

Minutes
ILR UAP Committee
Wednesday, May 30, 2018
8:00 Eastern Time

Members Present:

Sonja Boeff – Colorado

Kristy Brown – Wisconsin

Mark Smith – Indiana (BOD liaison)

Ron Wilkinson – Oregon (BOD liaison)

Absent:

Karen Freund – Arizona

Call to Order & Introductions at 8:02 by Ron

Kristy and Mark reviewed the history of the Universal Awards Program and why it was established. The original committee included Terry Duespohl, Tami Lash, Darrell Anderson, and Mark Smith. Mark and Kristy were on the Board at the time. The UAP program was established in 2008, at least six months before members requested establishment of the ILR- Show Division. The Show Division was formed in 2009. The primary intent of UAP was to create a way for people to record and be recognized for showing regardless of the shows they were participating in (Futurity, ALSA, 4-H, and other associations sponsoring shows). The Beyond the Showring portion was added as the program was refined and was established to recognize and acknowledge individuals and animals that were involved in a wide variety of activities with llamas outside of the showring. Few changes have been made in the UAP program since that time. The original plan was that a person would pay \$5 per animal to participate in the UAP program, but the fee was waived for the first year, then never actually put in place. Mark questioned whether we may need to consider reconsidering the fee as a way to pay for some of the programming improvements in the system that we want to consider now.

Ron noted that the Board has received several inquiries about the program and possibilities for improvement, promotion, and simplification of entry using the activity log. There have also been a number of questions around the points awarded for Beyond the Showring activities. He noted that he could not find anywhere on the website the point chart for BTS activities.

Next the committee visited the question of whether the UAP program was meeting our member's needs and interests. Then the committee brainstormed and discussed a variety of improvements or modifications to the program that they would like to explore and consider.

- **Should we award a point for classes where there is a single entry?** The committee agreed that we should change the Points Chart to award one point for classes with a single entry, then modify the next category to be for classes with 2-4 entries. Ron noted that we need to refer the change to the Governing Board for consideration for the SD since they should both match.

- **Could we add a drop down menu to the Activity Log program like with online show registrations where an individual's herd list comes up and they simply need to select the animal rather than inputting registration numbers, etc?** Mark noted that he felt that simple change would significantly simplify the entry of data for the program for any non-ILR-SD events. All agreed that it would be very helpful if we could make this change.
- **Where does a member learn about the Beyond the Showring part of the program?** Ron noted that there is no place on the UAP website page describing the Beyond the Showring portion. It has info about points for showing, about youth points, and talks about recording activities, but does not describe anything about the BTS recognition. All noted that participation seems to be very low for the BTS portion of the program. All agreed that the general information page needs to be updated and the BTS program needs to be explained. All agreed that we must do more to promote the BTS portion, but we need to work on the info page and simplification of entering data before promotion is going to be very helpful. After some of this work it may be appropriate for a new "launch" of the program.
- **Should the Beyond the Showring portion recognize individuals rather than animals?** Ron noted that when you take multiple animals to a parade, school visit, etc. it is very cumbersome to go in and record the event for each animal. He questioned whether this portion of the program is more about individuals sharing and promoting llamas and whether it would make more sense to recognize the individuals rather than the animals. Committee members agreed that it was definitely an idea worth considering, but no decision was made at this time. All were intrigued with the idea of special recognition for the "Top Ten" Promoters Beyond the Showring or something like that.
- **Should be there be a differentiation in points for Beyond the Showring for length of PR events, length of hikes or packing trips, numbers of animals involved, etc?** While the points system is well defined for the showing portion it provides little differentiation for the Beyond the Showring activities. All agreed that it would be a significant improvement to the program to create a matrix for earning points, but we should tie this change in along with the previous question regarding recognizing individuals versus animals.
- **Should points be awarded for Best of Show awards earned by animals?** The question has been raised during the last year about the possibility of BOS points. The committee acknowledged that BOS awards should receive something, but noted that they are not reported universally and it could be difficult to determine appropriate points. Kristy suggested and all agreed that if points were awarded they should only be for ILR-SD shows where it could be built into the program and automatically recorded. Mark suggested that it might be a flat amount of points regardless of the number of entries. This item will need more discussion.

- **Should the UAP “Top Ten” Awards be based upon the age division in which the animal was shown and earned its placing rather than its age on December 31 of the year?** Kristy and Mark noted that this was a major item of discussion at the time the program was set up back acknowledged that it still remains a major concern to some exhibitors. All noted that it does appear strange to get a Top Ten award for yearling when the animal was only shown in juvenile classes all year but noted the programming challenges to change the system. The possibility that an animal might receive recognition in two age divisions at the end of the year if we changed to a system based on actual division at the time of showing was discussed and the consensus was that it would not be bad if that occurred. The committee agreed that we first will need to explore how difficult it would be to program this change before we could decide on a change.
- **There seems to be a problem with entries being duplicated when entering on the Activity Log then it is hard to correct them. What can be done to correct this glitch?** That is a programming question that will need to be explored with Allen as well.

The committee agreed that another meeting is needed as soon as we can get answers to questions regarding whether programming is possible to make the variety of changes that we discussed. Ron will contact Allen (who does the programming for the ILR website) to discuss the feasibility of these changes and to get a sense of the cost involved. Mark noted that we might want to consider a UAP per animal fee to help offset those costs.

The next meeting will be set once we get some answers to the questions raised.

Adjourn at 9:26 ET

Ron Wilkinson, recording secretary

Approved by email – 6/9/18