

State 4-H Horse Advisory Meeting

October 11, 2017

PRESENT:

	<i>4-H Agent/Program Assistant</i>	<i>Volunteer Leader Representatives</i>	
Area A		Terry Stout	
Area B		Geralyn Sachs	
Area C	Mark Shuffitt	Debbie Goodman	Kevin Yutani
Area D	Megan Mann	Barbara Nagle	Liz Jett
Area E		Renee M. Burks	Suzanna Rucks
Area F			
UF	Saundra TenBroeck, Wendy DeVito, Shane Michael, Joel McQuagge, Carissa Wickens		

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

General Note: Ocala is building a World Equestrian Center that will be up and running in the Spring. It may be an option for the state show in 2019 if the cost is reasonable.

4-H enrollment is down across the board and thus show entries are down at Area shows and the State show. Some of the factors are:

- There seems to be a trend toward younger kids in the program who do not own/lease a project horse; they are interested in learning about horses.
- Too many other activities/sports for kids to get involved in.
- Too many other horse events/circuits that offer big prizes.
- Too big a cost of becoming a volunteer because of the requirement for background checks/fingerprinting. Not all counties can afford to pay for the fingerprinting.

In 2017, The Area Horse Shows in Areas B, C, and D were profitable. The Shows in Areas A, E, and F lost money.

Competitive Events

Tampa HJ Contest: Counties may enter two teams; one senior team and one all age team.

State HJ Contest: If the number of team entries are down, UF may opt to allow a county to enter more than one senior team.

State Hippology Contest: Will still run judging phase in conjunction with HJ contest on Saturday with the other phases being conducted on Sunday. UF will do a better job of managing kids participating in both HJ and Hippology contests.

Quiz Bowl Contest: Intermediates and senior contests will run concurrently. Would like to see more team entries.

Horse Sense book is a new reference for Hippology and Quiz Bowl.

Need to generate more interest in public speaking and demonstrations (particularly team demonstrations).

Horseman of the Year

Horseman of the Year interviews will continue to be held at Tampa in combination with the State Horse Show. Horseman of the Year information can be found at

<http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/youth/horse/HorseInfo.shtml>

Horsemanship School

Cost will remain \$525 per week and each week is limited to 20 kids (with the potential to handle up to 26).

Western: June 11-15

English: June 25- 29

Both weeks introduce kids/horses to ranch work (cattle).

There is some interest in an adult horsemanship school.

- Maybe in Welaka in January. Probably run Friday to Sunday or if held on MLK holiday could come in on Friday night and leave Monday.
- Cost would be \$250, 30 max.
- With horses or without horses but cost would be the same either way.
- There would be riding sessions and classroom sessions
- Classroom sessions might include:
 - Review of 4-H rules
 - How to evaluate a horse's body condition relative to the Henneke scale
 - How to teach showmanship and its relative importance in training your horse
 - Trailer loading; how to load/unload a reluctant horse and how to teach a horse to load
 - How to back a trailer (*could follow up with actual hands on practice in a very open space*)

AYHC

The 2018 AYHC Symposium will be held April 12-15, 2018 in Oklahoma City, OK. Liz Jett is Florida's nomination for the AYHC Leader of the Year.

Information about the 2018 Symposium can be found at: <http://www.ayhc.com/symposium>

Elaine Keir Memorial Outstanding Volunteer Leadership Award

Each year Florida recognizes an adult volunteer who demonstrates outstanding service in working with youth and horses within Florida. Information about this award can be found at:

http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/youth/horse/documents/Adult_Horse_Leader_nomination.pdf

The chosen recipient of this award will also be nominated for the AYHC Leader of the Year Award and will be eligible to attend the 2019 AYHC Symposium to be held March 7-10, 2019 in Moscow, Idaho.

Equine Welfare

Club Leaders and 4-H Agents should be actively involved in evaluating project animals to ensure that they meet the standards for acceptable body condition (score of 4 or above) to be shown at the Area and State Horse Shows. Project animals should not be arriving at either of these shows in an unacceptable condition.

Western Dressage

(Please note that this section is subject to change pending the follow-up email discussion)

The Western Dressage Association of America Florida Affiliate (WDAFL) represented by Daryl Leonard presented information about the WDAFL, their opportunities and goals. Western Dressage is strong in Florida and they would very much like to have 4-H promote the discipline to their youth.

The WDAFL does NOT hold shows but rather encourages other show organizers to include the Western Dressage classes in their shows. Participants in those qualified shows are then eligible for the WDAFL High Point Award Program and may qualify to attend a championship show at the end of the season.

Area Shows may add Western Dressage to their class list as a non-point class. The recommendation is to add Western Dressage Basic Level, Test of Choice. This would allow an exhibitor to select to ride any one of the 4 tests at Basic Level.

If you are interested in finding out more about WDAFL visit their website: <https://wdafl.org/>

State Show Procedures

Pony measuring is always confrontational for those ponies that are right at 14.2. However, pony measuring at the Area Show and the State Show will continue to be required. It is critical that the pony be set up correctly and that the stick be placed correctly with the arm level. It is also imperative that the stick be in good working order and accurate. The UF staff will generate a Pony Measuring Procedure complete with pictures. They will also purchase measuring sticks for the Areas.

Golden Shovel Award will be eliminated and a "cleanliness" judging component will be added to the Emerald Award. The Emerald Award judges for 2018 will be provided by Area D.

The Thursday Social will NOT include a full meal but will continue to follow the same format as last year. Area F is in charge of the Social and they will determine the scope and breadth of what is offered at the Social within the constraints of the budget.

The parade of counties will continue but the "county write-ups" will be limited and read for only those counties participating in the parade.

A demonstration/exhibition would be nice either prior to or following the parade of counties.

Suggestions were:

- Drill Team exhibition
- Professional Expo Performance

Official t-shirts will continue to be pre-purchased. The "official" color will not be available on the show grounds.

Regional sign up will continue as previously executed. It would be nice to have music (maybe via pandora) playing so that kids could dance.

State/Area Classes/Format

No mini classes will be added to the class list.

No additional Ranch Division Classes will be added.

Saddle Type & Gaited Mares and Saddle Type & Gaited Geldings will be combined to one Saddle Type & Gaited Halter class.

Jr. Saddle Type & Gaited Showmanship and Sr. Saddle Type & Gaited Showmanship will be combined to one Saddle Type & Gaited Showmanship class.

Entries in the Working Cow Horse Class will be required to box the cow at one end of the arena only, holding the cow at that end for 50 Seconds. No dry work.

Green Western Riding will replace Western Riding and will adhere to AQHA rules and patterns. The motion for this class change passed with 2 dissenting votes.

Rail classes larger than 15 will be split into heats with a maximum of 15 horses per heat. Every effort will be made to equalize the number of horses per heat.

Dressage Classes/Tests

- Jr. Training Level Dressage, Test 2
- Sr. Training Level Dressage, Test 3

- First Level Dressage, Test 2

At the State Show, hunter schooling fences will continue to be set up in an outside arena. A warmup fence will be setup in the staging area of the covered arena. Only the next 5 horses and their trainer will be permitted in this staging area during the fences classes, ie NO SPECTATORS or DOGS. The warmup arena adjacent to the covered arena will be available for hunter riders only.

There was a request to complete all the Ranch classes on Thursday at the State show so that the ranch kids could travel on Friday to another venue. UF staff will take a look at the schedule to see if that would be possible without creating an avalanche of class conflicts.

Rule Book Changes

The BCS rule that was added last year was mistakenly put in "Contest Rules". It will be moved to "General Rules" under Eligibility.

Clarify scoring in ranch riding for a missed or incomplete maneuver, Page 34, 9D.

Add to the list under "Contest Rules, Regulations, and Procedures" the following:

- In scored classes, a zero (0) total score will not be placed.

A subsection will be added to the Hunter Division section titled "General Course Requirements For Over Fence Classes". This subsection will include:

- Fence heights for ponies and horses including trot fences
- Composition of course elements (distances for 1 and 2 stride combinations and a 3 stride line based on horse/pony classifications; spread for oxers based on horse/pony classifications and how to measure)
- Recommended distances for lines over 48' and explanation of how to measure

(This type of information will be removed from the individual class descriptions)

Under Hunter Hack Rules add the following:

- Second element of a line may be an oxer.

Remove the In and Out as a jump element in Working Hunter.

Define an In and Out as a 1 or 2 stride combination in Handy Hunter.

Next meeting March 7, 2018, 10AM, HTU.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Nagle