

NAPHA
Regional Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes -- DRAFT
February 24, 2012
St Christopher Hotel
New Orleans LA

Council Chair, Joline Bell Hahn, called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

Roll Call –

Gladys Freeman	Jim Alexander	Carolyn Mittrick
Vicki Shelton	Michele Wilson	Kathleen Morrison
Liz Potof	Barbara Alexander	Charles Melton
Jean Melton	Eleanor Palmisano	

Introductions

Joline introduced the following people:

Liz Potof, President of the Copper State Peruvian Paso Club, Arizona, Jean Jean Melton, President of the Central States Peruvian Paso Club
Barbara Alexander
Eleanor Palmisano, Rules Committee, Co-Chair of the Gold Rush Double Show
Show Manager for 3 US National Shows, Chair of a California Show

RAC Job Description

Going around the table, attendees commented on what they perceived was the role of the RAC. Charles Melton commented that the RAC should reach out to all Peruvian members, not just those who are NAPHA members. Others said that getting updates out is key, and all RAC members attending are doing that. The weakest link is getting a voice at the office to talk to, and that area needs attention. Joline commented that many people have not rejoined and will do so before the show year begins. She also said that it is hard to track down the lost members and when we do, we need reasons for them to join NAPHA.

Michele commented that the question that she hears is “What can NAPHA do for me?” Carolyn added that members have said that they get no recognition when paying dues, no thank you letter. There is no support for the member who does not want to show, no information on where to get information on breeding or where to turn. How do we catch the man who wants to ride comfortably?

Vicki said that, with no trainer in her region, people don’t know what do with their horses. The Pasobilities Drill Team has had a positive promotion at events.

Kathleen thought the basic duty of the RAC was to communicate between the members and NAPHA Board of Directors. As the NE club membership person, she put together a packet that she sends to new NE Club members. It consists of a bound copy of NAPHA Rules and Regulations, how to register a horse, how to photograph a horse for registration, the NAPHA newsletter from the website. She said that the NE Show has a large selection of classes for new owners and also encourages alternate tack.

Eleanor commented that, with the new rules, a show does not need NAPHA approval for alternate tack. It has to be published in the show premium book. Liz concurred with the comments from the other attendees, adding that tradition makes our identity.

Rules Committee Report

Eleanor pointed out that the revisions were not made to change the rules but to make them clearer and more user friendly. Once approved at the Directors' level, these will be for the 2013 show year. Going through the clarifications quickly (as these would be discussed more thoroughly at the Directors' meeting on Saturday), she noted these areas:

- Use of leather stirrups at shows when needed for safety, comfort or physical reasons
- Ladies sidesaddle habits were clarified
- Merito Zootecnico horses will be asked to walk
- Comments on Gait Class of 80% Gait – most attendees wanted 100% Gait judged.
- Requirement in the Performance classes for the horses to back
- Enfrenadura class – placement of poncho, not required.

On the question of allowing Laureado horses to go back in to their division to show, it was noted that the horses can still show in other divisions. On the other side, are we going to make a Laureado horse stay home only to have it replaced by a 2nd place horse? A suggestion was to make a master horse or super horse designation. Joline noted that no decision has been made and there is no change for the 2012 show year.

Joline asked about the pointing for a returning Champion of Champion who will get fewer points than the horse qualifying throughout the show. Eleanor noted that Kelly and Arlynda are working on that.

Joline noted that there were complaints about last year's National Show awards. This was noted as a financial and a Board of Director's issue.

Show Program and Points without Horse Studbook – this was tabled to the afternoon when BofD President Edie Gandy could comment.

Membership Committee

Michele commended Manny Brito for his leadership in giving the committee direction. She read his comments: before we can make the effort to contact past members who have dropped out, we need a list of past members including email addresses, those who have not renewed membership for the past 2 year, a list of owners of part blood horses and mules. He specifically asked for the past 3 years.

At that time, Michele noted that Jim had the 2008-2009 printed membership booklet. She said that would be a good start. Liz said that she had that publication and the ones before it and would loan them to Michele for copies.

Membership cards are needed to be sent to members upon their signup and their renewals.

Membership Directory

Charlotte expects to have the Directory ready for publication by March 3rd.

Other Notes

Discussion returned to the duties of the RAC. In the original bylaws, key is governance. It was suggested to the RAC by the BoD member Charles Melton that all committees report to RAC. It was also noted that an item can be placed on the agenda of the Board of Directors with a majority vote of the RAC.

Joline read from the January minutes of the RAC the following: there are no terms expiring for the committees until 2013.

The meeting adjourned for lunch and re-assembled at 2:45 pm. NAPHA President Edie Gandy joined the group.

Election of RAC Chairperson

Jim Alexander reported that there was only one nominee for the position, Joline Bell Hahn.

He called for a conference call and we were joined by Carole Hackett, Joy Redmond, Cindy Lemke, Deborah McCormick, and Debbie Lloyd. This constituted a quorum and Jim called for a vote. Joline was unanimously re-elected.

Laureado

Edie explained on the Laureado issue and that they will start over from the ground up with a possible survey of the membership.

Horse Shows and Horse Show Studbook

Edie said that the CLRC can integrate the program to the HSB for \$5,000. The Board will talk with the Canadians about a possible share of the cost. We will continue to use the HSB for now. The programming has taken longer because the HSB computer language is not compatible with that of the CLRC and a conversion needed to be written. Our current program will run concurrently with CLRC for several months to insure accuracy. Pictures of horses may be added at a later date; the cost factor is being looked at. CLRC will continue to use UC Davis for DNA and they will follow the rules on Spanish names.

Local Promotions

A review was made of Kathleen's process for the NE Club and the items that she includes in the membership packet. Edie noted that once the CLRC is in place, they will issue the membership card. Note cards compliments of Conquistador Magazine were handed out and it was noted that these could be used by the RAC members to send notes out to their regional members. Joline said that the Southern California and Los Amigos clubs give a membership at club level free for the first year to new members.

Gladys said that we need to do something for owners who have not registered their horses. Edie noted that the process has been fixed when the paperwork has been rejected but we still need to streamline the process after the transfer. This is where Mavis

from the CLRC will help. Fees have been reduced and may be reduced again after the CLRC takes over or at the end of the year as amnesty.

Joy has had successful clinics and play days; Jody Childs leads trail rides open to all breeds.

Lou Ellis of Baton Rouge joined us at this time.

Joline noted that she had sent Lionel some of the old forms that had been used for events and other club activities and Lionel had uploaded them onto the RAC section of the website for samples.

At this time Edie said that NAPHA thanks Lionel for his hard work and dedication in putting the website together and keeping it updated.

Events that might work across the country are Trail Trials, like ACTHA but for gaited breeds. Edie noted that NAPHA is listed as an affiliate of ACTHA for sponsored rides but they are reluctant to spend any more money at this time on the program. Another event is Mounted Orienteering – timed rides with compass and map where you follow clues and signs on where to go and must be signed off at each stop.

A brochure is needed. Edie said that a trifold that can be printed on demand. Charlotte has the old trifold but it needs new pictures. That probably can be done soon.

Concerning the banners that were shipped to shows, Edie will check on the NAPHA one for the National Show.

Michele has an old trade show display that she can donate to NAPHA. She will check on whether the panels can be replaced or repainted/recovered and what a cost might be to do that.

Club Requirements

Currently a recognized club needs 10 NAPHA members. Edie suggested that the RAC make a proposal to the Board on what they might want. Joline proposed that the Board look at clubs with less than 10 members and have easier criteria for recognizing them. It could be a sliding scale or a fee to recognize the club. Edie thought that \$25 might provide that value. The club president would have to be a NAPHA member.

Jean appreciates the show approval fees being dropped to \$300 for a single show and \$500 for a double show.

Update on Procedure Manual for RAC members

Kathleen read the mission statement for the RACs.

It was noted that the original bylaws need to be clarified. The bylaws would not be changed but some wording is ambiguous and needs to be fixed. Edie said this can be a future project. The Board needs suggestions on things that don't make sense. Nothing that has to do with the member rights will be changed or tampered with. Different corporate structures were discussed, maybe focusing on non-profits or 501c3 organization.

At this time, Kathleen formally nominated Michele Wilson and Kerrie McGinley for the Membership Committee. Although they were already approved by the Board, this makes the process official.

Joline asked what is the official duty of the RAC Chairperson. She was asked to provide a list of what she does. Edie commended Joline on her leadership of and contributions to the RAC.

Future Annual Meetings

We discussed if the Annual Meeting can take place on Thursday evening prior to the National Show. Meeting room cost will be checked on for the Burbank, CA 2013 National Show.

Club Reports were held until Saturday.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Wilson