

Columbia County 4-H Horse Leaders Committee Meeting
September 21, 2010

Present: Janice Gonzales, June Brady, Laurie Mapes, Jodi Drake, Stephanie Gates, Kevin Hansen, Tommie Hansen, Tiffany Halverson, Kristi Crape, Woody Davis

President Janice Gonzales called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. There was no treasurer's report. The minutes of the June 15, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Judges: Woody Davis reported that Vixen Barney is cutting back on judging. He has a call in for Cassie Soule and will ask Nancy Collins to judge gaming. In 2012, the judges probably will be Vixen Barney and whoever the second judge is in 2011. Woody hopes to have contracts signed by October 1. Judges are paid out of the extension office budget and cost about \$125-150/day per judge. The pool of judges is getting smaller and funding is not increasing.

Gaming: Woody noted that Julie Sandstrom will take over as chair for gaming.

Presentations: June Brady has agreed to chair this committee and offered that any 4-H members interested in this area or in horse bowl are welcome to contact her.

Horse Classic: June explained that the date for Classic will be either the 19th or 26th of February. There will be one night per month of practice runs in November, December and January.

Poker Ride: Laurie Mapes reported for Kate Olson, who was absent. The poker ride went smoothly and attendees picked up after themselves. Kate deposited \$3,278.50 for 4-H after the ride, which represented \$3,390 in hands sold less \$100 payout for the C-note and \$190 for portable toilets, plus \$178.50 profit from the food concession. The horse leaders had given Kate \$2,000 for start-up costs for the ride, all of which was spent on prizes and expenses. Therefore, the net profit from the ride is \$1,278.50. Historically, the horse leaders have set aside one-half of the net deposit from the ride (this year, would be half of \$3,278.50) for start-up costs for the next poker ride.

Youth Fair: Date will be May 13-15, 2011. Woody confirmed that the shavings pile will be covered.

[No reports for fair, performance, trail, jumping, dressage, scorekeeping, safety, barn, and informational posters.]

Old Business

Per Woody: (1) Juniors will compete first in 2011 fair and probably for as long as 4-H horse fair overlaps open fair. Open fair dates for 2011 are July 13-17. (2) State qualifier ribbons cost \$7 each, and there are seven left over from 2010 (i.e. \$49 in unusable ribbons). This expense comes out of the horse leaders budget, which should be kept in mind when ordering for next year. Fancier ribbons without a year would be an option. Laurie will find out whether year numbers could be ironed on as needed. (3) There were frustrating issues at fair with signs Woody put up after a horse bit someone Friday evening. A warning sign was placed on the horse's stall, but the horse then bit another person, so a bigger sign went on the stall Friday evening as well as general "horses can bite" signs at the end of every barn. By Saturday morning, all of the signs had been removed, possibly by horse owners. The signs were replaced and again taken down. Therefore, the new policy for the future is that if a horse bites and the owner is not willing to keep a warning sign on the stall, the horse must leave. Owners of horses known to bite can request, on the stall reservation form, a stall with both upper and lower doors that close.

New Business

(1) Woody reported that Laura Kalhar has volunteered to be the overall chaperone for 2011 state fair, which will include supervision of stall decorations. There will still be chaperones for individual disciplines and age groups.

(2) Laurie suggested e-mailing meeting minutes to horse leaders after each meeting to foster communication and encourage participation.

(3) There was discussion about the reason for certain 4-H rules, such as requiring 4-H members to get assistance from another 4-H member rather than an adult. The group discussed ways to create a forum for leaders and parents to get answers to questions like these, such as an agenda item at meetings for questions, staying afterward for discussion, or submitting questions on cards at the beginnings of meetings. All agreed that 4-H horse leaders in general are happy to share information and would welcome phone calls from other leaders or from parents.

(4) Woody noted that 2010-11 state 4-H enrollment fees are \$15 per child with a \$30 family cap which go to \$20/\$40 after January 31; the county fee of \$10 for unlimited projects does not increase after January 31.

Next meeting is October 19, 2010. Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.