

OHJA General Membership Meeting

January 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Skip Thornbury at 5:15 pm. Board members attending were: Skip Thornbury, Anne Thornbury, Kathy Valentine, Jamie Barkhau, Frankie Stark, Erica Staib, Scott Dehelian, Matt Payne,

1. Skip welcomed the two new board members, Theresa Pickens and Karen Reid. He also thanked former board members Jeremy Sims and Maureen Fagan for the service on the board.
2. Jamie Barkhau read the minutes from the 2008/9 general meeting.
3. Kathy Valentine read the treasurer's report.
4. New business was then discussed. The first topic brought up was from Jennifer Edwards. She has concerns about several things that seem to be happening with the OHJA shows. Her main concern seemed to be with the fact that there are no limits on the number of shows a barn or facility are allowed to hold in one year. It appears to her that many of the people that end up year end champions only show at "barn" shows where they can garner the most points with the least amount of competition. She also questions whether the association is a multi-purpose organization or just a point keeping organization. She would like to see more information about the show facilities published in the prize lists to better inform the consumer. Her points were all discussed in the forum with no concrete suggestions made to make things better. We told her that we had already instituted the show facility descriptions for this year. We are aware that the "barn" shows seem to stack the points but in the interest of free enterprise feel we can not limit the number of shows a barn has as long as they meet association standards.
5. Discussion was held on how many classes per division may be held on a one day or two day show. This involves section I A 4. Marian Maybank from the USEF will help us with the wording to help clear up any confusion on this issue.
6. Starting in 2011, all members will be asked to sign an ethics statement. This will be attached to the membership forms. This is in line with the statement all USHJA members will be signing.
7. Trena Lenger brought up how difficult it is to get show dates. She is also interested in seeing us limit "barn" shows in hope that it would

make some dates available to others wishing to have an OHJA rated show.

8. Lindsay Yinger asked about the USHJA Trainer Certification program. She was hoping that the OHJA could somehow recognize those trainers that have gone through the program on the website.
9. Judy Brentlinger asked us to take a look at the equitation specs and make sure that the areas that are vague in reference to cross-entering are tightened up.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 by Skip Thornbury, seconded by Kathy Valentine.