

Darke County Horse Committee Minutes
6:30 at the Fair Grounds
October 9, 2025

Members present:

Buckeye Buckaroos: Angie Bender
Greenville Rangers: Jessica Post, Brandi Hamm
Horse & Rider: Izzy Rausch
Silver Hoofs:
Trails & Trails:
Jr Fair board: Glori Rausch

Other: Shay Ann Auten

4-H Youth Development: Mercedes McFarland (Jessica Fisher)

Sr. Fair Board: Christoph Keller

Meeting was called to order by President, Angie Bender

Secretary Report: Minutes from August meeting was submitted via email by Shay Ann Auten. There were no additions or corrections. Brandi Hamm moved to approve the report, and Izzy Rausch seconded. Motion passed. Kelly

Treasurer Report: Treasurer, Brandi Hamm, submitted the treasurer report online

	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
GNB checking	\$6755.86	\$6,755.86
GNB savings	\$1512.30	\$1512.30

Izzy Rausch moved to approve the treasurer report and Jessica Post seconded. Motion passed.

At the end of the meeting Brandi mentioned that we would be ending the year with about \$6000. Were to think of things that we need to purchase going into the new year. It was brought up that we may need to replace or fix some of the jumps. Also, that we should replace the plastic barrels with metal ones. Also did we need to possible consider an additional faucet at the wash stalls.

JR Fair board:

1. Glori mentioned that they would be setting up a clothing drop box. More details to come regarding what clothing was included. Angie mentioned that tonight we would be going over changes in the Green Book to give to the Jr. Fair Board to be voted on.

Sr. Fair Board:

1. Inquired about the sink holes in the stalls and isle. He thought they might dig down with a small excavator to see what's going on in those areas.
2. Betsy's contract was still up for renewal at this time. The fair board had asked that she present them with a plan of action and lay out of her responsibilities by October 10th.
3. Angie inquire about painting the shipping container and if we needed to have approval to paint it or put a mural on it.

4. Marla still owes for Belt Buckles

JR. Fair Coordinator: Betsy

1. Betsy brought over several copies of our section of the green book in order to make changes. Glori was going to take a copy of the changes and present them to the Jr. Fair Board.
2. Izzy inquired about how many were actually on the Jr Fair board for the Equine Department. The thought was that if there were too many who wanted to be on the Jr. Fair board, that someone could be an assistant and still participate. Betsy informed us that anyone regardless of their age could be an assistant. There also wasn't a limit on the number of how many could become assistants but they just couldn't vote. She mentioned that she received Sophia's application but informed us that this was not needed to be an assistant. It was then agreed upon that those interested could contact Betsy.

Youth Development: Mercedes

1. She introduced Jessica Fisher who would be joining her as Program Assistant during her maternity leave and then would be staying permanently.
2. Izzy inquired if she was able to get her club roster after April 1st but before the 15th to see who owes for club dues

Old Business:

1. Madison was not going to be doing the Tack Sale for this upcoming year. Amy Rismiller was interested in doing it. Both Angie and Jessica said they would help when and if needed.
2. The sign on the old shed that fell apart when moved and if possible, to remove it and return it to us
3. Looked into the large species signs for pictures \$500. May look into a smaller sign
4. Angie was going to look at the jumps and see how many may need replaced and also look into getting jump blocks for more everyday use.
5. Mentioned getting shelves and organization for the shipping container
6. We talked about moving the picture area to the middle of the makeup arena
7. We want to get rid of the playground (The Peter's didn't want it back) Kelly was going to take care of that.
8. Dates for the year are
Tack Sale- March 22nd
Camp- June 3rd- 5th
PAS Show- June 7th

New Business:

1. Madison will be running the horse parade this year. They donated \$3000 to the arena fund. She wanted to know if anyone was interested in helping with parking and coordination, directing traffic, parking trailers, checking people in, standing on the parade route, someone to manage the pony lot, etc. She inquired if anyone had any other ideas to raise money at the parade to raise funds for the arena.
2. Inquire to know who and when the new Fair Vet would be decided on.
3. It was brought up that ground roping started at 11:00 this year and that it seemed to work well and Angie went ahead updated the showbill to look over

4. Angie handed out a copy of this year's showbill. Everything that was in red was the changes that we talked about.

Green Book:

The additions were reviewed and agreed upon, then given to Glori Mae Rausch to present to the Jr. Fair Board. Here are some brief additions or corrections to the book:

Schedule of Junior Equine Activities section

- Mandatory Meeting will be on August 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm
- Fun Show 5:00, Team Tournament 11:00 and Generation Gap 1:00
- Release Time for horses will be Thursday 9:00 am

Exhibit Rules Section

- Addition to #3 (\$25 will be charged to the 4h/FFA member)
- Change #12 To state that animals are to remain until 9:00am (this was a time change from 1:00)
- Change #13 Entries for the fair equine show must be made online by Monday the 3rd of July. No changes after July 15th only scratches. See Jr. Fair general rules. Refer to general rules for late fees.

- Additon to add- Fair Vet
- b. Add in "to leave early" for College and School members

Equine Skillathon

- #2 Date changed to June 4th, 2026
- #4 Topic for essay for Age 8-14 will be "A day in the life of my horse"

Age 15-18 "**How I show sportsmanship in the horse world with fellow competitors**"

Poster Contest- Change to state age 8-14 and 15 and over. (Need to talk about leaving this in or removing this section)

Ring Use Conditioning – change typo from "not" to "note"

Classes Section- Add in Saturday- Ranch and Monday- Dressage

Jr. Fair Equine Royalty Contest- Change that applications to be due the 3rd Friday in May under the grandstand by midnight.

The Meeting Concluded:

Izzy Rausch moved to adjourn the meeting, and Brandi Hamm seconded.

Next meeting will be Tuesday November 11 at 7:30 at the Extension Office.

Submitted by the Secretary,
Shay Ann Auten