

OHJA Board of Directors Meeting

February 4, 2010

Directors Attending: Skip Thornbury, Anne Thornbury, Kathy Valentine, Jamie Barkhau, Scott Dehelian, Matt Payne, Theresa Pickens, Karen Reid.

1. We continued the discussion of several topics that Jennifer Edwards brought up at the general meeting. The biggest issue is the ‘barn show’ issue. What to do about this will take quite a few discussions.
2. Equitation Specs Revisited: Currently we have gone back to letting the 12-14 equitators do the intermediate equitation if they are eligible. The board has decided that we need to go back to 2009 rules and disallow the cross-entering between the two divisions. 12-14 Equitation will be run at 3’. There will be no cross entry between 12-14 and intermediate equitation.
3. There has been an instance of a rider showing in the children’s hunter division all year long in 2009 and then in the fall, dropping back to the intermediate hunter division apparently in an attempt to qualify for the OHJA medal finals at the lower height. This happened at one of Brentlinger’s shows and Judy was unsure if that was fair and/or legal. It is, unfortunately legal, but not really fair. Rather than making a rule for this breach of ethics, the board will ask everyone to watch for riders that are trying to sneak in under the radar and if it becomes a common way to try to qualify then the problem will be addressed further.
4. The mileage rule was discussed again. It is 50 land miles and must be the most direct/shortest route that is found by Mapquest.
5. The use of the ‘California split’ method of splitting classes was discussed. It has been used inappropriately in the past. The board feels that there must be at least 10 in a division before it can be split in any way. There must be a split if the division has more than 40 in it. This deserves further discussion and was tabled for the time being.
6. The banquet was a success, 315 reservations were made. We gave out 65 medals, champion and reserve champion awards for 30 divisions, 3 grand championships, and the perpetual awards. We had 3 divisions sponsored. The door prizes were a great success. Everyone agreed to keep it at the Marriott again for next year. Typically, when held in Cincinnati, we have 75-100 more reservations than when we hold it in Columbus.

7. Skip wants to work on setting up show standards. These would be requirements, not suggestions, that facilities must meet in order to obtain an OHJA rating. There needs to be a set of rules that clearly defines what constitutes a competition. Exactly what those should be will be discussed at great length at the next few meetings. We need to look at what kind of numbers most of the local shows get on a regular basis to determine what it takes for hold a show that would be considered a true competition. Erica will send us her numbers to review.

The meeting was adjourned by Skip at 9 pm seconded by Matt Payne.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Thornbury.