

General Membership Meeting
3/11/18 – New Haven Town Hall, New Haven, VT

Meeting called to order at 1:00PM after the Pot Luck Dinner. There were 22 members and 8 guests in attendance.

The Officers and Board of Directors were introduced.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was given: \$11,853.00 in checking. (Scholarship monies included in that amount.) We have not received any applications for scholarships. Scholarships will be considered for any equine educational experience, as well as college.

Discussion of 2018 events planned:

Appaloosa/Open Show – This year's show will be August 25 & 26, at the Addison County Field Days, in New Haven, VT. There will be ApHC classes, open classes and classes for every riding ability level. We have 3 judges booked and will award 3 placings and 4 sets of points. All show help is just about in place. We have heard from many exhibitors already reserving stalls. We have adjusted the fees, stalls and campers, to help with the bottom line, as well as the blanket fee, which was being abused. There will be a blanket fee for Instate and a separate one for regional classes. We will be holding our second club open Gymkhana at the show on Saturday at 6:00 pm. That way we will be sure to have more help in attendance.

Trail Ride – Looking for someone to take over organization of the event. Karen Rogers volunteered their location this year, the attendance was low, but they are willing to try again.

Gymkhanas –2018 Pointed Gymkhana dates to be: June 3rd in Brandon, August 25th at the show, and September 23rd – S & R Stables, Rochester.

The State 4-H Gymkhana is Thursday, July 12th at 6PM and we will be looking for volunteers to help with the running of the event for the 4-H.

Auction – April 7th at 6:00 pm in Bennington with JPs North.

Fall Meeting - Will do a Saturday morning meeting, date to be November 17th, possibly at Jenn Baker's house.

Show Rules and Point System for 2018: No changes presented, everyone thought it was working well. Extreme Trail will be listed as "suspended" for 2018.

Old Business:

Discussion held regarding holding the Extreme Trail events. There is so much effort involved and not much in the way of profit. It appears to be losing ground as a competition, although people still enjoy playing on different obstacles.

Website/Facebook page was also discussed. Will look into giving more administrative permissions to board members who can then post, share and tag others to boost our exposure on Facebook. The Web site has been updated with some new photos. Please send new photos to Deb to be included.

New Business:

Deb spoke about the GEAR show being revived this year by the NJ club. It will be held on the first weekend in June, down at the Dreampark in southern NJ. The show will be 3 days with four judges.

Doug spoke on the Vermont Horse Council and their efforts with trail systems, a statewide equine impact study, and legislative support for the equine community in Vermont.

Always looking for new ideas and helpers. Please reach out to any one on the board with any ideas you have or would like to see the club pursue.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM for the Silent Auction, 50/50 raffle and Awards Banquet.

Respectfully,
Deb Danforth
Secretary