

California Gymkhana Association
Bylaws/ Rules and Judges/ General Membership Meeting
November 15,2025- Minutes

1. Opening and introductory Comments- Nathan opened the meeting at 9:04 and commented that we had over 300 people attending convention this year and thanked everyone for making arrangements to come. Reminded everyone it was a big voting year and they had till 2 pm to get their votes in. Asked everyone to please share their comments during the meeting but to keep comments as brief as possible.

Vice President -Andy Krogh read the rules and conduct of the meeting. Meeting was passed to Sheri for "New Business"

2. Bylaws Committee Meeting- no new or old business to cover
3. Rules and Judges Committee Meeting (old and new business/ Voting)
Old Business - None

New Business

- a. Submitted by Timmi Lemen- As a rider and a judge, I've witnessed and experienced myself, my belt getting hung up on the horn. Although half belts are an option. I find them expensive and lacking to cover whatever our rule is that feels we should wear belts. Again, trying to stay current with the times, yet keep professionalism in our sport, I'd like to eliminate mandatory belt requirements and make it optional.

The current section 3.1 paragraph 2 of our rule book currently reads,

Clothing shall be neat and clean. All contestants shall be fully attired in a dress shirt with a button or snap (functional or non-functional) in the front from top to bottom and a collar. Long pants, belt or 1/2 belt and boots. The shirt may have a front or back zipper. If the shirt has a front zipper, it must be covered by non-functional button or snaps from top to bottom. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Only the top 2 buttons of the shirt may be left unbuttoned as long as the buttons go to the collar line of the shirt. A tie or neckerchief is not required but is encouraged.

I propose the following change.

Clothing shall be neat and clean. All contestants shall be fully attired in a dress shirt with a button or snap (functional or non-functional) in the front from top to bottom and a collar. Long pants, and boots. The shirt may have a front or back zipper. If the shirt has a front zipper, it must be covered by non-functional buttons or snaps from top to bottom. Shirts must be tucked into pants. Only the top 2 buttons of the shirt may be left unbuttoned as long as the buttons go to the collar

line of the shirt. A belt or 1/2 belt, neckerchiefs or tie is not required, but is encouraged.-**Seconded by Rebecca Krill**
Failed

- b. Submitted By Timmi Lemen- I'm proposing a change to the current Rescue race rules.

Currently the rule book states:

Participants in Rescue Race must be at least 12 years of age as of January 1st of the current year,

I wish to propose the following change:

Participants in Rescue must be at least 12 years old as of July 1st of the current year.- **Second Dianna Malley Passed to the membership meeting**

- c. Submitted By Timmi Lemen- I also wish to request that the current Rescue Race State show record be retired.

Currently it was set in 1981 when the rules were extremely different. There was no foul line that required them to be astride the horse before crossing, it was a single stake pole, not a foul line. As long as the pickup riders feet did not hit the ground on the way through timers, they were given a good ride. They were not required to be astride the horse, which was many the case.

Current rules require as follows:

Special penalties: The "pick up" partner must be astride the horse (behind the saddle) before passing the foul line and must remain astride the horse and behind the saddle until the team passes over the timing line or the team will be disqualified. In the event the "pick up" partner falls off after crossing the foul line, they may recross the foul line and remount to correct the course. A rider is considered astride if one knee is on or across the center line of the horses back and no portion of the rider is touching the ground. A rider may not be the "pick up" partner on more than one team or they will be disqualified. Helmets are mandatory for both the rider and the "picked up" partner. - **Seconded Andy Krogh passed to the membership meeting**

- d. Submitted by the: MAC

1. RB Clothing and Tack 3.1. Currently reads in part Clothing: "An approved safety helmet is required for all riders under the age of 18. The helmet must be correctly worn at all times while mounted on the show grounds. Nothing that affects the proper fit may be worn under the helmet."

The MAC makes the motion to add after the above noted last sentence. "This includes hoods, beanies, headbands, ear muffs, scarves and scrunchies".-

Second Andy Krogh Failed

2. RB Clothing and Tack 3.1 second paragraph. Says in part” long pants, belt or half belts and boots.” The MAC makes the motion to add to that sentence “long pants with belt loops, belt or half belts and boots”.- **Second Timmi Lemon passed to membership meeting**

3. RB Clothing and Tack 3.1 (2) Tack: currently reads “any appropriate, neat and humane western and/or English equipment may be used with the following exception: the judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment he or she may consider severe or unsafe.”

The MAC makes the motion to have the first sentence changed to “Any appropriate, neat and humane western and/or English equipment may be used except a war bridle or a bridleless bit are not allowed. The judge may prohibit the use of bits or equipment he or she may consider severe or unsafe”. And then the rest of the paragraph would remain the same.

-**Second Timmi Lemon passed to membership meeting**

4. RB Current 4.5 run the course states “The course must be run in accordance with the prescribed pattern (see Section 5 and 8). A horse is on course when any part of the horse crosses the start/finish line. It remains on course as long as it is run in accordance with the prescribed pattern for the event being run until every part of the horse crossed the start/finish line. If a rider goes off course, but corrects the course, and completes the prescribed pattern there will be no disqualification or penalty.”

The MAC had many discussions on the “changing” direction in F8F and Speedball. Many judges have had questions regarding how to make the call. The CGA Rule Book is quite clear on its diagrams to depict the proper turning directions around obstacles. While it allows riders to start on a left hand turn or a right hand turn, what it does NOT allow for is once the rider has made the decision to go right or left, they cannot reverse the turn at the obstacle. Section 8.1 (a) says in part that the “straight-line method of proceeding from one obstacle to another, however, is not mandatory. A rider may be considered on course so long as he/she remains within the confines of the arena and negotiates all obstacles in the correct direction without recrossing the timing line until the course is complete.” The key here is the “correct direction”. The riders do have the ability to continue to circle the obstacle in the correct direction in order to place the flag or the speed ball.

In order to clarify this more the MAC makes the motion to add to the current 4.5 and 8.1(A) “A rider cannot change direction at the obstacle so that in exiting the obstacle they are on the same side that they entered.”-**Withdrawn**

4. Riders Committee/ General Membership Meeting

Old Business
(none)

New Business

- a) Submitted by Marnie Nessen- Information manual will no longer be printed - it will be available only digitally on the website. This will result in a big cost savings to the organization for both printing and postage cost. This change has already been approved by the BoD and it didn't require a vote since we are still providing the manual online. However, I'd like to update the information manual to be more current.

In the information manual, introduction to CGA #3 It currently reads:

CGA supports its districts/clubs by providing Year End Awards for the riders, Arena Liability Insurance, rule books, information manuals, World of Gymkhana™ newspaper, State Championship Show, Southern & Northern Spring Classic Shows, Jamboree, and the CGA Annual State Convention and Awards Banquet.

proposed change:

CGA supports its districts/clubs by providing Year End Awards for the riders, Arena Liability Insurance, World of Gymkhana™ Newsletter, State Championship Show, Southern & Northern Spring Classic Shows, Jamboree, and the CGA Annual State Convention and Awards Banquet. Additionally, rule books and information manuals are available for download from the CGA website. One rulebook will be mailed to each new member/family in the new member welcome packet.

-Second Andy Krogh PASSED

- b) Submitted by Christopher Rowles- I would like to bring to the table about CGA buying nice felt cowboy hats for our princess and queen each year. Part as a thank you for all their service.- amended to add "if budget allows, determined by governors." would only apply if E is passed

-Second Andy Krogh FAILED

- c) Submitted By Andy Krogh- To resolve the conflict between Section 11.8 and Sections 11.9/11.10 of the CGA Information Manual, the following clarifying language is recommended:

11.8 Senior Judge

Any member that has been a judge for two years and is in good standing may request a Level 2 judges test. Upon passing the Level 2 test, the judge shall be recorded as a **Level 2 Judge**. A Level 2 Judge may then be considered for appointment as a **Senior Judge** at the discretion of the Master Judge in their area, provided they also meet the criteria outlined in Section 11.9 and the nomination process outlined in Section 11.10.

Level 2 Judges shall work closely with the Master Judge in their area to gain further experience and mentorship. Senior Judge responsibilities and authority apply only to the district(s) they are formally assigned to, though a Senior Judge may be assigned to more than one district at the discretion of the Master Judge.-**Second Jim Nessen PASSED**

- d) Submitted by Lea Legnon- Section 7: Senior Elite Awards program

7.1 General

Currently reads:

The Senior Elite (SE) awards program is a modified version of the ROC program designed to provide competition and awards for the fastest and most accurate senior riders within CGA (those 45 and older as of Jan 1 st of the current show season). To be eligible for this program, the rider must provide proof of age, and the horse/rider combination cannot be signed up for the ROC program in the same show season. Proof of age need not be the person's actual age, only a certificate from a doctor stating they are over the age of 44 as of Jan 1 st of the current show season. This program is for horses only (no pony divisions).

Submitted Change:

The Senior Elite (SE) awards program is a modified version of the ROC program designed to provide competition and awards for the fastest and most accurate senior riders within CGA. Those 45 and older on their date of birth will be eligible for this program, there will be no 60-day retroactive period for rides run prior to the 45 th birthday of the rider. Rider must provide proof of age with their registration. The horse/rider combination cannot be signed up for the ROC program in the same show season. Proof of age to be supported by Driver's license,real ID, or passport. This program is for horses only (no pony divisions)-**Second Timmi Lemon PASSED**

- e) Submitted by Grace Fredriks-I am writing to propose adding language to the information manual regarding the Princess and Queen process. As the informational manual is written right now, there is no documented process for how princesses and the queen are selected. I propose adding a 17th section to the informational manual about the Royal Court, their selection, and duties.

Here is a draft of proposed language to be added:

Section 17: The Royal Court

17.1 The Duties of the Royal Court

- I. Adhere to the calendar of events/timeline set forth by the Royal Court Liaison.
- II. Present High Point awards to all recipients at the CGA State Championship Show, Northern or Southern Classic, Jamboree, and Convention.
- III. Display respect as well as good sportsmanship and horsemanship at all times, to act as a role model and ambassador for all CGA functions.
- IV. Adhere to the CGA dress code.
- V. Applicants must not use drugs, alcohol, or foul language at any time.

17.2 Royal Court Selection Process

- I. Candidates must be 14 years old as of May 1st.
- II. Candidates must submit a brief essay detailing their CGA experience and why they believe they would be a positive ambassador for CGA.
- III. Candidates must submit a letter of recommendation from a member of their local CGA district's board.
- IV. Candidates will be required to take a written test on the CGA rules and events.

These items will have personal information redacted to be assessed and selected by the Liaison

.-Second Toni DeHarrera AMENDMENT

17.2.1 - Candidates must be 14 years old **and no older than 19** as of May 1st.

Last line item- These items will have their personal information redacted to be assessed and selected by the liaison **and their committee. The liaison and president shall select a member of the BoG that does not have a applicant to be the 3rd member of the committee.**

PASSED

5. Final vote for rule items if applicable

B: Second Bob Cranor- PASSED

C: Second Bob Cranor- PASSED

D.2: Second Bob Cranor- PASSED

D.3: Second Bob Cranor- PASSED

6. Other issues/ Concerns/ Comments

a. Launch of the CGA Logo re-design contest

7. Adjournment- Motion by Timmi Lemon 2nd Jim Nessen 12:07pm