

2009 APHA Workshop

May 29 - 30, 2009

Irving, Texas

APHA Workshop this year began on Friday, May 29, 2009 with the chair and vice- chairs of each standing committee meeting with the Executive Committee. They were asked to return to their committees with a few questions regarding current issues of concern and report back to the EC with their opinions. Everyone attending wants to see better communication between the members of APHA and the Executive Committee. This is something that all of us (members, directors, alternates, and APHA staff) need to work on.

As a member of the Amateur Committee my day began with a joint meeting between the youth, amateur, show and contest, and judges committees to review the rule change proposals that were before us. A brief explanation was given with questions being answered. Upon completion of the review we broke back into our individual committee's to vote on the proposals pertinent to our committee. The Amateur Committee reviewed 8 rule change proposals and voted down all eight proposals. We also review several proposals from other committees and sent our suggestions to the appropriate committees regarding them.

One area of concern this year is the impact of the PAC program. In my amateur committee meeting we discussed this in depth. Although we feel that PAC is an important part of APHA the majority of the committee feels that PAC needs to be able to stand on its own. In order to do this there may need to be some changes made to the structure of the PAC program. We all agreed on some suggestions that our chair and vice chair would take back to the EC for their consideration. Time will tell what measures will be taken to keep this program going in a positive direction. I personally feel that his program is very important to APHA and would hate to see it not be available to those just starting out in APHA and getting their feet wet so to speak. If you have any suggestions on this issue please email or phone me with them. I will be happy to pass them along.

The amateur committee completed our business and adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Friday evening was the APHA Foundation dinner and auction. This is the highlight of the workshop with good food and lots of fun. The famous tie, which Lori Nevin purchased at convention last year, sold again at workshop for \$600. It was purchased by Julie Thomson Markel and Lynn Titlow of Calif. They will bring it back to convention in Colorado Springs to be auctions again. EC member Mary Parrott purchased a Nolan Ryan signed baseball for \$1300. Boy talk about a baseball fan. The total monies made at that auction were not available at the general membership meeting on Sat. morning. I would like to send out a special "THANK YOU" to all the clubs from the Northwest who sent items for the live or silent auction. This is a huge success only because of the generous donations from all the regional clubs and individual APHA members.

Sat. morning began at 8 am with the call to order of the General Membership meeting.

Banks Ready, AjPHA President, gave a report on his Presidential service project, Make a Wish. During the year the youth members of APHA raised a total of \$77,000 to benefit Make a Wish. Banks presented a slide show showing some of the kids who received their wishes. A total of 14 Wishes were granted as follows: 2 in Mississippi; 10 in OK. at March Mania (8 of these were terminal); 1 in Iowa; and 1 at the World Show. This was the largest fund raising project for AjPHA. During Banks' presentation there was a donation from the floor of directors in the amount of \$23,000.00 by Mr. Bob Causada. Talk about an "at a boy"! This was totally awesome. (Not many dry eyes in the room.)

Roll call was taken and we were down to business. Any new directors and delegates which were not present at convention were sworn into office. Presentation of service awards was presented. Individual committee reports followed.

Foundation: Totals from the live and silent auction were not available that this time. \$9,000 made at the TX Poker Run; 2 Bronzes purchased this year; 100 trainers signed up for the trainers sale and 30 have been sold at this time; \$35,000 now in the Therapeutic Riding fund.

Amateur: as reported above.

Bred Improvement: met jointly with Registration to review rule change proposals then separated off to their own committee to review proposals.

Show & Contest: Met jointly with Youth, Amateur, and Judges to review rule change proposals. Adjourned to separate committees. Reviewed 14 proposals with 8 being passed to be presented for vote at convention.

World Show qualifying was a discussion of great length. Disappointed that feet are being drug to put this into effect. Members still want this to take place. It will be up for discussion again at Convention. If you have ideas, concerns or comments on this please let us know.

PAC was also a topic of discussion. The committee has sent their suggestions to the EC for consideration.

Judges: First Open session was held at workshop with 14 visitors in attendance. 2 proposals were tabled. 20 new judges were reviewed. Changes in the system were discussed and ideas will be reviewed. Meeting adjourned and reconvened as a closed session. 89 judges reviewed. Interview questions were suggested. Stats for 2009 were reviewed and meeting was adjourned.

Long Range Planning: 6 members- 1 visitor- 1 EC and 1 staff in attendance. New Corporate Sponsor Purina who has started a new Zone award program.

Zone Shows should hang banners and put out information about sponsors.

Discussion regarding ideas to promote SPB's being show by the youth. We need to find a way to promote the SPB more.

Discussion regarding Show Management showing their own horses at the shows they are managing. Suggest the Judges committee write a proposal addressing this matter. The committee feels that this is a conflict and does not show a positive image to other exhibitors.

Committee suggested the EC review the current process of selecting EC members. They also feel that a policy of nominations from the floor be developed.

Racing: Strong in OK. Largest purse (\$273,987) in racing was to be that night (5/30) in OK.

Texas failed to pass the legislation of allowing gaming at the race tracks. When this measure passes a portion of the take from the gaming at the track will go to APHA. 1 – 6 %. You can go to www.TexasHorseweb.com to find out more information.

Has introduced Barrel Racing into this program.

Racing Stats –OK keeping us afloat with the number of starts on the increase.

The Paint Racing website has been updated

2 Rule Change Proposals will come to the floor at convention for our consideration.

Recreational Riding: 5 members, 1 visitor, 1 staff and 1 EC member in attendance.

Action taken to promote paints at Regional level. Lori reported that SWWPHC was having a Beach Ride at Long Beach, WA. on July 11. Flyer was passed around.

Lori also reported that there have been some concerns about the new awards program for Ride America.

Theurputic Ride possible at convention; include Wounded Warrior; barn/dinner dance along with a live and silent auction. Horses will be available for rent if you would like to participate. Some members who live close enough may bring extra horses to have available for the trail ride at convention.

Ride America memberships are holding steady and they agree not to raise membership fees at this time.

Registration: 17 members, 4 visitors in attendance. Committee passed 3 of the 9 rule change proposals.

Rules: 9 members; 1 EC; 1 Staff in attendance. 2 letters regarding way directors are nominated were tabled.

Ways & Means: 5 committee members; 1 Staff; 1 EC and 2 visitors in attendance. Executive slide was questioned. Would like a verbal report be given.

Fees were reviewed and recommendations given to the EC.

13 rule change proposals were reviewed with recommendations being sent to the appropriate committees.

Youth: 12 members; 5 guests; 1 staff were in attendance. 8 rule changes reviewed with 7 being defeated.

Approval of a youth club for WSPHC was granted. Congratulations!!!

Committee feels that we need to re-energize the Zone Shows to help draw in possible new exhibitors and members.

The APHA accountant gave us a review of the new rules coming into effect from the IRS regarding Non-Profit Organizations. Some of the areas that are being looked at are the Independent voting members. This is a director and or alternate who do not receive money from APHA in any form. What this means is that all directors and alternates names will now have to appear on the tax report. APHA will also need to state that all members have had the opportunity to review the tax return. This will be available at convention for our review. Other ways of it being available for our review were also discussed.

Financial Report: Annual report is available on line.

Currently APHA has no debt; over 20 Million in assets; over 12 million in cash and investments (which translates to 10 years of resources at today's rate); with the APHA building being appraised at \$6 Million.

Actions taken by APHA to help in the financial status was:

14% staff reduction; budget expense reduction of \$1.6 mil.; eliminated 2 dept.; reorganization of graphics, advertising sales; and editorial; and streamlining the remaining departments and staff with the ability to provide the same level of service.

Concerns regarding the split of the World Show were brought up from the floor. Members feel that this item needs to be reconsidered after this year's show.

2009 APHA Convention, Colorado Springs, CO. Oct. 1 Barn Dance & Dinner Gala, Castle Rock, CO. Oct. 2 installation of the 2010 APHA President Linda Vance. Oct. 3 trail ride at the Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO.

If you have any questions regarding this report or anything that you would like to relay to one of the committee's please feel free to contact me. I am your representative and am here for you.

Respectfully submitted

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