



# M.T.P.A.

## "Around The Pen in 2005"

Editor: Barb Gyselinck

Issue No.: 001 Date: January 2005

MTPA website [www.mantcpa.com](http://www.mantcpa.com)

### **Do You Remember When?**

Do you remember when you first started team penning? Do you recall the excitement, the anxiety and everything being a blur at first? Do you recall the first time you got the "gong" or better yet, the first time your team won or placed in a class? That darn gong sound still resonates in my head...

As we move into a new season, there will be a focus on increasing our membership and that increase will include brand new members who have never team penned before. Part of our membership drive will include advertising and encouraging potential new penners to come to practise penning in the province and give it a whirl!!

The existing members need to remember to extend more than a friendly hello to these new penners.....encourage them to attend a clinic (expound on the benefits of it), help them with friendly advice and most importantly, be willing to get them on your teams. All of these efforts will boost their self confidence and make this the best money they've spent all year! We've seen a lot of growth in the south eastern area of the province in the last couple of years and we feel confident that this trend will continue, as long as everyone makes an effort!

### **2005 Finals**

The board of directors is looking for proposals from interested parties to host for the 2005 MTPA Finals. The deadline for these proposals is February 6, 2005. Please forward your proposal to Wayne Klassen.

### **2005 Shows**

Your board is hard at work putting together the 2005 Show schedule and hope to have this information to you soon. Stay tuned!

### **M.T.P.A. Website**

Please remember that MTPA has a website – [www.mantcpa.com](http://www.mantcpa.com).

You'll find information on the website regarding show listings, rider pool, newsletters, sponsors, board contacts, pictures, and a variety of other information. If you have any suggestions as to additional information you'd like to see on the website, let me know! Also, if you'd like me to email your newsletter to you vs. mailing it, that can be done too!

### **Judges/Clinic**

Are you interested in becoming a certified team penning judge? There is always a need for more judges!! Please keep your eyes on the next newsletters as we'll have the date for the upcoming judges clinic (to be held in early spring).

## C.T.C.P.A. Report

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CTCPA representatives from across Canada met at the CTCPA AGM Nov.20<sup>th</sup> 2005 in Calgary in the Blackfoot Inn. There was discussion on many different subjects ranging from the general day to day operations of the CTCPA as well as National Finals, rule changes, past accomplishments and future challenges to Team Penning across Canada. The highlights include:

- A decision that the position of Rating and Judge Coordinator was beneficial to Team Penning and should become a permanent position. It was decided that Linda Burrell would continue on in that capacity. (Thank You Linda)
- Herb Cox from Saskatchewan moved from the position of Vice President to the position of President. (Congratulations Herb)
- Ron Vogel was elected to the position of vice President (Congratulations Ron)
- A decision that the paid position of Secretary/Treasurer be made a permanent position. Ann Robson accepted this position. (Thank You Ann)

Rule changes or clarifications that will be in effect for the 2005 season are:

1. "If a management or mechanical error occurs that may result in a rerun the team cannot better the time on the re-ride. Riders must declare their intention to seek a re-ride prior to leaving the arena. If granted, the re-ride will take place on the same herd, on the same number at the end of the herd"
2. "Should a team be called for roughing, that team will finish at the end in last place in the go in which the infraction occurred."
3. "The wording will be changed in the rule book to indicate that the judge has the authority to stop a run immediately upon a cow being incapacitated."

The National Finals held in Oct of 2004 was again a huge success. The number of teams was down somewhat which made for some shorter days, this was appreciated by all the competitors.

Look for a more complete report on the Nationals in upcoming newsletters. The MTPA is hoping to put a group of Man. Penners together to attend the 2005 show in Calgary. If you or anyone you know is interested please let me know as soon as possible.

Finally it was discussed that while Team Penning remains a very popular sport and is expanding in many areas of Canada there are some challenges ahead of us. Memberships have dropped in some areas of the country and everyone needs to do their part to increase exposure of our sport to those people that may be interested but do not know how to go about becoming part of Team Penning.

Submitted by:  
Wayne Klassen, CTCPA Rep. 729-5145

## MTPA Revised Membership Form & NHR Rate Increase

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Please note that the MTPA and CTCPA membership forms have now been combined into one form and can be found on our website under the "Members" heading. The last newsletter included the separate forms and they will continue to be accepted but we encourage members to use the new one wherever possible. Also, The Northern Horse Review subscription rate for 2005 is **\$18.00** and not \$16.00, as was shown on the separate CTCPA forms.

We'd also like to remind members to get their memberships in **ASAP!** Cheques and completed forms can be sent to Launa Thiessen, Box 582, Macgregor, Mb. R0H 0R0. Remember that Mb. Horse Council membership forms and cheques should be sent directly to MHC.

New members will need to complete the CTCPA evaluation forms. These can be obtained from the website or from any board member. **Please note that all board members will carry a supply of membership forms and rule books (once we have received them from CTCPA) to all shows this summer so if you or a new member needs these forms, contact one of the board of directors!**

## **Member Profile – Rick Andrews**

This month's member profile is about a very committed team penner, who has been involved with the association since its inception and has remained active on the board of directors until just recently.

Rick is originally from Winnipeg and was exposed to horses at a relative's farm. At that time, his interests were wildlife, horses and travel. On a professional note, Rick is a biologist and has worked for Ducks Unlimited since 1977, making the world a better place for ducks.

He currently lives with his wife Judy on a ranch outside of Brandon, keeping two quarter horses and 2 paints. He has owned horses for the last 16 years and got interested in team penning about 15 or 16 years ago.

Rick tells me that when he first saw a demonstration of the sport, he thought "I can do that"..... and he was right! He worked with a group of other interested horse people (Neil McLeod, Ken Dalgliesh, Evert More and others) to start the MTPA in 1994. Rick has served in various capacities on the board, including director, secretary, communications secretary, vice president and president. He has been the grease that "keeps the wheels moving".

When I asked Rick why he has remained active in team penning and what changes he's seen, he replied that "it has the same great people involved and he's met some wonderful people over the years that he counts as his friends through the sport of penning". He has also noticed that the quality of penning has really improved – people are riding better, their horses are better schooled and the penners are doing a much better job of reading cattle.

When I asked Rick for some advice to the membership going forward into 2005, he said "Keep it fun! We can and should be competitive but if we don't keep it fun, we won't keep the members we have or just as important, attract new ones." Rick also wished the new board good luck and reminded members that we have a great bunch of folks

running our association, give them your support and "see you at the pen"!

## **Dave Fraser Clinic**

**April 15, 16, 17, 2005 - Neepawa**

Don't forget about registering for this great clinic. It's an awesome opportunity to learn from one of Canada's best team penners and also have a lot of fun. Registration is limited to 24 participants so call Ken Dalgliesh (476-3356 or 476-2803 or 476-6925) to register. Cost is \$250.00 for the weekend and includes horsemanship skills on the Friday afternoon. Ken and Judy always host a great weekend and will again have a "bring your own beverage and beef" BBQ on Saturday night....and they'll supply the rest of the fixings. Everyone who has attended this clinic raves about it and many come back year after year to improve their techniques! Don't delay, register today!

## **TP Tips & Info.**

We'll be trying to include some educational information in our newsletters to ensure that members understand some of the procedures and processes within the association. If you have ideas for articles to include, please contact Barb Gyselinck.

This month's info will be about "rating team penners"...how they're done, appeal process, etc.

### **Rating Team Penners**

A Rating number is the number designated to an individual penner according to that penner's ability. The numbers range from number 1 to number 6. In Manitoba we have also added the number 0 for penners 12 years of age and under in the year they are penning. These numbers are used to even the playing field in the different classes. A number 1 rider would be a rider of lower or beginner skill level. A number 6 rider would be a rider of the highest skill level.

Riders are rated the same way in Manitoba as they are in the rest of Canada. The rider will be rated by their local Rating Committee according to how they personally perform during competition and how they contribute to their team's success or failure. The local

committee is made up of number 4 riders or higher according to CTCPA rules. How their teams perform, how many points they have attained or how much money they have won does not rate riders. Some of the skills taken into consideration by the rating committee are, riding ability, their ability to read a cow, aggressiveness, ability to handle a cow etc. The skill level of the individual rider is the determining factor when rating a rider not the length of time they have been penning or the skill level of the people they pen with.

There is a National ranking system, which means that a rider with a number "3" rating in one CTCPA sanctioned association should have the same skill level as a number "3" rated rider in any other CTCPA sanctioned association.

Any penner entering or competing at any show approved or sanctioned by the CTCPA will abide by the rating number issued by the National board or be subject to suspension.

Any penner who feels they have been over or under classified has the right to submit a written request for adjustment to their local association, along with a cheque or money order for \$50.00. In the request they must explain their reasoning for number adjustment and give at least 3 references to support the adjustment.

A copy of the appeal letter will be distributed to the appeal committee. They will vote independently on the submitted appeal.

If a penner feels the local association has not satisfied their protest or appeal they may proceed with their appeal to the National appeal board. All decisions of the National Appeal Board will be final.

The above procedure also applies to any penner wishing to protest another penner's number.

Each rider shall be rated prior to his or her first show. If the rider has penned during the previous year their rating will be based on knowledge of the rider's ability at the end of the previous year. If this is a new rider the rating committee shall require that rider to complete a full CTCPA Membership Application. The Rating Committee

shall then base their decision on the completed application.

During the first 3 shows the rider competes in the rider will be reviewed by the local committee to ensure that the original rating is correct. The local rating committee can change any riders rating up to the completion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> show entered.

All ratings will be subsequently reviewed by the CTCPA rating coordinator prior to June 15. In the case where a rider has not competed in 3 shows prior to June 15, that rider's rating may be changed at any time up to the start of the National Finals.

The purpose of ratings is not to penalize penners but to level the playing field and to encourage successful penners to pen with less successful penners.

I hope this answers some of the questions you may have about ratings. If you have any other questions feel free to contact any of your board members. If they cannot answer the question they will be happy to direct to you someone who can.

Submitted by:

Wayne Klassen, President MTPA

## **Feedback Welcomed!**

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Don't forget, this newsletter is for YOU the member. If there is information that you'd like to see in here, please don't hesitate to send it on to me. Your comments, ideas and opinions are valued!