kristen helped with that. Their teen management team has had two meetings. They are holding camp for two days and will have their District Show the third day. On March 27, Colin Luba from AQHA will come to talk about scholarship meetings.

Next on the Agenda was a discussion with regard to program items updates. Walking/Racking/Mountain Division was up for review. Basically all canter classes were eliminated. Also due to lack of participation, English Plantation Walking, Western Plantation Walking, and the two western canter classes were taken away, which meant they basically lost four classes that had canter. There were not many classes added. Having the canter high point is now a mute point Last year there were 27 classes and that is now down to 25. The Stock Seat Equitation was made into Jr. and Sr. levels. There were no issues with the government as far as changes to industry standards, so there were no changes necessary in that manner. Because there are a lot of Mountain horses, the Mountain horses are now separate from Racking horses. The classes have remained the same - English Mountain Pleasure, Mountain Trail Pleasure. Kristen will make sure to add the Mountain as a high point choice, resulting in three high point possibilities in that division. The Motion comes from Committee to adopt these

recommendations as rule changes. Joe Dirolf seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion after the question, the Motion passed unanimously.

The Hunter Division was also up for review. Basically, the jumping classes have changed and the flat classes are remaining the same. Green riders are being defined as beginner riders entering only the first or second year of showing in 4-H. Over Fences Equitation is still by age. The fence height has been lowered for Equitation. There were three jumping classes added - Green Horse 2', Limit Hunter 2'6", and Low Hunter 3'. The Jumpers are now all together and at 2'6". An OI class was added - First Level Test 1 Dressage to see what interest there is in Dressage and also help prepare for Southern Regionals where that class is offered. The Motion comes from Committee to adopt these recommendations as rule changes. Kim Mills seconded the Motion. There being no further discussion after the question, the Motion passed unanimously.

Next on the Agenda was a discussion with regard to the alternative proposal with regard to the two Project Horses that was offered by the Animal Science Committee. A concern was expressed about ASC making major changes to the Horse Committee's original request. Discussion was also held with regard to project animals and how and what a "project" should be. There were also discussions about record books and their validity. There was the thought that no one wants to review these. One youth stated that the record books made no difference or impact on her because she didn't pay the money for her "project" anyhow. Another youth stated that they really made an impression on her and helped her appreciate what sacrifices her parents made for her as well as giving her a better understanding of what it would take to maintain a horse on her own later in life. It was wondered if Dr. Kurth would support these requirements if it affected numbers. A lot of Council members asked the question – Do we want numbers or quality? Unfortunately we know what we want and that the "state" wants numbers instead. It was stated that the current record books are truly not a "good" document. Kristen stated she will looking into revamping the record books regardless of the outcome of the decision with regard to two project horses. There was also discussion about changing the date for declaring a project horse back to March 1st. It was questioned about the ACS's intention that the youth could have choice of either of the two project horses declared while our intention was to declare a primary and a secondary animal. It was asked about whether or not we may regulate ourselves separate from the general 4-H umbrella with regard to record books. Another concern is that this revision will put a lot more responsibility on the agents. District 3 stated that when their youth turn in their eligibility forms, they also turn in their show forms as well as receive a show number. Therefore, the first and second horse would have to show in exactly the same classes, which may or may not be feasible. After much discussion, Debbie Taylor made a Motion that "We decline the Animal Science Committee's recommendation and choose to re-propose a similar idea again in the fall. The Motion was seconded by Thelma Hettler. There being no further discussion after the Question was called, the Motion passed, 10 in favor, and 1 declining.

Kristen then gave an update on Dr. Coleman's position vacancy. This position had been offered to two different people who declined the position. At this point, basically, no one has applied and therefore no one is in the position. However, because there is salary savings, Kristen was excited to announce that she has a student worker, Rebecca Lloyd, from Owen County. She is a non-traditional student and has three younger boys.

A discussion was then held with regard to hotels for the state show. Currently there is a contract with Executive Inn for \$85 per night. Over the years, the customer service at EI has declined. Kristen has been in contact with Hampton Inn. This is a new, nicer hotel. They offer a free continental breakfast. They are willing to offer a contract of \$99 per night, which is \$20 less than their on-line price. The general consensus is for Kristen to sign a contract for a block of rooms with Hampton. A "block" is the number we guarantee will be booked, but there are also more rooms available.

The Committee took a break for a delicious lunch.

Upon reconvening, an update was given with regard to the horses donated for this year's auction. Expected is a yearling Appaloosa from Paula Gatewood, one or two Paint 2-year-olds from Guss and Bess Wagner, one Quarter Horse, age unknown at this time, from Norm Luba, as well as a Miniature Horse. An added attraction to this year's auction is that the Miniature Horse is being given to a youth to use as a Project Horse and be shown at the State Show before it will be auctioned. It was requested that the Committee share the information about these horses in as many different venues as possible.

A discussion with regard to the Qualifier plaques was held. Kristen said that the information with regard to these will be forthcoming. Someone in District 3 had stated they would take this project on but Kristen has not been heard from. Kristen is requesting a volunteer to take on this project. She will let Contact Agents know the information about this as soon as she has a volunteer to take over. Last year this project brought \$555 to the scholarship funds.

It was requested that folks be giving thought about other fundraising possibilities.

A design for the official State Show teeshirts has been picked, although Kristen does not have this in her possession yet. It was designed by Samantha Holder from Oldham County. The shirts are not available yet for pre-sale, but they will be shipped out to the District Contact Agents before their shows. They are probably going to be a dusty or sage green color. Last year this project brought in \$1600 for the scholarship fund.

Kristen announced that the State Show dedication and honors forms were on the back table. These positions need to be nominated from their districts. Kristen also stated that if District 3 is the only District to continue to nominate their people, these awards will be discontinued. Therefore, ALL districts were encouraged to nominate people for these awards. These are due back to Kristen by June 1, 2007. Kristen also reminded the Committee that there are various scholarships available – two for \$1000, two for \$500, and one \$1000 Klapheke Scholarship. Those forms are available on-line and all Seniors are encouraged to apply for these.

There is a group is trying to get the competitive trail rides reinstated. Kristen announced that 4-H will sponsor the awards for an event. Youth who are planning to attend this ride must attend the clinic also. There will be two different clinics - Districts 1-4 will have one, and Districts 5-7 will have another one out their way. The actual ride will be at Cave Run Lake on May 26. The ride will be 15 miles. We are partnering with OATS – Ohio

Arabian/all breed Trail Rides. We are also partnering with the Kentucky Horse Council – KHC is doing most of the work and we are providing the prizes. This is open invitational so youth do not have to use a project horse. They do, however, have to ride with a sponsor. There can be up to five youth with one sponsor. The horses must be at least 48 months old (4 years) and may not be blind.

Tina announced that she received a letter with information about the Miss Rodeo Kentucky Pageant. She will be glad to share this information with anyone who is interested.

Tina reminded us about the announced dates to remember:

May 26th, 2007-Special Event – Team Penning at WKU

June 12-13th, 2007-State Horse Contest (again back at Holiday Inn North) Horse Bowl, Communications, Crafts on the 12th, and Horse Judging and Hippology on the 13th. The hotel rate is \$79ish per night.

July 8-14, 2007 - 4-H State Horse Show at KFEC in Louisville, KY.

July 31 through August 5, 2007-Southern Regionals, Memphis, TN

Debbie Taylor agreed to help assemble and distribute the pattern books at the State Show. It was agreed that every youth will receive a pattern booklet and will be charged a dollar. Debbie requested that the judges be asked for their patterns ahead of time. These will include ALL patterns for Showmanship, Equitations, Dressage, Reining and Versatility Patterns.

It was announced that Drill Team competitions will be a little different this year. We will run all small teams and then all large teams. Most likely it will not be possible to have the Wednesday afternoon practice at Broadbent due to Contest runs. The auction will be held between the small and large team competitions.

November 17th, 2007 was chosen as the tentative date for the next meeting, preferably in the same location and same beginning time.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a Motion was made by Debbie Taylor, seconded by Kim Mills, that the “meeting be adjourned”. There being no further discussion after the Question, the Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Smith, Secretary