**Dancing Horse Dressage & CT**

**Meeting Minutes: April 12, 2018**

Present: Barb Nagle, Sonya Vann, Annie Vliegenthart, Meghan Wolfgram, Jackie White, Cynthia Lord

March minutes: motion to approve was made and carried.

Treasurer’s report: Balance is $7978.82. Insurance has been paid and updated to include the May clinic. Annie will confirm that we have paid Wickham for both days. Motion to approve report made and carried.

A question was raised regarding a membership. The USDF fee has been paid but membership dues were returned with a canceled show entry. Barb will talk to the member to resolve the issue.

**Old Business**

March Show Feedback: there were issues with people arriving for IndiaFest driving and parking in the area being used for warm-up. Park Staff responded and blocked off the area but this needs to be done in advance. Otherwise all went well.

April show planning: there are 40 rides to date. Barb will confirm with Chase that he will be the volunteer coordinator. Cynthia will help if needed. An event may be at the pavilion, and the warm up ring will probably not be available. Annie will ask Wickham to block the warm-up area off at the start of the day to avoid the traffic issue. A food vendor has been arranged. Sonya and Barb indicated that Gloria will get awards to Sandy before the show. Sonya will check with Sandy regarding numbers and get more if needed.

Barb brought up the issue of people dumping manure from stalls in the bushes. Wickham expects people using stalls or event managers to remove manure but this is not always happening. Barb has discussed the issue with Wickham, they would allow us to label a spot for manure to be placed if we arrange removal by the Tuesday after the show. The possibility of combining with other equestrian groups using the park to collect & remove manure periodically was discussed, but we need to find out if other groups are using the barn. Barb will try to arrange something for the April and May shows.

An error in our omnibus this year was noted, the entry fee was listed incorrectly. We will honor the listed fee for this year but will update the omnibus for next year.

The saddle fitting clinic discussed for the May meeting has been rescheduled for June due to scheduling conflicts. Jackie will draft an email for Barb to send out. It was suggested that we put flyers in show packets and posters around the office at the shows.

**New Business**

May show and clinic: Barb will put together a flyer. The question was raised about whether people could stable horses in the Wickham barn overnight. This is allowed, but we will point out that there are no services or security and no-one will be there overnight. The closing date and ride time availability will be the same for the show and clinic. The closing date is May 4 and we have until May 10 to cancel the clinic if we do not meet our minimum rides. Sonya will ask the clinician for a brief bio to post.

A question was raised about eligibility for freestyle rides. USEF rules require a score of 60% at the highest test of the level being shown (or higher level) to enter a freestyle class. We have not required this; following discussion it was decided to continue without the requirement. This exception to USEF/USDF rules will be added to the exception list in our show rules and omnibus.

Clarification was requested regarding eligibility for the member rate to enter shows and volunteer hours for year-end awards: rider, horse owner or either. Our practice to date has been that either the rider OR the horse owner can be the member to be eligible for the member rate but that the rider must have volunteer hours to be eligible for year-end awards. We decided to continue in the same manner and will clarify it in the rules.

Fall clinic: Meghan has been trying to get in touch with Heiner regarding his proposed format. The 2-day format may not work for DHD. She will ask about a 1-day clinic. Dates have not been confirmed. Meghan suggested another possible clinician, Hank Hutson, who has recently moved to the area.

Brags: Meghan bragged that her SwiftPaws kickstarter campaign was 75% funded after 1 day. Barb bragged that her horse Forcado received scores in the upper 60%s at Prix St. George at the Heidleburg Cup, and is now qualified for regionals.

Next meeting: May 10th at Annie Vliegenthart’s house.