

6/27/22

## RCC SADDLE CLUB

### Special Board/Club Meeting – Called by President, Gay Christie

Present: Jessie Christie, Christy Myers, Pauli MacPherson, Nick MacPherson, Wendy Watson, Charlie Pohl, Red Anderson, Ben Franciscotti, Lenny Sandoval, Kathy Lesser, Gay Christie, Cindy Schaefer.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Gay read a letter (attached) she had written regarding the Board not following current Club by-laws and some problems that have arisen due to such.

Current Royalty rules/guidelines were reviewed. Coordinator position is to be transferred to Queen for 2022. Horseman, Jr. Horseman, and Jr. Princess will not be able to perform their duties as required, therefore will relinquish their titles due to injured horses.

Current Gymkhana Chairs are verified as Lenny Sandoval and Pauli MacPherson (co-chairs).

A Coordinator is needed for the State Fair Parade and will need to be in place before sending in the entry fee which is due mid-July. Email to be sent to members for a volunteer.

At the past several gymkhanas, Gay has witnessed issues with unsupervised children misbehaving. Ideas to help with this discussed, no results determined besides Board members keeping watch when around.

Motion made by Gay that any person holding a Royalty position that is unable to fulfill their responsibilities at this time needs to renounce the position. If the check for the buckles has not been cashed it needs to be returned to the club. If the buckles have already been ordered see if the order can be canceled. If cancellation is not an option, they shall be given back to the club for use next year. No second. First half of motion was voluntarily performed earlier in meeting. Second half of motion was discussed and, as buckles have already been ordered and are personalized, it was decided to let the Horseman, Jr. Horseman, and Jr. Princess keep their buckles when they arrive. Motion not passed.

Motion made by Gay to implement the Gymkhana job list and have the coordinator or designated person make sure that the jobs for that night are signed up for and possibly be proactive and get commitments for the next week in advance. In order to be eligible for year-end awards the rider or their parent must volunteer to help the club with at least two events. These sheets should be kept with the Gymkhana standing sheets and audited at the end of the season. Seconded by Christy Myers. All in favor.

Motion made by Gay that Kathy Lesser be our new website host. Pauli has done a great job getting the website up and running. Pauli does not want to maintain the website as an on-going project and Kathy Lesser has offered to take over management of the website. Seconded by Lenny Sandoval. All in favor. Nan to make Kathy an administrator asap.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Lesser

Read by Gay Christie, President:

I have a few announcements to make to the board. I will be as brief as possible.

I feel that the board has done an injustice to this club and I will assume all the blame. I did not consult the bylaws before allowing things to be voted on. This is my fault. The bylaws were written and put in place for a reason and none of us have adhered to the rules of our club. We were so grateful to have anyone willing to volunteer that we didn't stop and make sure that any of the club's guidelines were being followed.

It states in the bylaws that any person nominated for an elective office shall have been a member of the Club for the preceding year.

We waved this for Pauli and that was an injustice to her. This part of the bylaws was written for two reasons. The first reason is so that the candidate has had at least one full year to witness and understand the functions of the club. The second is to protect the club's interests and traditions.

As president it was my responsibility to approve all heads of all committees. I should have done this with respect to the event and made sure the coordinator of each event had full understanding of what that event required. I did not do this and for that I am sorry. Each event coordinator should have a written list of what that event requires and what the club expects from that event.

In the past, the Royalty Queen was the person that was responsible for organizing the Royalty duties and responsibilities. A few years ago, we had a previous Queen volunteer to be a Royalty Coordinator. Both ways worked as long as there were kids that were interested in being a Royalty member and the person in charge took the position seriously. The Royalty duties states that each contestant must be an active member in good standing in both the year they compete for and the year they reign in royalty. Royalty must also be an independent rider, ride their own horse or one belonging to their family and compete in their class in at least 2/3 of all gymkhana nights. Royalty must also dress in western attire with their Royalty crown, sash or any other identifying items and represent Royalty in various functions including gymkhana grand entries.

There is a printed list for duties of Royalty. There is printed list of Gymkhana information. There is also a printed list of Sorting rules and information. These were written and approved by the board so that the Royalty and all other events that RCC Saddle Club offer are a true representation of what the founders of the Rye/Colorado City Saddle Club intended.

In October Pauli volunteered to be the Royalty coordinator. Pauli should have been given the list of approved Royalty Duties along with the Royalty Contest Rules. To my knowledge, Pauli was never given a copy of either so it is hard to adhere to something that you know nothing about. I take responsibility for this as well. If this information would have been given to her, she could have appropriately interviewed all Royalty candidates for the positions of our Royalty Court. As far as Royalty fundraising, I should have opposed the vote to allow Royalty to mow. Royalty members should be earning the money themselves if they want to purchase items during their reign. They learn responsibility by doing things for themselves. 4-H requires the kids to be responsible for their own projects the Royalty Court should not be any different. I also should have opposed Nan issuing a check in advance for the purchase of buckles. Pauli made a request to the board that Royalty wanted buckles. One of my concerns with this request was that Jessie, our reigning Queen, has not received any contact from the coordinator since the banquet. How can Pauli claim that Royalty wants buckles when she has not had a conversation, text or email with our Queen? Royalty buckles have never been purchased without earning the money first.

As for Gymkhana, there is a Gymkhana information sheet that the board approved several years ago. I suggest we go over this and make any needed changes. There have been several comments about the lack of people to help on Gymkhana nights. There are several adults and several older kids for that matter that could be helping every Tuesday night. Has anyone gone around and ask anyone to do a specific task? There is a Gymkhana job list sheet that we can go over as well and make any updates. The Gymkhana job list is also a great way to keep track of which parents have done the required volunteer hours to meet the award requirements. I know that sorting is keeping track of their volunteers.

I think because of the initial concerns over sorting we have let the other parts of this club flounder. I think it is imperative that we get all aspects of the Club back on track as soon as possible. First and foremost, Royalty needs to be put back in line with the Clubs requirements. The state fair parade is in August and if we are to have Royalty represent us it needs to be in order. Royalty has always led the Club in the State Fair Parade. They can't lead the club if they can't ride a horse independently or don't have a horse that can be ridden in a parade. Entry fee for the parade is due in mid-July. If we enter, we will also need a person to be "in charge" of the State Fair Parade before we send in money to hold our spot. There is also a list that our longtime coordinator and very missed member Tom Olson made for us that has the guidelines for organizing the Parade. The parade has a lot of moving parts, pardon the pun, but this position should not be taken lightly. It actually works better if the coordinator is on the ground walking instead of on a horse. A parade coordinator must be in place at the next meeting in order to submit the parade entry fee before the deadline.

We do have another problem that I am struggling with. Kids. We have a few kids that lack parental supervision. I have no problem disciplining kids but the parents may not like the way I do it. I would like a man, preferably a mean one, that can spend some time near the concession stand on Tuesday nights and keep the kids in line. If you know of the perfect candidate, please let me know.

So far, I have caught kids:

Throwing rocks in the arena

Throwing rocks at the concession stand

Throwing rocks at each other

Sword fights with sticks

Trying to dig enough dirt out to make a boulder fall

Throwing sand at the other kids

Beating on the port-a-potty while people are using it.

And this is just what I have seen while I am trying to run the concession stand I know this is not a normal job task but at least for the next couple of weeks I would appreciate the support.

One last question. Who is the Gymkhana coordinator? The minutes from the February meeting state: Pauli, Lenny and Christy

I will have three motions to put before the board but I want to stop for open discussion at this time.