

2020 AHA Convention Report

Monday, Nov 16th

Hunter/Jumper Committee – first order of business was to discuss and vote on the resolutions assigned to the committee. To show the support for the move of Sport Horse Nationals to the World Equestrian Center (WEC) in Wilmington, OH, Bruce Carpenter, from Region 16, wished the committee would show its support of the move by making an official statement to the AHA Board of Directors. A motion was drafted stating the Hunter/Jumper committee supports and endorses the move to WEC for the next three years. The motion passed, but there was dissent. The committee's task for 2021 will be to write hunter derby rules that closely resemble the US Hunter/Jumper Association (USHJA)'s national derby rules found in their handbook.

Equitation & Showmanship – after discussing the resolutions assigned to the committee, the new equitation rules effective 12/1/20 were briefly discussed. The biggest change is judges are now required to score showmanship instead of just subjectively placing the class. Starting with the average score of 70, then each movement is scored in ½ point increments plus any penalties being added. A new showmanship score card has been developed; for 2021, the use of the scorecard is optional. Personally, I'm not sure why a judge would not use a scorecard with this new scoring system. This does create the need for scribes. One more thing for show management. New business for the committee is discussing the need for time outs in reining seat eq and western horsemanship. Currently, saddle seat eq is the only equitation class that allows time outs. I asked the question, instead of adding more time outs, why not eliminate the time out in saddle seat eq this way consistency is maintained. A reason given was in the tradition of saddle seat riding, time outs have been allowed. If one looks at the tradition behind the other seats, a reining horse sets out to go work for the day. Hunters are in field all day. These "working" seats need to be prepared for the day thus no time outs. There was additional discussion to possibly allowing time outs for the rail work portion of equitation classes and not while executing patterns.

USEF Arabian Rules Division Committee – this committee works behind the scenes throughout the year updating rules and getting clarification when needed. There are two resolutions that hope to change USEF general rules. When general rules or rules that may affect non-Arabian classes or disciplines, they may not always get approved once they get to USEF. One of these this year is to allow Arabian judges to exhibit at Arabian horse shows in divisions they are not adjudicating. Several years ago, the rule to allow clients of judges to exhibit at shows where the judge is adjudicating as long as the client is not showing in the same divisions of those of the judge. This new resolution expands this. The second resolution that may not get past USEF is to allow dually licensed C2 steward/dressage technical delegates to officiate when a breed show offers open, all breed dressage classes. Currently, if an Arabian show wanted to offer open dressage classes along with Arabian dressage classes or open dressage classes as part of an Arabian show, a separate TD would have to be hired. This doesn't happen often, but it may encourage more shows to do it in the future.

Sport Horse Committee – the first order of business was to discuss the resolutions assigned to the committee. Again, the sport horse committee passed a statement to the BOD showing its support and endorsing the move to WEC for Sport Horse Nationals. Future business of the committee includes clarifying ties in sport horse showmanship and whether to allow horses with the loss of sight in one eye to show in sport horse in hand. Currently, halter bans it, but performance halter allows it. What needs decided is whether sport horse in hand is to be considered a breeding class or not. Are people looking at sport horse stallions and mares for the specific purpose of breeding sport horses? If so, then loss of sight should not be allowed.

Dressage & Western Dressage Committee - first order of business was to discuss the resolutions assigned to the committee. At present, there is a conflicting rule regarding western dressage being allowed to be braided. The Arabian general rules say only the horses in hunter and dressage tack may be braided. The western dressage rules allow for braiding. These rules conflict.

Tuesday, Nov 17th

Amateur Committee – the committee first discussed the resolutions assigned. Discussion revolved around the proposed amateur rule stating if one received money for endorsing or promoting, products and services on social media (known as an influencer), that would cause the individual to lose their amateur status.

Nominating Committee – the committee needed to elect a new chair and vice-chair. Peggy Weems was re-elected as chair and Laura Mickleson. This year because of officer elections, the committee was tasked with collecting and preparing questions for the candidates to be discussed during the Candidates' Forum during the second general session. Members had the opportunity to submit questions to AHA to be reviewed by the committee. The committee was short as no resolutions were assigned and we need to hold a closed session to finalize the list of questions to be asked.

Sport Horse Nationals Show Commission - I was few minutes late in joining this meeting. It was an open forum with attendees asking questions about the 2021 show. Questions included the decision to either a five or six day schedule, continuing the search for a western rotation for 2024, what do facilities in the west need to do to be considered. Balmoral, the site of the 2019 show, was the first facility that produced survey results indicating a permanent location may be favored. The move to Ohio, can be considered as an experiment to test three years in the same location. Colorado Horse Park is the best suited facility for a western rotation but concerns with facility management and VS outbreaks took them out of consideration.

Membership Committee - first order of business was to review and vote on the assigned resolutions. Registrations have been strong for the year. Memberships are lagging primarily due to lack of showing. 8,942 members do not have a club affiliation of the 14,475 members. Because of three year memberships, and because the monies paid for those three years are spread out over three years, revenue has stayed within budget while actual memberships are down. There are 407 eligible delegates of those 292 registered for Convention. Participation in the individual meetings is much higher. Maybe not having conflicting meetings is helpful.

U.S. Nationals Show Commission - resolutions assigned were voted on. The meeting was an open Q & A. The commission was asked to consider hunt seat eq AATR. Some members thought a 20 horse final was too large especially in amateur and junior horse classes. A comment was made that if horses were actually ridden on the rail, crowding may not be such an issue. Exhibitors would like the ability to show in more than one class. There are cross entry prohibitions. The AHA app allowed exhibitors to many things through the app instead of going to the office. The suggestion was made to bring back the "intent to show" forms because scratches made it unnecessary for some sections to be held. The commission said no changes to the schedule 24 hours out. Marlene said they had nine scratches for one class in one morning. She said the intent to show doesn't not work because you cannot control the last minute scratches.

Wednesday, Nov 18th

AHA Board of Directors Meeting

After the beginning procedural motions, Nancy introduced the incoming directors and new board members. She mentioned Sport Horse Nationals averaged five classes per horse. US Nationals classes per horse was also up. There were positive COVID cases at USN. No new offers on the sale of the building. Stan Morey has been doing an incredible job as executive director overseeing the operations. Kudos to the staff for their resilience in stepping up and getting the job done. Nancy stated the relationship with USEF is rocky. With the latest issues between USEF and the World Equestrian Center (WEC), AHA sees the need to keep reevaluating our association with USEF. The executive committee will not put the association in jeopardy. 2020 has dealt AHA too many other issues that needed dealt with first. 2021 we will begin reevaluating the relationship. PAST Act compromise bill. Substantial language changes to pad, shoeing, soring which would supersede our definitions and measuring. New federal oversight of all breeds. Compliance testing at shows. We are opposed. Virtual convention same things happen as in live. Some committees are more prepared then others. We are one of the first to hold a virtual convention. Guests are observing our process. Sign-ups are over budget. 290 delegates and 90 guests. One of largest delegates.

Dave Corning. Working capital at end of 2020 cash flow was positive for 2020, We were able to pay the bills. We are recoverin from the PAT lawsuit. From 2009-2010 building the hrs system. 2015 building repairs. Then lawsuit. Cash flow improved even though the pandemic has occurred. Decisions going forward to keep financially successful. Moving forward fairly rapidly. Its too early to give a bottom line but more horses than budgeted and more classes entered No major surprises. PPP loan \$503k. Application for forgiveness has not been submitted yet but they do anticipate 100% forgiveness.

Stan's comments – not ready to leave USEF yet. But with the growth of value and one day shows, we are heading in the right direction to leave USEF. We need the liability issues resolved. Shows need stewards and someone in charge. No qualifications for 2021. Lighter schedules.

Pam Bingham. Convention is Niagara Falls,. Canadian side. Passport. 2021. Myrtle Beach 2022.

Performance Halter – multiple judge scoring. At USN, were judged, a scorecard is used. The scores are used to place the class, then goes into MOS. Did not happen at USN. Software issue. Correct at YN and mid-summer. Rulebook says scorecard. Handbook says mos. Going to committee. Use 5 drop high and low.

Thursday, Nov 19

J & S Steering – handles ethical and conflict of interest issues. They receive inquiries from Stan, exhibitors, and members. Reviewed the resolutions. Open Q & A. Closed session

Equitation & Showmanship – leveling in equitation. Do the eq classes need to count towards the pleasure classes when determining levels. Group felt no. Experimenting with patterns without cones. Sub-committee was created to discuss the need for time outs in equitation and horsemanship .

Dressage seat eq – no issues

Saddle seat eq – no issues/concerns

Hunt seat eq – complementary about the riders

Horsemanship – 2021 rulebook, USEF new medal classes, increase degree of difficulty

Showmanship – grown exponentially the last 5 yrs. Scorecard.

Professional horsemen's – resolutions were voted on. Debate the need for USEF. Not go on our own but things have changed so much . We have the power and the will to leave. It's not about horse show but regulating the horse industry. Continues the wide spread consensus alternative governing solution. All COVID protocols for another 12 months. Bullying tactics. COVID and political statements.

Friday, Nov 20

Eventing and driving – Discussed the ability to offer a combined test at Sport Horse Nationals. A combined test is two phases including dressage and stadium jumping. Driven dressage to SHN. Who can officiate? DTD, steward, driving TD. Meet the Arabian with carriage drivers. Hitching demonstrations. Showed a video of a cross country ride via helmet cam.

Awards presentation – announced the regional level volunteer awards. Announced the club awards; all three were won by the Georgia AHA. First time this has happened. Announced the president awards and youth of the year award. A listing of all award winners can be found on the AHA website.

Saturday, Nov 21

The day was broken up into three general sessions. General session I contained Nancy's opening remarks, Stan's report, and the treasurer's report. It was a rehash from the BOD meeting. Additional nominees for the convention elected position were asked for. The second session include the candidate's forum which consisted of questions presented by the nominating committee and candidate pre-recorded speeches. Voting was done via a website called V Voter. Each delegate was given a unique ID. Once logged in, the elections were posted one at a time enabling everyone to vote. It worked rather well. Credentialling also utilized V Voter for attendance. During the third session, the election results were announced and the national judges for the year.

President – Deborah Johnson

Vice-president – Lisa Blackstone

Secretary – Jan Decker

Treasurer – Dave Corning

From what I understand the vice-president and secretary positions were won by very slim margins.

Respectfully,

Cricket Gates

AHA Convention

Equitation and Showmanship

I came in several minutes late due to trouble connecting to the meeting. The room was in mid discussion about the new score card, USEF and the need for scribes. Following this, the talk turned to questions of time outs in west equitation and pleasure and the need in the youth classes. Someone noted that AR 108 allows for some time outs for safety issues in the w/t division but not for any pattern classes. The committee discussed a possible change to allow greater latitude for time outs. I was decided to do more research and return next year with a possible resolution. Michelle Pease Paulson is the new chairwoman

Youth Committee

4 resolutions were discussed, 6-20, WDE age limits, 7-20, exception to the breeding in hand order of go, 8-20, change to the hunter jog rule, and 17-20, W Horsemanship change from MOS to multiple judge at regional shows. All resolutions passed unanimously, with the except of 6-20 which had 2 oppositions. Alternate forms of competition for hippology and judging teams were discussed including virtual shows if the covid situation continues. Also discussed was the need for regional directors in regions 3, 6, 12, 15, 17 and 18. The AYHA scholarship was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 1045 am

Canadian National Show

This meeting began with the presentation of resolutions 8-20, change to the hunter jog rule, 10-20, and 16-20. All resolutions passed unanimously. Discussion then opened regarding the Canadian border closures and how it affects the competition and judges ability to come to America. Everything at this time is on hold and there were questions regarding a go/no go date in 2021. The committee is cautiously optimistic that there can be a Canadian national stand alone show in 2021.

Board of Directors

I came in a few minutes late to the beginning of this meeting. Discussion was already underway regarding judging and scoring. The discussion included the use of score cards and the points of MOS or multiple judges, 5 judges at national events and 3 at regionals. Points brought up were changes to the rule book and possibly needing more clarification. There were several differences of opinions regarding the suggested changes.

The Breeders Sweepstake was discussed.....

I had to step out for a bit and returned at 5:45 to the discussion about USEF. Points made were the US and Canadian border closure, and the ability to have judges crossing to work the national shows. I was agreed that USEF should not be making political statements. There was concerns about USEF holding everyone to Olympic standards and the differences with AHA levels of showing. AHA is currently looking at alternate to USEF. It was announced and agreed that this matter is to be confidential and not to be shared on social media. The final statement was decided on to “continue an active exploration of an alternative governing body for AHA horse shows”

The Arabian Horse

This morning I attended the meeting of the Arabian Horse Foundation. The meeting began with the discussion of small grants , \$3500 to \$5000, to various researchers for study of neurologic and genetic diseases. First was Juvenile Idiopathic Epilepsy. Researchers are currently looking for a test to find carriers or who would be susceptible. Also brought up was the working relationship with the Morris Foundation and continued funding for JIE and their PSS2 projects. The AHF is looking to fund a study for laminitis and suspensory ligament injuries.

The meeting then moved on to the subject of donations. It was announced that anyone can use Amazon Smile and designate AHF as a recipient. I shared this information on social media with responses from people who use amazon regularly and will now begin to use smile to donate. Fundraising ideas were presented including getting back to “grassroots” of asking personally for donations. It was suggested that a letter go out to each member to ask 20 friends to donate, and approaching each region to support AHF. Other ideas included scholarship recipients giving stories of how their grants were used and stories behind those scholarships.

The emergency response team, created to respond to the covid situation would remain in place. It was suggested and agreed to create a 3 member board to sit in on this group with the purpose of keeping AHF in apprised of the teams actions. There were some differences of opinions but all agreed with the need for better communications.

Resolutions were discussed and voted on. All passed. And it was announced that qualifications for 2021 shows are waved.

Breeding In Hand

First the resolution 7-20 was brought up which allows for the change in order of go at youth nationals if there is a class conflict. This does not apply to performance halter. The resolution passed unanimously.

Discussion began on the number of qualifying shows with some saying 4 shows was too many for young horses. The individuals were advised to write to AHA stating their reasons. A new proposal stressed participating in classed and not requiring placing. No decision will be made until august of 2021 and currently the qualifying classes are waved.

Equine Stress Research & Education

The main topic of discussion was the appearance of a new type of pad being used by farriers. It is called "no show" and it soft titanium, rubber coated pad designed to reduce concussion. It is widely used by driving horses but it is illegal to use our shows because of its design. In 2021 AHA will begin to use xrays to detect these pads and stop the use. USEF pad rule 106.5b covers the use of this type of pad.

The discussion then moved on to changing rule 7 from disqualification from the show to disqualification in the class for youth or amateur, centering of the difference of willful versus unknowing use of these pads.

We then talked about arabian horses that are "rescued" or rehomed. The possibility of spearheading a committee to create a list of "reliable" rescues across the country. Also discussed was the possibility of showing some of these horses without registration papers. Deb Fuentes declared she is available to help anyone who has questions

The PAST (Prevention of All Soring Tactics) Act was brought up. The newest proposal was knocked down because it was written to allow the government to come into the shows and address soreness issues. It was agreed that would open the door to too much government involvement.

Futurity Commission

Meeting began with an open session where we discussed the descriptions of futurity and performance futurity/maturity. One matter brought up was the appeals process for any issues with examples given.

The meeting was then closed and we exited the meeting.

General Assembly

The general assembly opened with a roll call. In the first session there were 290 attendees and 215 voting delegates present. We voted and got 100% approval to both adopt the standing rules and the general session agenda.

It was announced that all resolutions passed in their respective committees. We then voted and passed resolutions 1-20, allowing for electronic voting, and 2-20, emergency provision articles 5, 6 & 8.

Nominations were read and opened for officers, Commissioners Review Board, Ethical Practice Review Board, Judges and Stewards Selection Board, Nominating Committee and Probable Cause Panel. Cynthia Richardson, region 8, was nominated from the floor for the Ethical Practice Review Board.

We heard reports from the Amer. Horse Council and the Racing Commission, as well as the Local Level Involvement Task Force. There were 3 presidential awards this year going to Jim Lawless, Kelsey Burgland, and the entire Emergency Response Team.

The second session began with roll call and there were then 342 attendees with 200 voting delegates present. We hear the report from the Horsemen's Distress Fund. They are researching different ways to raise money during the covid outbreak. Some ideas were shaving of heads, free breedings and an online game of jeopardy.

After the Vice President's report we moved on the voting for the resolutions. Someone brought up R 18-19 and they announced that it would stand until 2021 when a proposed resolution could be brought to the board. We then voted on 3-20 which passed unanimously. We then approved to have a consent agenda and voted on the resolutions 4 through 17 in one vote as all resolutions had passed in their committees. The result of that vote was 99.2% passed with 2 no votes.

After hearing the speeches from candidates we voted on the officers with the results being

President	Debra Johnson
Vice Pres.	Lisa Blackstone
Secretary	Jan Decker
Treasurer	Dave Corning

Commissioner's Review Panel:

Amateur	Rebecca Fleck
Breeder	Rob Bick
Show Manager	Cricket Gates
Steward	Carrie Olson

Ethical Practice Review Board:

Charles Bass
Chuck Mangan
Cynthia Richardson

Judges & Stewards Selection Committee:

Derek Jones
Matt Kwapich
Robert Obermiller

Nominating Committee:

Cricket Gates
Laura Mickelson
Georgia Tachoures

Probable Cause Panel:

Larry Shallcross

We heard from the Youth President followed by the Convention Planning Committee who is cautiously optimistic and for now is going forward with the 2021 convention being in Niagara Falls, Canada and the 2022 convention being held in Myrtle Beach.

There was a short video from recipients of the AHF scholarships, thanking everyone for the financial help and describing how each individual used the funds. While that was airing, participants use the chat app to make more pledges for AHF.

The Judges and Stewards committee then talked about the difficulties and challenges cause by the covid situation being hopeful but cautious in moving into 2021. Finally names for 2021 judges and stewards were announced with the note that the list is not final and they do not expect to be finished until the end of the month

The meeting ended about 45 minutes early and another year came to an end. One final note here, Kathy and I found the use of zoom and vvoter to be very easy to use and other than getting tired of sitting at our computer, we truly enjoyed the experience .

Cheryl Schmitt

CONVENTION 2020

Submitted by Sandy Zeliger

Working Western Committee

Working Western consisted of US Nationals, and Youth Nationals. The Youth National committee wants the patterns to be made available online for one or two weeks ahead of nationals for schooling for the youth. This will require a resolution to be voted on next year. Entries were higher this year than last year. The US Nationals committee wants to add a ATR class to the Reining Schedule. The only issue The Ranch class had they moved its practice time from evening to day time because they were finishing their day at 1AM. If the ATR class doesn't conflict with the AATR class and practice time with the cows for the Ranch class they will add it. Ranch Riding will be adding a futurity class . Instead of having two separate classes of purebred and half Arabians, the committee wants to combine the two into one class. they feel the number of entries would justify combining the two.

Judges & Stewards

In the month of March the names of the Judges & Stewards will be announced for US Nationals, Canadian Nationals, & Sport Horse Nationals. Approval of these individuals will have to be granted. If they are not ready they will be vetoed. Experience is of utmost importance. For the English and Western classes the committee looks at a team of judges. The biggest problem the committee has is the lack of shows for judges to get experience. This was a short open meeting of 15 minutes. The remainder was a closed meeting.

Amateur Committee

The committee addressed several criteria: 7 Resolutions all of which were approved, Role of the AHA Amateur committee, The Select Rider, Mid Summer Nationals, & US Nationals. at the end was a open discussion. The Role of the Committee is to address priorities in 2021 and promote contact with USEF first, for approval. The Select Rider category has issues with language differentiation, eligibility, confusion, and is being abused. A select rider may not go into other classes or different age divisions. In 2020 they were permitted to cross enter maturity and futurity and will review again in January for 2021. Mid Summer Nationals which is Youth Nationals was very successful. Adults were permitted to show at Youth Nationals because Canadian Nationals was cancelled. It was suggested to continue to allow adults to show with the youth, but keep youth classes during the day and adult in the evening.

US Nationals: Scheduling feedback of class times was felt to go quite well, and will start working on 2021 scheduling now for the January meeting. The Open Discussion consisted of: The distributed survey of "what people like and dislike" needs to be filled out. AHA's relationship and tier of relationship with USEF needs to be re-evaluated. John Ryan will further discuss in January How they manage us and what options there are. It was addressed we need to stay with them because of liability issues. It was further noted to address this and present it to the committee. No more classes can be added to sweepstakes classes they can only be replaced. It was a 10 year decision that started in 2019. It has 8 years left.

Racing Committee

In Arabian horse racing there is a Racing Forum and a Jockey club. They play a major role in Arabian racing. A video was shown dating back to 2004 showing Arabian racing in the Middle East and France, with three well know Arabian race horses. El Shaab, Al Khalediab, and Al Shahania. Thorobreds have a racing division for Arabian horses. Except for jockey costs expenses are low. There are no entry fees, no hauling fees, no site fees, and stall fees. The purse money is the prize money. It's a very social outdoor event, safely run with virtually no catastrophic injuries to the horses. This is because of the Arab's bone density and the owners do not run them at too young an age. They are extreme athletes. Purse money can be as much as a hundred thousand to a million dollars. Ownership is up 50% from 2019. What is recommended are Partnerships. There are three top breeders offering them. The cost is low, and you get a percentage of the purse money. The more partnerships in the group the percentage of purse money increases.

Equitation and Showmanship Committee

The committee voted and passed Resolutions 10/20 and 17/20. Unfinished resolutions. AATR Hunt Seat equitation to be added to nationals. Equitation leveling proposed to be used in 2022. Select amateur/youth; Choice amateur /youth; Elite amateur/youth. The scoring system for showmanship goes into effect 12/2020. New business: There is a need to increase difficulty of patterns because riders have gotten better. The Showmanship score card is now similar to the Trail score card as a result the Judges and Stewards need to be educated on breaking ties. Horsemanship and Western Seat Equitation new medal classes need to be added. Dressage Seat, Hunter Seat, and Reining Seat Equitation there were no concerns.

Education Evaluation Committee

The committee passed Resolutions: 4/20, 7/20, 8/20,10/20 to 15/20. 5/20 was not passed. Education for Judges was extended for another year, as well as the Hand book and note book.

Seminars for Judges were cancelled because of Covid 19. There is a need to expand Halter Performance material. Judges meeting will all be electronic. They will include: Ranch Classes, Performance Halter, and new Score Card. Everything for Judges will be on hold for 2021.

National Distance Committee

The National Distance meeting was a short open meeting of 15 minutes. The remainder of the meeting was closed, for committee members only. What was covered in the open period was the re-election of Eric Rueter. Thanking Cynthia Richardson for her invaluable fantastic help. Presentation of a gift to Carla Bass as she was leaving the committee. Open rides for DHNC for the next three years: 2020 - Had no rides. 2021 - Big South Fork, TN, Sept. 10-12. Covid 19 protocols will be followed. 2022 - Some place in Western USA. 150 horses will start in the three day event. 2023 - Central USA preferably Oklahoma. DHNC stands for Distant Horse National Championship. The event is hosted by AHA and includes Big South Fork rides with breed national championships. The partnered breeds are Appaloosa Horse Club, Paso Fino Horse Association, Performance Shagya Arabian Registry, Akhal-Teke Association of America, and American Saddlebred Registry. Along with entry fees separate breed fees are collected for each breed. Those fees are turned over to AHA and the other subsequent breeds.

Distant Riding Committee

This was another short open meeting with the majority of the meeting for committee members only. The committee is in need of help for the events. They must find people from the different regions to help with these distance events. Voting for changes on the Handbook is a issue. It was suggested that voting be changed to a online voting system, listing: motion number, description, and yes, no, & abstain columns. A motion was made to pursue voting issues further and suspend future voting in the committee until a better method is developed to vote and record votes. The motion passed. AHA representative Page Lockard suggested creating another zoom meeting instead of using email. Zoom meeting passed. Page will speak with AHA about making club information more available on the AHA website. The committee addressed the issue of adding more championship events, and the need for better promotion about distance riding.

PAHA DELEGATE REPORT for the 2020 AHA CONVENTION - Val Bastinelli

Committees meeting that I attended:

Hunter/Jumper

Dressage & Western Dressage

Convention Planning

Working western

Budget & Finance

Competition Advisory

The following committees reviewed the resolutions and spent most of the meeting time discussing items that I consider non-essential to the resolutions. Hunter/Jumper discussed one resolution then spent the rest of the time discussing derby classes. Dressage & Western Dressage discussed & reviewed resolutions with the meeting being uneventful. Working Western spent 50 minutes discussing participation comparison from 2020 to 2019 and the last eight minutes they blew thru the five resolutions with no discussion. Budget & Finance was non eventful was done in about 15 minutes.

Convention Planning

There was discussion on the upcoming conventions for 2021, 2022 and 2023. For 2021, discussion was focussed on travel costs which they stated was vague because of covid situation. The two airports that you could fly into would be Buffalo and Toronto. The hotel would be Sheraton on the Falls. For 2022, the convention would be in Myrtle Beach with not much information given. The discussion for 2023 was to look at non-hosted in the west.

Competition Advisory

This committee meeting was the most interesting of all that I attended. There was discussion in depth about value shows. Value shows can go up to 175 horses, Above 125 horses the value shows will require an EMT and a Farrier and a Compliance Judge or a Steward. The compliance judge is a regular judge that has taken additional training in order to address situation and issues that a steward would normally handle.