

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WESTERN ONTARIO TEAM CATTLE PENNING ASSOCIATION  
NOV. 6, 2010, CHESLEY CURLING CLUB**

**OPENING STATEMENTS**

President, Jim DeGroot welcomed everyone.

There were 33 members in attendance. They include Duane Holm, Leslie Holm, Herma Zomer, Jaime Downey, Danielle Zomer, Jeremy Voisin, Dan Graham, Bob Butler, George Holm, Christine Campbell, Mikayla Smailes, Deb Kennedy, Laura Campbell, Christine Jantzen, Lisa Wensley, Ken Meesters, Don Lamont, Kathy Graham, Casey Van Stuyvenberg, Jamie Smailes, Tj Marks, Travis Inglis, Brad Hopkins, Bob Kennedy, Bill Campbell, Patsy McMahon, Michele Smailes, Jim DeGroot, Kevin Oke, Sharon Wilfing, Jim Young, Ben Mighton and Wendy DeGroot.

**MINUTES**

Michele Smailes read the minutes of the last AGM. There were no errors or omissions. Michele asked that the minutes be adopted as read. Dan Graham made the motion, seconded by Bob Kennedy.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Patsy McMahon presented the treasurer's report. She explained the Balance Sheet. She reported that membership was up considerably in 2010 however, sponsorship was down. There were small fluctuations in other areas, however, consistent with other years. Once all questions were answered, Kevin Oke made a motion to adopt the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jim Young.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Sponsorship Coordinator

Laura Campbell thanked everyone for putting forth an effort and getting sponsorship. She encouraged everyone to continue with seeking out new sponsors and stated that she had the new sponsorship packages ready to hand out. Since Laura has decided to retire as our coordinator, the executive has been actively seeking a replacement, without much success however, the search will continue. There was a suggestion that we split up some of Laura's jobs and find someone to take care of the signs on a regular basis. Ashley Voisin has taken over the calendar job for this year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### News Letter

Lisa Wensley suggested that the association revive the news letter. She suggested that members like to be kept up to date on events and that we could add in results, classified ads, sponsorship ads and other news items. Since some members do not have a computer, she suggested that the membership form have an area where the member can request a paper copy of the newsletter and that those be mailed out. A newsletter would be beneficial to do monthly from May to November. Lisa also suggested that the newsletter be emailed to the sponsors as well. Lisa volunteered to take on this project.

### Website

Bill Campbell suggested that results of the pennings include placings up to 6<sup>th</sup> place. Casey VanStuyvenberg asked the cost to do updates on the computer. Patsy reported that we pay \$50 per hour. It was agreed that results be posted as they were in 2010.

### Fundraising Dance

The particulars of past fundraising dances were discussed. Duane Holm estimated that the hall rental was \$350, band is \$2000. Wendy DeGroot reported that the band and hall are booked for Saturday, Apr. 2, 2011. Lisa Wensley suggested that the dance be rotated to different locations to attract different crowds. It was agreed to consider that for 2012.

### Draw Pot

A request to move the draw pot and 5 class to a different position was discussed. Lisa Wensley felt that when the drawpot is last, no one watches it. It was felt that the draw pot could not go first as the cattle are usually pretty active at the beginning of the day and that the open should be the first class. Don Lamont stated that the open and ten class must be kept earlier in the day because the stock contractors need to take care of the cattle at the end of the penning. Moving the drawpot to earlier in the day and leaving the 5 class to later will not help since many draw pot riders would advance to the 5 class and they should be kept within a class or two. One member suggested that the 5 and 7 class be switched by location, however, that may cause some people to attend only the pennings that the position of the class suited them causing lower attendance at specific locations. The issue of the 5 class running in the dark was raised. Some felt that it was dangerous and that running in the dark should have been avoided. Jim Young suggested that this topic be taken back to the executive for further discussion.

### Charity Penning

The value of the Charity penning was discussed. Most felt it should be continued based on its success and the publicity it gets us. Lisa Wensley suggested that it needs to be organized better. The Horse Wish Fund has contacted Jim Young and requested our help. Charity to benefit will be discussed. Dan Graham offered to host the charity event and Brock Reville will also be given the opportunity. Volunteers to help are Lisa Wensley, Joanne Ruller, Christine Jantzen, Herma Zomer and Wendy DeGroot.

### Finals Location

Wendy DeGroot suggested that we relocate finals in 2011 to the REACH Centre in Clinton. Wendy DeGroot would like to allocate a portion of the DeGroot sponsorship money to cover expenses incurred to host finals there so that it did not cut into our year end money. Ben Mighton explained that if that money was allocated from those funds that it still taking money away from potential added money at finals. The centre is looking for support from equine associations. The footing is good and stabling is included if the stables are up but there would be a charge if the stables needed to be set up specifically for us. Kevin Oke explained the set up, seating, standing area, dining area, etc. Meal could be served there as well, prepared by the Legion ladies or another group. Travis Inglis expressed concern that trucking cattle would cost money and delay the start time, as we're used to a 10 am start. Additionally, it costs \$500 to rent the facility. Jim Young suggested that the executive hold a meeting there to tour the facility and Bill Campbell suggested holding a penning there prior to finals to ensure it was workable. A show of hands was taken to hold a regular penning there. Twenty-five people were in favour of trying it out prior to finals. No one was opposed. Casey Van Stuybenberg noted that our association competed in London at Western Fair because they gave us added money, as did some of the other local fairs. He suggested we approach Clinton Fair board and ask if we could have a show at their local fair, using the arena.

### Olympic Average

The Olympic average was discussed. Patsy McMahon felt it was a disadvantage for members to go to each penning as many points are lost in the calculation for those members' points who faithfully attended and support all the pennings. Many felt that using a percentage of pennings to calculate the Olympic average was a good idea but that the percentage could be increased from 60% to a higher percentage.

### Ride Limit

In light of the large pennings experienced this year, it was felt that we may need

to look at a way of controlling the number of entries. The Ride limit was discussed. Wendy DeGroot stated that in Western Canada that approach is used, however, it creates “clicks” because riders will ride with their “preferred” people and not have enough additional team openings to ride with people they don’t usually ride with. Dan Graham agreed. Travis Inglis argued that many will ride up to the number the ride limit is set at, possibly causing more teams. Casey VanStuyvenberg supports the ride limit, stating that if someone wanted to ride 15 times but the limit was 6 for example, that rider may spread their rides out over 2 or 3 classes instead of just one. Jamie Smailes felt that a ride limit would put extra work on the entries staff as they must count entries in each class and we may need another entries person to ensure that limits are not exceeded. Limiting the rides has a direct affect on the stock contractors as entry numbers may in fact decrease and then they may need to charge more than the 40% they get now. Laura Campbell suggested that we continue to pare down the time as soon as possible. If there are more that 6 teams under 1 minute, then the time allotted the riders after that be decreased and that continuing once there are 6 under 45 sec. etc. A higher ride limit was suggested, for ex. 8 ride limit, keeping people entering and allowing rides with others however not allowing someone to enter a huge number of times, up to 15 or more runs in a class. This will be discussed by the executive.

#### Nominations and Elections

Michele Smailes read the Nominations and elections procedure and asked if there were any questions. Since there were no questions, the executive members whose terms were up were asked if they would stand if they were nominated. Kevin Oke, Bill Campbell, Jim Young, agreed to stand if nominated. There were no nominations for Treasuerer and Patsy McMahan agreed to stay, thereby her position as treasurer was acclaimed. Jim DeGroot declined. The floor was opened for additional nominations. Travis Inglis nominated Casey VanStuyvenberg. Casey accepted. Deb Kennedy nominated Travis Inglis. Travis accepted. A vote was done by paper ballot. Ballots were counted. The new executive was announced as Travis Inglis, Casey Van Stuyvenberg, Bill Campbell, Kevin Oke and Patsy McMahan. They would join Sharon Wilfing, Bob Kennedy and Michele Smailes to form the executive for the upcoming year. A brief meeting of the executive was held whereby a paper ballot vote for President and Vice President were held. The new President was announced as Bill Campbell and Vice President is Sharon Wilfing.

There was a motion to adjourn. Potluck dinner followed.

