

WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

June 28, 2016

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
 - VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Finance – Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson
 - B. American National – Megan Burtness & Patricia Cochran
 - C. Marketing/Outside 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
 - H. By-Laws – Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict
 - I. Nominations – TBA
 - 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 – Margaret Blackert
 - P. Licensed Officials – Margaret Almond & Tiz Benedict
 - 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

WPCSA
Fiscal Year 2016 - Q3
INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 YTD % of Budget	2015 YTD	2016 vs 2015 more (less)
REGISTRATIONS					
Registrations	14,250	23,000	62%		
Half-Welsh Registration	10,215	14,000	73%		
Partbred Registration	650	1,200	54%		
Transfers of Ownership	12,730	21,000	61%		
Half-Welsh Transfer	3,885	5,500	71%		
Partbred Transfer	215	100	215%		
SSReports	7,880	10,000	79%		
DNA Typing	4,755	5,500	86%		
Prefix Registration	1,200	1,500	80%		
A.I./Frozen/ET Permits Income	1,525	1,200	127%		
Duplicate Certificates	1,920	1,800	107%		
Certificate Corrections	-	-			
Name Change	600	800	75%		
Lease Agreements	375	500	75%		
Extended Pedigrees	-	-			
Stud Books	20	-			
Stud Book Photo Income	-	-			
Unprocessed paperwork	-	-			
Registration Income	60,220	86,100	70%	63,324	(3,104)
DNA Typing	2,767	3,500	79%		
Stud Book	-	-			
Registration Expense	2,767	3,500	79%	2,524	243
Net Registration Contribution	57,453	82,600	70%	60,800	(3,347)
MEMBERSHIP					
Memberships	40,740	45,000	91%		
Member-Breeder Directory					
Membership Income	40,740	45,000	91%	36,105	4,635
Membership Expense	-	-		-	-
Net Membership Contribution	40,740	45,000	91%	36,105	4,635
PUBLICATIONS					
Newsletter Advertising & 1st Class					
Postage	13,851	12,500	111%		
Journal Advertising	10,385	-			
Yearbook Sales	20	-			
Publication Income	24,256	12,500	194%	10,650	13,606
Newsletter	5,861	12,000	49%		
Journal	4,197	-			
Publication Expense	10,058	12,000	84%	6,192	3,866
Net Publication Contribution	14,198	500			14,198

WPCSA
Fiscal Year 2016 - Q3
INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 YTD % of Budget	2015 YTD	2016 vs 2015 more (less)
SHOWS					
High Score/Show Sanctioning Income	15,249	28,000	54%		
High Score Award Sales	4,838	6,000	81%		
Judges Licensing/Renewal Fee	2,455	2,000	123%		
American National income	3,889				
Judges clinics	-	-			
Show Income	26,431	36,000	73%	27,124	(693)
Show Sanctioning/ High Score Expense (Awards)	6,606	6,000	110%		
High Score Award Sales Expense	2,872	4,000	72%		
Show Expense	9,478	10,000	95%	9,824	(346)
Net Show Contribution	16,953	26,000	65%	17,300	(347)
PROMOTION					
Website Income	1,415	5,000	28%		
Co-Op Advertising Income	-	-			
Promotional Items/Books	141	100	141%		
Literature	44	100	44%		
Open Show Program	505	1,500	34%		
Promotion Income	2,105	6,700	31%	5,193	(3,089)
Co-Op Advertising Expense	-	-			
Sponsorship of Awards	-	-			
Promotional Items	386	-			
Promotion Expense	386	-		-	386
Net Promotion Contribution	1,718	6,700	26%	5,193	(3,475)
PROGRAMS					
AGM Registrations Income	21,510	15,000	143%		
Program Income	21,510	15,000		18,190	3,320
AGM Expense	18,457	15,000	123%		
Program Expense	18,457	15,000		19,427	(970)
Net Program Contribution	3,053	-		(1,237)	4,290
FUNDRAISING					
Stallion Service Auction	-	-			
Raffle/Auction	-	-			
Fundraising/Donations /Sponsorships	12,233	15,000	82%		
Fundraising Income	12,233	15,000	82%	16,129	(3,896)

WPCSA
Fiscal Year 2016 - Q3
INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2016 YTD % of Budget	2015 YTD	2016 vs 2015 more (less)
OTHER					
Rush	950	1,000	95%		
Interest Income	295	200	148%		
Forms	2	25	8%		
Transfer lists	200	-	#DIV/0!		
Information/Reports	-	-	#DIV/0!		
Postage/Shipping	116	200	58%		
Miscellaneous Income	281	200	140%		
Transfer from Foundation	-	-			
Appropriation of retained earnings	-	-			
Other Income	1,844	1,625	113%	1,250	594
Cash Reserves	-	-			
Transfer to Foundation	-	2,000	100%		
Miscellaneous Expense	1,873	1,000	187%		
Other Expense	1,873	3,000	62%	1,379	494
Net Other Contribution	(29)	(1,375)	2%	(129)	100
Total Income	189,338	217,925	87%	177,965	11,373
Total Net Contributions	146,318	174,425	84%	138,619	7,699
Operating Expenses					
Building Maintenance & Upgrades	476	500	95%		
Depreciation	-	-	0%		
Equipment & Furniture	-	500	0%		
Rent/Mortgage	3,630	22,320	16%		
Repairs & Maint. - Equipment	950	500	190%		
Utilities	2,697	2,500	108%		
Building & Equipment	7,753	26,320	29%	20,708	(12,955)
Computer Programming	-	5,000	0%		
Dues & Subscriptions	400	400	100%		
Insurance	2,767	2,800	99%		
Legal & Accounting	35	1,500	2%		
Bank Charges	4,225	3,800	111%		
Licenses & Taxes	871	800	109%		
Professional Fees	8,298	14,300	58%	7,960	338
Office Supplies	1,370	2,800	49%		
Postage	4,256	4,500	95%		
Printing	349	1,000	35%		
Telephone	1,878	2,450	77%		
Internet	2,435	3,100	79%		
Office Supplies/Communication	10,288	13,850	74%	10,051	237
Salaries	83,707	115,000	73%		
Taxes - Payroll	7,061	11,000	64%		
Travel	1,442	2,000	72%		
Salaries & Benefits	92,210	128,000	72%	93,184	(974)
Total Operating Expenses	118,549	182,470	65%	131,902	(13,353)
Net Income (Loss)	27,770	(8,045)	-345%	6,716	21,054

American National Show – Megan Burtness

We are gearing up for the 2016 American National show in Tulsa and currently the primary focus is setting up submission for Ring-Side Banner ads and sponsorships (<https://wpcsamembers.com/show-program/wpcsa-american-national-show/sponsorship-and-banners/>) The banner ad submission is complete and available now and we are working on the sponsorship forms next.

Am National Sponsorship Committee Report - Pat Cochran

Sponsorships are coming in for the American National Show. As of 06/27 we have received \$3325 in commitments from eight farms and individuals. No monies have been received. Sponsorships rates are:

Halter and Performance classes may be sponsored for \$25
Championship classes are \$75 and Res. Champions are \$50
Grand Championship classes are \$100 and Res. Grand are \$75
Supreme Championships are \$200 and Reserve Supremes are \$150

If all of the classes are sponsored, which is our goal, the total income from sponsorships will be \$6525. That will leave us \$1975 short of our commitment to OKWPS of \$8500.

How we make up the difference needs to be decided and quickly. One option would be to double sponsor halter championships, as we've voted to declare both judges' choices as being American National Champions. This option would generate an additional \$2925. *NOTE: These figures do not include sponsorships for Pet Pony or OKWPS classes or Party sponsorships.*

So far, we have relied solely upon Facebook and our mass email to put the word out. This next week I will be contacting past sponsors who haven't elected to donate for 2016. Emails verifying classes and amounts will be sent to all sponsors within the week with a total amount due noted and mailing address for reimbursements; ie, an invoice infriendly form. Final deadline for ads and sponsorships that will appear in the program is August 1st.

Sponsorships over \$100 receive a free 1/4 page ad in the show program.
Sponsorships over \$500 receive a free ringside banner and show program advertising.

These have proven to be good incentives in people's decisions on how much to donate. Martha is heading up the graphic design work for these items and Megan will order the banners.

We have received sponsorships from:

Cameron Vanbuskirk - \$1050
Pam Christensen - \$75
Jaci Baxter - \$75
Winona Meyers - \$100
Ozzy & Jaime Picton - \$625
Peggy Ross - \$500
Patricia Cochran - \$250
Dr. Ruth - \$500
Cecile Dunn - \$150

I will be putting out another call for sponsorships on FB. This is such a powerful tool but it only works if people share! Please hit the SHARE button so these posts are reposted on you individual pages! The more shares a post receives the better the chances that it will appear on members' news feeds.

Press Releases and Marketing - Martha L Stover

Several PRs were submitted immediately following the AGM identifying, award winners, election and auction results (see below). A complete report was also submitted for the Welsh Review.

Patricia Cochran and I sent thank you notes to all AGM auction donors and winning bidders; venders and volunteers.

With Sally Steinmetz's technical input, I submitted a grant request to USA Equestrian Trust to help fund our data security. Unfortunately the request was denied. This is the first time I have ever written a grant and I hope to try again. We need to think of more measureable projects that we can request funds for.

I have arranged for awards for High Score Welsh at the National Dressage Pony Cup to be held July 8-10, 2016 at the Kentucky Horse Park. High score winners will receive a monogrammed hanging grooming bag and ribbons and Breed Show winners will receive monogrammed grooming totes and ribbons. I will be in attendance at the show with 3 welsh cobs and will award the prizes on behalf of the WPCSA.



We might want to consider these bags for our National awards. I think I paid 49.95 each but I am sure a better price could be arranged if purchased in bulk.

Journal – Megan Burtness

The Journal for 2015 was positively lovely and all reports are the new format was well liked. It went out on time and had a wonderful ad and article response from members. As soon as all Regional and National shows are completed in 2016 managers will be asked for articles on the shows in preparation for the 2016 Journal.

The Review – Margaret Almond

The last issue was wonderful and timely. I only hope everyone met the June 6th deadline for the most recent issue.

Website – Megan Burtness

The site seems to be well liked by members and we are continuing to work out any kinks as we come across them with forms and electronic submission. Some of the secretaries are starting to ask to do electronic submission for their shows and we are able to offer that as well as paypal payment with entries directly to the show's personal paypal account.

Youth – Megan Burtness

Sally Ross put together an amazing youth program at the AGM this past February and we all owe her a great Thanks for all of her work. There has been very little youth activity since the AGM. Further brainstorming is needed to try to get more youth involved.

USEF Report – Sally Steinmetz

WPCSA/USEF Affinity Competitions

The WPCSA is a Recognized National Affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation (Federation). The WPCSA and the Federation are in the planning stages of developing what is termed WPCSA/USEF Affinity Competitions.

The purpose of having WPCSA/USEF Affinity Competitions is to increase growth and participation in equestrian sport by creating a method for the WPCSA to affiliate some of their Gold standard shows with the Federation in a mutually beneficial manner.

Licensing for these Gold shows would be administered through the WPCSA as is done now but USEF would acknowledge these competitions as part of the family of Affinity Competitions of the Federation and include them on a separate USEF Affinity Competition Calendar on its website. Entry forms will include a statement that owners, riders, trainers and coaches shall adhere to WPCSA and Federation rules regarding horse and human welfare and safety.

No additional fees would be required by the Federation and owners, riders, trainers and coaches would not be required to be Federation members.

The Federation will reciprocate any penalties imposed by WPCSA for violations of WPCSA and Federation rules regarding horse and human welfare and safety as long as the WPCSA has provided the accused with a fair/impartial method of determining violation and penalty.

The Affinity competitions will follow the WPCSA rules and the Federation Welsh breed rules but the Federation will not adjudicate any reports of alleged rule violations. Use of Federation General Rules will be restricted to only those rules regarding horse and human welfare and safety.

The WPCSA will grant the Federation the right to contact the WPCSA membership for promotional purposes.

Measurement Cards

The USEF Welsh committee is working on a rule change that would allow the use of a WPCSA permanent measurement card or 2 WPCSA temporary measurement cards for Welsh performance classes at shows licensed by both WPCSA and USEF.

Youth Sportsman's Award

Applications are now being accepted for the USEF Youth Sportsman Award and must be received by September 1, 2016. Each National Affiliate may select one junior that is an active member of both WPCSA and USEF. The person we select becomes eligible to compete for the overall USEF award (trophy, \$1000 grant and nomination for USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year). The overall Reserve receives a \$500 grant. The goal of this award is to identify potential future leaders in the equine industry from all breeds and disciplines and recognize youth members for their achievements both in and out of the sport. The applicant should demonstrate ongoing commitment to the promotion of equestrian sport, serve as positive role models for their peers, be involved in community activities and exhibit characteristics that exemplify positive sportsmanship principles. Applicants may participate at any level of competition, including local, regional or national events.

Details about the program including guidelines and an application are on the USEF site:

<https://www.usef.org/IFrames/Youth/sportsmansAward.aspx>

Licensed Officials – Margaret Almond

I am getting up to speed with this committee (Tiz is being very helpful in my transition). Just received a packet of show and judge evaluations, with a quick glance things look very positive. We are working on revising the test for judges (all current judges will need to retake the test) and I think the application to be a judge needs revision too. Sabra is going to help author a handbook for technical delegates as I feel they could benefit from some guidance. Norman Kalinski has kindly donated some DVD's to our library. Welsh in Fine Harness, The Welsh Pony in Heavy Harness and Judging the Welsh Pony and Cob should be great resources. We need to acknowledge this gift in the Review.

Show Compliance – Sabra Schiller

As of May 26 we have 45 applications for shows. 3 shows have been fined for late applications and 4 other ones for late prize list and not having corrected prize list re approved. I have approved 38 shows prize list and have 2 other shows waiting to be approved when they get their corrections back to me as of June 2, 2016.

2016 Open Program report – Marsha Himler

Registrations have been slow in coming in. To date I have received only 13 registrations, most of them submitted online. A few I know have been sent to the office as some people were having trouble with the online forms.

Show results have also been slow coming in. I do plan to sent out emails to everyone who has participated in the past to remind them that the program is ongoing. Joann Williams helped write the description for Western Dressage and that and Halter are the 2 new divisions this year.

Of the registration received so far, there are no Section As, 4 Section Bs, 6 Half-Welsh, 2 Cs and 1 D.

WPCSA Show Rules Working Group

Co-Chairs: Sally Steinmetz and Jackie Verkuyl

Show Rules - Topics for Discussion:

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) Feedback on Gold and Silver Standard Show Requirements

The rule change in requirements for Gold and Silver Standard shows has been in effect for one year of its two year trial. This change dropped the 'number of ponies' requirement for Gold and Silver ratings and increased some of the requirements for the Gold rating. Nothing else was changed for the Silver show requirements. We have received feedback on this new rule and ask everyone to continue to study this rule and come up with possible solutions for 2017. At the end of the 2016 show year we must decide what the requirements for Gold and Silver shows will be in the future.

Below is a chart that shows all of the 2015 shows and the 2016 shows with results processed so far, what rating they applied for and received, # entries and the rating under the old rules:

2015 WPCSA Shows				
Date	Name	Rating	# Entries	Rating Under Old Rules
9/30/2015	American National at Tulsa	Gold	204	Gold
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
11/20/2015	Texas Rose Autumn Breed Show	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
9/11/2015	Summer Silver Series #1	Silver	30	Bronze
7/11/2015	Heart of Minnesota Welsh Classic	Silver	29	Bronze
9/12/2015	Summer Silver Series #2	Silver	29	Bronze
8/8/2015	Heat 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
11/7/2015	PonyPalooza & Fall Sporthorse	Bronze	15	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
9/26/2015	Carolina Carriage 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
	2016 WPCSA Shows (with results processed)			
3/11-13	2013 RRWPS Spring Show	Gold	64	Silver
5/13-15	WPCAC Spring Gold Show	Gold	63	Silver
4/15-17	Texas Rose Spring Breed Show	Gold	55	Silver
5/8/2016	VWPCA Spring Fling	Silver	47	Silver
4/24/2016	PC Silver Show 1	Silver	43	Silver
4/2/2016	RRWPA Waco Show	Silver	23	Bronze
4/3/2016	Central Coast Kickoff Show	Bronze	23	Bronze
5/21/2016	Heartland Welsh Club	Bronze	11	Bronze

2015 Gold, Silver & Bronze Shows: 47

2015 Gold & Silver Shows: 36 Shows did not make rating under old rule: 21 (58%)

2016 Gold & Silver Shows so far: 5 Shows did not make rating under old rule: 3 (60%)

Listed below is a summary of the feedback we've received so far:

Positive Feedback

- Rating is guaranteed for exhibitors - especially attractive to those that travel far distances and might not come if rating wasn't guaranteed.
- Exhibitors are happy to get full points even if there aren't enough ponies under the old rules. Classes still need to be filled so people work on that.
- No last minute scramble to find ponies (Easier for both management and exhibitors)
- Shows such as state fairs or all breed shows (that have no worries about a Welsh division cost vs income) love the new rule.

Negative Feedback

- 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 (58%) of the Gold and Silver shows did not meet the old # of ponies requirement.
- No push to get more entries = loss of revenue for show and no 'let's work together to make the numbers' atmosphere
- 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.

Discussion

- We've received a lot more positive feedback than negative.
- Most people think the new rule with a guaranteed rating is a better option especially if you're traveling far.
- There are a number of people that would like to see a minimum 'number of ponies' requirement to keep a gold rating such as 40 or 50. A silver rating would be applied if they don't meet the requirement. There are a few shows (usually tied to another show or State Fair) that are willing to meet all the gold show requirements even with very low entries and loss of revenue.

2) Other Rule Suggestions

a) Full Points for Unfilled Breed Classes if Animal Gets Supreme, Reserve Supreme, Grand or Reserve Grand

This was proposed and discussed at the February 2016 AGM and was well received. The proposal is that if an animal gets a Supreme Champion, Reserve Supreme Champion, Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion in the breed ring where there are at least three qualified entries, the animal should receive full points for all of the classes they were in to qualify for the advanced award. It was pointed out that this has been done in other disciplines (such as USEF Hunter Breeding) and appears to work well.

- For example if there was one Section A at a show and they won their class, their championship, the A Grand Champion (by default) but then went on to be Reserve Supreme with three qualified ponies, the Section A would get full class, champion, grand champion and reserve supreme points.

- In another example, if there were two Section A's at a show and neither one got Supreme or Reserve, they would get partial points for their class but they wouldn't get any champion or grand champion points.
- In another example, let's say there were three Section D's at a show, two mares and one stallion, and there were no championship classes. Two of the cobs received Grand and Reserve Section D but neither got Supreme or Reserve Supreme. The D Grand Championship would have three qualified entries so the two that got Grand and Reserve would receive full points for the Grand and Reserve along with full class points.

b) **Revise English Pleasure Rules** A suggestion to make some changes to the English Pleasure Division rules was submitted on Feb 19, 2016 via the BOD Member Contact Form by Todd and Bonnie Barbey. This was also discussed at the Feb 2016 AGM Show Rules meeting. Recently, The Barbey's submitted a refined discussion and rule change proposal that is in two separate documents. A summary of the AGM discussion and subsequent emails within the Show Rules Working Group is shown below:

Discussion:

- Also see separate documents recently submitted by the Barbey's
- The WPCSA English Pleasure division does not have sufficient definition for exhibitors, judges and spectators. There are many different types and way of going in this class at our shows and it's not a cohesive division. Exhibitors often watch preceding pleasure divisions to see 'what the judge is looking for'.
- Other disciplines within the WPCSA rulebook have well defined, detailed rules (Hunter, Driving, Western, Equitation)
- Better defined rules would give exhibitors a target to work for and be a guideline for judges. Classes would appear more cohesive to the spectators.
- It's proposed to use wording from other divisions and from the breed standard for continuity.
- Rules should not exclude any discipline.
- Some thought a description of light contact would be helpful
- Some thought we should add Strong Trot but this was controversial with many opposed. One suggestion was to have it in the working class test list only.
- It was pointed out that a pleasure class is always subjective and exhibitors should ride their animals to the best of their ability, showing off their animal regardless of what they think the judge is looking for.
- It's difficult to write rules on how a pleasure class should definitively be ridden because we have animals and riders from a wide variety of disciplines and training backgrounds.
- Some want to have a pattern for the working class and three options are presented in the separate document submitted by the Barbey's.
- Rather than doing the three pleasure classes in a row, shows should be encouraged to break it up in some way if possible. One idea is to have the stakes classes at a separate time to highlight them and make them special. Another idea is to alternate classes within a few divisions such as two small A/B junior pleasures, 2 cob adult pleasures and then the small stake followed by the cob stake.

- A number of members and judges have strongly objected to using the term “collection” in the English Pleasure division. Joann Williams suggested the following description:
Soft contact with a slightly rounded outline, near vertical but not behind in profile, moving freely forward in an uphill balance, showing smooth and prompt transitions between gaits.
- Many have noted that besides leaving collection out of the equation, we should stress that an English Pleasure animal should be one that is pleasurable to ride.
- Three possible patterns for an individual workout in the Working Class were submitted by Kim Johnson and they are in the Proposition document from the Barbeys. Each would take 60-90 seconds and it’s been suggested that the individual test could replace going as a class in one direction as long as all gaits were executed.

Proposed Changes to Current Rule as submitted by the Barbeys
Existing rule in black, new wording in red and old wording no longer used struck out

Article 112.3 *WPCSA WELSH ENGLISH PLEASURE*

Article 112.3.1 General Regulation snaffles, pelhams, or full bridles all with cavesson nosebands are required. Martingales are not permitted. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits or nosebands. Attire to correspond to type of saddle used.

Animals to wear unset, ungingered tail. Hunter braiding optional. To be shown with a natural foot and unweighted shoes. Pads may be used but additional weight of any kind is prohibited.

Animals are to be pleasurable and obedient with smooth transitions. Extreme speed or laziness is to be penalized. **Animals should exhibit collection with roundness in frame on light contact, with neither excessive pressure on the bit nor loose looping reins. The neck and poll should be elevated from the shoulder with the poll being the highest point. Nose should be vertical or slightly forward of vertical. Animals must stand quietly in the line up.** ~~Penalties may also be assessed for the following:~~

- ~~—resistance shown by not responding to a required gait and not backing in the lineup~~
- ~~—excessive chewing, tongue lolling, sour ears, wringing tail, rearing, balking~~
- ~~—breaking gait or changing leads unnecessarily~~
- ~~—incomplete equipment or attire~~

General:

Good: Smooth, steady, proper flexion & balance, good attitude.

Minor fault: Over or under flexion, sour ears, swishing tail, inconsistent speed, out of balance, poll too high or too low, improper/incomplete appointments.

Major fault: Bucking, throwing head, bad mouth, constant bumping the bit, gaping, constant breaking of gaits (rider and pony will be excused from the ring by judge if deemed disruptive or dangerous), obvious schooling, excessive nosing out or being overbent.

Elimination: Pony and rider will be excused from class if numbers warrant for: kicking, rearing, illegal equipment, lameness, fall of pony or rider, and bleeding mouth.

Movement should be appropriate to breed standard for each section. (see WPCSA rulebook 101.1, 101.2, 101.3)

1. Walk: True four beat, flat-footed, elastic and showy.
2. Working Trot: Square, straight, open and reaching. Trot should be balanced, showing suspension and elasticity.
3. Strong trot: Same frame, same rhythm, showing more action.
Section A: Quick, free, straight from the shoulder, well away in front, hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage, well under the body. (101.1)
Section B: Similar to A, but with quality riding action. (not defined well...101.2)
Sections C/D "Action: Free, true and forcible. The knee should be bent and the whole foreleg should be extended straight from the shoulder and as far forward as possible in the trot. Hocks flexed under the body with straight and powerful leverage." (see WPCSA rulebook 101.3)
4. Canter: Smooth, collected (see WPCSA rulebook 112.1) and straight on both leads. Three beat gait with a period of suspension after each stride. Good motion, consistent, steady.
Minor Fault: Lethargic.
Major fault: Too fast or not performing a 3 beat canter, wrong lead, pulling, hard or rough riding.
Elimination: Not under control.
5. Back - Good: Proper flexion, readily responsive, back in straight line.
Minor fault: Hesitant, not backing straight.
Major fault: Throwing head, gaping, not backing.
Elimination: Rears.

Article 112.3.2 English Pleasure Class Specifications

WPCSA CONFORMATION ENGLISH PLEASURE

To be shown at a walk, ~~trot~~ working trot, strong trot and canter both ways of the ring. (Please see above description of gaits) on light contact. To be judged 75% on performance, manners, movement and style; 25% on breed type and conformation.

WPCSA WORKING ENGLISH PLEASURE

To be shown at a walk, ~~trot~~ working trot, strong trot and canter both ways of the ring on light contact. Animal must show collection on light contact. To be judged 100% on performance. Up to three tests may be asked for. (See Article 112.2.) Include a short individual pattern (posted at the beginning of the show or an hour prior to class) for each pony incorporating at least three out of the applicable 6 tests in Article 112.2.

WPCSA CONFORMATION ENGLISH PLEASURE STAKE

To be shown at a walk, ~~trot~~ working trot, strong trot and canter both ways of the ring on light contact. To be judged 75% on performance, manners, movement and style; 25% on breed type and conformation. Class shall be separated from the above two Conformation and Working classes by at least one class, but preferably more classes.

Article 112.2 WORKING CLASS TESTS FOR ENGLISH AND WESTERN

PLEASURE Up to three of the following tests may be chosen for use in any of the "Working" classes. Judges may use their discretion.

1. Halt on rail

2. Halt on rail and back 4 steps
3. Canter/lope on correct lead from trot/jog
4. Canter/lope on correct lead from halt
5. Perform figure eight (8) at the trot/jog. If riding English, the entrant will switch diagonals at the center of the figure.
6. Perform figure eight (8) at the canter/lope demonstrating a simple change of lead at the center of the 8. (This is a change whereby the animal is brought back into a walk or trot/jog and restarted into a canter/lope on the opposite lead.)
7. Side passes are an optional test for Western pleasure.

Adult classes may be asked to counter canter/lope, hand gallop or do turns on the forehand or haunches at the discretion of the show committee and/or judge.

[Additional individual tests have been proposed – see Proposition document from Barbays](#)

c) Possible New Classes at WPCSA Shows

Discussion: By providing other classes and options to exhibitors the WPCSA will be making an effort to increase the number of exhibitors attending our shows. 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. If Two-Class Pleasure divisions were implemented, it would give shows more time to offer new classes.

- **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: Western 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. This would not be pointed and would be tabulated by the show.

OR award a Versatility Championship at a show level only (no extra WPCSA points) from a group of our existing classes. The show could charge an entry fee for this and the show would track the points.

- **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.

d) Two Class Divisions for all Pleasure divisions and 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.
- 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.
- 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.

OR use a simplified pattern or other tests to break up the three identical classes. Also show managers might be able to alternate classes in 2 or 3 divisions so that all three classes in a division don't go in a row.

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. (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

e) Points based on number of ponies beaten

The idea behind this is to give ponies that win in large classes more points. Many feel that this is a more fair way to distribute points. 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.

Dear Board Members and Show Committee Members:

We would like to again propose some adjustments to the description and guidelines in the rulebook for the English Pleasure Division at our WPCSA shows. We know that most of you never saw the original letter or proposal, so we are sending it again, with adjustments on our part included. This is different than the original proposal.

For many years this has been the one division where there is a lack of sufficient definition for exhibitors as well as judges. Being an exhibitor, we are privy to the talk in the stalling areas with everyone trying to figure out what style of showing each judge will be using in his or her top placings. Most competitors are not only looking at the judge's preferred discipline, but sending out scouts to watch the preceding pleasure classes in other sections to see how to ride their ponies or cobs. You can hear anything from, "He is placing hunter types. We have to move long and low" to "She is looking for collection and big movement", to "He is placing the ponies that are extending the trot and canter". We have even heard, "Go in and ride like hell!" We even know that several of the cob breeders have abandoned showing in the welsh shows in favor of open shows, particularly dressage, that give them a defined target for schooling and performing with their welsh. It is not a bad thing for breeders and competitors to be broadening their horizons and showing off the welsh in the open shows, but it would be nice to have them also attending and competing in our shows. It is painfully obvious that attendance at many of the shows has dropped significantly. The economy hasn't helped, but many of the people no longer attending are quite active in other shows.

Realizing that judging is very subjective and very much one man's or woman's opinion on that day, we feel that given better guidelines and description, the English Pleasure Division could be less of a scramble and actually look like a cohesive division for judges, exhibitors, and spectators. Over the past couple of years, particularly at Tulsa/American Nationals, the classes seem to be lacking rhyme, reason, or cohesion of any sort. We know from being in the stands that the spectators are confused and asking a lot of questions about what class this is and why everyone looks like they are riding a different class. We showed at the American National in the Sacramento area in 2010 and that was not the case. When we showed at the WPCSA American National in 2014 in Tulsa, we were very confused by what we were seeing in the classes. We had never experienced such discrepancy between the hunter, saddle seat, dressage, and what we had traditionally known as English pleasure at our shows. English Pleasure was ridden in what had been, up till that time, a more cohesive manner. At that show there were cobs travelling at what we considered excessive speed and not very well under control. They appeared to be either on the hunt approaching a jump or showing the biggest action with all the speed they could possibly muster. There were several collisions and near collisions in the class. Tulsa 2015 was confused although in a few different ways. Reverse at canter did not go well and resulted in cobs pointed in every direction as the riders tried to avoid collisions and figure out what they were supposed to be doing. Reverse on the diagonal at trot in the prior class went similarly badly when there was no direction given or any rider and horse to follow.

This is a discussion that we would have broached in 2015 at the AGM had we been able to make it. It has nothing to do with us winning or losing. We have, along with many other competitors, a strong desire and need for a target at which to aim in the English Pleasure Division. This is for exhibitors and judges alike. The suggested changes would help make the class quite a bit safer for exhibitors also if the guidelines are followed. The other divisions are well defined. There just isn't definition at this point for English Pleasure. Having English Pleasure better defined would also allow exhibitors to decide if their horse is suitable for that division. In searching the rulebooks, I found three full pages of description and guidelines for the Driving Division, three pages of description and guidelines for the Western Pleasure Division, five to six pages of description and rules for the Hunter Division, eight pages of rules and description for the Equitation Division, and ½ page for the English Pleasure Division.

We have a dedicated and defined Hunter Division with numerous classes that take up a big chunk of a day. We have a Driving Division that seems to be quite well defined and, for the most part, seems to have a consistent and recognizable way of going. Western Pleasure has extremely well defined rules and guidelines. We are simply requesting that the English Pleasure be treated as its own division and be its own entity, not appearing to be a conglomeration of different divisions all riding a different style and speed. We feel that with some basic guidelines in the rules, we can all make a few adjustments that will allow us to show our ponies and cobs in a manner that will spotlight the attributes we look for in the breed standard, which includes the action. These rules would not exclude any discipline.

The proposed rules for English Pleasure would help make the division more of a defined set of classes. They would give us an opportunity to, in a cohesive manner, show off our pony's and cob's wonderful movement, versatility, obedience, and that they are just a blast to ride. The proposed rules would give us a target at which to aim in our schooling and preparation. I think it would help the judges, also. Most of the rule changes have been modified from the existing rules used in other divisions to fit English Pleasure. It includes sections from the breed standard on action. We know that as a breed, we would not want to go the way of the quarter horse and other breeds like it that have distinctly different type for halter and performance horses.

There was also, at the 2016 AGM, and in the communications following even up to this moment, a number of people that were hoping for the working class to, instead of being a repeat of the conformation English pleasure and Stake, be a class where the ponies and cobs do a simple pattern incorporating three or more of the tests. No gallop would be asked for. This would not be a repeat of the Ridden Welsh Classic, but would give the judge a really good opportunity to view each animal separately. The pattern would probably take about 60-90 seconds per horse. Here are three very workable options presented by Kim Johnson, a WPCSA member, of Johnson Performance Horses in Ardmore, Oklahoma:

Example #1. Each exhibitor would enter the ring one at a time, with the judge designating which direction he should work first, the exhibitor is to Trot ¼ of the arena, canter ½ the arena, halt, back and then walk to center. After all exhibitors have entered the ring the judge would put them on the rail to work the other direction. Therefore, all exhibitors have worked the walk, trot and canter/lope both ways of the ring and the judge has had the opportunity to watch each animal individually.

Example #2 Each exhibitor would enter the ring individually. At the rider's discretion, he must complete the walk, trot, canter, halt and back using only 1 lap of the ring, change direction and complete the walk, trot and canter the other direction for only 1 lap of the ring. So, the rider can decide which order he wants to show off the gaits and handiness of his horse. One rider may choose to walk and then trot and then canter, halt, back then reverse and then do the same thing the other direction. Another rider may choose to canter off from the walk then transition down to the trot and then halt and back. Once the exhibitor is done he

could stay in the center of the ring until everyone has completed their work. There would be no need for rail work since the exhibitors have completed all 3 gaits both ways of the ring.

Example #3 Similar to example #2 but the judge designates what order he wants to see the gaits executed. Again, each rider would complete one lap around the ring in both direction at all 3 gaits with the halt and back.

We would be thrilled if we could incorporate any one of these above options into our division. Probably #1 and #3 are the best possibilities, but we would add in a few cones in the arena to give direction to where to change gaits, start, and stop. These short patterns could be easily and quickly executed with either the ponies leaving the arena after the conformation pleasure class and then re-entering one at a time, or better yet, keeping the lineup in place after announcing the placings in class one, then working the competitors one by one from the lineup. That would be faster, but you would have to request that any competitors who had not competed in English Pleasure Conformation but were competing in Working to please enter the ring and line up. Those not entered,, which never happens but could, would then exit the ring. This should add very little time to the class, especially if # 1 is used, there would be rail work as a class in only the opposite direction as the pattern. Ribbons obviously would have to be held from class one till the end of class two. We love these ideas!

One other idea from Kim Johnson, which I am really excited to say seems to be already being implemented at many shows, is separating the first two classes from the Stake Class. At Tulsa on September, the plan is to make the Stake Class/division championship presentation spotlighted, along with Ridden Welsh Classic, at the end of the show. We love that this is being done! We think there should be a separation of these classes at every show to give a break to horses and riders and judges alike. It really makes the Stake class and championships very special and should encourage spectators to be there!

Laura San Diego came up with some revisions to our wording that we incorporated into the proposed rules that we think described frame better than we had it.

We talked with Megan Burtness at the AGM and volunteered to help in the making of a video demonstration of what a defined English Pleasure Division would look like using our proposed rules. I am attaching a link to a video that we put together to help visualize what we are proposing. It is of our young, green stallion that will not be ready for a show ring until next year, so we are showing that this can be done with a horse not too far into it's schooling. He is about 6 months ridden if you consider that winter pretty much shuts us down. He is in the beginning stages of collection, working with roundness of frame on light contact. You can see in the attached video that his movement is not constrained even though he is yet very early in his schooling.

Please take the time to consider this. It is really important for many of the exhibitors who travel very long distances to support the shows and promote our Welsh. We do need definition! We have spent many hours researching, watching videos, reading articles, consulting, revising, and talking back and forth between us here and MHS (Todd, Bonnie, David and Bonnie Bradbury, and Dallas and Jackie Martin) and talking with other competitors and breeders. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd and Bonnie Barbey

PROPOSED RULES FOR ENGLISH PLEASURE DIVISION

Article 112.3.1 General Regulation snaffles, pelhams, or full bridles all with cavesson nosebands are required. Martingales are not permitted. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits or nosebands. Attire to correspond to type of saddle used.

Animals to wear unset, ungingered tail. Hunter braiding optional. To be shown with a natural foot and unweighted shoes. Pads may be used but additional weight of any kind is prohibited.

Animals are to be pleasurable and obedient with smooth transitions. Extreme speed or laziness is to be penalized. Animals should exhibit collection with roundness in frame on light contact, with neither excessive pressure on the bit nor loose looping reins. The neck and poll should be elevated from the shoulder with the poll being the highest point. Nose should be vertical or slightly forward of vertical. Animals must stand quietly in the line up.

General:

Good: Smooth, steady, proper flexion & balance, good attitude.

Minor fault: Over or under flexion, sour ears, swishing tail, inconsistent speed, out of balance, poll too high or too low, improper/incomplete appointments.

Major fault: Bucking, throwing head, bad mouth, constant bumping the bit, gaping, constant breaking of gaits (rider and pony will be excused from the ring by judge if deemed disruptive or dangerous), obvious schooling, excessive nosing out or being overbent.

Elimination: Pony and rider will be excused from class if numbers warrant for: kicking, rearing, illegal equipment, lameness, fall of pony or rider, and bleeding mouth.

Movement should be appropriate to breed standard for each section. (see WPCSA rulebook 101.1, 101.2, 101.3)

1. Walk: True four beat, flat-footed, elastic and showy.
2. Working Trot: Square, straight, open and reaching. Trot should be balanced, showing suspension and elasticity.
3. Strong trot: Same frame, same rhythm, showing more action.

Section A: Quick, free, straight from the shoulder, well away in front, hocks well flexed with straight and powerful leverage, well under the body. (101.1)

Section B: Similar to A, but with quality riding action. (not defined well...101.2)

Sections C/D "Action: Free, true and forcible. The knee should be bent and the whole foreleg should be extended straight from the shoulder and as far forward as possible in the trot. Hocks flexed under the body with straight and powerful leverage." (see WPCSA rulebook 101.3)

4. Canter: Smooth, collected (see WPCSA rulebook 112.1) and straight on both leads. Three beat gait with a period of suspension after each stride. Good motion, consistent, steady.

Minor Fault: Lethargic.

Major fault: Too fast or not performing a 3 beat canter, wrong lead, pulling, hard or rough riding.

Elimination: Not under control.

5. Back - Good: Proper flexion, readily responsive, back in straight line.

Minor fault: Hesitant, not backing straight.

Major fault: Throwing head, gaping, not backing.

Elimination: Rears.

Article 112.3.2 English Pleasure Class Specifications

WPCSA CONFORMATION ENGLISH PLEASURE

To be shown at a walk, working trot, strong trot, and canter both ways of the ring. (Please see above description of gaits) To be judged 75% on performance, manners, movement and style; 25% on breed type and conformation.

WPCSA WORKING ENGLISH PLEASURE

To be shown at a walk, working trot, strong trot, and canter both ways of the ring on light contact. To be judged 100% on performance. Up to three tests may be asked for. (See Article 112.2.) Include a short individual pattern (posted at the beginning of the show or an hour prior to class) for each pony incorporating at least three out of the applicable 6 tests in Article 112.2.

WPCSA CONFORMATION ENGLISH PLEASURE STAKE

To be shown at a walk, working trot, strong trot, and canter both ways of the ring on light contact. To be judged 75% on performance, manners, movement and style; 25% on breed type and conformation. Class shall be separated from the above two Conformation and Working classes by at least one class, but preferably more classes.

Regional Representatives – Margaret Almond

Representatives come and go. Donna Ley, JoAnn Williams, Cindy DiBrino and Heather Gaffer-McKereghan have resigned. Monica Nelson, Reita Gelandner and Carol Maurer are now serving. The reps have been asked to submit "news" to the Review, to write up a Junior Member for the June issue and reach out to the members who have not renewed their membership. Nobody gets really good feedback from the members no matter the way they reach out. One rep felt we had not adequately communicated with the membership about show rule changes. She would like us to do email blasts, Facebook, and a column in the Review with such information.

Mollie Butler/ JD Orear Scholarship – Sabra Schiller

At this time we have only received 2 applications. If you know of anyone interested please ask them to apply. They are due into the office by July 1st.