

State 4-H Horse Advisory Board Meeting

March 11, 2024

PRESENT:

Area	4-H Agent/Program Assistant	Volunteer
North	Claire Davis (Calhoun) Allie Prevatt (St. Johns)	Terry Stout Kellie Anderson Mae Whitehurst
East	Shane Michael (Seminole)	Liz Jett Barbara Nagle Tracy Clement
South	Paula Daniel (Okeechobee) Sheri Trent (Seminole Tribe)	Monica Arbuz Martha Spotts Candy Wickham
West	Nancy Moores (Hernando) Shreemoyee Ghosh (Polk)	Dorothy Blair Bobbi Barnes Amy Wade
UF	Dr. Sandra TenBroeck, Alyssa Ohmstede, Joel McQuagge	

Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m.

General Program Information

- The UF animal Sciences Department welcomes Alyssa Ohmstede as the Animal Sciences Youth Horse Programs Coordinator and UF Horse Judging Coach.
- 2024 Elaine Keir Memorial Outstanding Volunteer Leader Award: Nominations are due June 8. The winner will also be our nomination for 2025 AYHC Adult Leader of the Year. Nomination form can be found on UF website - <https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/youth/horse/>
- The American Youth Horse Council (<https://www.ayhc.com/>) supports leadership development at the regional level through the funding of grants. AYHC offers one grant cycle per year. Applications must be received in the AYHC office no later than November 15 of the current year. AYHC only has one grant cycle each year so the grants submitted by November 15 should be for projects after November 15 of the application year. Check out the AYHC website for all details.
- The Board Member list was reviewed.
- State Horse Judging, April 6, 2024. Enrollment is open.
- Hippology April 6 (w/ Horse Judging) and April 7, at the *Straughn Center/Animal Sciences. Enrollment is open.
- The following policy relative to team educational events (Horse Judging, Hippology, Horse Bowl) was voted on and approved.
 - Top two teams at the state contest will qualify for the Southern Regional 4-H Championships
 - Top four individuals at the state contest will qualify for the Eastern National 4-H Roundup which will be held November 9 in Louisville, KY
- State contests for public speaking; individual and team demonstrations; and Quiz Bowl will be held June 8.
- There will be no Horsemanship School in 2024 due to on-going construction at the HTU. UF plans to continue with the school in 2025.

- The State Horse Show in 2024 will be June 27-29 at the Tampa State Fairgrounds. This is a change from the typical July timeframe which will likely resume in that timeframe next year.

2024 Area Horse Shows

- Area show dates and locations:
 - Area North, Clay Co. Fairgrounds, March 22-23
 - Area East, Clarcona Horseman’s Park, May 3-5
 - Area West, Sumter Eq. Center, April 26-27
 - Area South, Okeechobee Agri-Civic Center, April 20-21
- The criteria for qualifying for the State Horse Show is: Must have earned at least 1 point at Area Show.
- Reminder to Area Chairs:
 - Deliver Judge’s agreements to UF a.s.a.p.
 - Remind/Encourage Judges to fill out supplier information if necessary.
- Area Awards
 - Ribbons have arrived and will be shipped or can be picked up. Let Alyssa know.
 - First place prizes are polo wraps. Enough have arrived for Area North, the remaining are somewhere in transit. Some branded brushes are available as well for those that win multiple classes and want variation.

2024 State Horse Show Plans

- T-Shirts will be pre-ordered only. Jett Printworks will produce the t-shirts.
- Seminole Feed has agreed to continue to sponsor ribbons for the State Show.
 - Can provide backdrop for pictures or new banners for pictures.
 - UF backdrop can also be used for “photo areas”.
- State Show decoration theme (per Area West) is “Show Your Heritage”. This theme can be spun several ways so be as creative as you want.
- Social and Emerald Responsibilities:

	2024	2025
Social	South	North
Emerald	West	East

- For the social, Area South will piggyback on the “Show Your Heritage” theme. They are considering doing something with “stick” horses but would appreciate suggestions from the Advisory members. Barbara noted that typically kids wander in and out of the social rather than all attending at the beginning of the time slot.
- The Emerald Award judging time frame will be published on the UF website.
- UF has received the Event Cost Estimate for review. They noted comparable pricing to last year, with a 3% increase. We will have the use of the full grounds including TECO Arena this year.
 - The Advisory voted on and approved a class charge of \$25.
- Schedule options were discussed given three previously distributed proposals:
 - The Advisory members were asked to keep in mind three objectives:
 - Keep every class under a roof.
 - Minimize class conflicts.
 - Try to use one judge for all western classes if possible (ranch, western, speed).

Note: Need to allow sufficient time to haul in and settle cattle before the cattle classes start.

A change to allow 6 classes per horse/exhibitor was suggested but lacked a motion to proceed to a vote. It was noted that this policy had been tried previously when our entry numbers were a bit higher than they have been recently and when a youth could only show one horse. It was also when one of the 6 classes had to be showmanship. The change at that time resulted in very long days and a lot of discipline crossover conflicts.

- Final approval was given to what was previously submitted as Option 1 with the following changes:
 - Move Western Trail to Thursday after Over Fences classes in Covered East Ring.
 - Start the Friday Western Division in-hand classes and Hunter Division in-hand classes in parallel in the Covered East Ring starting at 8:00 am.
- Over Fences schooling options:
 - UF has received a request to allow open over fences schooling with trainers/coaches allowed in the ring. After much discussion the following change to the schedule was approved:
 - Remove the current 3 schooling trips and remove the current over fences schooling charge.
 - Add 3 Schooling Classes (2'3", 2'6", and 2'9") to run Thursday starting at 8:00 am with the following rules:
 - Charge a class fee (\$25) for each of the 3 schooling classes.
 - One exhibitor (with a trainer/coach) will be allowed in the ring for a fixed time of 3 minutes.
 - Coach/trainer may raise/lower a fence as long as the fences are returned to their starting height and configuration.
 - This change will require gate personnel to monitor the arena flow and a ring steward presiding.

2025 Rules/Protocols to Consider at the Fall Meeting

Regionals recently changed their rules regarding call-backs to a "clean slate" callback format rather than a cumulative total. Consider following this rule in 2025.

Next meeting – Friday, September 13, 10 am Eastern Time, Horse Teaching Unit

Zoom option will be available.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Nagle