

Northeast Reining Horse Association General Meeting Minutes
Falls Creek Farm – Oneco, CT
Saturday, April 18, 2009

Board Members in Attendance: Candy Conway, Michelle Robertson, Michele Whitney, Cathy Nevitt, Carrie Austin, Sheli Senecal, Judy Galipeau

Board Members in Absence: George Ridden, Dennis Tito, Barry Sanborn, Dirk Winkelhake, Lois Gaetz, Geri Wasylak

- I. **Opening Remarks** (Candy Conway): The meeting started at 10:00 pm. Introductions of the Board members in attendance, including the NERHyA Junior President Jordyn Clark, were made. The attendance numbers for the show are very good considering the current state of the economy. The Board had planned this show season with the economy in mind and this is why you will see lower added money. However if the numbers continue to be as good as they are at the Spring Spin then the added money may increase.
- II. **Financial & Budget Report** (Michelle Robertson) – The NERHA Board of Directors receives and reviews detailed financial reports monthly and at all Board Meetings, and considers this information confidential. If you are a member and would like more information, please contact the NERHA Treasurer.
- III. **Show Committee** (Candy Conway) –
 - A. **Summer Prelude** (Topsfield) – The show manager is Jayne Mount. Everything has been finalized for the judge. There will be a food and embroidery vendor but no tack vendor or photographer.
 - B. **Falls Creek Slide** (Oneco) – The show manger is Lisa Boon. Everything has been finalized for the judges. There will be food, clothing, tack, embroidery and a photographer for this show.
 - C. **Northeast Classic** (Northampton) –Chris Allen is the show manger. This show has been approved by the NRHA. We have Joey Stetz under contract for a judge and are waiting on the contracts for the two other judges. There will be food, clothing, tack, embroidery, photography, videographer, along with some additional vendors for this show. There will also be a BBQ for our exhibitor event; however the NERHA will nolonger serve alcohol at our events. We will be using the same caterer for the Slide-In in August. There will be a Pro-Am class at the Classic this year. Teams must be made up with an Open rider and a Non-Pro or Youth rider. Each rider has to complete ½ of a modified pattern and there may be additional awards for teams with the longest slide. It will be held on July 4th.
 - D. **The Maine Event** (Skowhegan) – The show manger is Judy Galipeau. This show has not yet been approved by the NRHA. We have one judge under contract and are waiting for the contract from the second judge. There will be food, embroidery and a photographer for this show. There will be a Maturity (7+ age group) in a Derby format on Saturday night.
 - E. **Super Slide-In** (Northampton) – The show manager isChris Allen. We have verbal contracts with the judges. There will be food, clothing, tack, embroidery, photography, videographer, along with some additional vendors for this show.

- F. **Show Dates for 2010** – Falls Creeks has already approached us for dates in 2010. We need to start thinking about and planning for the shows next year.
- IV. **Youth Update** (Michele Whitney) – The youth are holding a stall raffle and a 50/50 raffle at the show. The NERHyA windbreakers are now available. Pre-orders were being taken at the show with delivery at the Clinic or the Falls Creek show. The T-Shirts “Got Sliders” were a big hit. Additional T-Shirts for women will be available in a fitted V-Neck style. Hats are also being ordered in both men and women’s styles. Jim Blumer is sponsoring the Morrison for the Youth Derby.
- V. **Sponsorship Update** (Dirk Winkelhake) – No update for this meeting.
- VI. **Magazine Update** (Carrie Austin) – There will be 4 more issues of the Magazine this year. Advertising was sold out so we will be doing a centerfold in the next issue. Still looking for barn news, spotlight articles and member profiles. We will have an article in the Reiner next month and be on the lookout for the Horsemen’s Yankee Pedlar article with Dan Sanborn. Deadline for the June issue of the Magazine is April 25th. Jenny Johnson will be taking pictures and writing articles on the Spring Spin for the next issue.
- VII. **Website Update** (Sheli Senecal) – The website committee met to discuss design and functionality of the website. We are starting to get an idea of the section and number of pages needed on a new site. The technology for the website is very old and starting to break so we will be asking the BOD to approve the hiring of Karin Hinzmann to develop a new site. Sheli would continue as the website administrator once the new site is built. The online update email system has stopped working. This is why the NERHA eAnnouncement was distributed in paper at the show. Sheli will research what is needed for technology and cost in replacing our current system. We would also like to hold a logo design contest. More to come on this.
- VIII. **Clinic Update** (Lois Gaetz) – There are currently 6 riders signed up for Saturday and 1 rider for Sunday. Several announcements were made at the show about spots still being available. Members were encouraged to participate.
- IX. **Show Secretary/Membership Update** (Cathy Nevitt) – There has been a large number of membership signups at the show. We are currently at 131 members, several of them are new and youths.
- X. **Affiliate Update** (Candy Conway) – This year’s affiliate show will be held in Kentucky at the Horse Park. Don’t forget to sign your Affiliate Designation form; the first 5 shows (total of 8 slates) will be used to determine the top 10 riders for each class. There was additional discussion about where the affiliate could be held in 2 years; both Syracuse, NY and Northampton, MA were discussed.
- XI. **Discussion Items** –
- A. Formation of nominating committee for the 2009 annual election of officers. The current President, Vice President and Treasurer will not be running for reelection in October. . We need a nominating committee to help find new board members. Michelle Robertson stated that due to the fiscal year nature of her Treasurer responsibilities, she will continue with her position until the end of the calendar year, but work with the new Treasurer for a smooth transition.
- B. Discussion of annual election process/timeline. When should new officers and board members be voted in? If it is too late then the old board has to plan the next show season but if it is too early then venues may not be ready to contract. It was decided

that Fall still remains the best time. Also discussed was a proposal to combine the annual election and the awards banquet in the Fall. The Board will prepare a proposal for consideration by the membership.

XII. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm.