

STATE 4H HORSE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Saturday, November 22, 2008
Hardin County Extension Office
Elizabethtown, KY

The November 22, 2008 meeting of the State 4-H Horse Advisory Board was called to order at 10:20 EST by President Tina Snelling.

Present at the meeting were Tina Snelling (D3AV), Kim Hofmeyer (D3AV), Jean Jenkins (D3A), Jessica Jenkins (D3YV), Amanda Snelling (D3Y), Heather Cassil (D4Agent), Kim Ragland (D4Agent), Kathie Robertson (D4AV), Georgia Skelton (D4YV), Katerie Skelton (D4A), Virginia Thompson (D5AV), Brittany Wells (D5YV), Lisa Gilkerson (D1AV), Michelle Robinson (D1AV), Pat Moore (D6AV), Shelby Howard (D6YV), Mike Peacock (D6A), Bart Jackson (D6AV), Rachel Barnett (D7YV), Melanie Kelley (D7AV), Kendra Cunningham (D7AV), Kevyn Cunningham (D7Y), Tom Curry (D3A), Eric Smith (D4A), Samantha Ross (D5), Issac Milburn (D5), Fernanda Camargo, Extension Specialist, Kristen Harvey Extension Associate, and Jean Smith (D4AV).

After the meeting was called to order, the American and 4-H Flag Pledges were led by Jessica Jenkins.

President Snelling welcomed all to the meeting and the group took time to go around the room and introduce themselves.

The Minutes of the February 16, 2008 meeting were presented. A Motion was made by Kim Hofmeyer, seconded by Kathie Robertson, that "the Minutes be approved as presented." There being no discussion following the Question, the Motion was approved unanimously.

Tom Curry then presented the Treasurer's Report. A report copy is attached to this document for the record. He extended thanks to Eric Smith and Neville Skaggs for their idea with regard to the Drill Team video which created income for the Scholarship Fund. Tom shared that he is going to try to get four horses to put through the Western Kentucky Horse Sale in March or April of 2009. They deal mostly with Quarter Horses and Quarter types, but will run anything through the sale. They agreed to run the horses we may find for donation through the sale for no sales fee and will donate the proceeds to the Scholarship Fund. Tom would need the horses that would be donated no later than the end of January. He reiterated to the group that they need to be clear that the tax write-off portion for any horses donated is the actual sale total, not some value they might choose to place on the animal. The hope is that there will be a much better buyer pool, both with interested folks and folks with deeper pockets. Tom also stated that he would be willing to consider other public sales-types of venues that others might think of that tend to be breed-specific, and to just let him know if anyone comes up with these possibilities. Virginia Thompson stated that she would attempt to get a Miniature Horse donated to be run through their sales venue. Tom stated that the "passing the hat" at the State Show produced fairly good donations. It was certainly less work than running a sale, and he felt that the donations were spread across a considerably larger pool of potential donors. The Report also included the \$500 from the Kentucky Quarter Horse Association, as well as some private donations. He shared that we do invest a portion of these funds. The money was taken out of the stock market account in September and put into a money market account. Tom shared that four or five 4-H clubs donated money to this effort also. He stated that he is still about \$70,000 short of what his

goal to have in this fund is so he can retire from this job and let someone else take over. The Directors for the Scholarship Fund are Tom Curry, Bob Coleman, Fernanda Camargo, and Kristen Harvey. This is a separate fund a 501C3 corporation. Tom would like to continue to build up this fund so we can give out more scholarships. A discussion was held with regard to the Klapheke scholarship. Last year the Kentucky Horse Council took over the Klapheke scholarship since the Klaphekes had not funded this for a couple of years. The Klapheke money did not run through our fund. Kim Hofmeyer stated she will contact Mrs. Klapheke as she thinks she is not aware that this has not been funded. It is believed that KHC will continue to donate a scholarship each year. It was stated that the application process for all of these scholarships are the same, so all 4-H Seniors should plan to apply for them. If anyone donates, the checks should be made out to the Kentucky State 4-H Horse Scholarship Fund, Inc. A discussion ensued regarding the desire for leaders to remind 4-Hers to write thank yous to those who donated funds for their scholarships. A request was made for the committee to take under advisement that they require kids to write thank you notes before getting money. The Council extended a huge thanks to Tom for all his work. A Motion was made by Jessica Jenkins, seconded by Shelby Howard that "The Treasurer's Report be approved as presented" There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion was approved unanimously.

Kristen stated that she has contacted Mary Kolb and she is still willing to head the State 4-H Horse Show Teeshirt project, and the Council would like to extend a HUGE thank you to her for doing this. Kristen stated that she gives Mary the design and then Mary does the rest of the work. Mary shared with Kristen that she is more than willing to let someone else take this project over. This project raises a huge amount of money that is then donated to our scholarship funds. Kristen stated that the requirements for the teeshirt design are on the web. Any designs to be submitted must be in no later than February 1, 2009. The winning designer receives \$100.00. A committee makes the decision on who "wins" this.

Next on the Agenda was the election of officers. The by-laws state that an officer should serve no more than four years. It does not state if this is specific to the office or generic to all officers.

For the office of President, Kim Hofmeyer nominated Tina Snelling, seconded by Jessica Jenkins. Kathie Robertson nominated Jean Smith, seconded by Georgia Skelton. Melanie Kelley made a Motion, seconded by Rachel Barnett, that "the Nominations cease and a written vote be taken". There being no discussion following the Question, the Motion carried. The vote was won by Tina Snelling.

For the office of Vice President, Melanie Kelley nominated Kendra Cunningham, seconded by Jean Smith. There being no further nominations from the floor, Melanie Kelley made a Motion, seconded by Kathie Robertson, that "The nominations cease and Kendra Cunningham be elected to the office of Vice President by acclamation. There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion passed unanimously.

For the office of Secretary, Melanie Kelley nominated Jean Smith, seconded by Kathie Robertson. There being no further nominations from the floor, Melanie Kelley made a Motion, seconded by Kim Hofmeyer, that "The nominations cease and Jean Smith be elected to the office of Secretary by acclamation. There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion passed unanimously.

Next was the election of a Youth Representative. When questioned about what this job entailed, it was stated that it could be whatever the youth elected chooses to make of it. This position has a vote on the executive committee during any meetings or problems that could happen at State shows and contest, etc. As is custom, any youth who were interested in the position were invited to share their qualifications with the group. Brittany Wells stated that she is a Senior and has been involved in 4-H since she was 9. She is involved at the District level by serving as Secretary last year. She is involved in a lot of academic venues, as well as various equine associations. She shows a Tennessee Walker. She has been to a National 4-H meeting and is getting ready to attend 4-H Congress in the next week or so. She believes she is skilled in leadership. Virginia Thompson made a Motion, seconded by Kim Hofmeyer, that "Brittany Wells be placed on the ballot". Jessica Jenkins shared that she is involved in all kinds of 4-H activities. She attended Quarter Horse Congress and Eastern Nationals this past year. She is involved in various academic pursuits. She stated she is motivated to leadership. She is also a Senior. Kim Hofmeyer made a Motion, seconded by Michelle Robinson, that "Jessica Jenkins be placed on the ballot". There being no further nominations from the floor, Kathie Robertson made a Motion, seconded by Kim Hofmeyer, that "The nominations cease and that a written vote be taken". There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion passed unanimously. The vote was won by Brittany Wells.

The Council was reminded that the Treasurer position is by appointment. We are permitted to make a recommendation to the Animal Science Committee for a person to serve in this position. When asked, Tom Curry stated he is still willing to serve in this capacity. A Motion was made by Kendra Cunningham, seconded by Kathie Robertson, that "a recommendation be made to the Animal Science Committee that Tom Curry be appointed to continue to serve as Treasurer." There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion was approved unanimously.

In her program report, Kristen reminded the group to spread the word back to the District and local level about sending thank yous to Richie Farmer, Commissioner of Agriculture. Include in the thank yous how this money helps youth participate at the State level and beyond. Because there are budget cuts happening everywhere, she shared that she is very concerned about the funding for the 4-H Horse Program. She reminded us that the program receives \$50,000 a year and thinks the thank yous would speak well toward encouraging the funding to stay the same. These funds pay for premiums, awards, scholarships, travel for youth to participate as an "award", and the leftover goes to the Districts. Therefore, all the money goes for awards and premiums. This past year, about \$20,000 was spent on awards for the State Show. The entry fees pay for judges, facility and all operating costs of the Show. If we get cuts, it may result in cutting awards or raising entry fees. Similarly for the State Horse Contest, the entry fees pay for facility costs, but awards are paid for from this money. Funding decisions are usually made around June. Kristen stated that we are okay for 2009 because the funding for 2009 was awarded in 2008.

Kristen also asked folks to refer to the reports handed out with regard to participation numbers and national contest participants and results. Copies of those reports are attached for the record.

A discussion was held with regard to the Team Penning Event. The participation in this has dropped considerably. The event was started because the Southern Kentucky Team Penning Association wanted to encourage youth participation, and that Association did all the work to put the event on. A handout explained who did what to get this event together.

SKTPA said they would run this in 2008 because the event was going to be cancelled. Kristen shared that after the event was concluded, she was informed that SKTPA would no longer support this at all. Kristen was not sure what SKTPA's concerns were. She was thinking that it might be because 4-H does not support this as much as SKTPA would like. In 2007, the event still ran in the red. Kristen shared that at least 40 entries are needed to make this event pay for itself. Folks from District 3 shared that this used to be big in their area, but has dropped considerably. Kristen questioned if we have the expertise to put this event on without the help of SKTPA. All folks were wondering if gas prices this past year hurt this event as open team penning shows were down also. Kristen asked the group to consider if this program is meeting the goals of the 4-H program. She stated that it is a lot of work for kids from two counties and that basically is the only participation in the event. Shelby Howard stated he would like to talk with SKTPA to see what the thoughts were going on behind this decision. Questions for thought – Is participation due to the location? If this was more centrally located, would more kids participate? Kristen shared that the location is chosen because SKTPA is already putting on a show and the allow 4-H to piggyback on the extensive amount of work and preparation it takes to put this type of event on. There is a new facility in Shelbyville which might provide an alternative sight if it is decided that this needs to be held in a more central location. It was believed that the kids who participate in the 4-H event also participate a lot in the open shows. Currently the cost is \$15 per class. Some folks shared that there was a lot of confusion with regard to if this event was going to happen or not and that might have hurt participation. Kristen stated that she never said this event was cancelled, but the perception was still out there. That brought up a question as to how the word of this event is spread. Kristen stated it is advertised in the same manner as the State Show and State Horse Contest. Kristen also stated that the drop in the numbers for this event was pretty drastic and not at the same percentage of decrease at the State Show. It was stated that some kids choose to go to a team event and that it is something they get a chance to participate in and a chance to ride something different than their project horse. Tina wondered if this is something that should this be taken back to the districts in the same manner when the attempt to add trail classes was approached. It was again reiterated that if this 4-H event does get dropped, SKTPA almost always has a youth portion their shows, so the youth would still have a chanced to do this. Shelby Howard again stated that he will talk to the folks at SKTPA and requested that he be given time to see how this discussion goes and then made a decision. Fernanda suggested that a threshold be created that we have "X" amount of participants or we will not do the program for the year. Kathie suggested that the event be given one more year to make sure that the drop in participation was not a fluke in 2008. It was shared that a lot also depends on SKTPA because the event is too costly to provide on our own, as well as the lack of knowledge about how to put the event on at the State level.

Kristen called attention to the sheet that outlined the achievements of youth who participated in academic contests beyond the State level. A copy of that is attached to this for the record. She stated that these results showed the academic stuff and not kids who took horses to the events. She stated that the youth represented Kentucky very well this year. She said she had a lot of supportive parents who also helped with transportation. Kathie wondered if there was any specific reason the youth who participated in mounted were not recognized. Kristen shared she forgot to include those names, although it is posted on the web. (From the web – In Non-Trotting Geldings, out of 16, Brittany Wells 2nd, Brandon Wells 7th. Saddleseat Trotting Showmanship, out of 13, Emily Eicher 6th. Non-Trotting Showmanship, out of 35, Austin Coffey 1st, Brandon Wells 3rd, and Emily Eicher 6th. Saddleseat English Trotting Equitation, out of 13, Emily Eicher 4th. Non-Trotting Pleasure (Walking Horse Only),

out of 18, Brandon Wells 10th. Non-Trotting Pleasure (No Walking Horses), out of 24, Austin Coffey 5th, Emily Eicher 6th, and Caitlyn Poole 9th. Non-Trotting Equitation, out of 39, Austin Coffey 1st, Caitlyn Poole 2nd, and Emily Eicher 4th. Open Jumping, out of 6, William Robertson 4th.

It was shared that the numbers of participants in the State Horse Contest are still fine.

Fernanda shared that Kentucky will host an AYHC symposium in 2010. It has not been decided exactly how this is all going to look yet as the planning committee has not been able to get together yet. Pony Club, KHC, KEEP, 4-H, and the Horse Park are all going to be a part of this. There is going to be a youth field day where kids will be asked to come as a field trip from school so kids can see WEG because most kids would not be able to participate during the actual event. The 4-H program is involved in preparing a lesson to be presented in the schools so youth can learn about WEG. This event is scheduled to take place March 19-21, 2010, with the youth portion happening on Friday, March 19. Folks are working with the Department of Education to make sure that this education will cover core content. A group is meeting in January to decide how this is all going to look. It was shared that Kentucky will send youth to Nebraska March 27-29, 2009 for their delegation to the AYHC conference. The State will pay registration fees and give \$100.00 toward travel and lodging. Last year they sponsored all youth who wanted to go because they felt it was important to take more than just three youth as was originally promoted. Kathie Robertson and Kendra Cunningham both shared that this was a great way for youth to meet other youth from across the country and that the youth were asked to work together to get things accomplished. There are good topics covered. Adults can also get a lot of information and resources to take back to the local clubs. The speakers this year will be good. Demonstrations will be western-based. The information is on the website and we were to encourage youth to participate.

The Council then took a break for lunch (not pizza ☺).

When the Council reconvened, Clay, Megan and Kayanna Bennett from District 3 joined the meeting.

Before the District Recommendations and Suggestions were addressed, Jean Smith made a Motion, seconded by Kathie Robertson that "Each Recommendation be considered and discussed for no longer than five minutes before a vote is called. The time will start after the Recommendation is read. No Suggestions are to be voted on, and discussion of such will take place only after the Recommendation portion of the meeting has concluded." There being no further discussion after the Question, the Motion passed unanimously. Tom Curry was asked to be time keeper.

The discussion and voting record for all Recommendations and Suggestions are attached to this document. It is noted that all Suggestions were read this year. It is also noted that Districts 1 and 2 gave no Recommendations or Suggestions.

Following the Recommendations and Suggestions session, Kristen and Fernanda requested suggestions of people, one from each District for each Division, who will help with the reviews of the Western Pleasure and Western Contest Division Rules.

Jean Smith requested that a group be formed to review and revise as appropriate the By-Laws for this organization, with attention to the officer election process and timing, spelling out of an official procedure to be followed during the Recommendation and Suggestion time, term limits, and a general revisit of the document as a whole. Kristen shared that an official By-Laws document does not really exist, only as is printed in the Rule Book. The Council agreed that the By-Laws need to be their own separate document. It was decided that the Executive Committee should take a look at this and Jean Smith agreed to convene that group and hopefully have a review to be presented at the Spring, 2009 meeting.

Dates for upcoming events were shared. A tentative date of March 21, 2009 was set for the 4-H Horse Leaders Seminar. The State Horse Contests will be held June 9 and 10, 2009 in Lexington. The State Horse Show will be held June 28 through July 4, 2009 in Louisville.

Tina shared that District 3 is working with a group to try to get some mounted horse games going. An international association had approached them wondering why 4-H did not do these games. D3 will try to pilot an event to see if there is any interest in this in a 4-H venue. They will be learning some of the games during their camp.

Fernanda shared that Kicking and Screaming did not go as well as she thought it should. There were 50 participants. She thinks gas was a deciding factor, as well as several other big events going on. However, those who participated liked the event. The trainer was good and reminded youth about continuing to go back to the basics, etc. Evaluations said the program was good. She did not know if the time of the year hurt participation, but chose that time in order to get away from this becoming a "getting ready for the show" event. Some folks said advertising could have been better. Fernanda said the information was sent to the Contact Agents, but she did not know if it went further.

It was decided that the tentative meeting time for the spring meeting would be on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. EST in Elizabethtown. The alternate date will be on February 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. EST in Elizabethtown. Kristen will leave a message at (859) 257-7501 with regard any cancellations due to weather.

There being no further business to come before the group, a Motion was made by Jessica Jenkins, seconded by numerous youth, that "The meeting be adjourned.". There being no further discussion following the Question, the Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Smith, Secretary

Attachments:
Treasurer's Report
Show and Contest Numbers
2008 National Team Results
2008 Recommendation and Suggestions Votes