

LIVESTOCK ADVISORY MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 16, 2010

After a general meeting the Livestock Leaders, Parents, and Members retired to discuss all things livestock related.

Jay reminded all present that any and all changes needing to be made to this year's fair premium book will need to be noted and given to Candi as soon as possible. Time is very short.

Jay asked for anyone with any suggestions for training, classes or activities. Jessica Arnold had expressed interest in giving a swine showmanship class this year. Sara Pick and Judy Hackett are going to put together another Master showmanship clinic, possible the weekend after Juniper Jackpot. Donna Grudt reminded us that was graduation weekend, so another weekend might be better.

Next on the agenda are the Thank you notes for awards given at Fair. Candi would like the leaders and parents to monitor the content of the Thank you notes and make sure that they are appropriate for content. Also make sure that they are actually sent off to the sponsors. Several of the sponsors of awards have indicated that they have not received any acknowledgement.

Several sponsors that were present at the meeting indicated that they had not received their letters this year. Candi will look into the situation and have them resent.

Jay asked that all the leaders check with their Sr members and find a youth that would be interested in attending the Executive Meetings and participating in a lot of changes that are coming to the program. This is a good chance for some of our Youth to become involved and make our program better for them. Judy Hackett will fill the Leaders slot. The Executive committee meets every other month with the next meeting being in May. Check the Over the Clover or the website for the exact date and time.

Livestock judging contest is set for June 6th this year. Pam Cyrus would like to see more livestock judging opportunities for the Deschutes County Youth. She is concerned that with just one county contest it is not enough to prepare our kids for the State level and still be competitive. Discussion followed with the pros of Judging, Better, more confident public speaking, more College opportunities, and the fact that they learn how to evaluate their livestock. Bob Marler gave the history of the Judging in Deschutes County and how we used to be very competitive, however as the interest started to dwindle it became hard to put on the competitions and the trainings needed for just a few. After more discussion Jay asked that all Leaders talk to their kids and find out if there is

the interest to go ahead and start with trainings and putting together some more of the competitions. Judy Hackett said that her club is starting some training for livestock judging. Scott Duggan and Matt Aamodt will be working with the kids on the Judging as well as the oral reasons. Scott is an AG teacher that worked at the college level and Matt was on the College judging team. Mr. Hunt also said that Holly was getting ready to graduate and her first job will bring her back to Deschutes County, she would be more than willing to help out any club that would like some training. Holly has been going to college and also traveling with the College judging team. So we have some opportunities in place for starting the training if the interest is there. Mr. Hunt also suggested that this would be a good thing to schedule after a showmanship meeting so that there would be several animals in one place to evaluate and judge. Everyone thought that this is a very good suggestion. So it was decided that everyone would go to their respective clubs and see how much interest could be started. More to follow at the next meeting.

Candi would like to have a volunteer to take over the sheep awards, anyone interested please contact Candi directly.

This year there will be a change in the Livestock Auction venue. The Event center will not be available Saturday evening, so the Buyers BBQ will be held in the tent outside of the Event center near the water feature. Then they will proceed to the Beef Ring at approx 2pm there will be a parade of Champion Beef and they will hold the beef sale. After the Beef sale, a people mover will take all buyers to the swine ring where the rest of the parade of Champions will be held. Following the parade of Champions the swine sale will begin in the swine ring and the sheep, small animals and goats will start to sell in the sheep ring. We will have some covered bleachers this year (an additional 20' of shaded area). This is the way the sale was handled the first few years we were at this Fairground. The change is due to the concert that is scheduled for Saturday night, trying to have the fair break even money wise. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE KIDS WILL STILL BE CLEANING THE EVENT CENTER AFTER THE CONCERTS.** We will still be holding the dog show, our morning meetings in the event center and we do use the fairgrounds all year long.

Jay reported that the new Advancement books have not arrived yet and we have no time frame on when they will. So the existing advancements will remain. Several leaders expressed a concern that it was getting very hard to get all the kids signed off especially if you have a large club. There was some questions as to how much lea way the Leaders have, such as do you have to do all species or can you concentrate on your own species when doing the sign offs. Candi indicated that was a Leaders individual call and we were allowed to do the one species if we wanted to. Bob indicated that he would like to see the rules changed to follow the intent of the advancement book. And just make progress. Candi had no objections and over the course of the discussion it was decided that everyone would have to make progress every year. That progress will need to be at least 4 skill option sign offs. This can be on any of the steps. That will make it so that they have 3 years to complete each step.

Jay reminded everyone that the County of Origin was required to be turned in at the 1st weigh in. They had the forms available to anyone that wanted them. He reminded everyone that they needed to take the form with them and have the breeder sign the forms. There is a rumor out there that the kids can fill out and sign them themselves. This rumor is not true, this is a Department of Agriculture rule and it needs to be signed by the breeder, or place of origin. Also remember that the health forms will need to be completed and turned in at Fair Weigh In. Have them ready to keep things moving.

A discussion and reminder that Parents and Leaders are responsible for having their members dress appropriately during the Fair. Sleeved tops, long pants, and hard toed shoes in the ring. Pants pulled up and shirts buttoned up. This should not be left to the Judge, Barn Superintendent, or Fair Official. A discussion with members prior to going to Fair should take care of any misunderstandings.

Meeting was adjourned.