

**Ride and Tie Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 6, 2006**

Meeting held as Conference call

Present: Don Betts, (President), Rufus Schneider (Vice President), Sid Sullivan (Treasurer), Dawn Hartsock, Ted Ruprecht, Laurie Wilson, Nita Browning, Jim Steere (Emeritus)

Absent: Lani Newcomb, Mary Tiscornia

The Meeting was called to order at: 6:04 PM PDT.

The Minutes from February 2, 2006 were corrected by Jim Steere as follows: Revision to Rule 20: "A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have fully crossed the finish line..." will be changed to "A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have crossed the finish line..."
The Minutes were approved as corrected.

REPORTS

President's Report – Don Betts

- We sent out the first of our \$5.00 vouchers to members of the Ride and Tie Association completing a sanctioned ride. They were sent to participants in the Pioneertown Ride. At least six participants did not receive them because they were not members when they participated.
- At the end of January we sent out reminders to 120 previous Association members who had not renewed their memberships. Along with the reminder we sent return addressed stamped questionnaires. Of the 120 sent out, only 14 questionnaires were returned. We did get 35 renewals. In addition, we have 13 new members and we welcome Jeff Herten and Debby Lyons as the latest Supporting Family Members!
- Annie and I had a booth at the Mane Event Horse Expo in Vancouver Washington. There was a lot of interest in the sport, but we do not know if any of these people will show up for a race.
- Don Strong is in charge of the booth at the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento in June. Steve Anderson, Dawn Hartsock, Doyle Eggers, Nita and Pat Browning have all volunteered to assist him. They will be putting on a ride & tie demonstration in the arena at the expo. The booth will cost the association \$500 plus insurance.
- Race directors are given honorary 'race director/membership' for the year. They have the same benefits as the competitive members. This membership is added support and encouragement for putting on a race. It also gives them information and education about the races through the newsletters.
- I have ordered the License Plate Frames for the Point Champions for 2005. They will be given out at the Championship.
- We are always looking for articles for the newsletter.
- There is a Canadian Ride & Tie Association that is putting on a championship this year. We should consider offering their winning team a free entry to our Championship.

Treasurer's Report - Sid Sullivan

- I have followed up with the insurance company I use for my own company regarding Director's insurance. They were unable to give a firm estimate without specific

information about the board. Ted moves that Sid be empowered to provide the necessary information to the insurance company for the purposes of getting a quote for Directors' Insurance. Laurie seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Our 2005 Taxes have been filed. Copies will be sent to Don and Steve and will be provided to other Ride and Tie Association Board members as requested.

2006 Championship Race Director Report – Rufus Schneider

- The belt buckles have been ordered, and the deposit has been made for them.
- Tom Gey and Carol Ruprecht have offered to use their GPS on the trail we plan to use for the race, but each time they come down it snows. We are starting with an already measured 24 miles and will add enough trail to make it long enough for the Championship. When we think we have it, Jim Howard will run it and with his help we will determine the proper length for the race.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Race sites for 2007** - Ted Ruprecht (Cuneo Creek – Chris Amaral): Chris Amaral has contacted the Humboldt Redwood State Park concerning using the Cuneo Creek trails. The contact person is Emily Peterson. At this time he sees no problem with having the race there. They have parking/camping space for about 40 rigs, they can provide extended camping. The cost hasn't been ascertained because it will depend on the 2007 park budget. Ted will ask Chris to see if he can find out what dates the park would be available so that we can discuss possible dates at the next meeting so that it can be announced at the Championship.

Jim Steere (Cooley Ranch, Healdsburg). Jim is still waiting to hear from his contact. He will also find out the dates that Cooley Ranch will be available.

2. **Finish line clock** – Ted Ruprecht is still working on purchasing the Finish Line Clock.
3. **Board of Directors Election—Don Betts:** People wishing to be on the Board of Directors need to contact Doyle Eggers. (rotneggranchWisp01.net) and let him know your intentions. This applies to the reelection of the current board members whose terms are up. Send a paragraph to him about why you want to continue serving on the board, this will be printed in the May Newsletter. Deadline is April 15.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Novice Award Continuation** – Don Betts: In the past there has been a First Novice Award of a year's membership which is given at each race to the first novice to finish a race. It is apparent that many race directors do not know about this award. Does the board want to continue offering it? General discussion followed and continuation of the award was informally approved with the change that the association will not refund a person's current membership fee which they paid to enter the race, but they will extend their membership for the following year. If the novice only paid for a one day membership, it will be extended to a one year membership.
2. **Administrative Changes** -- Don Betts: Sharen McColl has resigned from her position as administrative worker for the association. I have asked her to continue through the championship and have requested that she provide a written job description listing the jobs she actually performs for the association. Currently the Association's mailing address, email address and telephone number are all Sharen's. Rather than changing these each time we change personnel, I propose that we

change our email address to Contact@rideandtie.org and that we look into ways to have a permanent mailing address and a permanent phone number. After discussion it was decided that Don would look into the feasibility of using a mailing service and Dawn would explore the cost of having a cell phone number as our permanent phone number.

3. **Five Year Awards:** Ted Ruprecht: In the past the Association gave nice awards every 5 years that a person participated in the Championship. The awards were things like belt buckle display cases, wall plaques and wooden chests. Currently, we get 5-year pins. I would like to see the awards reinstated. It was mentioned that in the past someone who no longer is involved with the Association donated the awards. At the next meeting, Don will provide the number of people who would need to receive awards. Laurie and Ted will work on a list of specific things they would like to see awarded every five years. Whether or not to start giving out five-year awards will be discussed further at the June meeting.
4. **Free Entries for International Teams:** In the past the Board has allowed Carol Ruprecht to offer a free entry to the championship to one team from each country outside of the United States. It was moved by Nita Browning that Carol be empowered to give out one free entry per country outside of the US for the championship race. Dawn seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2006 at 7 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Betts