

CGA Annual General Meeting

November 17, 2007
Radisson Hotel, Fresno, CA

The meeting was called to order at 9:50 am by President Ron Butts.

Opening and Introductory Comments – President Ron Butts

President Ron Butts began by welcoming everyone to the 2007 Convention. Before proceeding with the meeting, Ron read aloud the CGA meeting rules of conduct. This policy/document reminded everyone present that all members have a right to speak and be respected during the meeting. Members should begin by stating their name and keeping comments to three minutes at the microphone. In addition members should speak in order and only when recognized, keeping all personal comments and side conversations to themselves.

Ron encouraged all members to discuss items on the agenda before voting, as all motions passed would affect the entire membership.

I. Committee Reports – President Ron Butts

Item I. A: By-Laws Committee Report

1. During the Annual By-Laws Meeting held at State Show Stan Janssen lead a discussion explaining the wording change in Article 4 would only document what is already in place. The motion made and passed to the General Meeting reads: *Motion by Andy Krogh to accept the wording changes in Article 4 as presented (below in bold italics). Seconded by Joanne Galbraith. Motion carried to General Meeting.*

Article 4 - Policy and Procedure

These Bylaws *provide for the establishment* of CGA Policy *and Procedure*. *The CGA Board of Directors will establish and maintain a Policy Manual that will define all polices within the organization. The CGA Board of Governors will establish and maintain a Procedure Manual that will define procedure for all operations within the organization.*

Seeing the wording change presented to the By-Laws, Lea deMontigny asked the board how CGA could implement a Policy and Procedure from two (2) documents that had not been fully completed. Stan Janssen responded the approval to implement and use both documents, as temporary documents, was 'voted in' at a BoD Meeting several years ago. The documents with amendments would both be presented at the BoD Meeting the following day for approval. Stan admitted both documents have been a work in progress and would likely have more recommended changes in the future. Stan asked that the membership help work on amendments for future changes. Lea deMontigny felt strongly that CGA should be operating from the old established documents until the fully completed Policy and Procedure documents are passed and implemented. Lea argued the old documents were not only more complete, but had more accessible information when needed. The new Policy and Procedure documents needed more research and work to

complete. Charlea Moore supported Lea's argument and felt the membership should not be voting on such a change to the By-Laws until everyone had ample time to review both documents and then vote. Gerald Freeman disagreed with both Lea and Charlea, arguing the Policy Manual is clearly posted on the website for review. He supported the motion because he felt it was not removing the old documents but dividing them into two (2) separate documents that were more functional.

Belinda Harms **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.
Motion PASSED on a Standing Vote (39/36).

Item I. B: Riders Program Committee Report

1. At the Annual Riders Meeting Sue Engelhardt presented her concept for a show (Sin City Shootout) in Nevada where only the top 20 riders in each division would qualify to ride. The show would be funded with the help of sponsors and would give exceptional awards. The motion made and carried to the General Meeting reads: Motion by Phyllis Odom to accept the concept of Sue Engelhardt's Sin City Shoot Out and to move forward with planning. Seconded by Kym Taylor. Motion carried to General Meeting.

MOTION by Stan Janssen to accept the motion as presented.

Several members requested that Sue once again explain the concept of the Sin City Shoot Out. Sue explained only the top 20 riders in each division would qualify to ride in Nevada and would work throughout the year to qualify as a horse and rider combination in their divisions. All awards would be sponsored and of significant quality (buckles, saddles, ect). The motion presented at the Annual Riders Meeting only requested that she begin planning the event and pull the BoD in for help. Sue envisioned qualifying would begin with the first show following State Show 2008. While all the details have not yet been worked out, Sue would like the chance to move forward with planning and put the show together. A very lengthy discussion then followed among the membership.

One member questioned if the show could be successful considering rider-ship at State Sanctioned Shows has been down significantly. Lea deMontigny felt the time and effort may be better directed towards State Show. Charlea Moore asked to see a budget and breakdown for the show. Stan Janssen reminded everyone the motion was only to move forward with planning and nothing had been finalized nor approved. With approval from the membership to move forward with planning all of the details would emerge for approval. Scott Pinkerton asked if the idea was meant to be a yearly event and if it could be moved to different locations. Sue responded that 'yes' the idea was for the show to be a yearly event and 'yes,' the show could be moved. However, Sue felt Las Vegas would be more affordable and would draw non-qualifying supporters (riders) to watch.

Dianna Merrick spoke in favor of the motion. She felt this show would provide a good goal for riders and could potentially move CGA to a new level. Many members spoke in favor of the Sin City Shootout concept.

Above Motion PASSED.

2. Marta Weststeyn presented the following motion regarding the Senior Elite Awards Program: Motion by Marta Weststeyn (as suggested by Stan Janssen) that the Senior Elite

Awards Program includes recognition for 5 & 10 Time Senior Elite Horse (Supreme and Super Supreme Horse) and 5 Time Senior Elite Rider (Royal Crown Rider). Seconded by Cindy Hoffman. Motion carried to General Meeting.

Daphne Couturier **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

Arlene Tsuji asked that the terminology be different from that of the Hall of Fame Awards. Clarification was made by Stan Janssen that each award should/would have the terminology 'Senior Elite.....' placed in front of the award name.

Above Motion PASSED.

3. During Annual Riders Meeting Shannon Rahn presented an argument to move the Annual Convention Meetings (By-Laws, Riders, Rules & Judges Meetings) back to Convention. Her original motion that carried to the General Meeting reads as following: Motion by Shannon Rahn that the Annual Convention Meetings are moved back to Convention. Seconded by Patrick Hoffman. Motion carried to General Meeting. No Discussion Followed.

Charlea Moore **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

Motion PASSED.

Item I. C: Rules and Judges Committee Report

1. At the Rules and Judges meeting Sheri Herchkorn stated the MAC was not in complete agreement with the issue of a horse/rider breaking the timing beam following course completion. Some felt the rider should be disqualified, while others felt disqualification was unnecessary. Seeing the MAC's disagreement, the floor was opened for discussion with the goal of creating consistency in interpretation of the rule. Following a lengthy discussion at the Rules and Judges Meeting the following motion was presented regarding timing equipment. Motion by Rebekah Crill to add to Article 7.1 (of the Rules Book) "All districts must have the equivalent of Farm Tech 200 or better timing equipment with recall functions." Seconded by Margaret White-law Haynie. Motion carried to General Meeting.

Sheri Herchkorn **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

One member asked if districts were already equipped with the proper equipment or if the motion would cause districts to purchase new timers. Meghan Abatti answered the question by first clarifying the intent of the motion; explaining the motion was in an effort to resolve the issue of whether or not it was legal for a rider to break the timing beam following course completion. The only time this seemed to be an issue was when a district did not have timers that could recall previous times. The motion presented would give all districts this capability and thus a rider breaking the timing beam would not cause any significant problems and should be considered legal. The motion would cause a few districts to purchase new timers and if they could not afford the equipment, the State Office would purchase the timers and allow districts to make scheduled payments.

Motion PASSED.

2. Within the past show season the MAC discovered that District 18 had been running with somewhat questionable arena dimensions. The district had been given approval to run all

events with the exception of Barrels until a decision could be reached. After an in depth discussion at the Rules and Judges Meeting the following motion was presented: *Motion by Teresa Barosso to grandfather in District 18's arena dimensions at Sam Lynn Ballpark Arena. Seconded by Belinda Harms. Motion carried to General Meeting.*

B.J Hohman **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

B.J. spoke in favor of the motion, explaining several Master Judges had visited District 18 and were able to re-configure the placement of Barrels to make it a legal course. Sheri Herchkorn explained the motion had evolved because District 18's arena dimensions were off by 6 inches (in the width) at some places along the fence line. While many members spoke in favor of grandfathering the arena in, simply because it has been in existence for 36 years, this did not change the fact that the arena does not currently meet the minimum dimensions prescribed in the rule book. Dianna Merrick felt grandfathering in one arena did not represent consistency among the state and this was simply a question of consistency. Dianna expressed that she certainly did not want to see the district shut down, but felt CGA needed to make a consistent ruling. Charlea Moore explained that all arenas most likely lack consistency in measurement and there are probably other arenas that fall short in measurement at some points. Carol Pinkerton believed that because the arena had been measured by a Master Judge and deemed legal there should be no question of legality. Sally Rivera-Lingafeldt highlighted a section in the Rule Book stating that an arena should be both large and safe enough to run each event. Seeing this wording, Sally believed the arena was both large and safe enough to run the events with the current dimensions.

Call for the question by Margaret Whitelaw-Haynie. **Seconded** by Charlea Moore. **Passed.**

Above Motion PASSED.

3. Following a very lengthy discussion about course measurements the following motion was passed to the General Meeting: *Motion by Andy Krogh that any course may be off by a total of six (6) inches from its' prescribed dimensions and still be considered a legal course when re-checked. Seconded by Patrick Hoffman. Motion carried to General Meeting.*

Motion by Belinda Harms to accept the motion as presented.

Ron Butts explained the meaning of the motion so all members understood what was presented. Meghan Abatti clarified the original intent of the motion, stating no course measurement is perfect due to both human error and running the event, the motion allows/permits for the entire course to be off six (6) inches total. In no way was the motion meant to allow for intentional cheating, but to allow for a margin of error if any course was re-measured per rider request or the breaking of a record. One member believed the motion gave the written right to cheat and that in the larger scheme or things six (6) inches can account for a large difference in times. Dianna Merrick felt those individuals who would deliberately cheat would get caught because no one is perfect and cheaters would likely be off by more than six (6) inches in total. Sheri Herchkorn explained the way the rule currently reads, a course must be 'exact' or it is illegal. CGA must allow for some type of variance because no one and no situation is perfect, the question at hand was only how much variance CGA should allow.

Call for the question by B.J. Hohman and *Seconded* by Charlea Moore. *Passed.*

Above Motion PASSED.

4. During the Rules and Judges Meeting, Sheri Herchkorn highlighted that the ‘wings’ of the Keyhole are considered part of the course yet the Rule Book has no prescribed dimensions. Seeing this, Sheri made the following motion: *Motion by Sheri Herchkorn that the ‘wings’ placed on the Keyhole measure six (6) inches. Seconded by Andy Krogh. Motion carried to General Meeting.*

Stan Janssen **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

Sheri Herchkorn explained the current diagram of Keyhole in the Rule Book shows the ‘wing,’ but places no specific dimensions on the line. Charlea Moore asked for clarification if stepping on the ‘wing’ would result in disqualification. Sheri responded “yes,” this would disqualify a rider. Patrick Hoffman questioned whether the Rule Book really included the ‘wings’ as part of the course. Sally Rivera answered Patrick’s question by reading a portion of Section 8.3 in the Rule Book which specifies “if a rider steps on any part of the line of the Keyhole or its wings, the ride is considered a No Time.”

Call for the question by Dave Bach and *Seconded* by Jennifer Ogawa. *Passed.*

Above Motion PASSED on a Standing Vote (51/24).

5. In an effort to create consistency across districts with the Hurry Scurry jumps the following motion was passed to the General Meeting: *Motion by Lea deMontigny that the Hurry Scurry poles fit tightly into the center supports. Seconded by Joanne Galbraith. Motion carried to General Meeting.*

Joanne Galbraith **MOVED** to accept the motion as presented.

Lea deMontigny discussed that not all districts have poles that fit tightly/securely into the jump center support. Lea stated the motion had been made in an effort to create consistency among districts so all riders were running the same course with the same advantage/disadvantage. Following the passing of the motion at the Rules and Judges Meeting, Lea had full intentions of bringing the exact dimensions of the pole that she would suggest for the motion. However, Lea was unable to do this for the General Meeting. Sheri Herchkorn highlighted that in reading the Rule Book there are currently no prescribed dimensions for the finished product (pole). Charlea Moore felt the motion on the floor was very subjective because everyone’s definition of ‘tight/secure’ was different. Charlea also felt there were already standards for all components of the jump so there was no need to vote on the motion.

Several members suggested Lea amend her original motion to include the dimensions of the pole. Hearing this, Lea officially asked if she could table her motion until the next BoD Meeting so she could bring the exact dimensions of the pole to the meeting for vote. If tabling the motion was approved, this would leave the decision and vote up to the BoD at the February meeting.

Motion by Lea deMontigny to table the original motion until the February BoD Meeting. Joanne Galbraith agreed.
Motion to TABLE PASSED.

Item II: Other Issues/Comments and Concerns

Phyllis Odom stated CGA has moved forward to book Bolado Park for the next two (2) years in the interest of securing the dates. Bolado Park is becoming a very popular place for events and there was another group interested in booking CGA's desired date. State Show is thus booked for the end of July for the next two consecutive years. Phyllis said she would place these dates in the newspaper.

Item III: Convention Location for 2008

Phyllis Odom explained she is currently working with both Visalia and Fresno as these are two the only locations that can hold our event. Phyllis asked that depending upon price, could the booking of the location be left to her discretion? Lea deMontigny asked if CGA would consider alternating the location of Convention between the North and South. Phyllis explained that CGA tries to keep the event centrally located because it seems to draw the largest attendance. Holding Convention either North or South tends to omit members from the opposite end of the state.

Motion by Charlea Moore to allow the State Office to negotiate the best location and price for Convention 2008 and to book the best location. **Seconded** by Skip Hoffman.
Motion PASSED.

IV. Non-Voting Items

Darlene Sandefur wanted to remind all riders that District 6 still has funds to sponsor a rider for State Show in the name of Carol Tocchini (The Carol Tocchini Award). Following Carol's passing the fund was started and money is still contributed to this fund each year. Districts simply need to nominate riders through a letter. A rider is chosen each year and given funds to attend State Show. Charlea Moore stated CGA used to remind districts of the award through the newspaper and perhaps CGA should do this once again.

V. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob Perry and **Seconded** by Dianna Merrick. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Abatti
CGA Secretary