

PRAHA Club Meeting of April 18, 2010

Members present:

Bob Callahan
Lanora Callahan
Gabriela Cowan
Renate Cowan

Joe Marchi
Verdell Marchi
Phyllis Ryan
Haleigh Scalf

Meranda Scott
Cindy Tobeck
Teri Truax
Sharon Youngs

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. We welcomed guest Maribee McCleoud. Thanks for joining us. It was nice to have you! By the end of the meeting Maribee decided to become a member! We are excited to have you as a member

Education

At each meeting we will have an educational section. Cindy Tobeck is the coordinator for this section. If you have an idea for a topic that you like to have covered please let Cindy know.

Cindy educated us on what is required for Sporthorse in Hand classes. The handler has to wear a white polo shirt, khaki pants and any comfortable shoes. The horse has to have on the bridle of discipline that it performs in or best reflects. For example, a horse may be shown in dressage but the horse's conformation better reflects a hunter/jumper. So the horse would be shown in a hunter/jumper bridle. The reins of the bridle can be used as the lead or you can purchase a show lead and use it with a 'Y' attachment.

The course for this class consists of six cones set up in a triangle. Within this set up there are two triangles. The first three cones make a small triangle and all six cones make a large triangle. The small triangle is for the walk and the large triangle is for the trot.

Across from the first cone (the point of the triangle) a board/pole is placed approximately four feet away from the cone. To begin the course the handler leads the horse between the pole and first cone and sets the horse up. The horse is presented in a relaxed and opened position. The horse must be calm and relaxed while standing. The hooves are positioned in such a manner that the judge can see all four legs at once. This requires that the horse not be in a squared up position.

Once the judge has indicated that you can continue you lead your horse away from the judge at a walk and go around the small triangle. It is important to have your horse as straight as possible. The handler and horse perform at a normal walk on the sides of the triangle going to and from the judge. On the bottom of the triangle the handler and horse perform at an extended walk. The judge is looking for a lengthened stride with the hind hoof overreach the imprint of the front hoof.

After the small triangle has been completed the large triangle is then done at a trot. The handler and horse perform at a normal trot on the sides of the triangle going to and from the judge. On the bottom of the triangle the handler and horse perform at an extended trot. This is a fun and easy class to compete it so you should give it a try at your next show! (Side note – this is not just for the 'sporthorse', this class is available to purebreds as well.)

Cindy did a demonstration with her horses and allowed members to give it a try if they wanted to. This was a wonderful educational section and we look forward to the next one!

February Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the February meeting with a correction. Motion was second and carried, the minutes were approved. The minutes have been corrected and resubmitted for the website.

October 2010 Show

Things are moving along. We have a signed contract with the Trails, we have our show steward and judge. Dr. Mike Vanzwol has agreed to be our on call vet for the show. We are still working on getting a farrier.

We have added a new class this year! This class is a fun class and show attire for both horse and rider are not required. The class is a walk/trot for 50 years and over. For a person to enter this class they must not have ever cantered a horse in a show.

There was discussion on the possibility of changing the name of the show for better flow. If this can be done with AHA and USEF with no charge the name will be changed to: Pacific Rim Fall Classic Arabian Horse Show. *Update: this cannot be done this year. We will pend this change for next year's show.*

Sherie Suter has volunteered to be our photographer at the show at no cost to the club. Show participants can contact Sherie directly to purchase pictures. A motion was made to allow Sherie to be the photographer, it was second and the motion carried. Lanora will contact Sherie to work out the show details. Please take a moment to check out her website at:
<http://photographybysheriesuter.com/index.html>

Treasurer's Report

Renate Cowan gave the treasurer report.

Celebrate the Horse

Renate has been advised that this event is changing its location and date. The event is being moved to Linden and will be held the first weekend of October. Due to these changes a motion was made that we not participate as the distance and timing are not feasible for us. The motion was second and it carried.

Member Info

Joe and Verdell Marchi had a little filly that arrived just a few weeks ago! Congratulations!!

Regional Update

Phyllis Ryan attended the Directors Meeting in Aurora, CO April 9-10, 2010.

The World Equestrian Games (WEG) are being held at the Lexington Kentucky Horse Park. Per the Kentucky Horse Park website this is the first time that WEG has been held outside of Europe. For more information visit: www.kyhorsepark.com

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At the WEG the Arabian will be the only breed show cased. Martha Murdock from Region 14 made this possible. There were a lot of qualifications required in order for the Arabian to be show cased and Martha took the project on and made it happen. Any breed was eligible to apply and go through the process for the show case. No other breed made it all the way through.

AHA will be an official sponsor of WEG. All the fees were privately and anonymously donated.

Nationals

Nationals will be held in Tulsa, OK for 2011 and 2012. There may be consideration given for a change of venue for 2013.

Region 5 Trail Ride

Region 5 will be hosting the first Region 5 Trail Ride this year. It will be held at the Horse Park in Cle Elum on September 11th and 12th. All riders and breeds are welcome to come enjoy the fun! More information is to follow at the next regional meeting.

Regional Meetings

The next regional meeting is scheduled for May 2nd in Ellensburg at the Road House Grill. The meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. Anyone can attend.

The next meeting after May is going to be held at the Region 5 Trail Ride in September.

Tail Deadening

It has come to the attention of judges and stewards that tail deadening is becoming a practice among competitors. For those that haven't heard of this before here is what it is all about. Tail deadening is when a horse does not move or swish its tail. The purpose of doing this is so that when the horse is spurred the horse doesn't react by moving its tail. When a horse moves its tail as the result of being spurred the judge's attention is drawn to the action and thus the horse/rider may not be placed or placed lower.

How is this done? This is accomplished by either injecting the horse's tail to numb it or by hanging weights in the tail. When weights are hung in the tail for hours while the horse is in the stall or being worked the tail eventually becomes too sore and tired to move. Mind you these are not weight like one would use to go fishing. These are weights made from things like ax heads. The ax handle is removed and the ax head is tied to the tail.

Stan Morey of the Judges and Stewards Committee attended the Scottsdale Show in February. While there he found five horses that had weights in their tails. Four of the five horses were there with competitors that were also judges. Stan worked with the show stewards to get the weights removed and to keep the competitors from continuing the practice.

AHA currently has no rule against this for performance horses. This is in the works to be corrected.

National Convention

The National Convention is being held in Orlando, FL this year. Next year it will be held in Victoria, British Columbia. In 2012 it will probably be held in Colorado to help minimize AHA expenses.

Membership

We have 46 adult members and three youth members. We need to grow our membership. In order for our club to have two delegates we need to have 51 adult members by June. Please encourage friends, family, and anyone you meet that owns an Arabian, Half Arabian, or Anglo Arabian to join us! Membership information can be received by contacting: Gabriela Cowan at hex3gln@comcast.net or 360-352-0667.

Reminders

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events:

- 06/19/10 – Club Meeting
- 08/21/10 – PRAHA Trail Ride
- 09/11 & 12 – Region 5 Trail Ride
- 10/16 & 17 – PRAHA Show

Next Meeting:

- 06/19/10 at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Meranda Scott. This of course will be pot luck. The Scott's will be providing BBQ'd hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Meranda Scott
Secretary