

CUTTIN' LOOSE CLUB OF WASHINGTON
JANUARY 8, 2017
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Round Table Pizza, 16016 Meridian Ave E, Puyallup, WA

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Present at meeting: Jenni Pipitone, Tim Shea, Dianna Breen, Laura Pauls, Gayle Wilkinson, Tara Henkel, Josie Pipitone, Jenny Rogers, Kelly Warosh, Joe Jones, Kelly Brammer, Gary Anderson, Pegeen Anderson, Marcy Naubert

Treasurer's Report: Laura reported 2016 funds were low and as a result we spent reserves to cover year end awards. Many factors contributed to our funding shortage including lower than normal sponsorships and low summer series participation. Youth participation was way up, and though an overall positive, the club does subsidize the youth program in that entry fees do not cover cattle costs. Additionally, the final and annual website payments were made and, though expensive, all agreed the website is great and well worth the expense considering the amount of updates made during the month. Since we are allowed an unlimited amount of updates, Tim suggested posting more pictures this year and Tara agreed to talk with Casey about providing more photos for Tim or Laura to have uploaded.

The final December 3rd practice event was highly successful and we made over \$1600. Looking forward to 2017, if the practice and summer series are successful and sponsorships increase, we should be able to rebuild club reserves.

Minutes: Minutes from the November 18, 2016 Board Meeting were summarized and approved.

Winter Cutting/Sorting Practice Series: Tim reported the December 3rd practice went well overall but there are improvements to make. Cutting practices will be increased from 3 minutes to 4 minutes. We need more help with Saturday set-up/take-down particularly during the switch between cutting and sorting with panels and cattle numbering, etc. Laura agreed to organize volunteers, 5 or 6 needed, and will make Facebook/email announcements soliciting help and offering a financial incentive to those committing to help.

Tim will set up a TV in the arena so participants won't miss the Seahawks playoff game.

Kelly Warosh asked for a break down between dollars brought in for cutting verses sorting. Laura will assess and report back. There were 50 cattle total with 30 used for sorting.

Upcoming dates are January 14th, February 18 and March 11th

Summer Series: *See notes under "Class List" below.* Upcoming dates are April 8th, April 22nd, June 17th, July 15th, August 19th, and September 2nd.

Rule Changes: Tim discussed key rule changes approved in 2015, and in effect during 2016, that include (1) eligibility for classes is determined by Lifetime earnings and not based on NCHA earnings and (2) a class must have a minimum of three entries to be a valid class (classes with less than three entries will be

cancelled). However, these changes were only recently updated into the 2017 Official Rulebook. Copies were handed out at this meeting but have not yet been posted on the website.

Because of the three entry minimum rule, several classes were cancelled during 2016. There is concern that this rule discourages many from entering classes further on during the season. There is also a potential conflict under Show Rules, General Rule 6 (page10). As a result, the following rule change was proposed and voted/approved at this meeting:

Show Rules, Contestants (page 11)

Currently Reads:

13. a. A class must have a minimum of three (3) entries to qualify as a valid class. Classes with less than three (3) entries at any show will be cancelled. The only exception to this would be the Youth classes. A Youth class may be held with only one (1) entry.

b. Contestants must show in over 50% of shows to be qualified for Year-End Awards and/or High Point Awards. Awards will be determined according to Rule 6 under Points and Year-End Awards.

Approved Change: (Reverts back to previous edition)

13. a A class will be held regardless of the number of entries. Contestants must show in over 50% of shows to be eligible for Year-End Awards and/or High Point Awards. Classes with less than three (3) entries will be combined with another class at discretion of show management. When classes are combined, points are calculated separately for each individual class as specified in Points and Year-End Awards (1).

b. Awards will be determined according to Rule 7 under Points and Year-End Awards.

Class List: The summer series is approaching and membership feedback suggests the need to offer an additional green (two-handed) class is important. Yet there needs to be a balance between adding beginner classes, sustaining enough entries to covers costs and keeping the entry fees affordable. Records indicate there should be enough demand to add one more two-handed class.

The following class changes were proposed and voted/approved at this meeting:

- The “\$250 Novice/Novice” class will be held using re-run cattle.
- A “Ranch Horse Class” will be added using fresh cattle with the following class explanation:
 1. Any horse/Any rider.
 2. No limit on money won for horse or rider.
 3. Horse does not have to be rider owned.
 4. This is a one (1) or two (2) handed class, some schooling is allowed. The horse exhibiting the least amount of help from rider will receive the most credit from the judge.
 5. No penalty points for reining. No martingales or training devices allowed. Snaffle bits are allowed.

Sponsorships: The need for more sponsorship is imperative. More discussion and member participation is needed. Co-sponsorship with neighbor cutting clubs was discussed—Tim added this was tried in the past

with not much participation. However, Gayle mentioned she was approached by Jerry Maguire, Blue Mountain, for co-sponsoring events so may be worth pursuing this year.

Open Discussion: Gayle discussed some members may prefer replacing buckles and/or saddles with cash as year-end awards. This idea has merit, particularly for the buckles, however may not be possible for saddles. The year-end saddle awards were donated by sponsors not purchased with club funds. Given our current financial situation, there is not surplus on hand to offer much cash. For the buckles, members could be offered the choice of cash or a buckle, yet buckles do need to be ordered in advance and we get a discount if more are ordered. There was consensus that providing \$1000 for higher classes may be a good incentive to increase entries in the future, and Gayle mentioned she would donate for the youth classes. Saddle or buckle vouchers are also a possibility. More discussion on this subject is needed. As way to stimulate more participation, the "Welcome Back First Show" previously held was discussed as a possibility but Tim stated it did not appear to promote additional entries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50.