

ANNUAL RGA OFFICERS MEETING-2011

Those attending in Oklahoma City

David Akin - Director
Gary Burden - Deputy Director
Barbara Chatham - Secretary
Dickie Stanley - National Safety Director
John James - Sergeant at Arms
Matt Woehrle - State Director of Kansas
Jeff Cashion - Safety Officer/Board Member-Kansas
Jeff McClaran- State Director of Missouri
Russ Palmer - Safety Officer/Board Member-Missouri
Jeff McIntosh - State Director of Indiana/Kentucky
Mike Owen - Safety Officer of Indiana/Kentucky
Larry Putnam - Safety Officer of Texas

Not Present:

Frankie Deramo - Safety Officer of Arkansas
R.J. Preston - State Director of Oklahoma
Dwayne Hagemeyer - State Director of Texas
Kip Turner - Board Member - Place 1

Attending in Banning, CA

Jim Miller - State Director - CA.
Steve Callas-State Safety officer-CA
Jim Keno - Board Member-Place 1-
CA

Not Present

Don Swain - State Director - Arizona
Linda Swain-Safety officer - Arizona

First item was discussion on changing the Living History Form. Comments were solicited. Barbara stated that while David was taking a break from Director, she established a committee from persons who had participated in Living History to evaluate the form and recommend changes. Persons chosen represented California, Arizona, Colorado, Texas and Kansas. The Gunfighter Score Sheets and the current Living History Score Sheet were sent to each of the committee members. Sue McDonald is the Chairperson of the committee. Matt Woehrle recommended that we let the committee do their work and present it to the board of directors. It should be more consistent with the Gunfighting Score Sheet. A motion was made that the committee have something ready for the board to review by October 15, 2011. ***Motion was seconded. Motion carried. 12-0***

Matt Woehrle brought up the question about exactly what does our insurance cover since we had an incident with a horse damaging a car at an event in Kansas. The insurance agency made the decision that since that horse was not actually in the parade; he was in a staging area and outside the perimeter of the parade. The National Board agreed with their decision. It was reiterated that our insurance is for coverage of the spectators not the reenactor. Each reenactor should have their own liability insurance to cover them. Also stressed was the fact that each reenactor should be following the safety rules of RGA. Cody was given the responsibility of researching with our insurance agent the different scenarios that could happen to insure that we have the proper coverage and then put it on the website. Larry Putnam brought up the fact that most cities that have parades have their own insurance which also covers any happenings. Our insurance company will issue additionally insured coverage when requested by a member.

The next issue came from Arizona that some teams were unhappy with the fact that when a team goes

over or under the designated time frame, they didn't think that each judge should deduct a point, which would result in a three point deduction. The rules say that there will be a one point deduction per minute. Comments were made that a team should have practiced enough that they know what their timing is. Come prepared. Also consider the size of the set and adjust your timing. The final consensus was that the wording should be changed to "one point deduction per minute per judge" so that everyone knows it could cost them three points instead of just one. ***A motion was made and seconded and motion passed 11-1.***

Next item discussed was insurance coverage for vendors. Our insurance does not cover vendors even though they are RGA members.

Every judge should never show any partiality or bias towards any team. Fraternalizing with the teams is fine as long as the teams don't try to influence the judge. Likewise, the judge should be educated enough in realizing when a team is trying to manipulate them. The judge should be well educated in all areas of competition. There should be a judge's meeting on Friday nights to go over the rules. There should be no conversation between a team and the judges while the team is not performing.

The discussion of payment of the judges was the next item of business. Each judge should be compensated with lodging and mileage.

The next item was about gun checks and splatter tests. Some people refuse to let the designated person check his weapon before entering the grounds. If anyone refuses to have a gun check, they should be refused admission to the competition. This is for everyone's protection. It was decided that everyone that is shooting in the skit should be in the safety meeting.. It's not feasible for a Head Safety Officer and a team leader to have to relay safety information to their members. That's why the members need to be at a safety meeting if they are shooting in a show/competition.

There are situations where a member can't attend the meeting, i.e. arriving late, sick, etc. This is permissible. Put wording on the application indicating that the members must be at the safety meeting so that they teams know they are to be at the safety meeting. Also having a sign up sheet of the teams will help identify who is supposed to be at the meetings. Also consider having a safety meeting in the morning and one in the afternoon if necessary. The Head Safety Officer and Promoter need to decide what is best for the event because of the number of competitors in some events. You can use volunteer qualified personnel to check the guns. The Head Safety Officer should be sitting at the judges' table. If a competing team is not an RGA team, they must be familiar with RGA rules. If not, it's their fault.

If you have "trouble makers" at events and they continue with their harassment after being warned, the state director or any officer can approach the board and consider not renewing their membership for the next year. This must be decided by the board as a whole. If anyone has any written documentation, it should be forwarded to the state director so that he can bring it to the board. If these "troublemakers" are running down RGA and continue after being warned by the state director, their membership can be withdrawn at any time by board approval. This is something that the organization does not like to do and it would take action by the board with proper documentation, but this would keep any disgruntled RGA members from doing any more damage to the organization, other teams or themselves.

There will be a judging school in Grapeland in October for those that are already judging or or wanting

to be good quality judges.

We went over the schedule of election of the officers. The recommendation was made to add wording to Article VI, Section 1a: An open position is a position based on election schedule and qualifying state membership determined August 1 of the election year as of August 6, 2011. ***Motion made and seconded..Motion passed 12 - 0***

Larry Putnam brought up the subject of using crimped blanks. Lots of discussion was held on this subject., pro and con. The item was tabled until further research could be done to ensure safety in the loads.

Next on the agenda was back on the payment of the judges and receipts for the expenses. If RGA puts funds into an event, it needs to have accountability as to the dispersement of the fund. There needs to be a money trail for every event. Make a packet to send to the event with instructions on how to fill out the forms. Have a receipt signed by anyone who receives cash.

We discussed the profit and loss summary, second quarter financials and number of members in all the states as of July 31, 2011. Motion was made and seconded to accept. Motion passes 12-0.

Trademarking was the next item. The cost of trademarking is approximately \$1,000.00. Further research will be done on this subject. Dwayne Hagemeier was asked to check into this a while back. Contact Dwayne. Motion was made to put a cap at \$1,000 for trademarking. Motion passed 12-0.

Reference was made to the fact that Bob Dodd, Safety Officer of Kansas had resigned as well as James Cooper, Board Member of California had resigned.

David mentioned trying to find another method of communication other than the Reenactorwire's Wire. It was encouraged for the officers to encourage the members to use the Gunfighter Wire. Jim Miller will email the officers a website that was given to him. Some research will be done to check out other venues so that more people will participate in the communication. Jeff McClaran will look into another program.

The next discussion was the election process. Barbara talked to Tony Griffith about running the election. He was waiting on us to tell him to proceed. It was brought up about filling James Cooper's position.

Next item was an activity book for children the Barbara created.. She will check into the price and let the officers know.

Dickie, National Safety Director has rearranged the wording in the safety area to go along with the safety videos which will make it easier to understand. Nothing was changed, just rearranged to clarify the safety rules. Motion was made and seconded to accept the rearrangement of wording to be put on the website. Motion passed 12-0.

Director and Officer's Liability for the officers was brought up because a former officer had recommended it to be done. There was quite a bit of discussion on this subject. It was decided not to pursue this item.

The scoring of encampments was discussed. There should be some type of consistency throughout the organization. It was recommended that Richard Porter be contacted to try and put together some rules.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Time was 5:30 p.m.

Barbara Chatham
RGA National Secretary