



M.T.P.A.

"Around The Pen in 2007"

Editor: Rick Andrews

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Welcome to the first newsletter of 2007. The Board of Directors had their first meeting on January 13 to start plans for the 2007 season. It was decided to focus on ensuring that new and beginning Penners have ample opportunity to try our sport. To accomplish this we revamped the Draw Class to provide a class with help from experienced Penners to hone skills. The rules for the Draw Class are outlined later. The regular sanctioned classed stay the same as well as the Youth class. We are also examining the limited 3 class. If anyone has ideas or suggestions for this class, please contact Ron LeMay to discuss.

We also reviewed our advertising package for this year's supporters/advertisers. We want to ensure our supporters receive the best possible exposure for their advertising dollars. If you have someone in mind for a potential advertiser/supporter, contact Wayne Klassen who is chairing the advertising committee.

So far we have 8 tentative shows for the coming year; we will let you know as soon as the dates are confirmed. If you know of anyone wanting to put on a show, please contact a board member as soon as possible. The next Board meeting is Feb 24, so contact your Board with concerns before then.

MTPA 2007 Board of Directors

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[2007 Memberships – You’re Not Just A Number But...](#)

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2007 (both the MTPA/CTCPA membership and the Mb. Horse Council one also). Forms are available on our website or from any of the Board of Directors. Just a reminder that Mb. Horse Council (MHC) memberships must also be taken out. Memberships and payments for MHC are to be mailed to MHC directly (address is on the form). **THE SOONER WE GET MEMBERSHIPS IN, THE QUICKER WE CAN ENSURE ALL THE RATINGS ARE DONE AND EVERYONE HAS THEIR NUMBER....THIS WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO START FORMING YOUR TEAMS EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR.** Also if you have NOT renewed your membership, this will be the LAST newsletter you receive via The Cowboy, so renew now to ensure you keep in touch with your association.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP FORM AND PAYMENT TO LAUNA THIESSEN ASAP. Her address is Box 582 MacGregor MB R0H 0R0.

Ratings for 2007

Ratings have been a big subject of debate for many years. Your Board has worked hard to ensure a level playing field at MB pennings while ensuring MB Penners have an equal chance of penning in neighboring Provinces and at the CTCPA Finals. This has not been an easy or popular job! In order to come closer to achieving the above mentioned goals of fair play we had Linda Burrell rate our members last fall at the finals. Using her recommendations the Rating Committee has re-evaluated everyone rating number. Some folks have gone down, some have stayed the same. Hopefully this will balance the numbers between our neighboring provinces and still keep our shows fair and fun. If you are interested in your new number, please call Ron LeMay to discuss. It is important to renew your membership ASAP as noted above so everyone can start making teams and planning for the upcoming year.

Draw Class Rules

The intent of this class is provide an opportunity for new and beginning penners an opportunity to hone their skills and compete with an experienced penner. To facilitate this the rules are as follows:

- The teams will be drawn from the individual entries
- One of the team members will be a 2 or higher riders
- 2 of the 3 riders will be 1 or beginner
- You can enter 3 times
- Entry fee is \$20 per entry
- Guaranteed 2 goes per entry
- Payout of 50% of the total entry fees; 1-3 teams pay 1 place, 4-6 teams pay 2 places, 7+ teams pay to 3 places
- Same rules as youth classes i.e. the 2, 3, or 4 Penner cannot cut or call for time.
- Entries will be taken on the regular entry night; home town entries will be taken the day of the penning.

Limited 3 Class

Last year this class was run as a class within a class. Your Board of Directors wants to determine if this class is still of interest to the members. It basically allowed for 3 #1s to compete in the #5 class for added money. If you have ideas or suggestions for this class please call Ron LeMay before February 24 to discuss. We want this class to provide additional incentive for beginning Penners to come and join the fun and have a reasonable chance of taking home some added money.

Dave Fraser Clinic

Once again the Ken Dalgliesh is hosting a Dave Fraser Team Penning Clinic in Neepawa on April 27th to 29th. Dave puts on an excellent clinic for beginners and experienced riders alike. Mark you calendar and plan to attend. Call Ken at 476-2803 for details.

Keystone Show

The Keystone Center is working on a show for March 16th, 17th and 18th. The plans are to include Team Penning, Working Cow Horse, Team Roping, Barrel Racing and Cutting. If this format proves to be successful, the plans are to build this into a bigger and better show every year. Mark your calendar and watch for details on the penning in an upcoming newsletter.

Correction-2006 awards

Sorry: we made a mistake! The race was really close and there was an error in compiling the points for the High Point Year End Team. The winner of this category was in fact **Harvey Penner, Dale Barkman and Harry Harder.** Congratulations guys and our sincere apology for the mix up. We also apologize to the McLaren Brothers, Ron and Doug who were awarded the buckles with Harry Harder by mistake. We will get the buckles onto the correct belts as soon as possible. Harry, of course, gets the buckle either way!

This was a close race with only 2 points separating the top two teams, so this contributed to the mix-up.

Qualification for Finals 2007

The Board agreed to follow last years successful format requiring **3 sanctioned shows** to qualify for Finals.

Finals Show 2007

The Board voted to have our 2007 Finals show at the Keystone Centre again this fall. The dates will be September 15th and 16th. We are planning a similar format incorporating the Cutters and the Crocus Cowhorse Association. Wayne Klassen has volunteered to chair this event again this year. Under Wayne's direction we can expect another excellent event. Thanks Wayne!

Next Board meeting

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for February 24th-12 noon in Neepawa at the Chicken Chef on Highway #16. All Directors should mark their calendars.

Communications for 2007

You might have noticed a little different style and format to this newsletter. I have taken over from Barb Gyselinck the job of communications for 2007. Barb's boots will be hard to fill as she did an excellent job for the last few years. Thanks again Barb for all your hard work. Now maybe you will have some more time to pen!

Alice Barkman will continue to be our photographer making sure our smiling faces make it to press.

I need your feedback. If there is anything I have missed, details that need to be included, please contact me at 726-4850 or email (preferable) at r_andrews@ducks.ca. I will do my best to get all the information out to our membership.

See you at the pen,

Rick