

**Ride and Tie Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 2, 2006**

Meeting held as Conference Call

PRESENT: Don Betts (President), Sid Sullivan (Treasurer), Nita Browning (for Pat Browning), Laurie Wilson, Ted Ruprecht, Lani Newcomb, Rufus Schneider (Vice President), Jim Steere (Emeritus)
ABSENT: Mary Tiscornia, Dawn Hartsock

Meeting Called to order: 6:07

The Minutes from the December 15, 2005 Meeting were approved.

President's Report – Don Betts

- We sent out 210 handbooks. They should be arriving soon.
- Annie and Don had a booth at the Pacific Northwest Endurance Rides Convention. There was a lot of interest in Ride and Tie and possibly 8 new people interested.
- Don and Annie will have a booth at the Mane Event Horse Expo in Southern Washington in February.
- Don Strong will have a booth at the Sacramento Horse Expo in June.
- The Association has received donations of \$5000 from John Osterweis, \$10,000 from Warren Hellman, and \$1000 from Steve Shaw, (\$500 to endowment fund, 500 to general fund).
- Curt Riffle and Skip Lightfoot have agreed to offer the Corky Award again for this year's Championship.

Treasurer's Report - Sid Sullivan reports that there is \$13,650 in the Main Account, \$55,540 in the Race Account and \$49,347 in the Dodge and Cox Fund. Our taxes have been prepared for this year.

2006 Championship Race Director's Report – Rufus Schneider reports that she is working on getting the buckles and prizes for the Championship. She is discussing vets with Jim Steere, DVM. She has a place for producing the T-shirts. She is beginning to set up the trails. She invites anyone interested in seeing the trails ahead of time to compete in the May 13th ride (Santa Ysabel Ride & Tie). Ted is helping Rufus with the categories of awards for Century in the Saddle. At Rufus' request, Nita Browning has agreed to be the person in charge of the Championship while Rufus is competing. Rufus is exploring the possibility of having a raffle at the Championship as a fundraiser.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Budget for 2006.** – Sid Sullivan presented the budget for 2006. Nita Browning moved that the budget would be approved as it was submitted. Rufus seconded the motion. The budget was approved unanimously.
2. **Race sites for 2007:** Ted Ruprecht (Cuneo Creek): Chris Amaral will contact the park about the possibility of a 2007 race. He will have a report back in a week or so. Jim Steere (Cooley Ranch): Jim hasn't talked to anyone about it yet. He will do it soon.

3. **Insurance Item on 2005 Championship Financial Report:** Sid confirms that the amount listed on the budget was actually the amount for the entire year, not just for the Championship. This led to discussion on whether or not the Association should have "Directors' Insurance". It was agreed that Ted would look into the feasibility and benefits of having it.
4. **Finish line clock** – Ted Ruprecht contacted Barbara McCrary regarding the offer she made to Steve Shaw regarding her finish line clock. Motion: Ted moves that the Association offer \$400 for the finishline clock in verified running condition. Lani seconded the motion. Jim was opposed to the expenditure for the clock. The motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Revise Rule 21** – Dawn Hartsock
Current: "These rules apply to a sanctioned race. A sanctioned race must be at least 20 miles in length."
Revised: "These rules apply to a sanctioned race. A race may be of any distance, but to be sanctioned there must be a Ride & Tie race of at least 20 miles in length included within the same event."
Discussion followed. A motion was made by Jim and seconded by Nita. Motion: "I move that Rule 21 be revised as stated." Motion was carried unanimously.
2. **Revise Rule 20** – Steve Shaw
Current: "A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have fully crossed the finish line, although it is not required that they do so simultaneously."
Revised: "A team has not completed the race until both human teammates and their horse have crossed the finish line, although it is not required that they do so simultaneously. Finish times for all races under 20 miles is determined by the time that the horse meets pulse and respiration criteria established by the head veterinarian."
Discussion followed. Motion by Lani and seconded by, Jim: "I move that Rule 20 be revised as stated." Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Eliminate Rule 14** – Don Betts
Current: "No smoking will be allowed on the trail at any point." Discussion followed as to how it is now unnecessary for the Association to have such a rule. Motion by Ted, was seconded by Laurie: "I move that Rule 14 be eliminated." Motion was carried unanimously.
4. **Betts Championship Race Director Fund-** Don and Annie Betts have offered a donation of \$1000 per year for the next 5 years to be used as compensation for the Championship Race Director. If the race director chooses not to use it, it is to be held by the Association and made available for an additional year. Discussion followed about how the Betts fund would be administered. Sid said the money would go into the race fund but the board would be responsible for offering it to the race director each year.
5. **License Plate Awards for Points Champions-** Don asked that the board approve \$400 for license plate awards for point champions. Nita moved and Jim seconded a motion that they be approved. The motion was carried unanimously.

6. **Pat's Purse** Pat Browning has again offered \$500 for Pat's Purse. It is to be awarded to "The first place team at the Championship if it has at least one team member who has never finished first in a Championship." A motion was made by Nita that the Association match the funds. Laurie seconded it. The motion was carried unanimously.
7. **Future Retirement of Head Vet:** Jim Steere would like to have the Board start looking for a replacement for himself as head vet for the Ride and Tie Association.

Next meeting Thursday, April 6, 2006

Meeting adjourned 7:33

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Betts for Sharen McColl

**Ride and Tie Association
Board of Directors Meeting
December 15, 2005**

Meeting held as Conference Call

**Present: Steve Shaw, Jim Steeres, Don Betts (President), Laurie Wilson, Mary Tiscornia, Dawn Hartsock, Ted Ruprecht, Lani Newcomb
Absent: Sid Sullivan (Treasurer), Rufus Schneider (Vice President), Pat Browning**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM (Pacific Time)
The minutes from the October 13th meeting were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Don and Annie purchased a new color laser printer, which they will use to print the newsletter. With the board's approval, they will charge the Association for the paper and ink. Steve Shaw moved that Don and Annie should charge whatever they deem appropriate. The board approved the motion.
- We will be sending the newsletter out through a new bulk mailing company. We will let the board members know when the newsletter is mailed and the board members will let us know when it arrives. In that way we will know if using the bulk mailing system is timely.
- New Ride & Tie Association flyers need to be printed with slight rewording and a new address.
- Don has started two online forums for discussion. One is for the Board of Directors only so that they can discuss items prior to the meetings. The second is for public use and discussion of Ride and Tie. It is Don's hope that this second discussion forum will lead to a sharing of information about rides, training and other Ride & Tie issues as well as providing support for those starting in Ride & Tie.
- Don will be sending out the 'invitations' to the 2006 Championship in January.

Treasurer's Report (Including report on all 3 bank accounts): Sid Sullivan was not present.

2006 Race Directors Report: Rufus Schneider was not present.

OLD BUSINESS

Association Financial Review: Steve Shaw. Steve has contacted three different firms in Idaho area and none will provide an estimate to do a simple review. Steve offered to make a simple internal review at no cost to the Association. Ted Ruprecht moved that Steve be allowed to do a simple review of our financial affairs. The motion was approved.

Race Sites for 2007 Championship: At past meetings Don Betts had suggested a site near Taylorsville, CA, Ted Ruprecht suggested a Cuneo Creek, CA site, and Jim Steere believed a site near San Francisco should be considered.

Ted reports no new information. Cuneo Creek has good facilities. The race director would be Chris Amaral. They have not approached the park because it is so early. Don encouraged Ted to approach the park.

Jim Steere reported that there are good trails and good camping at Cooley Ranch near Healdsburg, CA. He will be talking to the contact person next week and will report back to the board in February. There were some suggestions made about possible race directors who live in that area.

Short Course Recognition: (Dawn Hartsock) In discussion with Ride & Tie competitors Dawn has found a need for more recognition for those who participate in the short course events. Possible recognition would include division points, yearly awards and sanctioning the events. Dawn will write up a proposal for recognition of the short course and post it in the Association Board's forum for more discussion. No motion made.

Insurance Costs for Championship: (Lani Newcomb) Lani has had difficulty contacting Sid Sullivan to get the information needed. Continued until next meeting

Payment for Championship Race Directors: (Mary Tiscornia) Continued until next meeting

Finish Line Clock: (Laurie Wilson) Don reported that a new finish line clock would cost \$2630. Ted does not believe the Association needs to own their own clock, but could borrow or rent one for the Championship. Ted offered to be in charge of finding one for the 2006 Championship. Steve reported a possible donation source for a clock and will discuss the possibility with Ted. No motion needed.

Board of Directors Positions for 2006: Don Betts reported that the following board members will be ending their terms in 2006: Pat Browning, Lani Newcomb and Sid Sullivan. Don has asked Doyle Eggers to chair an election committee to assist with finding new board members. Persons wishing to serve on the Ride and Tie Association Board of Directors should contact Doyle Eggers. No motion needed

Conventions in 2006:

- Pacific Northwest Endurance Riders, Portland, OR, January 27-29 \$85 (Don and Annie Betts)
- Main Event , Vancouver WA February 17, 18, & 19 \$200 (Don and Annie Betts)
- Western States Horse Expo, Sacramento, June 9, 10, 11 \$700 (Don Strong) – Includes booth, outside horse stall and 10 minutes of demonstration time in one of the arenas.

There are three conventions being held in 2006 at which members have volunteered to have a booth. Ted moved that the board approve all three conventions. Mary seconded the motion. Approved.

NEW BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR TITLE CHANGE: Don reports that Sharen McColl would like to have her title changed to Office Worker. The board unanimously agreed that the change could be made.

ONLINE BOARD MEETINGS: Don introduced the idea of having board meetings online to save the association approximately \$350 per meeting. Discussion followed. It was suggested that using the new Board of Directors forum would cut down on the length of the meetings. No motion was made.

UTILITY TRAILER ACCIDENT REPORT: Don reported that an accident occurred to the Association trailer while it was being hauled to San Diego. No injuries occurred, and the trailer has been repaired at Leucadia Auto Body. Rufus will pick up the trailer. The insurance company of the driver who ran into the trailer will pay for the repairs. No motion necessary.

NEW ADDRESS FOR THE ASSOCIATION: The Ride and Tie Association, P.O. Box 835, Alpine, CA 91903

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2006 at 6 PM Pacific Time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Betts for Sharen McColl