

DD Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 08, 2009
3:22 PM

5 minutes

Kathy-2 things: 1 thing Gina has helped mike with website and mike got involved with websites. "Pain in the tush" (actual quote) doing any website. Joyce's husband (NAC) maintains their website and they pay him. Put up for the group to pay Gina for doing website. Gina says she is ok with doing it for free. It is not a pain but thank you. It is a learning experience. 1 other thing. New class at shows called a Derby. David asks is this like a rodeo? No, Horses that are entered must be really sane. You switch horses to ride (draw them). Each person rides test on each of the other horses, including their own. Rider may not mount until before the practice area. Winner is highest combined score. Lara, Kim, Sharon agree. Gina asks if a rider enters and doesn't know the horse, but the horse enters and is not safe but we could leave it up to the judge to decide on horse's disposition. Gina suggests putting a description on the website. Just a suggestion and we can do it as a fun day.

Gina-Group was fantastic at Westworld show. Show was challenging and facility was crowded. Some new DDs and some 2nd timers (at rated shows) but group was great – stood shoulder to shoulder, very supportive of each other, nice teamwork. It was a good show. Gina was approached to think about that DD's are so big that we could be another chapter of ADA. Doesn't really want to go there due to competition with NAC, and not being ADA we can have more freedom. Sharon asks any advantages. Maybe insurance? Debbie says we need more freedom and have fun. Club went from childhood to adult hood, lets just have fun.

Gina mentioned DD is on Facebook we could raise activity on the site.

Lara- Money money money...forgot spreadsheet. We have accts changing due to clinic. Amnt . We will not make nor lose money on clinics with Cyndi. Good shape for next show but that is it. We don't have to purchase anything. That was treasurers report.

Lara is leaving teaching position and wants to do more horse stuff. We miss you Lara.

Kim-Donates minutes

Debbie-Suggests Lara is forced to ride at shows. Whether she likes it or not. Thank you for the DD's who showed up at west world to help out. Good fun. Rest of info for new business.

Sharon-2nds Gina's thanks about show.

David-Donates minutes

Kate-BBQ. It is on the same day as rehearsal. Takes her out of the equation due to rehearsal or performance. Can we move location?

Simone-Donates minutes.

Last show

Thank you Sharon and David. Kathy loves their arena. Worked out really well for horses. Warm u p for horses and long breaks. Plus riders got to get used to arena first. It made for a long day though. Sharon says that ran remarkably smooth. Everything was under control and ran smoothly. No one was rushed. Lara says it worked well. Beverly Rogers worked so well for schooling show. Comments were very beneficial and supportive. Check in location was great. David designed just for DDs :). Gina was asked to explain the USEF/FEI judge letters from r, R S I and O. Kate asks about schooling show, is it an advantage every year to watch us grow and horses change. Are they influenced as opposed to never seen us. Gina says if judge is experienced they will judge without prejudice. Kim says we are not important enough for people to remember :).

Next show and BBQ/Year end awards

Gina printed out score summary from last 3 shows to start calculation. Who wants to work on year end awards? Lara will make students do it. Ha ha. Kathy suggests that we have double checks.

Our venue will be American Ranch \$200 day fee. We can use it throughout 2010. Arena is already set up. They will water and rake. They will have letters. Water and drag at lunch break. Footing is not very deep. Missy will donate services - we sincerely appreciate this and will find something nice to do for her generosity plus cover her gas expense. Debbie will bring tent. We should advertise and have more people attend. Gina: This venue will raise the bar a little, it offers more to the competitors (parking is no challenge, we have warmup plus separate lunge area plus roundpen and the option to go into the covered arena when rain – but there is no dressage arena set up inside, only outside – we would have to improvise). Sharon asks about the footing. Gina says that there seems not as much spring anymore, perhaps it has been watered too much. If they are charging \$200 fee, we should be able to ask if there is a possibility to not water so much. Lara says it is all about the approach, we can ask them to change their way of doing things if we are respectful about it. Kate says it would benefit all riders to have better footing even non-dressage riders. Inspect the day before show to eval. Footing. Who will attend?

Show coordinator, Lara, will not be here for the show. Kim is available to help as long as time to help Debbie. A group of volunteers will go over day before show to set up tent and evaluate footing. Check-in is most important job. Kim will do morning shift and help Debbie in afternoon. Costume contest at lunch break walk or walk trot only. Drawing of D award will be at that show. Members only can vote. Kim will do box and strips for voting. Lara has not had time to do flyers for advertising. Why? Because she has 19 or so jobs. But when she is done teaching it will free up time. Club will put flyers up at local feed stores and for local classes.

BBQ can be at Debbie's house. Dec 5th. 3:00. BBQ will be a pot luck ,everyone brings a dish and Gina brings high point trophy for Debbie Carson, Debbie brings saddle blankets. Deb can maybe get a band. Awards will be handed out then. E-vite to go out (Lara) and have people sign up for what to bring. Reminders are set automatically.

New business

Debbie - gave a lot of thought as to how club has developed and not developed. Our mission statement is to promote dressage and have fun. Pushing too hard. Pull in reins and slow down, this is only 2nd year. We missed building blocks. We need to build solid club. Back to basics and to mission statement. Swedish judge that massacred everyone really damaged morale. Almost all agreed. Several riders haven't shown up since. Junior riders not returning. This show spoiled reputation as a fun club. We need to do something to bring attendance back. Suggestions: maybe not shows this next year or not as many shows. Do more fun days. With or with out horses. Derby is a good idea. Judged on individual or team effort. Own show that team judges. Self help clinics to help each other. Everyone critiques rides. Continue to sponsor clinics. Pull in more people and generate more finances. Videotape rides and analyze. Arrange for speakers at meetings or volunteers to present to a group. Focus on little guys, junior riders, etc. ADVERTISING.

How about one additional event like a DD-fun day? We keep the year end BBQ. Gina could Lecture. Kathy says we need to proceed.

Question: vote on sponsoring tack stall? Does DD want to sponsor a tack stall? No.

Tent? We can look into inexpensive ways to make a more professional looking one or use Debbie's tent. Betsy asked at last show how we could raise our appearance? Gina seconded that.

Four shows in 2010? Yes. Gina will try to figure out dates and judges. Fall shows to be held a little earlier so they wont get into holidays. All shows need to not conflict with rated or NAC shows to provide more options for people.

New DD Membership starts Dec 1st. Email reminder, advertise. Gina updates the website.

Comments for last two Cyndi Jackson clinics were very positive. Cyndi would prefer doing clinic on weekdays, but we need to look into what the participants want. Clinics were nicely audited.

We only break even if we fill 10 rides a day to cover Cindy's day fee. When 2 days not full how can we do the split? Neither Cyndi, nor DD or participants should have a disadvantage. How many clinics should we do? 2?
To be continued.

Some decisions will need further discussion.

Food was yummy.

Club is dismissed.