

OHSET STATE BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Saturday February 13, 2010

In Attendance (Underline designates voting):

Candi Bothum (State Chair), Karissa Dishon (Vice Chair), Bill Weir (Co-ops/By-Laws), Denise John, Ray Hickman (Willamette), Don Pack (North Valley), Anne Geser (Central), Kyra Turner, Cody Fulkerson, Brittany Sundberg, Linda Sundberg, Jill Burnette, Dawn Keeney (South Valley), Todd Gary, Glen Sparkman (TriRiver Valley), Peggy Smith, Jim Roper (Southern), Debi Ferrer (Secretary)

Approval of Minutes

- It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 2 board meeting; motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 2 conference call meeting; motion passed unanimously.

Confirmation of Conference Call Vote

Candi summarized the discussion from the conference call meeting and the decision to split the team size into four categories for the state meet. She reminded everyone that this size designation would be a change in our rules, and that it would be for the state meet only. As per our rules, districts may designate team sizes as they see fit. It was moved and seconded to confirm the conference call vote; motion passed unanimously.

Youth at District Meetings

Candi asked about whether or not we are starting to include youth votes according to the new by-laws. Some districts are doing it, and some know about it but are having trouble getting youth to the meetings. Bill reminded us that we need to follow our by-laws or we may have a situation where we find ourselves held accountable for not doing so.

OHSET Opportunities for Younger Students

- Jim brought up the possibility of including 8th graders as grooms.
- In general, those present thought this was a good idea, but we may have some insurance issues.
- Candi pointed out that one thing athletes like about OHSET is that it's just for older kids.
- Denise said her district encourages 8th graders to attend meets, watch events, and participate in fund-raising the summer before their 9th grade year.
- Dawn said she thought some involvement for 8th graders would be good.
- Peggy suggested maybe the athletes wouldn't want 8th graders involved.
- Cody said if we allow 8th graders, then 7th graders will want to participate, and we may have trouble drawing the line.

- Bill said if we decide to do this, we would have to call them something besides grooms, since grooms already have certain duties that we might not want 8th graders doing (like warming up horses).
- Jill said this might help us with our recruiting and numbers.
- Candi asked everyone to go back and check with their athletes and see how they feel. She'll get LuAnn to check on insurance. Bill will check on OSAA opinion. Other things to think about: If we do this, will we charge them fees? If we decide to include them, they should have a real role on the team.

Code of Conduct Signs

Candi ordered these from a company she often uses in her role as 4H agent, and the signs showed up with 4H clovers all over them. The sign company assumed the signs were related to Candi's other (real) job. So, they are being reprinted.

Recruiting and Promotion

- Candi brought up having representation at Northwest Horse Expo, March 18-20. Dawn volunteered to set up and organize a table and schedule volunteers. Peggy suggested we might do the same thing at the State FFA convention, in Corvallis this year. This convention includes 8th graders. Cody suggested that maybe in the future, we could have some state youth reps or other OHSET athletes do a drill demo or something. It's probably too late for this year, but something to think about for the future. Candi will check on logistics of a booth at the Horse Expo and get back to us.
- Candi was contacted by a sports publication that goes out to all high schools in America belonging to a group like OSAA, and they are doing a story on high school athletic equestrian sports. The story will be coming out soon, and hopefully it will provide us with some positive PR and promotion. Dawn said their district is getting some good coverage in the local media. Candi said that Central District has a media person and they get good coverage. She encouraged everyone to seek ways to promote OHSET.

Insurance

LuAnn has been doing a great job clarifying and getting info out. The insurance company would prefer there be no dogs on the meet sites, but if they are, they must be on a leash and the leash must be on a person; no dogs in arenas or around the horses.

SOGs still coming

Code of Conduct, Scholarship, should be up on the Website by the end of the week.

State Championship 2011-2012

Candi ran into Matt who was very apologetic about Salem proposal. Matt is a contractor who makes commissions by getting organizations to hold events at the state fairgrounds. He said he gave the proposal to the people at the state fairgrounds and they approved it. Candi said that

after we voted to accept the proposal, she couldn't get the officials from the state fairgrounds to send a contract, and then they called and said they couldn't honor the proposal Matt had given us, because it did not include the cost of moving dirt into and out of the Pavilion.

Options –

- Salem proposal is good as long as we don't use Pavilion. Discussion:
 - Denise thought that we should be able to use the livestock barn with dirt in it for a warm-up arena because there is dirt in it for their meets and they keep it there until some horse events in June.
 - Peggy asked if proposal would be cheaper since first proposal included the Pavilion but no dirt. Candi said she can ask, but she didn't think they would lower the price.
 - Denise said they have been having problems with Salem providing people to work the arenas because they are not keeping their equipment repaired.
- Klamath Fairgrounds proposals. Candi was given a proposal for 2011-2012 of \$7550. Discussion:
 - Compared to other facilities, that's very cheap.
 - Camping and stall facilities are limited. They don't have a lot of hook-ups for camping. They have 240 stalls at \$10 per stall for whole event. We'd have to bring in portables with covers and we'd have to hook up lighting and use generators. That may cost \$65 - \$80 per stall per meet. Showers are nice and there are a lot of them.
 - Can cows be in event center? Yes
 - Proposal includes staff to work the arena.
 - Dates would be May 19-22, 2011 and May 17-20, 2012.
 - Biggest problem is that we've never had a meet there. We rely on local people to run things and they would have no experience.
 - Candi raised the concern that there may not be enough office space. Peggy said she doesn't think office space would be an issue.
 - Hotels are abundant. There's a KOA a block away from the fairgrounds.
 - It's a lot farther for most people to travel, and they complained about going to Central Point.
 - Another concern was that when we have the state meet at a district's home meet site, the host district knows the facility well, and they can run and get equipment, etc. Would we have that kind of support since Southern's meets have never been held at the site? Jim said he believes there are enough people and organizations that we could make it work. Peggy said Klamath really wants to host our state meet.
- Deschutes – Dates are available and they are willing to give us the same prices we got for 2008-2009.
 - Dawn said her groups really like going to Redmond.

- That would mean 4 years in a row at the same place, which gives Central athletes home-field advantage.
- Other options – go to Redmond for 2011, have an extra year to plan for going to Klamath in 2012.
- Ray moved that we have the State Meet at the Klamath facility in 2011-2012. Jim seconded it. Discussion:
 - Dawn said we should see facility before we make a decision. Candi said that’s not the motion, but it might be amended. However, she said she’d like to have our dates confirmed before our next meeting. Karren said she could set up her computer to show us the facility from their website. It was moved and seconded to table the motion so we could go on with our business while she sets up. Motion passed.

District Meets – How are they going?

- Jim said Southern’s first meet went well. No major problems. Peggy said there were some cattle issues for the working rancher pattern. They had to change things part way through because the cattle didn’t like being in the small pen and the adult didn’t want to be in the pen, as it says in the pattern, with some long-horned cattle. They were able to make adjustments because the judge had kept excellent notes.
- Dawn said South Valley had no problems other than dressage running late, and a loose steer. They also had a woman selling some tack that seemed questionable. Dawn brought a sample. Jim and Candi said they had seen it before used with cattle and mules. It’s designed to get tighter as animal resists so it forces them into submission. Candi will send the device to Karen Bragg for a decision on whether or not this would be legal in riding events. The important thing to remember is that athlete must have control. If they don’t, they should be excused by the judge and get a no-time.
- Don said their first meet went quickly. They moved the jump course up a bit to give them more room for one of the jumps and it worked well. They also had a low bow gate for working rancher, too low. Some options might be to get a non-bow gate and put build a pvc structure over the top.
- Candi said cattle for working rancher probably shouldn’t have long horns. There was also a concern that the person holding the cattle has to walk behind the horse and rider as the rider comes in, and could get kicked by the horse.
- Question – At what point should the judge say “move on” in trail? We need to get a clarification out to the judges about this. It should probably be 2-3 tries.

Photos on the Rulebook

The photos on the 2010 rulebook are the same as last year – all TRV. Candi said to email photos that you think would be good on the cover and they’ll start putting it together now.

Judges

- Let JoAnne know who your district meet judges are.
- Also turn in evaluations to JoAnn. We use those to plan the Judge's training and JoAnn uses them to give tips to judges. Judges must have a certain number of good evaluations to become a senior judge, and if they have some bad evaluations they may be on probation. Evaluations are critical to helping our judges do the best job they can.

Financial Report

- IRS report is due. Karren needs financials from South Valley to submit her report.

Price Eligibility Request (attached at end of these minutes)

- Candi sent this by email earlier this week. In summary, the athlete had been living in California with her grandparents who were legal guardians. She moved to Bend on Feb. 2 to live with her father so she missed the registration deadline. They are asking for an exception so that she may participate this year.
- Jim moved to grant the exception and it was seconded. Discussion:
 - Denise asked when they knew she would be moving back to live with her father. The request does not say.
 - Bill said that a mid-year transfer is one exception as OSAA would not allow it, and it would also be an exception to our registration deadline. Vote was called. In favor-5; Opposed-4; Abstentions-2; Because we have 11 voting members today, we need a majority, which would be 6, so motion fails.
- Jim asked why people voted no. Denise and Ray said they didn't feel she had enough information. Dawn said she abstained for the same reason. They indicated they might have voted otherwise if they had more information. So, Candi called Mr. Price and gave the board a chance to ask questions.
 - When did you know your daughter was coming to live with you? He went to California during the last week of January and the decision was made then. She came home first week of February.
 - What grade is your daughter in? She's a junior and competed on Bend's team her sophomore year.
- Jim resubmitted motion and it was seconded. In favor-9; Opposed-2; Abstentions-0; Motion carries.

Exchange Student Eligibility

Dawn said there is an exchange student in their district who wanted to participate but missed the deadline because she started school after the deadline. Candi said they can submit a request to state board as well. We may need to consider some exceptions to our rules for exchange students as they often start school at the semester break, after our registration deadline. Denise said sometimes the organization they come with may have rules that don't allow them to ride horses, even though parents may give permission.

State Meet

Jim and Peggy handed out a packet with information. Please send Jim any comments or suggestions by email. He will also send out all the information by email. Following is some discussion that resulted as Jim reviewed the packet with the board.

- Jill said some of their stalls in the red area on the map were flooded last year. Jim said if that happens, he needs to know, but no one told him about it. There are always extra stalls.
- Jim thinks he can get a truckload of shavings for about \$600 and every 3rd load would be free. We need to find out how much volume each load is and then see if this is cheaper than the bales of shavings. Jim thinks it will be.
- Shower trailer – Do we need to book it again? Yes, if we don't have it, there would only be two showers.
- OQHA will let us use their equipment and set it up for us for \$600.
- Generators – Jim doesn't think we'll need generators because all the campers will be out in parking lot. We can use electricity from the facility.
- Golf carts will be handled by the golf cart vendor. Whoever wants one can arrange them directly. Jim will get information about who to contact and districts can order ahead if they want it. We'll give the area the vendors didn't want to the golf cart vendor.
- Jim said numbers of people going to state will possibly be 5% to 10% less as districts are down in numbers. We may need less of everything.
- Candi – cattle that we rope and daub should not be team penning. She thinks Matt team pens all his cattle. If Matt can't provide other cattle for roping and daubing, we need to look for some others. Jim said he can get some down his way. If we do this, a side-benefit would be that we could have cattle events and team penning on same day.
- Jim has ordered athlete numbers from Big R, but they have changed management so we're not sure how much funding we can expect this year.
- Jim would like to have a general announcer this year, someone who will announce what events are starting where, info about our sponsors, etc. He suggested Andrew Krug.
- Jim would like to have a photo station, a place where athletes can stand by a backdrop that says OHSET State Championship for pictures. There were some concerns that this might be a violation of our contract with our state photographer for exclusive rights. Candi will check the contract and get back to us.
- Regarding state meet arena measurement and certification, it was pointed out that the judges of the event approve their event. Karen and JoAnn only get involved if there's a problem.
- State meet western gaming and cattle coordinators – Phil and Donna did it last year, but Jim hasn't gotten a commitment from them for this year. He'll check on this.
- Correction to the packet info – State meet awards will be handled by Karissa and Brenda Fery. Candi will help with the awards ceremony.
- State meet parking will be handled this year by Jackson County Sheriff's Posse. The greeter's booth will be moved back to better escort people when they arrive.

- State meet announcers – Jim asked if we could count on someone from Central to announce gaming. Candi said Yes.
- Cowboy Church – The board agreed that we want to make this available again.
- Grand Entry – Donna did it last year. We need to ask her if she'll do it again.
- Flags – we drew names to see which district carries which flag; please submit names to Jim as soon as possible. Districts choose who will carry the flag from their district.
 - US – NV
 - Oregon – Central
 - OHSET – SV
 - Wrangler – Willamette
 - Big R – NW
 - Three county flags of Southern District – TRV, S, NE
- National Anthem – please submit names to Jim for someone to sing. He'd like to make a decision at the next meeting.
- Hotel sponsor list will be available in the next couple of weeks.
- Judges for state meet – as you go through your district meets, please start nominating judges for the various state meet events.
- Office scheduling – it was suggested that often times last year the parent volunteer wasn't needed. Do we want to eliminate this volunteer position? Probably not, because we want to have "transparency" in the office. If there is no work that needs to be done at that time, we could have the parent sell tickets for baskets. Willamette was accidentally left off the office schedule, so Jim will add them in.
- Practice Arena Rules and Regulations –
 - We need to go through this and make sure it matches exactly with our rules.
 - #1 – Every mounted athlete **or driver** in practice arenas...
 - Add something about helmets, boots, and bridles must used when riding.
 - Is bareback okay? It has been in the past.
- Stewardship Committee Procedure – this also needs to be checked to make sure it matches our SOP exactly.
- Scribing and Gatekeeping Assignments – Jim would like to ask Karen Haring to supervise this at the state meet. She would be in charge of going over responsibilities with the volunteers as they come in to pick up equipment.
- DRAFT Schedule matrix – Candi will look over notes from last year to review what was discussed in terms of changes to the schedule and get that information to Jim.

Setting and Maintaining District Records

In NE district, gaming and cattle events were held at Clackamas last year which was a really fast course. This year, they are back at Boring which is slower, so the district voted to set aside records from last year. We don't have a policy on this. The main reason they did this was that kids can qualify for state meet based on district records and they felt the Clackamas records would be unfairly difficult to break now that they are back to the Boring facility. Bill said on page 49 of our rulebook, rule 11.8 says that ***any questions or concerns regarding a record run***

must be brought before the board, so they probably can't set aside rule without state board approval. It will be an issue for state points chair. So the district will have to request the state board approve this setting aside.

Can we post state and district records on website? Yes, Karissa will work on it.

2010 Annual Meeting

- Benton Co. Fairgrounds are available and it would be the same price.
- Candi said it would be free in Redmond.
- Jim moved that we go to Redmond. It was seconded. Discussion – weather and cost would keep people away. 4 in favor, 6 opposed, 1 abstentions.
- Anne moved to have it in Corvallis, it was seconded. Discussion – Karissa said we were maxed out on space in Corvallis. It was the consensus to table this decision. Todd, Karissa and Candi will do some more checking and make the decision so they can get facility scheduled.

Web Advertising

Our Webmaster, Kim, presented a proposal for having banner ads on the website. Discussion:

- Karissa said if we decide to do this, she doesn't have time to solicit advertising, and she wants it to be really clear what is advertisement and what is official information. Currently our major corporate sponsors are on the left side. She also said she'd like to change that so the ads are more proportional to what each donates. There would be room for about 10 ads, the cost will vary depending on which page the ad goes on (home page would cost more than say the stewardship page).
- If districts have their own website the state website has a link to it, but if not, district can work with Kim and send her the info you want on your page – no extra charge, it's part of our state website.
- Bill said we have to check on legality of non-profit organization selling ads and having income. He'll check on this.
- Todd suggested not selling ads on the home page and sell other pages. It's not a lot of money and maybe we can save that for the biggest sponsors.
- Candi suggested that ads be placed depending on what they sponsor, like Matt sponsors cattle awards, so he should go on the cattle page.
- Bill suggested having a committee look at options and come back with a proposal.

OHSET Products for Sale on Website

- As with ads, we may have an issue with our non-profit status. Our sales will probably be small, so if we do this, we should go with the PayPal option that takes a certain percentage of sales. There was a request for sticky stickers to go on back of trailers. Candi said she can order these.
- Right now there are no exclusive rights to certain vendors in our organization. Our logo is owned by OHSET. We probably need to come up with a form that allows vendors to

use our logo. At this point, we have given official permission only to Donna. Maybe we don't want to give anyone permission if we're going to sell things on our website. If we do a form, maybe there should be a time limit that the rights to use our logo will be good for. Bill said any team should be able to go to a vendor and order team sweatshirts with our logo, but the vendor cannot use it on their own and sell the products for a profit. Candi and Karissa will come up with a policy and present back to group.

Operating Guideline for Prepping Team-penning Cattle

Candi's going to work on this and send it out by email and then districts can try it out and get back to her so we can write something up for state.

Back to proposal to go to Klamath for 2010-2011

The internet connection was slow and the website was down so we didn't get to see much from it. It was earlier moved and seconded. Vote was called for: In favor- 6; opposed-4; Abstentions-1; Motion carries. Candi will try to get a contract as soon as possible. She will try to get a room for meeting down there for our March 28 meeting so we can see the facility.

Other

Dawn said there's a request from her district to consider some re-districting. The policy is on the website. It starts out by saying that if the state board sees a need, a committee will be formed. One of the ways the state board is made aware of a need is if a district brings a proposal and shows some evidence that there is a need. Bill said if our numbers continue to go down, we may need to start this process. Candi suggested we form a committee which would include Karissa, LuAnn Boettiger, and one person from each district.

Next Meeting: Sunday March 28 hopefully in Klamath Falls (9:30 am)

Future Meetings

- May 1 – Saturday
- May 13-16 – State Meet
- June 13 – Sunday
- August 28 – Saturday
- October 2 – Saturday
- November 6 – Saturday
- December 4 – Annual Meeting, Saturday

Rules Committee Meetings – TBA

Attachment – Request for Exception to Eligibility Rule

To Whom it may concern,

My daughter Suzanne Price is asking the board to consider her as a hardship case to be allowed to compete on the Bend Senior High Equestrian for the 2010 season.

Suzanne transferred to Bend High on Feb 8th to start the second semester here. Suzanne was living with her grandmother and grandfather in Dana Point Ca. They had legal guardianship over Suzanne and provided her schooling and housing.

Her grandparents have given legal custody to me Thomas A. Price her father. Due to their ages of 75 and 82 it has become a financial and physical burden that they can no longer maintain. Suzanne has come here to live with me fulltime and I will be providing for her now.

Suzanne would really like to be part of the Bend High team and will no doubt be a great addition to the program. Suzanne has always been a team player and has competed at the 4 H level as well as the high school level in the past.

I would encourage the board to consider making her a part of the team. She will represent both OHSET and Bend High in the manner that will make the board proud.

Thomas A Price

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