

Great Lakes Region Spring Regional Council Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2023

Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI



7:45-8am get situated for meeting

8am-12:30pm meeting (one 15-minute break)

Attendees

Participants	All Regional Officers, DCs, and CAs are expected to attend. Other club officers and sponsors are also welcome.
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8:09	<p>8:09 Called to order by Wendy Wilford</p> <p>Welcome & Introductions; Attendance. Recognition of new DCs/CAs (Wendy Willford) Brief mention of Robert's Rules of Order (Amy Fidler)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cedar Ridge RC • Central Michigan PC— Amanda Butcher • Foxwood PC— Candy Tavormina (v), Heather Kolar • Grand River PC— Linda Cooper (v) • Highland Hills PC— Alysia Apley (v), Kim Henderson, Wesley Konesky (HH) • Huron Valley PC— Heather Galbraith (v), Devonne Marconnit • K. Colfer Sporthorses RC— Katie Colfer • Kalamazoo Valley II PC— Christine Stenger • Macatawa PC— Melissa Topp • Metamora Hunt II PC— Tammi Dring • Orchard Hill PC— *Kerry McKinley • Pierport PC— *Melynda Ziehm & Ginger Wisseman (v) • Rose Lake PC— Karen Usher • Silver Snaffles PC— Casey Field, Julie Graber (v) • Traverse Bay PC— Janna Stone, Susy White, Ann Hadfield, Amy Bryson • GLR Board— Wendy Wilford, (RS), Alex Clay (VRS) OH, Amy Koepke (VRS), Melynda Ziehm (Treasurer), Jen Wolf (VRS), Stephanie Bugai (JLC Liaison), Ginger Wisseman (HMO), Amy Fidler (Secretary)
8:15	<p>Approval of Spring 2023 RC Agenda Motion to approve: Janna Stone, Ginger Second. No discussion. Approved. No opposed.</p> <p>Approval of Fall 2022 RC Minutes Motion to approve by Ginger. Alex Seconded. Approved. None opposed.</p>
8:20	<p><u>Regional Officers' Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Regional Supervisor</u> (Wendy Willford)

- Reviewed new leadership, board roles. Background check and training requirements are essential and nonnegotiable. Leadership requirements must be completed by 3/31 in order to have compliance or new leadership must be.
- **USPC Insurance**— required to be pulled for every single date you have a mounted activity (if a horse isn't involved at unmounted)! You must populate the actual dates of the actual. Club leadership is liable if an issue happens and insurance isn't in effect. If you are meeting at a location like Panera where they have insurance. If the meeting is in the barn at a home, have the pony club insurance pulled but entire lesson program isn't covered, just the insured activity. Still need to sign a facility's release acknowledging them as insured.
- Monthly leadership calls on the first of the month
- We need clubs to help with activities. Please sign up.

- **Treasurer (Melynda Ziehm)**

- Budgeted a loss and under by about \$63. For 2023 we are starting sound.
- Prospective loss for this year is \$80 (essentially flat). Hoping to grow to prepare for higher expenses next year due to festival.
- Collected all but \$280 of regional dues! Thanks to everyone.
- Safe sport & compliance— only 2 members that are noncompliant.
- Really pleased compared to last year. Reminder: if people are coming of age soon, you can do the SafeSport training before you turn 18.
- AmazonSmile has discontinued their program.
- 77% of clubs are complete with year end tasks for 2022. 5 clubs have financial peer reviews outstanding.
- Reminder: 990 must be filed by May 15. Enter your budgets for the year. Protip: get the W9 in advance if you know you'll be paying someone over \$600 during the year. Make sure those categories align in the CFRS with 1099 payments.

- **Regional Instruction Coordinator (Kerry McKinley)**

- Review the RIC Report
- D1 Test is a no fail test. DNMS is removed. Ensure all test sheets are from 2023.
- C2 Eventing can move diagonally. Can still move sideways.
- Use the NE Feedback link. It's free. Read the manuals.
- USPC Riding Skills needs to be hyperlink fixed.
- Encourage your Cs to push on and move forward. 51 D3 and above members presently.
- Upcoming Clinics details TBD; lots of opportunities ahead.
- Please communicate with your upper level members so we get their feedback incorporated and needs met.
- Study groups can be beneficial. Also consider having upper level members be a barn friendly participant at ratings ahead of time to demystify the process.
- Reminder upper level zooms.
- 5 HBS, 2 HA, 1B, 1 C3 per the survey
- Apprentice mileage is paid by the region

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Horse Management Organizer (Ginger Wisseman) 9:10</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Build habit at home, not just at the rallies. ○ Many ways to do HM correctly (<i>not</i> “the pony club way”)—there are many ways to do things correctly & safely. Respect your horse + the investment (stewardship). ○ National HM team has recognized that HM can be intimidating. ○ Would like to see each club have an HM champion. Please communicate who the club HM Champion is to the HMO (Ginger) with some basic contact info. Could be a mature D3 Pony Clubber. ○ HM Judges needed at rallies to build positive experiences. ○ Cross Club relationship can be very beneficial.
9:25	<p><u>Old Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent Auction (Stephanie Bugai, TBPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 36 items auctioned off. Silent auction generated \$3771! ○ Electronic bidding as an option for next year. • Quiz Art & Poetry Contest (Candy Tavormina, FWPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ninth year. Smaller quantity of entries, but high quality.
9:30	<p><u>2023 Activity Reports or Budget Proposals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Annual Meeting – Activity Report (Wendy Willford, RS)</u> St. Louis was a great venue! • Mock Quiz – Club Activity Report (Tammy Dring, MHIIPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feb 18 • Kingsbury Country Day School • Year 6. ○ 20 Entries + 5 teams competed. Live barn is a great experience. ○ Great sponsorships (maybe up to 15!) + donations. Remember to ASK! Send those kiddos in to make the ask as well. Remember we are tax exempt (the region has forms) and your EIN is found on the club page. • Quiz Rally – Rough financial report (Jen Wolf, TBPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ THANK YOU! Kerry & Wendy officiating, Melynda & Ginger scoring. Amy K. Alysia put together stations. Stephanie’s major support. Club members. Julie Graber paved the way. Casey our photographer. ○ Donations \$2800 in real cash money + addition to swag. ○ Charged \$67 per member. Competitor tax (fund to help cover champs expenses). ○ Facility was very generous to us (\$825 last year! We had a 50% discount (because Melynda asked... wow!). \$2,015 dollars. ○ Budget was \$940, so made well over double. ○ Lots of ideas for next year. If you have any ideas, share with Jen. ○ If we have discounted codes for the rooms at the facility, those need to remain exclusive. Not to be shared out. ○ Reserve early... this is key to getting a room at Great Wolf Lodge. Considering the discount to include Thursday night. • HM Trailer Rally – Club Activity (Julie Graber, SSPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Go over HM & prep for rally season with AHMJ

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stalls, paddock available. ○ 10am start, 3-4pm finish. Mounted instruction included. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eventing Rally – GLRPC (budget proposal), supported by HVPC and CREC Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revel Run. Have promised volunteers. ○ HV + Cedar Ridge supporting the region as hosts. Pierport supplying ribbons. ○ Falls into qualifying for champs. This rally makes you eligible for champs 2024. ○ 1 day rally Sunday May 21 with arrival May 20 ○ Grasshopper level is available for XC. Very beginner + new rider friendly. Think about how younger & older members can work together. Going through the Modified level. ○ Stalls available offsite for before / after. Actual rally is a trailer rally. ○ Ginger moves to accept the budget. Alex 2nd. Body protectors required. Pinney holder. Horse trial entry required. ○ Motion withdrawn. Addl. discussion about participation. ○ Ginger moves to accept the budget. Alex 2nd. No opposition. Motion carries. ● Tetrathlon Camp – Club Activity (Ginger Wisseman, PPC) Bootcamp prep and exposure to become competition-ready. Instruction in all phases. Camping available on site or hotels nearby. ● Flex Rally - GLRPC (budget proposal), Dressage, Show Jumping, Tetrathlon, and Western Dressage, supported by multiple clubs specifically RLPC and HHPC. Discussion: Encourage members to rally by making it as accessible as possible. Central location. 5 competitive opportunities. Teams can completely mix + match. Education track available. 2023 + 2024 Championships eligibility (standard & modified). Overall scores will be considered as a team. Please refer to the FAQ. Ghost scores. April 1 + May 1 planning meetings: Ginger, Kim, Melynda Haul in Friday, leave Sunday. Full 2 day rally. Primitive onsite camping. Ginger presents the budget. Ginger moves Julie G seconds. No discussions. No opposition. ● Super Camp July 5-8– Club Activity (Julie Graber, SSPC) National Examiner Sid Wilson, Jen Foreman, Dressage Judge. Show on the weekend. Details TBD but reach out to Julie Graber. ● Gymkhana Rally – Club Activity (Ginger Wisseman, PPC). More details to come. Held at Pierport. Introduces gymkhana to the region. Aug 5-6.
10:30	15-minute break (check out of rooms if needed)

10:50	<p><u>Committee Report — JLC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JLC Officer Introductions and Report
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11:15	<p><u>New Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Leadership Calls • Rally Organizing Committee • Fundraising Opportunity at Hunter’s Run (Donation for Derby Volunteers) 10% of Hunters Run Derby profit for 15 volunteers. Motion to Approve. Ginger. Seconded Alex. The following clubs have committed to provide volunteers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pierport -4 ○ Foxwood- 2 ○ Highland Hills - 1 ○ Huron Valley - 4 ○ Metamora - 4 • 2025 USPC Convention Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Locations still to be determined and then progress can really move forward. ○ No after meeting necessary due to no new updates.
11:45	<p><u>Additional New Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Member Dues for 2024 (must be approved every spring) Currently \$40 per member. Invoices are emailed to each club by Jan 15th. A late fee may apply for payments received after Feb 15th. Motion to approve Candy. Second. Approved No discussion.
12:00	<p><u>Championships 2023</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>USPC eligibility requirements</u> and <u>regional intention process</u> (Wendy Willford) • <u>Championships 2023 budget proposal</u> (Wendy Willford) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion to approve budget from Ginger. Second Jen. No opposed.
12:15	<p><u>Nominating Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Nominating Committee for 2024 Regional Officers</u> (Jen Wolf) Kim Henderson, Alysia Apley • Nominations from the floor (none) Motion to approve from Amy. Second Ginger. No opposed.
12:30	<p>Announcements & Adjournment</p>

Green items are voting items

Minutes recorded by Amy Fidler.