

President Report – May Meeting

I want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to making our May derby a success.

A big thank you to Darrel Brown for moving the fences, Shannon for answering the bat signal and bringing her children to assist, Shelagh for her jumps and assistance on the course, Kyla for trying her hand at some incredible decorating skills, and Kaitlyn for trying new things to help remove the steps and fill the ditches. Our board is full of incredible people that have stepped up time and time again.

While this derby was successful I would like for us to keep some things in mind for the future.

1. We need to keep the course closed at least the week before the show
 - a. We were incredibly tight with flagging, decorating and setting up as we wanted people to have the chance to school before the show after a not great thaw.
2. We need more volunteers for set up
 - a. While I can appreciate that we all stepped up, we as a board cannot continue at this pace. We need more people for decorating, ring set up, and stadium set up.
3. We need specific roles for people on show day
 - a. We need to round out our volunteer list
 - i. Runner for cross country
 - ii. Runner for dressage
 - iii. Ring crew for stadium – knowledgeable crew
 - iv. Teardown people assigned

While I appreciate people stepped up to help on the day, it made everything a lot more stressful. My partner and a group of young people assisted in making changes to the stadium course. This is not ideal, especially as I was meant to be there as a coach and I ended up scoring, running, and doing all course changes.

We had a quad there the day of the derby, which yes made things nice, is not something that will be available again. We need to keep this in mind as I took volunteers cold drinks mid cross country and many appreciated it and took more drinks.

Volunteers had indicated they were uncertain where to go, and would have appreciated bags instead of loose items. This is something we should consider going forward.

On show days I would also like to see board members be able to enjoy the show, be it riding, coaching, volunteering. People need to be able to focus on what they are there to do. If this means we have a volunteer ring side with a radio for emergencies then we do so.

After Otter I will touch base with the hydro pole contact again and see if we can arrange a new date to pick up the poles. Sadly our originally planned date was postponed due to an emergency on the farm.

Barry had confirmed if we send him \$3000 he will begin to build fences as per his wishlist. We set aside \$5000 to build jumps of our own budget this year. I would like to see us send him \$4000 instead and this will give him time to begin building. It will also allow us time to arrange shipping and ability to pull the jumps off the trailer before snow fall hopefully.

I would also like to see us hold a paint party for a few jumps each month. As the course will not be changing each month I think changing the way the jumps look each time would keep the course fresh and fun. Also if anyone has any old decorations they would like to donate (Halloween, easter, Christmas, etc.) we would greatly appreciate that. This would also help us plan and decorate to make a change as well.

Looking forward to fall, I would like to arrange a tear down weekend. This weekend we would remove all the old permanent fences and haul them away. I would also like to go through our wood pile again and see what is rotten and should be removed. Dennis was a massive help a few years ago when we did a massive clean up and I think it is time for another.