

# WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

November 7, 2015

### PROPOSED AGENDA

- I. President's Report
  - II. Reading of the Minutes
  - III. Secretary's Report
  - IV. Treasurer's Report
  - V. Unfinished Business
  - VI. New Business
    - A. Scanning of Past Publications
    - B. Other
  - VII. Committee Reports
    - A. Finance – Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson
    - B. American National – Jackie Verkuyl & Martha Stover
    - C. Marketing/Advertising/Press Releases/PR – Martha Stover & Patricia Cochran
    - D. Stud Book – Hetty Abeles & Tiz Benedict
    - E. Journal/Review – Megan Burtness & Margaret Almond
    - F. Website – Sally Steinmetz & Megan Burtness
    - G. Youth – Megan Burtness & Pat Cochran
    - H. By-Laws – Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict
    - I. Nominations – Jackie Verkuyl
    - J. Convention & Annual Meeting – Martha Stover & Marsha Himler
    - K. International Ambassador – Gail Thomson
    - L. ADS Liaison – Marsha Himler
    - M. USEF Liaison – Sally Steinmetz
    - N. USDF Liaison – Joann Williams
    - O. Pony Club Liaison – Louise Gill
    - P. Licensed Officials – Tiz Benedict & Marsha Himler
    - Q. Show Compliance – Sabra Schiller
    - R. Show Rules – Sally Steinmetz & Jackie Verkuyl
    - T. Welsh of the Year and Hall of Fame – Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson
    - U. Regional Representative Liaison – Margaret Almond
    - V. CLOSED SESSION:  
Resolutions, Qualifications, Ethics
  - VIII. Next Board Meeting
- Adjourn

# **WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**

## **SHOW SANCTIONING WORKING GROUP MEETING**

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

Please also refer to the Show Sanctioning Working Group Report dated October 31, 2015 which Mrs. Steinmetz reviewed.

Mrs. Burtness will revise the Western pleasure rules (including no crop) and send them to Mrs. Verkuyl for review.

The new rule change about combining performance classes at the show needs to be rewritten.

The motion to add half-Welsh sires and dams to the half-Welsh lifetime awards program and make changes to the wording that would allow for the inclusion of partbred progeny passed. This rule will be effective with the 2016 show season.

It was agreed that the Half-Welsh/Part Bred breed classes and championships be offered the same as the purebred breed classes/championships except that stallions and geldings show together and that Grand Champion is the highest award presented (no Supreme Champion). Sally will create the new chart. This will take effect with the 2016 season.

Adult Walk-Trot Equitation and Adult Walk-Trot Equitation Stake classes were discussed. Riders would not be able to cross enter into classes with cantering or jumping. Mrs. Burtness will work on specific wording to be presented to the board. It was not determined if these classes would be for 2016 or 2017.

The Junior Handler classes may be split further by age or randomly if there are 10 or more entries in the 12 & Under class or 13-17 class.

The draft driving specifications need to be modified. We need to add that they "may" be offered for single/multiple. Also the same wording needs to be used that is in the pleasure driving specs that allows for the classes to be offered for singles, multiples, or both.

The correspondence from the Oklahoma-Kansas Welsh Pony Society were discussed. Dr. Wilburn will contact the show superintendent to discuss this matter before a letter of response is drafted.

The motion to delete from the rules the paragraph allowing for only one supreme champion to be called the American (or Regional) Supreme Champion passed.

In order to be eligible for quadruple points, a regional/national titled show will need 100 entries. The new regional form was approved.

A non-member fee for showing needs to be discussed.

# **WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

The Board of Directors' meeting of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc. was called to order by the President, Dr. Ruth Wilburn, at 3:31 p.m. on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at the Holiday Inn, BWI Airport, Linthicum Heights, Maryland. All Directors, except Mrs. Schiller and Mrs. Stover, were in attendance as was Mrs. Landis, Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

### **I. President's Report**

The President reported that we have a great deal of work to accomplish.

### **II. Reading of the Minutes**

The minutes were approved via email. Mrs. Verkuyl's motion that we dispense with the reading of the minutes was unanimously adopted.

### **III. Secretary's Report**

The packet sent to each Director contained all correspondence for the Board received since the last meeting (filed herewith). Paula Jo Bright's letter was discussed. Mrs. Cochran's motion that it be the expressed goal of the Board of Directors that they receive the draft of the minutes within one month of the meeting; the Directors will then have 10 days to respond; no response will be considered a vote in favor of accepting the minutes; and within six weeks of the meeting the minutes should be posted was unanimously adopted. Dr. Wilburn will respond to Mrs. Bright's letter. The remaining items submitted through the website hot topics page or directly to the Board were discussed. Mrs. Burtness will draft a response for each of those and it will be sent to the entire board for approval.

### **IV. Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Verkuyl reviewed the Finance Committee Report and 2016 Budget (filed herewith). Membership renewals and recruitment need to be a top priority. Incentives such as rewarding members for referring friends need to be developed. 2016 members will be given free access to the database even if it is not moved to the new site prior to the first of the year.

### **V. Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

### **VI. New Business**

Lisa Seaburg has been scanning historical documents and publications and creating pdf libraries. If others have suggestions or are willing to share items from their collections, it would be greatly appreciated.

Dr. Wilburn and Mrs. Steinmetz would like to have some leeway in allowing ponies to accumulate points for the top scoring Welsh awards given at the Pony Hunter Finals before their WPCSA registrations are completely processed (i.e., those submitted at the show). It was agreed by consensus that this should be allowed.

Mrs. Abeles left the meeting at this point.

### **VII. Committee & Working Group Reports**

#### **American National Show – Jackie Verkuyl & Martha Stover**

Mrs. Verkuyl's report is filed herewith. The President will speak with Connie Moore and draft a response to the OKWPS letter. If a solution cannot be reached, we will offer three regional titled shows (Eastern, Western and Central).

#### **Marketing/Outside Advertising/Press Releases & Public Relations – Martha Stover & Pat Cochran**

Mrs. Stover's report is filed herewith. Mrs. Cochran reported that she is willing to make a promotional video. She does not know how to make this happen or if it is important to pursue. We will send the raw footage video we have from last video to see if her son can convert it.

#### **Stud Book – Hetty Abeles & Tiz Benedict**

The older studbooks that have not been digitalized are being scanned by Lisa Seaburg's office as a donation. They are first concentrating on the editions that are completely out of print and have three or four more of those to go. The 1997-1999 studbook is now available on Lulu.com and we have sold one copy so far. Volume 2000-2002 is being worked on by David Maurer. The office has volume 2003-2005 ready to go to Mr. Maurer. The Board felt that we should wait at this point and not get too far ahead

# **WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

of Mr. Maurer. The future of the printed book needs to be discussed at the Open Forum. The electronic stud book that will now be available to all members for no charge should fulfill the requirements of our charter.

### **Journal & Review - Megan Burtness & Margaret Almond**

Mrs. Burtness' report is filed herewith. She announced that all ads and articles can now be submitted on the website. It was agreed by consensus that black and white ads will be printed at the same rate as the color ads.

### **Website – Megan Burtness & Sally Steinmetz**

Mrs. Burtness' report is filed herewith. We are trying to find someone who can integrate the database on the server to the new site. Several good leads are being pursued.

### **Youth – Pat Cochran & Megan Burtness**

Ms. Cochran's report is filed herewith. Winona Myers would like 4-H children to be able to participate as non-members. This was agreed to by consensus.

### **By-Laws – Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict**

No report necessary.

### **Nominations – Jackie Verkuyl**

Nominations to run for the Board of Directors are due on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Convention & Annual Meeting – Martha Stover & Marsha Himler**

Mrs. Stover's report is filed herewith.

### **International Ambassador – Gail Thomson**

Mrs. Thomson's report is filed herewith.

### **ADS Liaison – Marsha Himler**

Ms. Himler reported that updated rules will be available soon.

### **USEF Liaison – Sally Steinmetz**

Mrs. Steinmetz reported that the USEF Welsh Committee will meet next week. Two general rules are being discussed that will have an impact on Welsh exhibitors. The first is discontinuing the nonmember fee, and the second is banning safety (peacock) stirrups. The President reported that the USEF is still negotiating the contract it will offer for affiliate members. One item that the USEF is considering is requiring that all affiliate members have their National show be USEF rated.

### **USDF Liaison – Joann Williams**

Mrs. Williams' report is filed herewith.

### **US Pony Club Liaison – Louise Gill**

No report received.

### **Licensed Officials – Tiz Benedict & Marsha Himler**

Dr. Benedict reported that she will be sending out letters to a few individual judges and is working on the end of the year letter.

### **Show Compliance – Sabra Schiller**

Mrs. Schiller's report is filed herewith.

Dr. Benedict left the meeting at this point.

### **Show Rules – Sally Steinmetz & Jackie Verkuyl**

Mrs. Steinmetz's report is filed herewith along with the report from the meeting held earlier in the day. Charging a nonmember fee for owner and changing the date reports are required from 21 days are topics that require more discussion. For 2016, secretaries will

# **WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.**

## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

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need to submit PDF and excel files will be required for 2016. Adult walk trot specs will be discussed via email and voted on after the meeting. Applications for regional shows need to be solicited.

### **Welsh of the Year and Hall of Fame – Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson**

Mrs. Verkuyl's report is filed herewith. The Welsh of the Year deadline has been extended through November 30<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Verkuyl would like the The Hall of Fame to have more nominees to be in the initial class. More promotion of this program is needed.

### **Regional Representative Liaison – Margaret Almond**

Dr. Almond reported that the regional reps are working well

### **Qualifications Committee**

Mrs. Thomson's motion to accept the recommendations of the recommendations of the Qualifications and Resolutions Committee was unanimously adopted.

The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas in February.

Mrs. Himler's motion that the meeting be adjourned was unanimously adopted. The President adjourned the meeting 5:48 p.m.

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Lisa L. Landis  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

## COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER, 2015 BOARD MEETING

Correspondence from members:

November 3, 2015

Dear Board of Directors:

Being a relatively new member to the Welsh breed, I have jumped into promoting and showing my ponies and have been instrumental in building the number of show offerings here in the South Central Region. When we started owning and showing Welsh, there were just a couple gold shows in our region, but no smaller shows that allowed exhibitors to get their feet wet and learn. With the tough economic times, many shows floundered and/or even stopped being offered. A fellow newbie Welsh owner said to me, "Why are there no shows that are not as expensive for us to take our kids and green ponies to?" and with that, I rolled up my sleeves, contacted Janice Early, and planned out some Silver shows run by the Red River Welsh Pony Association in the South Central region.

The "backyard" shows, as some liked to call them, were not popular at first, and we struggled to get 40 ponies to make a qualifying show. However, the show numbers started to grow, and new exhibitors started to show up. The second year, we took on the Central Regional Show after OKWPS asked us too. Our first attempt to run the show, we had just over 80 ponies (2012). In 2015, we had 139 ponies and filled every available stall at our facility. Our region now has at least one show per month between March and October, except July. Currently, we (SC region) have two Silver and the remainder of our shows are gold. We can easily say all our South Central gold shows this year have had 100+ ponies and many of our Silver shows would have the number of ponies to make gold under the old system.

You can imagine my surprise when I read the Board's decision to 'level the playing field' with their May decision to offer quadruple points to Regional shows in the East and West coasts the next two years, but strip us of a quadruple pointed Regional show because we have an 'elite' American National show in our region. How is that leveling the playing field? What data was that based on? Have you placed all the shows offered in our country on a map and looked at what pattern emerges?

Equally shocking is the decision to make the American National show only a regular Gold show in points. Why??? This is a National show!!! What other breed offers less points at a National show than a regional show? Have you seen the class sizes at Tulsa? We are exposing our breed to thousands of people when showing at Tulsa and our class sizes are huge! Yet, placing in a much more competitive class at Tulsa only earns the same points as a regular gold show? You're supporting people not going to the National show with this idea why travel and really compete when you can take the easy road and stay close to home for the same number of points?

Add to this the decision to remove the pony number requirements for shows to make a bronze, silver, or gold status. A status in our breed is now simply bought. So how does giving a huge National show warrant only triple points, but a regional show that's likely to have small numbers and small classes, warrant quadruple points? If the status of a show is now simply bought, maybe we really need to look at how a pony earns points and make points based on the number of ponies it beats in a class to level out this uneven 'award' system.

It's difficult to understand why you're knocking down the value and importance of a true National show that exposes our breed to more people in four days than most of our shows do in a year? Isn't promoting the versatility, beauty and talent of our ponies in a National venue a selling point for touting this show as the ultimate showcase for our breed? Shouldn't the members that travel near and far expect to get the recognition and points for their efforts? Since the last four years have been a trial period for Tulsa as the hosting city for our

National show, and the OKWPS has gone over and above what any other club has done to make it a true National caliber show. Why are you jerking the rug out from under our region? We have worked tirelessly to promote our breed, bring in new members, and vitalize our region's interest in Welsh ponies, and we are rewarded with what can be viewed as punishment for our success. The last four years have proven the success of a centrally located National show. Just like in the movie, Field of Dreams, "If you build it, they will come," OKWPS has built it, and the exhibitors have come. There is no other show in the nation that builds this much excitement for our breed. Give it the recognition and points a national show deserves.

Jackie Verkuyl recently sent an email to the WPCSA email members about the fact the shows program pays for itself. In addition, the Society receives half the profits from the American National show. It seems with the growing numbers, the society would want to do all they can to promote and ensure the success of the American National. Instead, many of us feel you're giving the South Central Region a huge penalty to reward us for the hard work and dedication we have put into growing familyfriendly, competitive shows for our Welsh. Our region is not very happy with the decision made by the Board, and for it to be done without prior knowledge by the general member's knowledge until after the fact is upsetting. I honestly think it will affect the number of people that want to come out to our shows, register their Welsh, and participate with our Registry.

I would like to see this decision put to a vote for the general membership, not just to the BOD to make behind closed doors. Is this really what the whole membership wants? I think we should have the right to say and would like to see this decision put to the voting membership community of the WPCSA.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaci Baxter

Willow

### **Versatility Division:**

For an adult showing a Section A there will be limited classes for performance diversity if the exhibitor is too large to ride the pony, as most of us are. In addition to driving, perhaps an adult in hand trail class or creating an in hand jumping class like the minis have would provide more opportunities for this group. Or consider adding a liberty class or driven dressage in the diversity division. I like the idea of having diversity divisions. Thanks. - Diane Stewart

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I like the idea of a versatility class to spotlight our wonderful Welsh. I would like to see it well-rounded using classes such as trail, Road hack/hunter hack and western (working western) to show off the willingness and responsiveness of our breed. - Jaci Baxter

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I like the diversity division idea. Something to break up the Merry go round classes that we currently have.

Cowboy dressage

Dressage

Western riding

Extreme cowboy

Speed events- barrels, pole bending etc.

Matched pairs pleasure

I'm sure I'll think of some more but that's a start.

Thank you!

- Sandra Gebo

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Performance Diversity Division - As much as I am a proponent for evolution in the WPCSA I am not too sure that adding a Diversity Division is a step in the right direction. We already have available to the show committees a whole host of divisions that represent just about every discipline there is in the equine world. Western, English, Saddle Seat, Driving, and the list goes on. At the USEF Committee level it has and is a huge concern that these animals are going in too many divisions. The quest for points and HOTY awards has some folks blinded to the well being of their ponies. While I whole heartedly agree that the diversity of the welsh pony should be showcased I am not sure that by adding yet another division to the shows is the way to do that. Now what could be done is to have a point system for versatility in place and the placings in the regular classes would count to the championship in versatility. You could start it as a pilot program and see how many shows embraced the idea. The point tallying would lie solely on the show office but would be reported to the WPCSA along with the regular results. The versatility award would be awarded at the end of the show. This might even be a way to get folks to stay to the end of the show and support the last classes of the day. – Bonnie Six

### **Adult Walk/Trot:**

The adult walk/trot division is an excellent idea too. Talk to Kim Johnson about her selection of walk-trot adult classes-very well-attended! – Jaci Baxter

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Adult Walk Trot - Think that is a wonderful idea!!!!!!! We had some beginner adults at the MPB show and it was so awesome to see them compete in the open walk, trot division. The other exhibitors really got behind the beginners and it was a wonderful class to watch. In my way of thinking can't get this passed and started soon enough!!! – Bonnie Six

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I support the idea of having the adult walk trot classes. The Pink Pistol Show had an adult walk trot division and it was very successful. It's a great opportunity for parents of show kids, adult friends, grooms, new comers to our breed or best friends that breed ponies but have never really shown :) to have a chance to get in the ring and show without having to compete against adults that have been showing for many years. It's a win win. – Sandra Gebo

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It would be really great if there were some walk/trot classes for adults at the shows.  
Thank you!!! – Hali Durand

### **Points:**

Lastly, I am mulling over the points awarded ponies now with the changes to our show classifications as bronze, silver or gold. Much smaller shows are getting the same number of points as ponies competing and winning at much larger shows. We need to have something in place to honor winning larger classes and having a point system in place based on the number of ponies you beat in a class may be a way to level some of the playing field. Many other breed organizations use a system like this to award points, and our Society may need to revamp how points are awarded. Here is a sample from the Arabian Horse Association: <http://www.arabianhorses.org/competitions/qualifications/>  
If this needs to be formally submitted to the BOD, I will be happy to put it together.  
Thank you for your consideration. – Jaci Baxter

SUBMITTED THROUGH WEBSITE:

### **American National Show:**



If I understand correctly, the South Central Region will not be allowed to have a regional show and host the Nationals for 2016 and 2017 and points for Nationals will be counted as a regular gold show. Regions not hosting the National will be allowed to have regionals with quadruple points. I am asking the board to reconsider this decision and to make the National show a quadruple point show. In my opinion, allowing each region to host a quadruple point show is equitable and to take away both our regionals and only allow the Nationals to be counted as a normal gold show is punitive. – Pat Kultgen

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I strongly suggest leaving the national show in Tulsa but find it rather unfair to discontinue the central regional show. Tulsa offers so much more than just a central location. My kids love the fair as well and the great accommodations that are found in close proximity.

Discontinuing the regional would be equivalent to saying the east or west was limited to how many shows/points they had due to some might gain more points than the others. Many people here have children in school. I can't make every show that is offered, so the regional offers me the opportunity to acquire more points. Take that away, we have no chance of keeping up with the non-school age group.

Each section needs their own regional. The national must remain at a central location. I love seeing people from both the east and west coasts. Move it around and participate numbers will drastically reduce. – Michelle Hacker

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I would like to comment on the elimination of a central regional show while the American National show is in the central part of the country. Let me start by saying I agree with this, in part, even if the National show goes back to rotating locations. I say, "in part" because I feel that having a regional and national show in the same region (NE, SE, NC, SC, NW or SW) risks giving a lot of points to ponies in the same part of the country. I would dearly like to see a regional show for each part of the country, so here is an idea I have.

If the national show is in the NE region, the Eastern Regional would need to be in the SE. If there are no gold shows available in the SE, the regional show would not happen that year. This gives regions with fewer shows incentive to work towards offering a big show to bring attention to some lovely stock that would otherwise be unseen. – Jen Sommer

### **Show Topics:**

Good morning!! Well here I go again!! I have 2 topics that I would like to bring up for discussion, the first is the new limited ability to use guest judge cards. I feel very strongly that the board has severely handicapped show management by changing the guest judge rule and not allowing guest judges for silver shows. I tried to get carded judges from other disciplines to judge our silver shows. This did several things, first it introduced qualified judges to our welsh world. By doing this my hope was to get more carded welsh judges and in at least 3 cases we encouraged individuals to get their welsh judges card, which they did. I think that instead of no guest cards for gold or silver shows that we go back to the approval on an individual basis. I think that any judge who holds a card in any discipline should be allowed a guest card, maybe limit it to only silver & bronze shows. I know there is the argument that they don't know welsh type and movement, well that's just not true, there are carded WPCSA judges, who in my opinion don't know welsh type & movement (but that's for another day). Any carded judge should be able to understand correct type, movement and soundness. If show management does their job then they should provide access to the prize list and the rules so the guest judge can review before the show and be prepared. There is another very real reason to try and expand our judges pool, we need to pull

from a more local area, especially now lots of shows just do not have the budget to get judges from far away, there is a huge drop in attendance not only in the welsh world, but across the board ( from what I am hearing from friends in other disiplines). To keep shows afloat the WPCSA needs to help show management , not hinder.

My second discussion goes along the lines of encouraging folks to attend welsh shows, and I do plan to bring this up in our next USEF committee meeting, what would it take to make some welsh show qualifiers for pony finals? I think they way the WPCSA is embracing pony finals and really making competing a registered welsh pony something special is awesome!!!! But how can we get more registered welsh there, send them from our shows! I am thinking that maybe the regional shows, if they are USEF rated could be considered qualifiers for pony finals. What do you all think of this?

Thanks for listening. B6 (Bonnie Six)

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Sorry it's me again!! I would like to add to your Nov 7 agenda an addition to the western prohibited equipment list. Crops are not permitted in the western usef welsh rules and I feel that we should also follow suit. I know we have been trying to make our rules match the USEF rules and we might have missed this one. We had this come up at our last PC show and in the welsh rules under prohibited equipment crops are not listed. I feel that we need to make this change to match the usef rules. Thanks!!! B6 (Bonnie Six)

From Pam Johnson: *The OKWPS board of directors/show committee met Saturday Oct 24 to discuss at length the matter of involvement in hosting the 2016-2017 WPCSA American National Show. A hard copy of the following letter has been sent to each addressee via USP Priority Mail and should arrive Thursday.*

Dear WPCSA Board Members,

The Oklahoma Kansas Welsh Pony Society appreciates the opportunity we have had the last four years to host the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America American National show. We were enthusiastic to take up the challenge. Our goal was to produce a national caliber show that would showcase the Welsh breed that we all hold close to our hearts. During this time we have seen the show grow from 154 ponies from 58 farms and from 12 States in 2012, to 218 ponies from 130 farms from 18 states in 2015. We believe we have met that goal.

Due to variables of which we have no control, we will not accept any contract to continue the show in 2016-17. This decision was reached after much deliberation of the OKWPS board members.

Again, we thank you for the confidence in our organization and wish the best for the group who produces the 2016 show.

Respectfully Submitted

For the OKWPS Board

Pam Johnson, Acting OKWPS President

Connie Moore

Beverly Pyron

Renaë Smith

Winona Myers

Denise Dougherty

Daphne Dougherty (show committee member)

RECEIVED SEP 25 2015

Dear Board of Directors:

Aug.14, 2015

Being a member of the Welsh breed, I am concerned about the decisions that have recently been made without the knowledge of members of the club.

I have been promoting and showing my ponies and have been involved in fundraising and sponsoring shows to promoting the Welsh breed. I have trained and taught newcomers and have been instrumental in increasing the numbers of new members in the South Central Region.

When I started showing Welsh, there were just a few gold shows in our region, few and very far apart for me, sometimes driving 8 hours to a silver show, and never less than 5 hours away. There were no small shows that allowed young ponies and new members to get started. Although tough economic times cause many members to stop showing, the south central members got together and supported the breed shows. Janice Early, Jaci Baxter, Stacy Westbrook and several others through Red River Welsh Pony Assoc. in the South Central region, was a Huge factor in getting the numbers back up in both members and ponies. Janice Early built a small covered arena, very efficient for the job of getting the silver shows started. The "backyard" shows, as some called it, were small and RRWP struggled at first to get the required 40 ponies to make a qualifying show, but soon after the entries grew to at least 80 ponies at every show. We can easily say all our South Central gold shows this year have had 100+ ponies and many of our Silver shows would have the number of ponies to make gold under the old system.

The OKWPS has gone over the top to make the American National show in Tulsa,OK an amazing show which exposes our ponies to thousands. The Board's decision in May, to offer quadruple points to Regional shows in the East and West coasts the next two years, and to strip the south central region of a quadruple pointed Regional show because we have an 'elite' American National show in our region is a blow to the members that travel further, worked hard and developed the storiest region not only in show entry numbers but also in numbers of registered ponies. .

More shocking is the decision to make the American National show only a regular Gold show in points. Not a wise move for a National show!!! What other breed offers less points at a National show than a regional show?

To make this a more devastating blow, you have removed the number requirements for shows to make a bronze, silver, or gold status. A status in our breed is now simply bought.

So, how does giving a huge National show warrant only triple points, but a regional show that's likely to have small numbers and small classes, (some with less than 12 entries total at show) warrant quadruple points? More over, how come you're knocking down the value and importance of a true National show that exposes our breed to more people in four days than most of our shows do in a complete year! Shouldn't the members that travel near and far expect to get the recognition and points for their efforts? Since the last three years have been a trial period for Tulsa as the hosting city for our National show, the OKWPS has gone over and above what any other club has done to make it a true National caliber show. However it seems that personal goals of position in power can determine the future of a hard working and productive region.

We have worked tirelessly to promote our breed, bring in new members, and vitalize our region's interest in Welsh ponies, and we are rewarded with a De-promotion for a job well done.

All this was decided by a small group of members, many who haven't even ventured to Tulsa to see the excitement of this show.

The fact that the show program pays for itself, the Society receives half the profits from the American National show, the numbers keeps growing and it pays back to the exhibitors is reason enough for the society to do all they can do to promote and ensure the success of the American National.

Instead, many of us feel you're giving the South Central Region (and our breed) a death sentence to reward us for the hard work and dedication we have put into growing family-friendly, competitive shows for our Welsh.

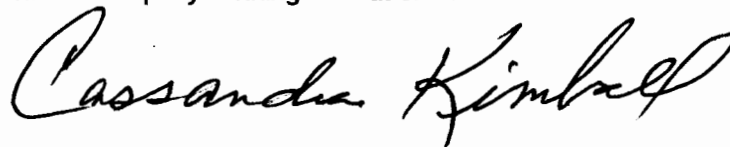
We as a region, are quite angry with the decision made by the Board, and for it to be done without prior knowledge by the general member's knowledge until after the fact is upsetting. I would like to see this decision be put to a vote for all the members, not just to the BOD. Also the thought of turning the National show into USEF IS VERY UPSETTING. Katy, Texas failed due to the extra expense and forcing people to pay all the extra charges on something they are not interested in, which is not right. USEF classes can be altogether different days and a club.

Really, isn't it more important to do what is in the best interest of the breed as well as reward the ones that are promoting the breed the best????

If I hadn't put so much into something that I felt was worth it, I believe that I would've easily been discouraged enough to pull out and put my efforts into other pony events. Yet my desire is to continue with what was worked so hard at to accomplish.

One other thought I would like to add, the National show has had such large classes, and I feel that the points should be based on the number of entries. If a pony wins 1st out of a class of 15+, it should receive more points than a pony winning 1st out of 3..

Respectfully,  
Cassandra Kimball  
Arrow K Ponies

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cassandra Kimball". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

221 Akers Road  
Willis, VA 24380

October 28, 2015

Dr. Ruth Wilburn  
Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America  
720 Green Street  
Stephens City, VA 22655

Dear Dr. Wilburn,

Several weeks ago – September 23, 2015 to be exact - I asked the question of the directors on the WPCSA chat list “just what is it going to take to get the minutes posted in a timely fashion”? It was my understanding that the chat list was started to be a conduit between the management of the WPCSA and the membership.

To date I have had no response. So I am asking you (and copying each of the other directors and our paid Secretary) the same question, “just what is it going to take to get the minutes posted in a timely fashion”?

I can tell you – and document – that I and other members have been requesting timely publication of the minutes of the board meetings for nearly 6 years without the remotest consideration. *Six years!* During that *entire* time the minutes have been posted only twice without the membership calling for the posting.

Early on, when I started paying attention (about 6 years ago) the minutes were posted very haphazardly, sometimes year(s) were posted in arrears. More recently, there has been a constant nag by the membership, myself included when several months have passed since the most recent board meeting without the minutes being produced. Most recently, the May minutes were posted, yet again, to the membership’s demand some 4 months after the board meeting.

Given that the minutes are pretty much the **ONLY** method a member has to keep up with what “the Society” is doing, it really does not seem too much to ask that they are posted timely.

Given the ease of today’s ample methods of communication/document transfer the excuse that getting the minutes approved is a time consuming matter is just that, an excuse. It is very evident that alternate forms of communication are being utilized on a daily basis to conduct the business of the Society that the board deems “important”. That this issue has continued unabated, unaddressed, and unresolved for years, in the face of on-going membership complaint is a direct reflection of your and your fellow board members’ priorities. Your steadfast refusal to post the minutes without call from the membership could easily be construed to indicate that you and the board are intentionally keeping the membership in the dark. It also calls into question the wisdom of your business practice in other, less evident areas as well.

I have used the term "timely" in this letter several times and so that there is no confusion as to what I mean by the expression, let me say that 30 days post board meeting for posting the minutes is a reasonable expectation for "timely". If you should decide 10 working days, that would make me even happier.

While we are on the subject of the minutes, it has been suggested several times on the chat lists – the WPCSA list included – that the minutes should be transcribed verbatim. I personally believe this is an excellent idea. Things don't get left out, nor is the intention of the conversation subject to misrepresentation.

Your prompt consideration of this issue is requested. I will anticipate a timely response.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Jo Bright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula Jo Bright

cc: Lisa Landis

Each of the other board members

Joann Williams: One other thing for the BOD and show committee

There seems to be an issue with riders not fulfilling the requirements of the class yet receiving a placing and points. Usually it is a pony that doesn't canter in a class that requires cantering. Sometimes it is three ponies in a class where all or two of them don't canter.

Should they be receiving points toward Regional and National awards ? I know there are ponies getting awards that did not fulfill class requirements, while those from another area are doing those requirements, yet not getting as many points because they had more competition in their classes.

Thank you  
Joann Williams

## Finance Committee Report – Jackie Verkuyl

Results for Fiscal Year 2015 are mixed. The bottom line is that we lost money for the year, but the loss was less than budgeted.

In the good news category:

- Registration income is consistent with last year and slightly better than budget
- We published 4 Welsh Reviews during the Fiscal Year and all costs were covered
- Show income increased over last year and was about \$6,000 higher than budget
- Fundraising income was significantly better than last year and \$6,500 higher than budget
- All general expense line items were below budget for a total savings of about \$8,400

In the needs improvement category:

- Membership income was less than last year and \$6,300 below budget
- The Journal cost about \$9,400 to print, and brought in \$7,000 income which was split between 2014 and 2015 (most in 2015)
- Website income was about \$2,200 below budget
- AGM registrations did not cover the AGM costs (but attendance was up and the loss was less than last year)

Looking forward to 2016 we need to consider:

- We will need to pay someone to re-work the website/database. This will cost \$5,000 - \$10,000
- The building still needs a new roof – cost \$7,000 - \$10,000
- We need to focus on building membership

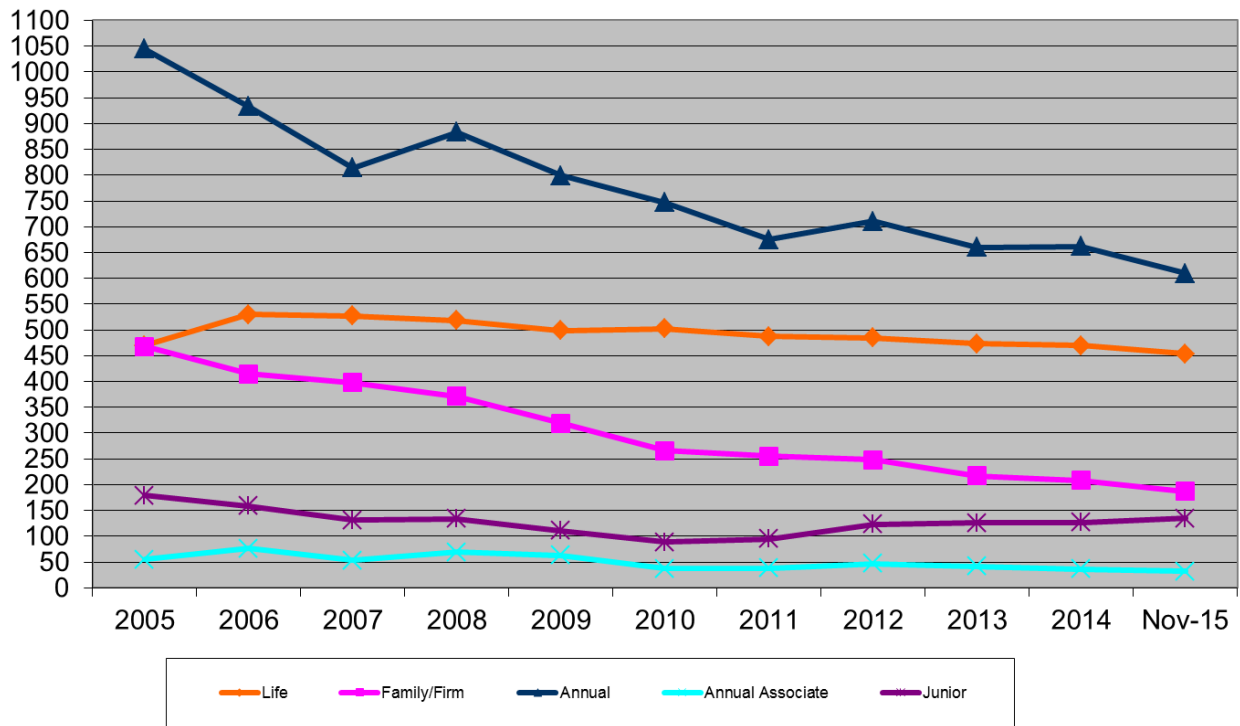
Membership info:

In 2015 we have 173 brand new members. There were 428 members who did not renew their memberships in 2015 and 399 members who did not renew their memberships in 2014.

<b>Lost Members</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2015 Members by State (&gt;30)</b>	<b>2015 New</b>	
Annual Associate	18	14	CA	155	11
Annual	265	243	TX	135	19
Family Firm	75	76	VA	81	9
Junior	70	66	NY	70	8
	<u>428</u>	<u>399</u>	OR	66	3
			PA	63	6
<b>Lost By State</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	MD	61	8
California	64	57 (121)	NC	59	7
Texas	37	44 (81)	FL	58	10
Maryland	28	17 (45)	WA	56	5
Oregon	27	8 (35)	NJ	43	9
Virginia	22	24 (46)	OK	42	12
Pennsylvania	18	19 (37)	OH	38	5
North Carolina	14	18 (32)	MN	34	2
New York	10	20 (30)	WI	32	2



### Memberships 2005 - 2015



	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual
<b>REGISTRATIONS</b>			
Registration Income	86,469	85,200	86,305
Registration Expense	3,830	2,700	2,322
Net Registration Contribution	82,639	82,500	83,983
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>			
Membership Income	43,720	50,000	46,015
Membership Expense	-	-	-
Net Membership Contribution	43,720	50,000	46,015
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>			
Publication Income	18,685	18,000	17,207
Publication Expense	21,472	22,000	12,458
Net Publication Contribution	(2,787)	(4,000)	4,749
<b>SHOWS</b>			
Show Income	37,514	32,750	35,710
Show Expense	9,884	11,000	16,050
Net Show Contribution	27,630	21,750	19,660
<b>PROMOTION</b>			
Promotion Income	6,563	8,750	8,628
Promotion Expense	-	-	-
Net Promotion Contribution	6,563	8,750	8,628
<b>PROGRAMS/AGM</b>			
Program Income	18,350	12,000	12,380
Program Expense	19,427	12,000	14,781
Net Program Contribution	(1,077)	-	(2,401)
<b>FUNDRAISING</b>			
Fundraising Income	16,579	10,000	11,686
<b>OTHER</b>			
Other Income	2,068	2,260	2,710
Other Expense	1,529	4,000	4,252
Net Other Contribution	539	(1,740)	(1,542)
Total Net Contributions	173,805	167,260	170,776
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Building & Equipment	28,838	34,300	20,060
Professional Fees	9,702	11,300	10,738
Office Supplies/Communication	13,111	12,700	12,844
Salaries & Benefits	126,273	128,000	123,669
Total Operating Expenses	177,924	186,300	167,312
Net Income (Loss)	(4,118)	(19,040)	3,464

**WPCSA  
INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT - Budget**

	2016 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual	2011 Actual
<b>REGISTRATIONS</b>							
Registrations	23,000	23,200	21,000	20,430	19,170	23,095	36,640
Half-Welsh Registration	14,000	13,695	15,000	15,090	14,595	13,925	20,405
Partbred Registration	1,200	1,350	1,000	430	4,010	1,500	
Transfers of Ownership	21,000	20,480	21,000	21,405	22,645	23,285	28,820
Half-Welsh Transfer	5,500	5,400	6,500	6,595	6,625	6,270	5,780
Partbred Transfer	100	170	100	25	160	50	
SS Reports	10,000	10,105	10,000	10,295	9,290	10,295	10,870
DNA Typing	5,500	5,834	4,200	4,294	4,641	4,269	5,720
Prefix Registration	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,275	2,400	1,125	1,500
A.I./Frozen/ET Permits Income	1,200	1,300	1,500	1,895	1,645	1,355	3,575
Duplicate Certificates	1,800	1,800	2,400	2,460	2,670	2,460	3,105
Name Change	800	850	500	1,000	800	600	1,100
Lease Agreements	500	750	500	300	590	595	850
Extended Pedigrees	-	-	-	-	-	(18)	240
Stud Book Sales	-	35	50	81	35	663	34
Stud Book Photo Income	-	-	200	675	-	-	475
Unprocessed paperwork	-	-	50	55	207	485	240
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Registration Income</b>	<b>86,100</b>	<b>86,469</b>	<b>85,200</b>	<b>86,305</b>	<b>89,484</b>	<b>89,954</b>	<b>119,354</b>
DNA Typing	3,500	3,830	2,700	2,322	2,970	2,985	4,114
Stud Book	-	-	-	-	-	54	-
<b>Registration Expense</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,830</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>3,039</b>	<b>4,114</b>
<b>Net Registration Contribution</b>	<b>82,600</b>	<b>82,639</b>	<b>82,500</b>	<b>83,983</b>	<b>86,514</b>	<b>86,916</b>	<b>115,240</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>							
Memberships	45,000	43,720	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735	49,835
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Membership Income</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>43,720</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>46,015</b>	<b>52,915</b>	<b>50,735</b>	<b>49,835</b>
<b>Membership/Education Expense</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Membership Contribution</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>43,720</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>46,015</b>	<b>52,915</b>	<b>50,735</b>	<b>49,835</b>
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>							
Newsletter Advertising & 1st Class Postage	12,500	12,445	16,000	16,265	11,850	25,619	26,317
Journal Advertising	-	6,220	2,000	810	2,300	275	10,065
Journal Sales	-	20	-	132	20	170	173
<b>Publication Income</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>18,685</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>17,207</b>	<b>14,170</b>	<b>26,064</b>	<b>36,555</b>
Newsletter	12,000	12,054	14,000	12,458	13,926	15,378	32,239
Journal	-	9,419	8,000	-	11,212	-	10,504
<b>Publication Expense</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>21,472</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>12,458</b>	<b>25,138</b>	<b>15,378</b>	<b>42,743</b>
<b>Net Publication Contribution</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>(2,787)</b>	<b>(4,000)</b>	<b>4,749</b>	<b>(10,968)</b>	<b>10,686</b>	<b>(6,188)</b>
<b>SHOWS</b>							
High Score/Show Sanctioning Income	25,000	28,864	25,000	27,430	29,735	25,658	22,641
High Score Award Sales	6,000	6,135	6,000	6,185	7,972	5,560	
Judges Licensing/Renewal Fee	2,000	2,515	1,750	2,095	1,895	1,575	1,800
<b>Show Income</b>	<b>33,000</b>	<b>37,514</b>	<b>32,750</b>	<b>35,710</b>	<b>39,602</b>	<b>32,793</b>	<b>24,441</b>
Show Sanctioning/High Score Expense (Awards)	6,000	5,931	7,000	6,743	6,641	7,166	7,850
High Score Award Sales expense	4,000	3,953	4,000	9,307	-	2,757	
<b>Show Expense</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>9,884</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>16,050</b>	<b>6,641</b>	<b>9,923</b>	<b>8,050</b>
<b>Net Show Contribution</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>27,630</b>	<b>21,750</b>	<b>19,660</b>	<b>32,961</b>	<b>22,870</b>	<b>16,391</b>
<b>PROMOTION</b>							
Website Income	5,000	4,780	7,000	6,370	5,685	8,665	9,743
Co-Op Advertising Income	-	-	-	50	-	-	1,847
Promotional Items/Books	100	198	200	199	386	1,554	841
Literature	100	145	50	69	109	355	64
Open Show Program	1,500	1,440	1,500	1,940	510	670	-
<b>Promotion Income</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6,563</b>	<b>8,750</b>	<b>8,628</b>	<b>6,690</b>	<b>11,244</b>	<b>12,494</b>
Co-Op/Advertising Expense	-	-	-	-	229	163	2,084
Promotional Items	-	-	-	-	-	471	246
<b>Promotion Expense</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>2,582</b>

**WPCSA  
INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT - Budget**

	2016 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual	2011 Actual
<b>Net Promotion Contribution</b>	<b>6,700</b>	<b>6,563</b>	<b>8,750</b>	<b>8,628</b>	<b>6,460</b>	<b>10,610</b>	<b>9,912</b>
<b>PROGRAMS/AGM</b>							
AGM Registrations Income	15,000	18,350	12,000	12,380	14,420	17,930	17,465
<b>Program Income</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>18,350</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>12,380</b>	<b>14,420</b>	<b>17,930</b>	<b>17,465</b>
AGM Expense	15,000	19,427	12,000	14,781	13,845	15,823	16,293
<b>Program Expense</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>19,427</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>14,781</b>	<b>13,845</b>	<b>15,823</b>	<b>16,293</b>
<b>Net Program Contribution</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,077)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,401)</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>1,172</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING</b>							
Stallion Service Auction	-	-	-	-	(275)	11,350	-
Raffle/Auction	-	-	-	-	3,242	2,055	-
Fundraising/Donations /Sponsorships	12,000	16,579	10,000	11,686	10,152	11,453	8,764
<b>Fundraising Income</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>16,579</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>11,686</b>	<b>13,119</b>	<b>24,858</b>	<b>8,764</b>
<b>OTHER</b>							
Rush	1,000	895	1,000	1,020	1,190	1,175	1,780
Interest Income	200	158	500	437	495	1,580	2,845
Forms	25	25	10	22	34	51	123
Transfer lists	-	320	300	280	280	280	340
Information/Reports	-	-	50	40	50	50	75
Postage/Shipping	200	153	200	213	367	578	269
Miscellaneous Income	200	517	200	699	195	319	2,590
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>2,260</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>4,032</b>	<b>8,022</b>
Transfer to Foundation	2,000	650	2,500	2,503	3,242	2,055	4,185
Miscellaneous Expense	1,000	879	1,500	1,749	2,200	560	1,057
<b>Other Expense</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,252</b>	<b>5,442</b>	<b>2,615</b>	<b>5,242</b>
<b>Net Other Contribution</b>	<b>(1,375)</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>(1,740)</b>	<b>(1,542)</b>	<b>(2,833)</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>2,780</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>211,925</b>	<b>229,948</b>	<b>218,960</b>	<b>220,641</b>	<b>233,008</b>	<b>257,610</b>	<b>276,930</b>
<b>Total Net Contributions</b>	<b>168,425</b>	<b>173,805</b>	<b>167,260</b>	<b>170,778</b>	<b>178,742</b>	<b>210,199</b>	<b>197,905</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>							
Building Maintenance & Upgrades	500	595	500	492	670	451	313
Equipment & Furniture	500	1,892	2,000	1,798	300	-	-
Rent/Mortgage	22,320	22,630	28,800	15,307	14,910	25,741	25,921
Repairs & Maint. - Equipment	500	1,296	500	251	434	150	739
Utilities	2,500	2,425	2,500	2,212	2,438	2,498	2,450
<b>Building &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>26,320</b>	<b>28,838</b>	<b>34,300</b>	<b>20,060</b>	<b>18,753</b>	<b>28,839</b>	<b>30,336</b>
Computer Programming	5,000	-	500	-	-	-	-
Dues & Subscriptions	400	400	400	400	350	350	350
Insurance	2,800	2,672	3,200	3,207	2,688	2,821	2,684
Legal & Accounting	1,500	2,368	1,400	1,235	735	1,023	760
Bank Charges	3,800	3,725	5,000	5,131	5,377	5,217	5,059
Licenses & Taxes	800	537	800	765	966	884	1,793
<b>Professional Fees</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>9,702</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>10,738</b>	<b>10,116</b>	<b>10,294</b>	<b>10,645</b>
Office Supplies	2,800	2,806	2,500	2,328	2,705	1,999	4,739
Postage	4,500	4,503	4,800	4,746	4,295	5,188	5,266
Printing	1,000	1,233	1,000	1,295	777	506	2,789
Telephone	2,450	2,441	2,200	2,277	2,151	1,770	1,706
Internet	3,100	2,128	2,200	2,199	2,042	2,701	1,712
<b>Office Supplies/Communication</b>	<b>13,850</b>	<b>13,111</b>	<b>12,700</b>	<b>12,844</b>	<b>11,970</b>	<b>12,163</b>	<b>16,212</b>
Salaries	115,000	113,394	115,000	111,155	105,220	112,184	139,190
Taxes - Payroll	11,000	10,981	11,000	10,834	9,867	10,111	11,696
Employee Benefits	-	-	-	-	1,048	6,853	8,800
Travel	2,000	1,897	2,000	1,681	1,224	1,407	2,089
<b>Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>128,000</b>	<b>126,273</b>	<b>128,000</b>	<b>123,669</b>	<b>117,360</b>	<b>130,554</b>	<b>161,774</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>182,470</b>	<b>177,924</b>	<b>186,300</b>	<b>167,312</b>	<b>158,199</b>	<b>181,851</b>	<b>218,967</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(14,045)</b>	<b>(4,118)</b>	<b>(19,040)</b>	<b>3,466</b>	<b>20,543</b>	<b>28,348</b>	<b>(21,062)</b>

### **American National – Jackie Verkuyl**

The 2015 American National held in conjunction with the Tulsa State Fair was a great success in terms of the number of ponies/exhibitors showing and the number of states represented. The Board requested the OKWPS move to a USEF rating and continue with the show as the American National in Tulsa for the next two year, 2016-2017. I think we fumbled the delivery of that news to OKWPS which resulted in hurt feelings among OKWPS members and workers. OKWPS declined to host the American National, we requested that they reconsider their decision. OKWPS did reconsider their decision, but came to the same conclusion that they would not be willing to host the American National in 2016-2017.

### **Marketing, Press Releases – Martha Stover**

Busy summer, not much to report. Horse Illustrated magazine is featuring the Welsh Breed in their mid December issue. I was interviewed along with Lisa Brezina and Janice Early. The National Dressage Pony Cup will take place July 8-10, 2016 and I hope that the WPCSA or an interested group can participate in some way. I will make contact with the organizers to see how we can participate. I will be attending the USDF finals at the Kentucky Horse Park the same weekend that the Board is meeting. I hope to be able to talk to some of the organizers of the Pony Cup.

### **Journal – Megan Burtness**

The Journal for 2012-2014 is completed and has been mailed out to the membership. We are getting ready to ramp up for the new version of the Journal in the form of a Review publication. All Regional and National Shows have been asked for articles with a deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup>. The publication deadline for ads and winner photos is December 31<sup>st</sup>. This deadline will be strictly adhered to without exception. The publication needs to go out on time and we are already pushing the old Review publication deadline from Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Website – Megan Burtness**

All the forms are now up and running on the member site and we are in the middle of the final steps to complete SSL and start accepting payment on the member site. Those steps should be completed before the meeting. The Sec. A, B, and C pages are all up and hopefully by the meeting I will have the D page up as well. Though all of the pages, except the Sec. A Page, are in need of photos, articles, videos, and text. The first virtual judges' clinic is up and running. I had a western clinic I did a few years back so it was the easiest one to put up. If anyone else has clinic material we can start on building up the virtual clinics. The easiest format is a well-organized and detailed PowerPoint that I can convert to a video and post on the site.

### **Youth Committee Report – Patricia Cochran**

There has been no significant action within the Youth Committee since the last meeting. I attended the Region 6 Dressage Finals and watched Kylee McKeregan compete and win Res. Champion on her Sec. C cob mare, Talywrn Legally Blonde. Kylee attended the Devonwood Dressage Camp for young riders where more ponies are being seen. It would behoove the WPCSA to increase our support of pony and cobs, especially those ridden by Junior riders, as this is a growing market for our Welsh with their wonderful movement and sparkle. Could the Foundation provide scholarships for to this end? Kylee had a GoFundMe account that was well supported by WPCSA members that paid for her camp experience so support is there for these young people!

### **Convention & Annual Meeting – Martha Stover**

Everything is falling into place. Pat Kultgen is our contact for auction items and other deliveries. A "Grand Dames" breeders panel will be held on Friday at 3:00. Several board members have been approached to participate. Cherry Wilson will provide a judges clinic on conformation.

### **International Ambassador – Gail Thomson**

The Welsh Pony and Cob Society is debating whether they will replace their building on the Royal Welsh grounds or perhaps repair the one that has been used for many years now. For those interested in the Royal Welsh, the dates for 2016 are July 18 through July 21.

### **USDF Liaison – Joann Williams**

WPCSA has been asked by USDF to supply awards for the USDF National Championship at Kentucky Horse Park in November. I have been asking for donations all summer, and thanks to the generosity of our WPCSA members, have total donations of \$ 395.

I took advantage of a special offer from SmartPak, nice large Dressage saddlepads with free embroidery and free shipping and ordered 4 of them. Photo in separate email.

I am still hopeful that there will be enough money left to award all of the USDF All-Breed Champions. USDF sends a small medallion for All-Breed Champion and Reserve, and most Breed associations also award another item to the Champions. Some examples are: coolers, bridle bags, blankets, saddle pads, etc.

Mary Alice Williams has also donated 4 small (small pony size) saddlepads with the Welsh Dragon embroidered. One is stained, so I am not sure if we should award that one. I plan to have the other side embroidered with USDF/WPCSA Dressage Champion,

This is the outline sent by USDF:

*There will be four awards offered by each breed organization that has chosen to be represented. Only scores from the US Dressage Finals classes will be used for high score calculations and freestyle classes will not be included.*

*The awards that will be offered are:*

- *Two awards for high score adult amateur riders - one award for the National Levels (Training through Fourth Levels combined) and one award for the FEI Levels (Prix St. Georges through Grand Prix combined).*
- *Two awards for high score open riders - one award for the National Levels (Training through Fourth Levels combined) and one award for the FEI Levels (Prix St. Georges through Grand Prix combined).*

The only Welsh entered in the National Championship is Madoc Gareth, ridden by Alisson Cyprus. They are competing at Fourth Level and Prix St. George, so will automatically be receiving 2 Saddle pads for their entry, if they complete each ride.

That will only leave 2 of the large Dressage Pads, and since Alisson also is All-Breed Championships at 4th level and Prix St. George, that is 2 more awards for her.

If we award only the All-Breed highest score at each level, even at the levels that have more than one Section Champion, I need 5 total awards. I have a few ideas for smaller awards for the other All-Breed Champions, such as certificates, ribbons or something similar.

I could order different awards for Allison for her All-Breed Championships, since she will already be receiving 2 saddlepads from Nationals, and award the remaining saddlepads to the highest score at each level. Two large and 3 small saddlepads. The cost of the large saddle pads from SmartPak was \$143.60, which leaves \$251.40 to finish the awards.

My phone number is 414-378-2231 if you have any questions.

Thank you, Joann Williams

## Show Compliance Report – Sabra Schiller

Show Applied for

2015	51 applied for	4 cancelled	total 47
2014	59 applied for	3 cancelled	total 56

2015 cancelled shows

6/20 Brown Co 11 heat

7/10-12 OWPS Annual Show horse flu

9/12 Sussex Co 1 VWPCA was same day, decided to cancel

10/3 Sussex Co11 Gold Show has to be 2 days

Fines \$865.00

turning in results late

late show applications

prize list on line before approval

prize list sent in late

All the above information is of 10/22/2015. Thanks Rhonda for getting it together for me

## WPCSA Show Rules Working Group – Sally Steinmetz

### Feedback on current rules:

1. **Change in requirements for Show Standards.** Please remember that this rule is in effect for a trial period of two years starting in 2015. For reference, the rule change is shown below with the changes in red:

#### Article 120 FEES

GOLD SANCTIONING (PER JUDGE)	<del>\$55.00</del> \$100
SILVER SANCTIONING (PER JUDGE)	\$45.00
BRONZE SANCTIONING	\$35.00
PER ANIMAL, PER JUDGE, RECORDING FEE	\$5.00
PROTEST FEE	\$50.00
NON-MEMBER MEASUREMENT FEE	\$5.00

\*SHOW SANCTIONING FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE

#### Article 121.1 Gold Standard Show

~~1. A minimum of 75 purebred Welsh and/or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred in classes specifically limited to them.~~

1. \$100 ~~\$55~~ fee for Provisional Gold sanctioning (~~\$200~~ \$110 for double-judged gold rating).
2. Minimum of \$600 ~~\$400~~ prize money offered **uniformly** across at least ~~ten~~ **three** divisions.
3. Minimum of a two-day show **with safe, adequate, on-site stabling available for all exhibitors.**
4. **Minimum of 10 WPCSA** ~~Six~~ Welsh performance divisions. ~~12.2. & Under, Over 12.2 but not to exceed 14.2, C & D or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred.~~ Each **A WPCSA** division must contain the three point classes as described in the specifications section of this book and a Championship based on points. Additional **pointed and/or** non-pointed classes may be added at the discretion of show management.
5. Minimum of **12** ~~10~~ breeding classes must be offered. All four sections and Half-Welsh/Part Bred must be included.
6. Minimum of WPCSA Approved judge.
7. All shows are required to have an appropriately attired ringmaster or ring steward to assist the judge. This person **must** ~~should~~ be capable of rendering assistance.

#### Article 121.2 Silver Standard Show

~~1. Minimum of 40 Purebred Welsh and/or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred shown in classes specifically limited to them.~~

1. \$45 fee for Provisional Silver Sanctioning (\$90 for double-judged silver rating).
2. Minimum of \$200 prize money offered across at least two divisions.

3. **Minimum of three** Welsh performance divisions. ~~12.2 & Under, Over 12.2 but not to exceed 14.2, C & D or Half Welsh/Part Bred.~~ Each **A WPCSA** division must contain the three point classes as described in the specifications section of this book and a championship based on points. Additional **pointed and/or non-pointed** classes may be added at the discretion of show management.
4. Minimum of 6 breeding classes must be offered.
5. Minimum of WPCSA Approved **or Provisional** Judge.
6. All shows are required to have an appropriately attired ringmaster or ring steward to assist the judge. This person **must** ~~should~~ be capable of rendering assistance

<b>Positive Feedback</b>	<b>Negative Feedback</b>
Rating is guaranteed for exhibitors - especially attractive to those that travel far distances. Exhibitors are happy to get full points even if there aren't enough ponies under the old rules.	Not fair to have gold or silver rating with low # entries, especially Gold shows that would have received a Bronze rating under the old rule. More than half of the Gold and Silver shows did not meet the old # of ponies requirement.
No last minute scramble to find ponies (Easier for both management and exhibitors)	No push to get more entries = loss of revenue for show, especially smaller gold shows run by clubs
Shows such as state fairs or all breed shows (that have no worries about a Welsh division cost vs income) love the new rule	Raising of Gold Sanctioning fees is prohibitive for smaller, club run gold shows. Puts them in a tough spot because they want to keep the Gold to attract exhibitors but can't afford it.

<b>2015 WPCSA Shows as of Oct 31, 2015</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b># Entries</b>	<b>Rating Under Old Rules</b>
5/1/2015	WPCSA Central Regional Show/RRWPA	Gold	138	Gold
7/3/2015	NEWPA	Gold	98	Gold
6/11/2015	Bel Air Welsh Classic	Gold	90	Gold
6/13/2015	Penn-Marydel WPCS Show	Gold	90	Gold
5/23/2015	Tulsa Area Pony Show 1	Gold	89	Gold
5/25/2015	Tulsa Area Pony Show 2	Gold	88	Gold
6/20/2105	Pink Pistol Pony Show	Gold	88	Gold
7/11/2015	Maryland Pony Breeders	Gold	84	Gold
7/9/2015	MPB-Midsummer Madness Show	Gold	75	Gold
4/17/2015	WPCAC Spring Gold Show	Gold	73	Silver
8/29/2015	Texas Rose Breed Show	Gold	71	Silver
7/2/2015	Santa Barbara National	Gold	67	Silver
8/28/2015	Pacific Coast Classic	Gold	63	Silver
9/3/2015	MD State Fair	Gold	59	Silver
8/26/2015	Brookside Welsh Show	Gold	55	Silver
8/27/2015	NY State Fair	Gold	55	Silver
5/16/2015	VA Welsh Spring Fling	Gold	54	Silver
9/12/2015	VWPCSA Mid-Atlantic	Gold	51	Silver
5/14/2015	NY State Horsebreeders	Gold	26	Bronze
8/3/2015	Sussex Co. Horse Show	Gold	22	Bronze
3/14/2015	RRWPA Spring Silver	Silver	64	Silver
4/18/2015	RRWPA at Highlander Ranch	Silver	49	Silver
9/20/2015	PC Silver Series #2	Silver	49	Silver



4/26/2015	PC Silver Series #1	Silver	47	Silver
10/11/2015	PC Silver Series #3	Silver	43	Silver
6/13/2015	Northwoods Welsh Show I	Silver	31	Bronze
6/14/2015	Northwoods Welsh Show II	Silver	30	Bronze
7/11/2015	Heart of Minnesota Welsh Classic	Silver	29	Bronze
8/8/2015	Heart of Summer	Silver	24	Bronze
6/19/2015	Far West Championship Show	Silver	21	Bronze
7/25/2015	Carolina Welsh Hot Summer Nights I	Silver	19	Bronze
7/25/2015	Carolina Welsh Hot Summer Nights II	Silver	18	Bronze
8/7/2015	AWE Summer Show I	Bronze	32	Bronze
8/8/2015	AWE Summer Show II	Bronze	25	Bronze
9/2/2015	AWE Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days	Bronze	20	Bronze
8/25/2015	AWE Western Idaho Fair Show	Bronze	12	Bronze
8/29/2105	Heartland Welsh/ISHA	Bronze	11	Bronze
5/16/2015	Heartland Welsh Club	Bronze	8	Bronze
5/17/2015	Carriage Classic In the Pines	Bronze	5	Bronze
5/9/2015	Brown County Horseman Show 1	Bronze	4	Bronze
8/8/2015	Brown Co. Horseman's Show III	Bronze	3	Bronze

## Review of Rules Passed for 2016 Show Year (As of Dec 1, 2015):

### 1. Carriage Driving – Changing vehicles and Clarification

**Discussion:** This makes our rules follow ADS rules concerning the definition of an entry.

#### Article 113.2 \*WPCSA CARRIAGE DRIVING\*

Classes are open to all ponies/cobs/Half-Welsh/Part Bred. A Welsh Carriage Driving division will consist of three classes, one turnout, one working and one obstacle, **or any combination thereof** but at least one class must be on the rail. Also see Article 116.7 Reinsmanship and ~~Article 116.8 Carriage Driving Freestyle Reinsmanship~~ which ~~are~~ **is** not pointed for WPCSA purposes. ~~but are being considered as USEF new rule changes.~~

**In this division an entry is defined as a combination of animal(s), vehicle and driver and must be assigned a specific entry number. A change of any part of the combination constitutes a different entry and must be assigned a separate number. In the event that a vehicle is disabled or judged unsafe to start or continue, management may authorize substitution of another vehicle without issuing a new number.**

### 2. In Trail, strike last sentence about Juniors side passing and cantering loose rails

#### Article 115.3 \*WPCSA TRAIL\* (Performance)

English or Western equipment. Open to all ponies/cobs/Half-Welsh/Part Bred. Trail classes must be offered separately for juniors and adults. To be shown over and through obstacles at a walk, optional trot or jog, and optional canter or lope. To be judged 100% on performance. Trail entries are required to work over and through obstacles. No animal may enter the trail course area until the course and judge are ready. Riders will be permitted to inspect the course on foot during the Judge's instructions prior to the start of the class. Tests which may be required are negotiating the gate, carrying objects from one part of arena to another, riding through water, over logs or simulated brush, riding down into and up out of ditch without lunging, crossing a bridge (no rocking or moving bridges permitted), backing through obstacles, sidepassing, mounting and dismounting from either side and performing over any reasonable conditions encountered along the trail. However, unnatural obstacles, such as fire extinguishers, perforated plywood in water boxes, exotic animals or unsafe elements such as hay bales, should be avoided. Course to include a minimum of six obstacles and a maximum of eight obstacles except in the case of damaged obstacles. ~~Juniors will not side pass or lope/canter over loose rails.~~

### 3. Allow combining of performance classes (Rule change agreed to, wording needs to be approved)

**Discussion:** This rule change gives more flexibility to show management and will help shows have more classes/divisions that fill. It will also make our rules follow USEF rules.

#### ARTICLE 111 GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

The current rules of the United States Equestrian Federation shall be the general guidelines. Shows holding both USEF and WPCSA sanctioned classes should cross-reference the USEF Rule Book to verify compliance for USEF rated classes.

Ponies and cobs may not be shown together in performance classes except at bronze-rated shows and in draft, equitation, carriage driving, short stirrup hunter, trail classes, long stirrup hunter and low hunter. Ponies and cobs may also be shown together in leading rein and child's first pony but must not exceed the height restrictions for these two classes.

The Welsh Pleasure and Welsh Hunter divisions may be divided by the riders' age as long as both complementary divisions are offered. The two divisions are defined as follows: rider 12 and under and rider 13 through 17 years (rider must not have reached 18th birthday by December 1 of current show year).

Once the prize list has been published, classes/divisions cannot be added or combined. **Classes and entire divisions may be split as long as there is a minimum of three (3) in each class.** However, they **Classes must** be split if entries warrant (See Article 111.1.)

## Topics for Discussion in Show Rules:

Possible Rule Changes that are in various stages of discussion are listed below. Please remember that it usually takes some period of time to get rules changed. On the first page of the Rule Book, it states the minimum time frame for the process:

*All suggested rule changes must be submitted to the Show Rules Chairman by October 1 for consideration by the Board at the next Board of Directors meeting. All approved changes will go into effect December 1 of the following calendar year.*

### 1) Change the Half-Welsh/Part Bred Lifetime Awards

**Discussion:** Allows Half-Welsh and Part Bred sires and dams to be included in lifetime awards – only purebred sires and dams are now eligible for these awards. It has been proposed that we allow both Half-Welsh and Part Bred Sires and Dams to be included in these awards. (Articles 136.9, 136.10 and 136.11). If passed, points would be retroactive to include all points of offspring that are in the computer system (approx. 2008). The new awards described in the three articles would be as follows:

Purebred /Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Sire Award of Honour  
Purebred /Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Dam Award of Honour  
Purebred/Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Sire Award of Distinction  
Purebred/Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Dam Award of Distinction  
Purebred/Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Sire Order of the Centaur  
Purebred/Half-Welsh/Part Bred Welsh Dam Order of the Centaur

### 2) Clarification of Low Hunter Rule

At our last board meeting it was brought up that there is a lot of confusion about who is eligible for Low Hunter especially in regards to Short Stirrup riders. A summary of the existing rules as to who is eligible:

- Junior and Adult riders are eligible (111.3 and 111.9 and 112.8 Low Hunter)
- Long Stirrup riders are eligible as long as they are jumping 18" in Low Hunter (112.7 Long Stirrup)
- All animals are eligible as long as they don't compete over fences in any other division where fences exceed 18" (112.8 Low Hunter)
- Short Stirrup riders are NOT eligible ... may not compete over fences in any other division except Short Stirrup Equitation (112.6 Short Stirrup)
- There are no restrictions for riders... (112.8 Low Hunter)

The last bullet shows where potential confusion comes. We should clarify in the Low Hunter Rule about Short Stirrup and Long Stirrup riders:

**Article 112.8 \* WPCSA LOW HUNTER\***

Classes are open to all ponies/cobs/Half-Welsh/Part Bred. This division is open to juniors and adults. **ANIMALS** in this division, including the under-saddle class, may not compete over fences in any other division at that show where the fences exceed 18". There are no restrictions for riders exhibiting in these classes **unless they are restricted by other class rules. Long Stirrup riders are eligible if jumping 18" but Short Stirrup riders are not eligible to compete.** Courses to have a minimum of 4 fences with 8 jumping efforts. Show management may offer the division either as 18" only or a choice of 18" or 2'. If a choice of 18" or 2' is given, the jumps must be verticals (no cross rails). No animal may jump both 18" and 2" in this class at the same show. Fence heights are not determined by the height of the animal. Over-fence classes to precede the under-saddle class. To be judged 100% on performance. May trot or canter the course. Not required to jog for over-fences classes.

**3) Half-Welsh/Part Bred Breeding Divisions and Classes**

It has been suggested that the Half-Welsh/Part Bred breed classes/championships be the same as the pure-bred breed classes/championships except that stallions and geldings show together and that Grand Champion is the highest award presented (no Supreme Champion)

**Article 110.11 Standard Breeding Divisions/Classes**

**Half- Welsh/Part Bred** The breeding divisions are: **Fillies 2 and Under, Colts/Geldings 2 and Under, Senior Mares and Senior Stallions/Geldings.** Division champions may be offered if more than one class in a division is offered. Otherwise, Junior and Senior Champions may be offered. A Grand Champion is chosen from the champions and reserves of the divisions or from the Junior and Senior champions and reserves. ~~Geldings are included in these championships.~~

Update the chart for Half-Welsh/Part Breds using the Purebreds as a template, but adding Geldings to both the Colt classes and the Stallion classes. Also add Junior and Senior Champions if multiple classes aren't offered in the four divisions (filly, colt/gelding, mare & stallion/gelding).

**4) Points/ Shows**

Changing the requirements for the Gold and Silver Shows has been a very big change and we're carefully reviewing feedback of this rule change during its trial period through the 2016 show year. Other rule changes that we will continue to discuss involving points and shows are as follows. Some of these topics will also be discussed at the AGM's Open Forum.

**a) Points based on number of ponies beaten**

The idea behind this is to give ponies that win in large classes more points. This has been brought up again as a solution to the lower number of ponies at Gold and Silver shows. Our computer program could be modified to track this. Many of the other breeds do this including the Arabs and Quarter horses. There are many different examples of how it could be done. Also being considered is how to make this equitable (especially for lifetime points) when some classes never have many entries. We may consider having different criteria for breed classes vs performance classes.

**b) More points for National and Regional Shows**

At the May board meeting we voted to give quadruple points to the Eastern and Western regional shows in an effort to elevate these shows. We have received a lot of feedback to also give the American National quadruple points. Many also feel that the Central Zone should be allowed to have a Regional titled show. See below.

**c) Re-word Article 117.2 per the board's decision (American National committee)**

We need to know what to put in next year's show rules concerning titled shows.

Will we continue to have a Central Regional if the American National is in Tulsa? One suggestion was to allow a Regional Show in the same Zone (Eastern, Central, Western) but require it to be in the opposite Region from the American National. If the National is in Tulsa, give the North Central Region the opportunity for a Regional Show.

The *current* rule is listed below:

**Article 117.2 National and Regional Titles** The WPCSA offers the following show titles: Eastern Regional, Central Regional, Western Regional and American National. For awarding these titles, the country is divided into three zones: Eastern, Central and Western (see map inside back cover). The American National Title is awarded on a rotating basis in the following order: Eastern zone, Central zone, and Western zone. The American National will be held in conjunction with the Tulsa State Fair for a probationary period of four years (2012 – 2015). No other sanctioned shows may be held during the American National dates.

- d) **American and Regional winner's recognition *equally* under both breed judges.** (i.e. two American National Champions, Grand Champions, Supremes, etc.) Article 117.2

## 5) Classes at WPCSA Shows

### 1. Two Class Divisions for All Pleasure Divisions and Draft Driving

- **Discussion:** This is a member-submitted idea that has gotten mixed reactions. Some think it's a great idea and some are opposed to it. There has been a lot of both positive and negative feedback, so the discussion continues.

Positive feedback:

- (1) Less hardship on animals and riders showing in many divisions especially in inclement weather
- (2) More interesting to riders, animals, spectators and judges
- (3) Prevents shows from being exceedingly long – saves shows a lot of time
- (4) Gives shows a possibility to offer other types of classes
- (5) No impact on points or revenue for shows
- (6) Less chance of animals learning and anticipating the same routine, often with bad habits

Negative feedback:

- (1) Not enough classes for an animal entered in only one or two performance divisions
- (2) More championship ties (*ties will be broken by whoever receives the most points in the Conformation/Stake class*)
- (3) Whoever wins the Conformation/Stake will most likely be champion. (*True. The only way someone else could be champion is if they won the first class and were second in the Conformation/Stake and the winner of the Conformation Stake didn't place in the first class*)
- (4) Will negatively impact show's bottom line. (*Will be the same income if Conformation/Stake class has double entry fees*)
- (5) No one else is doing this
- (6) Would weaken our show structure
- (7) Prefer 3 classes – more chances to do well, more time to figure the judge out, more classes to calm nerves (pony and/or rider) and more experience for green ponies

- Divisions affected: English Pleasure and Western Pleasure (Junior and Adult, all sections and Half Welsh/Part Breds), Pleasure Driving (all sections and Half Welsh/Part Breds) & Draft Driving.
- Proposal and Reason for Rule Change:
  - It's proposed to have one Working class and one Conformation/Stake class in each pleasure division. With double points in the Conformation/Stake class (and conceivably double the entry fees) there will be no impact on points and entry fees. Championships will still be based on points but ties will be broken by who received the most points in the Conformation/Stake class.
  - Most times a pleasure division has all three classes in a row due to time constraints and avoiding tack changes. This is boring for the riders/drivers, the animals and the judges. Also, many have said it's not good for training young, green animals. Many of our animals show in multiple divisions and with three classes in a pleasure division, an animal might be doing 12 or more flat classes in one day. Reducing each pleasure division to two classes will be less of a hardship on the animals, better for a show's time schedule and less boring to all involved.
  - An alternative to three almost-identical classes in a row has been discussed many times previously but ideas put forward never have fit into our crowded show days. (i.e. Space classes in a division out, Perform individual tests, etc.)

## b) New Class Suggestions

**Discussion:** If Two-Class Pleasure divisions are implemented, it will give shows time to offer a new lineup of pointed classes. If any organization fails to introduce new avenues and ways of showing exhibitors will go outside that world to find what they are looking for. Many of the large breeds have taken steps to diversify their class list in an effort to keep the exhibitors at their shows and not go to other venues.

By providing other classes and options to exhibitors the WPCSA will be making an effort to increase the number of exhibitors attending our shows.

- **WPCSA Versatility Division - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This division would have three classes at a show that show management would select from a list of possible classes. Besides the other classes suggested below, other class ideas include: Cowboy Dressage, Dressage, Western Riding, Extreme Cowboy, Speed events (barrels, pole bending), matched pairs pleasure.

Another idea is to not add more classes but give a 'versatility award' at each show to the pony with the most points in all divisions.

- **WPCSA Show Hack - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This class would fall under the English Pleasure section and that general spec would apply. To be shown at the normal, collected and extended Walk, Trot and Canter and to Hand Gallop.

Some commented that this class spec is too similar to Ridden Welsh.

- **WPCSA Hunter Hack - A/B/C/D/H/P (18 Inch) Open**

This class would fall under the Hunter section and that general spec would apply. To Walk, Trot and Canter both ways and Hand Gallop in one direction. To individually jump two 18" fences 60' apart and optionally after jumping to hand gallop, halt and stand quietly.

- **WPCSA Western Horsemanship - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This class would fall under the Western section and that general spec would apply. Evaluates the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their animal, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position.

- **Welsh Working Western Class - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This class reflects the versatility, attitude and movement of a working pony. The pony's performance should simulate a pony riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch pony. Each pony will work individually, performing both required and optional maneuvers and scored on a basis of 0-100 with 70 being average. Required to walk, trot and lope in both directions and extended trot and extended lope in at least one direction as well as stops (not sliding) and back. Four obstacles to also be completed.

- **English Equitation/Pleasure - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

To be judged 50% on equitation and 50% on the pleasure performance of the animal. To walk, trot and canter both ways plus perform tests as difficult as the entries warrant.

- **Fun Classes - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

Non-pointed, no year end awards. Possibly offer a 'division' that would count towards the number of divisions required for a particular rating.

Ride-A-Buck, Egg & Spoon, Adult Leadline (kid leads adult), Catalog Relay, etc.

- **Adult Walk-Trot - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

Non-pointed, no year end awards. Designed for adults riding green ponies but could be anyone. The Pink Pistol show had a division of this and it was popular for parents, adult friends, grooms, new comers and friends. We've had comments in favor of this this from various parts of the country.

## 6) New Topics for Discussion submitted by members

### 1. Adding Penalty to Using Communication Devices

#### Article 105 GENERAL CONDUCT: OWNERS/AGENTS/EXHIBITORS

##### Article 105.1 Owners/Agents/Exhibitors

Owners, exhibitors, handlers, riders or drivers may not use cell phones or **other communication devices** while in the ring **under penalty of elimination**.

**Discussion:** The incentive to win to accumulate points is becoming common, particularly in over fence classes with devices hidden within a rider's helmet. At some breed shows, the steward accompanied by the judge and a member of the show management have requested all entries in a particular class, remove their helmets and/or ear receivers before the class begins. Tack catalogues are carrying such devices.

### 2. Re-wording rule about cell phone usage under Judge's conduct

#### Article 130 JUDGE'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

12. ~~No judge, exhibitor, trainer, handler, or driver may use a cell phone while in the ring.~~ **A judge can only use a cell phone in case of an emergency that occurs while officiating that class.** If carried into the ring, the cell phone MUST be turned off.

**Discussion:** The section on Judge's responsibility and conduct should only refer to judges. The cell phone usage for exhibitors, handlers and drivers is stated in Article 105.1 but does not state trainers but does state riders.

### 3. Expand requirement to post patterns under Ring Procedure

#### Article 104 GENERAL CONDUCT OF SHOWS: Management

Article 104.2 **Course/Pattern Postings** At least one hour prior to the class, courses for Hunters, Obstacle Driving, ~~or~~ Trail classes **or any class requiring a pattern** MUST be posted near the in gate of the ring in which the respective classes will be held. **For breed classes the judge(s) must post the pattern that will be used one hour before the first breed class.**

**Discussion:** This will eliminate unnecessary delays between exhibitors, gate person and ring steward and keep the required time frame for show requirements.

Also add the sentence on the breed class pattern to Article 130, Judge's Responsibilities and Conduct

**4. Review current rules thoroughly and place them in appropriate divisions.**

**Discussion:** Most people DO NOT read the rules from cover to cover because of the vastly spread and overlapping areas. One can miss a requirement when it's located in various, unrelated places. All headings should be easy to follow. Example:

**\*RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXHIBITORS/TRAINERS/PARENTS**

**\*RESPONSIBILITIES OF SHOW MANAGEMENT**

**\*RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICIALS: JUDGES, TECHNICAL DELEGATE, RING STEWARDS**

**Welsh of the Year/Hall of Fame – Jackie Verkuyl**

2015 Welsh of the Year Nominations are now due. The deadline has been extended to November 30 this year. There is now a nomination for directly on the Members Only website. We have received 2 nominations for the Hall of Fame and I would like to generate some more nominees for our first round of inductees. I think this gives us a good opportunity to generate some positive publicity and attention for our Breed.

**Molly Butler/JD Orear Scholarship Committee Report – Sabra Schiller**

We had seven applications this year. The following two were our choices:

Nathan Turrel of North Norwich, NY who plans to become a large animal Veterinarian with a minor in equine studies.

Kristy Wilkinson of Albany, NY who is a senior in college and plans to become a Doctor. These were approved by the WPCSA Board of Directors and they were presented their checks in September 2015.