

REGION 13 ANNUAL MEETING

May 15, 2008

IN ATTENDANCE:

Central Rockies [CR]; Panhandle [PH]; Platte Valley [PV]; Southern Colorado [SC]; North Platte [NP]

John Klomp - R13 Field Rep [FR]

Pat Johnson - R13A FR

Barbara Newsome - Public Relations [PR] Chairman [sitting in for Lee Ann Heldt [R13 PR] because David just had surgery]

Western Colorado [WC] and Arkansas Valley [AK] were not there but communicated their ideas to FR John; Elkhorn Valley [EV] communicated their ideas to FR Pat and email to FR, PR, & club presidents.

OLD BUSINESS

- *WC made a proposal for more judge/handler seminars.* John and Pat both made inquiries and found out that we are not be able to do that. It use to be that the money for the seminars was in the HRC Foundation and then the money would transfer over to the HRC, Inc to pay for the seminar. This is no longer the case. Now the money comes out of the general operating expense of HRC, Inc. When John called HRC Treasurer, Mike Witt, there is not enough money allocated for more than 1 Judges/Handlers seminar per region. John and Pat were not sure why this was changed. Barbara is going to make some calls to see what she can find out.
- *Costs of Hunt Tests* - Pat suggested that smaller clubs struggling with hunt test expenses could share weekend with another club. I.e. one club do a test on Saturday and one club do a test on Sunday.
- *Judges – Communication & Compensation* - Last year it was suggested that clubs need to communicate better with judges regarding compensation and such. All clubs seem to be doing better in this area.
- *Role of Field Reps* - HRC wants the FRs to not do as much judging but rather concentrate more on their role of being FR. But when clubs do use the FR to judge, HRC wants the clubs to compensate the FR the same as they do the other judges.
 - John suggested that one way for a club to save on judging expenses is to have the same individual to judge both days. I.e. Seasoned one day and Finished or Started another day.
- *Hunt Dates to Lee Ann* - Last year club's were to get their hunt test dates to Lee Ann by November. This seem to work pretty well and clubs are asked to continue to do same.
- *An Umbrella Liability Insurance for all HRC clubs* - it was mentioned at the Regional Meeting last year if the FRs could bring this up at the National meeting. John and Pat did and said apparently it couldn't be done because liability is different in different states and also is different between Upland and Regular hunts because of the live ammo involved.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Change Location of Regional Meetings* - EV suggested alternating the Regional Meeting between Region 13 and 13A. Barbara suggested that both regions have a Regional meeting each year. Another suggestion was to still have 1 Regional Meeting for both Regions 13 and 13A but move the central location point from Brush to Hidden Pines in Cheyenne, WY or to North Platte, NE. Panhandle was also mentioned but their hunt is after the HRC Annual Meeting. It was decided for Lee Ann to email all club Presidents for feed back.
 - The cons of alternating meetings between regions is that there will always be 3 or more clubs that the distance is too far and therefore less participation.
 - The cons of having a meeting in both regions every year is compiling or merging info from both meetings into one report. But is two sets of reports/ideas to the Annual Meeting really that bad of an idea???
 - The cons of moving the regional meeting to Cheyenne, WY or North Platte, NE is there will still be clubs traveling a long way, especially Road Runner, Southern Colorado, and Western Colorado.
- *Rule Proposal Change* - Pat said there is one Rule Proposal Change that he is aware of and that is to take the tracking out of Upland. Even though it is an option and not a requirement, they want the tracking out of Upland all together. Apparently this is a much harder test for the dogs; harder to set up successfully; and harder for the pros to train for. Fred Lysinger of Hidden Pines said he had set up tracking tests successfully for years but there is a special technique to set up a successful tracking test. Pat said most of his clubs have already responded to him that they want it left in. Lee Ann needs to send an email to the clubs asking them to be sure to communicate to their FR how they feel about it so he can appropriately represent each club when it comes up at the Annual Meeting.
- *Late Entry Fee* - PV suggested that all clubs charge a late entry fee for entering the week of the hunt test. If all the R13 clubs did it then one club would not be the goat. The reason we need the late fee is to encourage early entry. Clubs are being hurt when ordering birds and then end up canceling a flight and left with too many birds. You just can't cancel birds at the last minute, or at least the Colorado clubs can't. It hard to plan food for the Social, attaining bird boys, etc. It would just help if folks could get entries in before the last week. After much discussion, it was decided that before imposing a late fee, that each club will try to educate their membership on this and to emphasize to their members how important it is to get entries in as soon as they know they will be running.

CR suggested the biggest reason our entries are low is because we have so many clubs. Now people can pick and choose which hunts they want to go to unlike the days when we only had about 8 clubs. Mandy Cieslinski of CR suggested more August tests to pull the out-of-state people up. When Western Colorado and Lamar did back-to-back weekend regular hunts a couple years back, that pulled up a lot of out-of-staters including the out-of-state pros. Mandy said they love to come up here and hit 2 & 3 hunt tests in a row. If we could come up with another mountain test would be even better.
- *Life Time Membership Fee* - Western Colorado suggested that HRC consider the option of a one-time Life Time Membership fee or to renew at \$25 each year. Barbara Newsome, as Public Relations Chairman has the opportunity to sit down with the HRC Executive Committee [EC] one-on-one the day before the Board of Directors meeting. She will bring this up to them.

- *Youth Judging Apprentice Program* - AV suggested a Youth Judging Apprentice Program. The Youth is the Future of HRC. Currently the age to be on a Hunt Committee or to judge a test is 18 years of age. The Youth Judging Apprentice Program would allow the young member to enter to program at age 16 with the following stipulations:

The Apprentice Youth will –

- participate at the Started Level only;
- will be in addition to the two normal judges [one of which could be an apprentice];
- must be at least 16 years old;
- have maintained a C average in school the previous year if judging during the school year;
- have trained, handled, and passed a dog in Started;
- have a Hunter Safety Card,
- must attend a Judges/Handlers Seminar;
- will remain a Started Apprentice until the age of 18;
- must have 3 signed recommendations from their region [excludes parent, guardian, or family member];
- can not judge with parent, guardian, or family member;
- must participate in a Hunt Committee a minimum of 2 times while in the Youth Judging Appren Program;
- must go to the Region FR for final approval.

If any of these are not kept, they will lose their judging privileges. Barbara will also present this to the EC during her June 12 meeting with them.

- *New Apprentice Judges*. It was brought up that there is a pool of new R13 Apprentice Judges that no one outside of their own club know about because they are not quite yet in the Judges Data Base. Lee Ann is going to collect the names of all the new Apprentice Judges from each club. Once she has the names compiled, she will email the names to all R13 clubs. We will also post the names to the R13 website.
- John and Pat reminded all clubs to be sure to get their proxies in to one of them. They need to let the FR carrying their vote know how they want to vote regarding HRC Secretary or anything else out there that we know of. Our region carries a total of 14 votes and we want each and every club to have a say.