

2015 Region 17 Spring Meeting

The 2015 Region 17 Spring meeting was held in Calgary on March 28. There were 17 people in attendance, 9 were delegates.

The Regional show and the budget were the major topics of the meeting. The Region has a contract in Calgary for 4 more years, and that includes a one year "out" option. The Calgary club will be holding a pre show on the Monday. Contact Laurie Mostowich if you have any class requests for them to offer. They are still working on the schedule, but it looks like all the classes will be held inside. There is a nice practice/schooling ring near the grand stand/in field. The Security is to be improved, but exhibitors should be cautious of leaving electronics left in open view or left in unlocked tack rooms/ tack boxes. For those using the camping facilities, there will be NO SEWER dump service this year. There will be a self serve dump station, but it is recommended that you come to the show with your tank empty so you don't have to move part way through the show. This will be the last year the show will have trophies. Other options are being looked at for awards. The show has lost money the last two years, and the Region cannot lose any more. The economy has slowed and the Region also needs to cut costs as well.

Starting with the 2016 Directory, it will only list the National Champions and Reserves that were won by Region 17 members. There were 11 pages this year that listed all the winners from all four National shows. Since the shows all give out full Top 10's, it has become quite onerous to compile the list of Region 17 members who have won a Top 10 or better, and hope that none are missed. A request is sent out to all the clubs to provide a list of their club members who have won, but only a few clubs actually provide their members wins. It was discussed to only print the Champion and Reserves and cut down on the excessive pages that don't bring in any income. It was suggested that if the Top 10's wanted to be included in the Directory but couldn't afford to do a full page ad, they could have a business card size ad at a reduced fee of \$50.00. It was felt that 6 or 8 business card size ads could fit on a page, and the page could be inserted after the Champion and Reserve winner's pages.

The Canadian Nationals will be August 16-22. The first day is a Sunday and will be working western classes. AHA is now allowing 2 people to be in the ring for win photos at all National shows. DNA testing is now mandatory for Half Arabians for the Futurity and Maturity classes at Nationals.

The Equine Canada awards were announced. Sur Teddy's Magna+++// owned by Lorraine Prowse won the Purebred Arabian award and Sweet and Saucy owned by Wanda Leubner won the Half Arabian award. The Equine Junior Equestrian was won by Natalie Alves of BC. The 2014 Region 17 High Point awards were announced. Several Aurora members won awards. All the winners are listed on the Region 17 web site.

The Equine Canada helmet survey that was sent out received close to 1000 responses. 80% of those were from Arabian members.

The fall meeting is the election meeting. It will be held in Edmonton on October 3.

Karen Caughell