Southeast Horse PDC Meeting
January 14, 2017

The January 14th, 2017 meeting of the Southeast region 4-H Horse PDC was called to order by regional representative Gretchen Sankovitz at 10:00 a.m.

PDC members in attendance were: Gretchen Sankovitz and Marette Jorgenson.

PDC members absent were: Jackie Thayer and Liza Aarvoldson

Project members in attendance: Eliza Sankovitz, Todd Stolt, Tyler Stolt, Mandi Niebeling, Brenda Miller, Barb Klaseus, Ethan Klasus, Duane Tri, Cindy Tri.

The meeting began with the introductions of the state reps and a brief explanation about the rolls that they serve for the state 4-H horse project. Followed by attendee introductions which included not only their name but what county they were representing.

After introductions, we went over the new rule changes that will be added to or amended in the State Rulebook. For the most part the rule changes were read and explanations were given. Overall the response was positive and the attendees agreed with the decisions made.

Some of the more notable discussions include:

Rulebook #3 – Todd Stolt asked what the outcome was. Gretchen Sankovitz went over the scenario and explained the decision and why it was made, especially in regard to the policing of such a rule. The general consensus was that the right decision was made.

Rulebook #6 and #7 – Clarification was given by Gretchen Sankovitz in regard to the ID process and lease program for the drill team kids and horses. It was agreed that the new proposed ID process was a good one and that they were happy for the change.

Rulebook #14 and #15 – There was a long discussion in regards to rule 14. It was primarily because some counties were allowing for multiple horses while others didn’t understand why the need for the rule. After it was explained why the rule was necessary to maintain fairness, all agreed that the rule was a plausible one.

Rulebook #16 and #17 – Gretchen stated that you can’t require showmanship. It was also explained that more trips are not granted for 90% participation like the livestock projects. There was a mixed conversation about dress, and both variations were commented on. Overall they accepted the decision on the rule.

Rulebook #19 and 20 – Gretchen described the safety reasons for the rules. She also talked a bit about why the glance back was unsafe and asked counties to relay that to the kids to stop the glance back.
Rulebook # 21 – Gretchen went over the change in the twisted snaffle rule. It was asked why the change? Gretchen stated that is was to keep in line with breed shows and standards, although she was unsure why, she would ask at the next state meeting and report back to the region.

Rulebook #24 – Gretchen explained the requirement that the helmet be fastened securely. The group agreed, and asked that the State Committee to publish a page with “5 steps to proper helmet fastening”. Gretchen stated that she would present the idea at the next State PDC meeting.

Rulebook #25 – Gretchen confirmed that judges should not be determining placings on obstacle penalties, but on time only. Gretchen stated that this would also be explained at judges training and it will go out in a judge's memo this spring.

Gretchen also informed everyone that the drill team committee has decided to have regional qualifying shows due to the large number of participants at the state horse show this year. There will be a northern and southern location chosen and teams will be asked to preregister for the event. The Drill Team Committee will be planning and organizing the events, and letting the counties know sometime this spring as to the fine details. They plan to have the finals at the state horse show at the same time and place as in years past. A suggestion was made to have the event at an indoor arena in case of rain, Sibley County and Henderson were two locations mentioned. There was a question about back up horse ID deadlines and if there would be one. Gretchen stated that yes there would be and that would be determined at a later time. They also requested to have the regional events as late in the summer as possible to allow for more practice time.

There was discussion about the possibility of an ethics video and if that was something that the PDC could make available or require for the members. Gretchen stated that there was a video at one time about ethics, but it wasn't mandatory anymore. The group thought it would be a good idea to suggest it again throughout the membership.

Another request was to see if the state PDC would put together either a map or a short video for the membership to see in regard to the State Fairgrounds and where everything was located. Could it include where horses could and could not be and acceptable parking information? Gretchen stated that she would bring it to the next PDC meeting.

Elections were held as well at our meeting. Our region was to elect two adult representatives and two youth representatives. Gretchen Sankovitz, Duane Tri, Ethan Klasus, and Jackie Thayer. Because they were the only applications received, it was a unanimous vote in favor of the representatives that ran.

Having no other business, Gretchen Sankovitz called for a motion to adjourn meeting.

Duane Tri so moved, Ethan Kaseus 2nd
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Sankovitz