

WPOAC 2025 Survey Results

27 Total Respondees



1. **Are you currently a paid member of WPOAC?**
 - a. Family Membership: 14 / 52%
 - b. Individual Membership: 11 / 41%
 - c. Member in the Past, Did Not Renew: 2 / 7%

2. **How many years have you been showing with WPOAC?**
 - a. 10+ Years: 9 / 35%
 - b. 7–10 Years: 4 / 15%
 - c. 4–6 Years: 5 / 19%
 - d. 1–3 Years: 5 / 19%
 - e. Less than 1 Year: 3 / 12%

3. **If needed to support club activities, I would be willing to pay more for my WPOAC membership.**
 - a. Strongly Agree: 2 / 7%
 - b. Agree: 13 / 48%
 - c. Neutral: 11 / 41%
 - d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
 - e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

4. **Do you have any feedback on WPOAC membership pricing or suggestions for making membership more valuable?**

I am a member although I haven't shown for 9 years, so not sure how valuable my opinion is. I don't know how much club income is actually derived from membership fees, but even if the membership fee was doubled, would it help significantly? I maintain my membership so I can represent WPOAC as Director to the Wisconsin Horse Council.

I appreciate that we are cheap for our membership, but I think maybe the club could see some benefit if we raised it if we needed to.

I do not currently have a membership because I do not have a POA. If there had been year end awards for open classes, I probably would have renewed my membership.

I just want transparency in how the money is used.

I like the family membership option.

If membership fees increased, transparency into how those funds are being used would be appreciated. "Club activities" is pretty vague, and show fees are already expensive for the size of shows we have had.

If small increase is helpful that would make a difference and is a one time cost per year

Pricing is very reasonable

The membership should stay reasonable but I would like it to be maybe just \$5 more so it could help get better year-end awards. Also should just be a flat fee year round to make book keeping easier.

5. Which divisions did you and/or your child/children show in this year?

(Select all that apply)

- a. 6 & Under: 1 / 2%
- b. 9 & Under: 1 / 2%
- c. 10–13: 6 / 11%
- d. 14–18: 4 / 7%
- e. 18 & Under WT: 3 / 6%
- f. 19 & Over WT: 5 / 9%
- g. 19 & Over WTC: 6 / 11%
- h. Non-Pro WT: 7 / 13%
- i. Non-Pro WTC: 1 / 2%
- j. In-Hand: 16 / 30%
- k. JPFC: 4 / 7%

6. How many ponies do you typically bring to each show?

- a. 1: 6 / 24%
- b. 2: 8 / 32%
- c. 3–4: 11 / 44%
- d. 5+: 0

7. How many shows would you like to see WPOAC host next year?

- a. 1 Show: 0
- b. 2 Shows: 1 / 4%
- c. 3 Shows: 16 / 64%
- d. 4 Shows: 7 / 28%
- e. Other: If it's able to be afforded, I would like to see more than 4 to be more competitive with other state clubs. Maybe even a cross state show.

8. What months would you like to see WPOAC host shows?

- a. April: 1 / 1%
- b. May: 21 / 22%
- c. June: 21 / 22%
- d. July: 12 / 13%
- e. August: 23 / 24%
- f. September: 11 / 12%
- g. October: 5 / 5%
- h. November: 0 / 0%

9. According to POAC rules, shows held on holiday weekends may have up to four judges, while other shows are limited to a maximum of three. How do you feel about hiring the maximum number of judges allowed for each show?

- a. Strongly Support It: 11 / 41%
- b. Support It: 7 / 26%
- c. Neutral: 8 / 30%
- d. Oppose It: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Oppose It: 0 / 0%

10. Which WPOAC shows did you attend this year?

- a. May Show 24–25, 2025: 19 / 32%
- b. July Show 26–27, 2025: 7 / 12%
- c. August Show 9–10, 2025: 18 / 31%
- d. September Show 13–14, 2025: 15 / 25%

11. 2025 May Madness Show: please share your feedback on this show. If you did not attend, please let us know why.

This was a good show. The classes were not large though, so I worry about how well it would run if there were more ponies. While I appreciate the West Salem setup, it also is not a great location if the weather is poor - luckily it wasn't for this show, but it is a concern when we consider going to other state shows.

I like this show. However, it is really difficult for some families to attend because high school graduations fall on that weekend. That always keeps us from staying for the full show. I know for 2026, we won't be able to go at all as my child is graduating. I know of another family in 2027 with multiple family members that show WPOAC that also won't be able to go to a Memorial weekend show for the same reason.

The show moved efficiently but absolutely hated the order of go. It was not randomized so the same people had to go first for every class which got old by the end of the show. Also did not appreciate being yelled at to be ready and waiting for my class but not allowed in the arena to wait or warm up before a riding pattern class. The footing in the indoor is awful and would have liked to see it dragged more if possible.

Only show foals, so its too early for us

Ran very smoothly love the facility

This was a well run show. Don't mind the grounds. Like that HP were offered. Although I understand they are more work and cost money I feel they are a draw.

Not available

Announcements and flow could have been better.

I wasn't planning on attending, but very last minute, I did.

Bring back open classes so we can have friends and bring OH POA come to our shows.

Won't show without a good indoor warm up space.

Best attended show as there was high point buckles involved

I did not attend any POA shows this year with Wisconsin because I did not agree with the direction the president was taking the club. I voiced concerns and when that didn't seem to be effective it was easier to not attend and support other state club shows instead. This is the same reason for all 4 shows.

Our foals weren't old enough yet

The show was fine, mostly organized. The announcing could have been better, it's really hard to be ready to show when you're constantly running to the ring to see what's going on. The days are too long to just have your pony out and saddled waiting to go in...

Didn't attend as I didn't have a "showable" pony.

I always like the West Salem shows. It seemed a little chaotic with the show help, it didn't seem consistent. I think consistent show help makes a good show

Show was very well ran.

There were some family events this weekend so I was unable to attend.

Loved it! Well run and close location. Possibly bring back the ranch open show on Monday, seemed to be a good draw of people.

Liked the 4 judges. Brought in more people. An economical place to show.

12. 2025 July Summer Sizzler Show: please share your feedback on this show. If you did not attend, please let us know why.

This show was really hot. Didn't care for showing with the apps. I knew some of the people from previous experience. However, there wasn't a lot of interaction between the ppl of the 2 clubs. The app adults were very oblivious to safety with all the youth we have riding in the warm up pen. Turn out was very low for POA. Was also very disappointed that the app exhibitors could cross enter into our pointed classes but we couldn't go into there's. It was hard to compete as a non-pro in HUS against 16-17h horses. Didn't like having to strip the stalls. Would prefer to pay a clean up fee. Also it was not ideal to have a cattle show at the same time as the pony show. They made the wash racks a mess and smelled. Some of the ponies were scared of the cattle. You had to walk by them to get to the wash racks and forget about being in the wash rack at the same time as the cows.

Attended a different show that was much cheaper but further away.

Shows with the App club take forever and have not been very organized in the past

We were unable to attend due to our fair being that weekend. We would have been there otherwise

We are there just in the morning but it seemed to run a little slow, couldn't hear unless we stood close

Didn't attend as I didn't have a "showable" pony.

Class list were a bit more confusing and wasn't always sure where we were at on the show bill.

Announcements and flow could have been better. I feel that combining POA and ApHC could be a great thing for both clubs, but there seems to be too many conflicting management ideas between the two clubs. Maybe need to have an earlier date for the combined show, and possibly a designated show secretary/contact person from the start, that handles all entries and not each club taking entries.

Show was very well ran. Not much POA support. Announcer was not professional. The mic got taken away to help move the show along at times.

Did not attend. I have zero interest in showing with the appaloosa club. And instead we attended the Iowa show.

No one understood how the open portion worked. Definitely need to think of where the show was advertised

Did not attend. Chose to attend the Iowa show instead. I don't care to show with the apps.

We were trying to get things caught up at our farm after being in Tulsa for that time.

Could not attend because of prior commitments

was a good show. The facilities are good.

other obligations that weekend

I did not attend this show. I know from the past in doing a joint show with the App club that it gets to be a little hectic, so we chose to go to the Iowa Show.

Had a conflicting event

We did not attend due to conflict with the Iowa show.

13. 2025 August Futurity Show: please share your feedback on this show. If you did not attend, please let us know why.

This show was fine. Long days but better than the year before. Don't like stripping the stalls. I'd rather pay a clean-up fee.

Too close to IA and MN futurity shows

This was a great show at a great facility.

Too far away.

It was a good show, nothing wrong with it, but wasn't spectacular. The judges were also very slow when it came to finishing up their sheets after each class.

Definitely put the 2 judges on the do not hire again list. Other than that, the show seemed to run to the best of the ability. I think the kids did the best they could, but I think we need a little more seasoned help if possible.

Attended. Futurity was well run. The announcing was less than ideal—more than once placings were announced before all the cards were turned in. It was hard to know what was going on in the show ring—we need an experienced announcer. Judges were talking amongst themselves. It was obvious and really left a sour taste for my family.

I like the Oshkosh facility, aside from cleaning stalls. Which for out of state participants, was frustrating to find out almost last minute, they needed to clean stalls. I never realized that we could push bedding to the aisle until this year. Expectations may need to be noted prior to show instead of at show.

Nice place to show at

The only downfall is having to clean own stall. Possibly look at getting a 4h club in to pay then to clean stalls, we did that for open shows we attended, we could opt in to pay a set amount per stall to have them cleaned out.

Love the location. Hated how drug out the show got out. 2 of the worst judges we have shown to all year. Loved having Futurity classes. Maybe would like to see some Jackpot and something special offered like a Ranch Pleasure Futurity class. Hated having to clean our stalls before heading home.

Attended but did not enter ponies. Cost has been too much for the budget

Location— Oshkosh is a haul.

Didn't attend as I didn't have a "showable" pony.

Favorite place to show. Facilities are great. Everyone is always helpful!!!

This show was incredibly slow moving. The judges should be added to a do not use list. Also felt like there was little to no coordination of volunteers or leadership managing the show. I'm concerned that if the same group manages the 2027 regional show, we may experience similar issues. I personally do not like this facility but it's unfortunately one of the better options out of the three options this year.

Hate hate hate having to cleanout stalls! Big show long show... long drive home hate the extra added work and time to clean out stalls.

Announcer had many mistakes. Futurity wasn't organized for the announcer. From what we were told the chair didn't have much help so it wasn't her fault for the Futurity. The futurity portion delayed the show. Member meeting before the show on Sunday wasn't well planned as no one supported it

Always a favorite of mine. My favorite place to show

Bring back open classes so we can have friends and bring OH POA come to our shows. Great venue our favorite. Show moved super slow for all in hand events

No open classes

Wish it would be later for the later babies. Wish we could draw the numbers for a more successful show. High points, prizes

14. 2025 September Harvest Bazaar Show: please share your feedback on this show. If you did not attend, please let us know why.

The facility was old and outdated, really no wash racks, location from home was nice. Stall area was not well lit. Stalls were less than desirable for a breed show. It was a nice relaxing show.

I will not attend Deerfield again. Bugs were horrible, lighting was poor, wash racks a bit undesirable, standing water around trailers for a day and a half. No improvement in 20 years.

I really enjoyed the ranch classes. Ranch classes are huge at every other show I attend. It would be amazing for the POA club to jump on this trend! The only disappointing part was the facility. It wasn't horrible, but it wasn't great. We need wash racks. We need an arena with better footing. This place was not it.

Ran very well.

Had a conflicting event

Had other things going on. Wasn't super impressed with the facility when we've shown there in the past.

Had a great time, the show ran smoothly, but could have dealt with less mosquitos. The location was good but it needs better wash racks. If showing during the summer, there were no options to hang fans in our barn.

Mosquitos suck. The wash racks were not ideal. But the show grounds are cozy. The judges at this show were great.

Did not attend— we had a conflict

The location was sketchy and not a safe facility overall

Great show! LOVED the ranch classes, and will attend shows that offer the walk/jog ranch classes!

Loved the relaxed feeling of this show. However, the bugs were terrible. The grounds aren't my favorite.

I attended but did not bring ponies. Again budget concerns

Did not like the facility and couldn't hear hardly anything.

Didn't attend as I didn't have a "showable" pony.

It was nice to try a new showgrounds. Our family has not been there before. While the weather didn't allow us to use the outdoor arena, the indoor was adequate and worked well, especially for the size of the show

No open classes

Not really impressed with this location. It was really hard to hear announcements. Stalls looked to be safety concerns.

I liked the pace the judges moved at for this show. The facility management was very attentive to cleaning throughout the weekend. I did not care for the wash racks or mosquitoes. This facility would be nice later in the year for a small show again. The lighting in the barn isn't ideal and there are no outlets for anything by stalls.

I do not care for the Bounds facility. I hadn't been there in 25+ years and didn't like it then. We made a trip to check it out before the show to see if it had improved and it hadn't. Therefore, we didn't attend. It also is really hard to attend a show during the first few weeks of school. If kids are in sports or other extracurriculars and getting themselves established, it's really hard to miss those.

15. Share any additional feedback about this year's shows not covered above. You may include highlights, things that worked well, areas for improvement, or any ideas for the committee to consider for next year.

Would like to see AB(Open) classes at all the shows. I think this is a big draw and opportunity to make money. Would like to High Points at all the shows. More Futurity and Jackpot classes too.

Would love to see a show at elkhorn

Opposed to more judges because of the cost. We don't chase points. Affordability is important.

I have noticed that no one will willingly check in with the gate person making it very difficult to keep classes moving because the gate person doesn't know who everyone is and cannot check people in. People also do not come up to the gate right away for their class so there is an added wait.

Bring back open classes so we can have friends and bring OH POA come to our shows. Improve end of year awards for youth age groups. Very disappointed in the amount of money we pay for POA and there is no year end award given for a youth.

I understand wanting to save money, but sometimes a club needs to have a "if you build it, they will come" mentality. Some money/resources need to be spent to make money. Personally, I like good facilities and well-run shows. A good announcer can make or break a show. A good gate person helps

as well. Utilizing the computer program to print class entry numbers and orders of go, helps move things along too. Some incentives help, as I don't chase points. Having a "this is what has worked for 'other' clubs" mentality, may not work for WPOAC.

Larger shows do need an order of go list and a gate person. Everyone staying positive and helpful is a big plus.

I would love to see the club hire a set of staff for the season, so we have a consistent announcer, ring steward, and gate person. This helps keep the show moving and allows for it to be run a little more consistently across all shows.

I don't like that the club has not been using the show program to generate bills at the end of the show. There's absolutely no reason we should be using excel or paper to calculate these things when the club paid for the program and other state clubs are able to use it without as many issues as our club has seemed to have with it.

For the amount we pay for entry fees, very disappointing that there are not end of the year placings for all youth age groups. Families are dropping quite a bit of money and we receive better year end for our local open show circuit.

I know it's hard to get help, but it would be nice to have more volunteers to announce, etc. Worry about losing good members that can't show their own ponies because there isn't enough help at shows. We had to pay for a stall for the futurity show that we never used. We haul in and leave as we only do halter. It would be nice if that was removed as a requirement.

I love that MN has separate SMS for the open WT and open WTC.

The shows ran well, I liked the variety of classes, we did not show in 2024 at Wisconsin due to not having adult classes, glad they were brought back this year!

Can we consider moving speed classes to Friday nights?

Please pay an announcer, so they are committed to working the show and keeping it moving and communicating with the exhibitors.

There is still a lack of transparency to the members. Seems like a lot of drama and tension in the club.

Consistent show help—helps the shows!

The shows have become very expensive over the past several years making it difficult.

Please try to avoid scheduling shows during Memorial and Labor Day weekends. Too many conflicts with non-pony activities.

Felts some of the show days were too long, but might have been for multiple reasons (exhibitors not ready, judges extremely slow, etc.)

16. Please list any judges you would like the committee to consider for 2026.

Dawn Taylor
Karla Kegley
Kathy Findley
Kent Rorick
Kent Rorick
Kevin Woodford
Megan Sacia
Michael Saterbak
Sherri Nichols
Tia Koehler

Not any judges we are considering for the regionals.

I really enjoyed the judges from the Deerfield Show. Kimberly from the Oshkosh show was great, as well, and just as fed up with the other 2 judges as everyone else was.

17. Did you participate in the early entry stall raffle this year?

- a. Yes: 15 / 56%
- b. No: 12 / 44%

18. To what extent did the raffle influence your decision to pre-enter?

- a. Not At All: 9 / 38%
- b. Slightly: 7 / 29%
- c. Moderately: 6 / 25%
- d. Significantly: 1 / 4%
- e. Very Significantly: 1 / 4%

19. Would you like to see this incentive continue?

- a. Yes: 16 / 64%
- b. No Opinion: 9 / 36%
- c. No: 0 / 0%

20. What other incentives would encourage you to pre-enter a show?

Having a pre-entry discount.

What about a "discount" on stalls? \$5-10 ?

lower prices.

Lower "early bird" fee (I know that's maybe not possible) Choice of stall(s) location?

The incentives are nice, but only if the club is able to afford absorbing the cost of the stall being given away. I feel it is very important for participants to enter early for the show secretary if the club is going to continue to do pre-entries. It is very stressful to have changes and additions for that individual in the days leading up to the show. One of the criteria that needs to be more ""organized"" or ""encouraged"", if you will, is to have participants get their pre-entries in CORRECTLY! Including back numbers, and if they don't have them, they MUST get them. This would streamline the entry process much more for the show secretary

I pre-enter to avoid late fees.

Specialty drawings for misc things

Maybe a % discount off the bill.

Discounted fees

21. The ability to earn POA points affects my decision to attend a show.

- a. Strongly Agree: 12 / 44%
- b. Agree: 9 / 33%
- c. Neutral: 4 / 15%
- d. Disagree: 2 / 7%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

22. Show or series high-point awards influence whether I attend a show.

- a. Strongly Agree: 10 / 37%
- b. Agree: 9 / 33%
- c. Neutral: 6 / 22%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

23. Additional feedback on show high point awards.

I come to the shows in WI because our friends are there. Honestly, for the amount of money we spend at these shows, the awards are not worth it. Some of the other states we show in have much better awards that my kids actually look forward to. And for the price we can go to open shows and pay MUCH less and get MUCH nicer awards. We come to be with our people and the fun it brings us to be with them

I think it's important for the kids

These don't affect my decision to attend a show or not.

I would like to see adults given the same quality awards as youth for show high points. A series high point for 2 out of 4 shows or something might also encourage attendance.

Show high points are a nice incentive for some riders. It's a nice extra. It's the main reason we initially joined MNPOAC.

Buckles!!

I would like to see High Points at all shows. Does not need to be buckles! Lots of reasonable usable awards in different price tiers

While a number of individuals are really focused on points, not all are showing with that as a priority. One of the issues is that to accumulate points faster inspires the hiring of multiple judges per show which really increases the cost of each show.

24. I am satisfied with the current classes offered on the showbill.

- a. Strongly Agree: 3 / 11%
- b. Agree: 11 / 41%
- c. Neutral: 11 / 41%
- d. Disagree: 2 / 7%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

25. The current order of classes works well.

- a. Strongly Agree: 2 / 7%
- b. Agree: 15 / 56%
- c. Neutral: 7 / 26%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 2 / 7%

26. Feedback on the order of classes.

Sunday trail takes absolutely forever.

I'd like to see Halter, Showmanship Western and then Trail and Hunt.

Move ranch classes after western classes. Showbills have been removed from the website, so cannot review to refresh memory as every show bill was different. Strongly encourage keeping the same order of divisions for each discipline.

It really depends on the show. I would rather have Saturday run late and be able to leave at a decent time on Sunday

I thought the order of the classes was well thought out this year. I really like Lunge Line being first on Saturday and keeping Yearling & 2yo in hand trail on Sunday morning

Glad the 19 and over classes came back!

Costume should be before Halter on Saturday or the 1st class of the show.

27. Are there any classes you would like to see added or removed?

Add back the Broodmare Class! The Ranch Division has been passed - I think we should consider continuing to use the ranch classes when able and time allows.

Add western riding

Separate SMS for the open WT and open WTC

I don't think the club should look at adding any additional classes to every show until we can address the issue of how long the shows are running. At some point it would be nice to have consistent ranch classes on the showbill or split it so over the entire season all the ranch classes are offered to allow for a ranch division year-end high point award. Also really like the ranch class w/t options.

Open. Big more horses and add more competition

Hunter Hack during the Futurity show.

My kids miss having handy horse and keyhole. We haven't done those often for the past few years

Would love to see walk jog ranch classes offered at more shows!

28. All Breed Open (ABO) classes should remain on the show bill.

- a. Strongly Agree: 9 / 35%
- b. Agree: 10 / 38%
- c. Neutral: 6 / 23%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

29. Did you participate in the ABO classes this year?

- a. Yes: 6 / 25%
- b. No: 18 / 75%

30. Additional feedback on ABO classes.

Like the addition as it brings those horses and riders together and captures some more entries for us. And trainers can bring some of those customers to our shows.

They just take up time. Make the shows IBC so the open show clients can come with the trainers instead. Nothing to add time, then, other than participants.

I understand that financially they are beneficial, but they truly are a nightmare for the show program and the show secretary.

Wasn't able to participate this year in abo classes but want to next year.

They add to the length of the day. If they significantly bring the club revenue, that's a plus. If they don't, we can do without them.

They are a good way to make money for the club. You do not have to pay dues to the national club for those classes. Pure profit

I like the idea but sometimes can make the shows run long.

Need to target 4h groups with these

Love this option! For schooling. Allowing us to haul other breeds.

I didn't participate in ABO this year, but have on the past

It's great to be able to join my barn friends for a show even though I don't have a POA right now

I think as long as numbers are still low, ABO is fine. If the POA numbers pick up though, those classes are hard to justify.

31. Futurity/maturity classes offered this year were sufficient and fit the show bill well.

- a. Strongly Agree: 2 / 8%
- b. Agree: 10 / 40%
- c. Neutral: 11 / 44%
- d. Disagree: 2 / 8%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

32. I was satisfied with the awards and prizes offered for futurity classes this year.

- a. Strongly Agree: 3 / 12%
- b. Agree: 8 / 32%
- c. Neutral: 13 / 52%
- d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

33. Receiving higher payouts is more important than receiving additional prizes.

- a. Strongly Agree: 6 / 24%
- b. Agree: 9 / 36%
- c. Neutral: 10 / 40%
- d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

34. Additional feedback on the futurity.

Love what was offered. I would like to see some Jackpot classes added. Special awards for our Youth exhibitors and with Ranch gaining in popularity I'd like to see a Ranch Futurity or Sweeps offered.

Futurity is hard work and lots of work the day of the show.

I like bigger payout but the prizes were great too

I think walk trot jackpots should be added back in, and maybe a ranch class!

Would rather just get more money than a prize.

Disappointed that there were less under saddle class offerings and more halter class offerings.

35. I was satisfied with the locations shows were held this year.

- a. Strongly Agree: 1 / 4%
- b. Agree: 12 / 46%
- c. Neutral: 8 / 31%
- d. Disagree: 5 / 19%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

36. Feedback on show locations and/or recommendations for 2026.

Will not attend Deerfield again. Like Oshkosh, but understand the expense.

I liked them all except Deerfield. Heartland Stables would be a nice location

More at West Salem when they come available, get early show back at Oshkosh

West Salem seems to make this club the most money. I know it is not the favorite of several. Oshkosh has the drawback of cleaning out stalls, but a great arena to show in.

West Salem is ok. We love Oshkosh. We aren't interested in elkhorn or Jefferson

Would love to see a show in Elkhorn

I prefer west Salem over Oshkosh

No Bounds Showtime Arena.

Oshkosh is not great for terrible weather, but we made it through it. The wash racks at Deerfield are less than ideal. West Salem has it's things, too. They all do. I just appreciate having shows to attend.

Jefferson county fairgrounds

I did not like Showtime Arena. I always love the Sunnyview Expo Center. Heartland Equestrian Center in Custer. Not sure if they rent it out if there's enough stalls but Stable Hands Equine therapy center has a nice new indoor in Wausau Chism Trail Ranch in Merrill

I like West Salem and Fond du Lac. Not a fan of Deerfield. Should look at Black River

37. The cost of showing affects whether I attend WPOAC shows and how many ponies or classes I enter.

- a. Strongly Agree: 9 / 33%
- b. Agree: 7 / 26%
- c. Neutral: 11 / 41%
- d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

38. I feel I get good value for the money spent at WPOAC shows.

- a. Strongly Agree: 0 / 0%
- b. Agree: 17 / 63%
- c. Neutral: 9 / 33%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

39. Class and stall fees were reasonably priced.

- a. Strongly Agree: 1 / 4%
- b. Agree: 14 / 54%
- c. Neutral: 10 / 38%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

40. I would be willing to pay more to improve the show experience if it meant:

- a. More Judges Per Show: 15 / 25%
- b. Paid Show Staff (Ring Steward, Gate Person, Announcer): 9 / 15%
- c. Improved Show Facilities: 16 / 27%
- d. Paid Staff to Clean Stalls: 9 / 15%

41. Having a professional photographer at shows is important.

- a. Strongly Agree: 3 / 11%
- b. Agree: 8 / 30%
- c. Neutral: 9 / 33%
- d. Disagree: 6 / 22%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

42. Preferred photographer coverage:

- a. Photographer at all shows, regardless of cost: 5 / 19%
- b. Photographer at select shows only: 17 / 65%
- c. No official photographer at any shows: 4 / 15%

43. I ordered photos from the show photographer(s) this year.

- a. No, I did not order any photos: 14 / 56%
- b. Yes, I ordered 1–5 photos: 5 / 20%
- c. Yes, I ordered 10–15 photos: 4 / 16%
- d. Yes, I ordered more than 15 photos: 2 / 8%

44. The cost of photos was reasonable and did not limit how many I ordered.

- a. Strongly Agree: 1 / 5%
- b. Agree: 7 / 32%
- c. Neutral: 12 / 55%
- d. Disagree: 2 / 9%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

45. Photographer Recommendations

- a. Meg Livingston Photography
- b. Portraits by Tiffany
- c. Shania Martinez “Niatography”
- d. Niatography

46. Please provide any additional comments regarding show photographers, their availability, prices, and options for purchasing photos.

Show committees did a fantastic job. We enjoy showing in Wisconsin!

Didn't show this year with WPOAC however in the past we always buy photos. They are expensive but you know that going in.

I only purchase photos if they are reasonably priced, less than \$400 for 10-20 photos and include full print release.

It is nice for the futurity show.

The pictures are quite expensive for only orders of less than 5 pics. With the price of everything these days, we focus more on the have to's vs the want to's so we can keep showing and still stay financially afloat.

47. Where do you get information about WPOAC shows and events? (Select all that apply)

- a. Private Facebook Group: 19 / 24%
- b. Public Facebook Group: 17 / 22%
- c. Facebook Event Page: 10 / 13%
- d. Website: 20 / 25%
- e. Email: 3 / 4%
- f. Word of Mouth: 10 / 13%

48. Which do you rely on most for updates?

- a. Private Facebook Group: 9 / 33%
- b. Public Facebook Group: 10 / 37%
- c. Facebook Event Page: 1 / 4%
- d. Website: 4 / 15%
- e. Email: 0 / 0%
- f. Word of Mouth: 3 / 11%

49. Suggestions for improving communication.

Facebook as an official communication source is hard since posts move around and can be hard to find. A website is more reliable.

WPOAC could benefit from streamlined and professional communication. Using email (like many other breed/clubs) would ensure important updates reach all members directly and consistently. The website could also be better organized and having two separate Facebook groups creates confusion and divides engagement.

Would like to see the public Facebook page and email utilized more. We limit our show attendance by not publicizing our shows more. Not everyone is in the private Facebook group. I'd like to see club member communication move more towards emails from one account and the private group phased out. There's too many posts for people to keep up with.

When Public Facebook updates are made...make sure the website is updated at the same time.

Send out periodic group emails to ALL memberships with club/show information. I have discovered not everyone looks at Facebook or goes to the Membership Meetings. Something like this would be helpful to me as WI Horse Council Director as I could get out timely information/opportunities/forms to our club members by having whoever was in charge include my info. in the emails. These emails could give direct timely info to all in between the General Membership meetings.

I really think the public page needs to be managed better. I think maybe each show chair should be allowed to be a moderator on the page and utilize it for making events that are not made by individuals so they are found on the page.

As long as website and facebook is updated regularly i think that is great

Keep website current and easy to understand

Would love for communication to not be totally on Facebook! Email would be great.

50. Currently, the club holds three general membership meetings per year. How often do you think these membership meetings should be held?

- a. Less often than now: 1 / 4%
- b. About the same as now: 21 / 81%
- c. More frequently: 3 / 12%

51. When would you prefer general membership meetings to be held?

- a. Only during shows: 1 / 4%
- b. Only separately from shows: 6 / 24%
- c. Both during shows and separately from shows: 10 / 40%
- d. I don't attend meetings/no preference: 8 / 32%

52. I am interested in being more involved in WPOAC decisions.

- a. Strongly Agree: 2 / 8%
- b. Agree: 6 / 25%
- c. Neutral: 13 / 54%
- d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 3 / 13%

53. How would you describe your involvement in WPOAC committees?

- a. I do not serve on any committees: 14 / 54%
- b. I serve on one committee, occasionally involved: 3 / 12%
- c. I serve on one committee, actively involved: 4 / 15%
- d. I serve on multiple committees, actively involved: 4 / 15%
- e. I am interested in joining a committee: 1 / 4%

54. Please share any additional feedback on WPOAC meetings, member involvement, or ways to encourage participation in club decisions and committees.

As far as General membership meetings aren't they dictated by the By-Laws?

While it is very convenient to hope to have a meeting at a show, it also is vital that the show get done in good time which isn't always in our control. I really think the ability to have virtual meetings per our bylaw changes will change the way we will think about our meetings, and hopefully have more meetings. We have had a big disconnect in communication this year, and I think it is mainly due to lack of meetings. It's very hard to reach out to all the right people to make decisions happen without forgetting someone, or getting feedback and a general consensus.

I am not on any WPOAC committees, but serve as the WPOAC representative (Director) on the Wisconsin Horse Council. In that capacity I am also on 2 committees and am a Director on the Wisconsin State Horse Council Equine Foundation. I strive to encourage them to do things for the Youth equine enthusiast in Wisconsin. I don't feel qualified to comment on WPOAC shows or member involvement, I haven't shown in a while and am "out of the loop" there. I DO believe that better communication/compromise is key to the survival of our Club, and the POA Breed in general. We are too small a group to alienate/discourage ANYONE from not joining/leaving our organization.

Until a change of leadership happens, we will most likely stay away. The meetings at the shows were historically difficult to attend and sometimes even hear. I think the meetings that are held separate from the shows get the attention they deserve without the rush to get ponies ready for the following day or practicing trail course.

I am not able to serve at this time due to the current president.

We would be happy to be on committees but the distance to travel to meetings is a stretch

I do not like the meetings being held at shows. It limits member's ability to participate when they are worried about getting ponies ready for the show. There should be a set meeting schedule established at the beginning of the year and posted so members know when they will all be. Not decided on a whim or announced at the meeting currently being held. Then the location can be established later or they could be held online. I would also like committee meetings to be publicly posted so members could attend them if they wanted to be involved more. It's hard getting help on some of the committees and I think this would allow people to attend a committee meeting and see what they need help with without fully committing to being on the committee itself.

Offering Zoom meetings would be a great way to increase accessibility and engagement. It's clear that we've lost some members recently, and overall participation seems to be down.

Suggest an additional communication method other than primarily Facebook

55. Year-end participation awards motivate me to attend more shows.

- a. Strongly Agree: 7 / 26%
- b. Agree: 10 / 37%
- c. Neutral: 8 / 30%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

56. The current year-end award categories reflect the range of participants and divisions appropriately.

- a. Strongly Agree: 1 / 4%
- b. Agree: 6 / 22%
- c. Neutral: 14 / 52%
- d. Disagree: 4 / 15%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 2 / 7%

57. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality and recognition provided by year-end awards.

- a. Strongly Agree: 1 / 4%
- b. Agree: 7 / 26%
- c. Neutral: 13 / 48%
- d. Disagree: 3 / 11%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 3 / 11%

58. Additional feedback on year-end and participation awards. What awards have you enjoyed receiving most (doesn't have to be from WPOAC)? What ideas do you have for future awards?

Possibly give a prize list and amount to pick from for awards?

I heard that only 1st and 2nd or Grand and Reserve will be recognized at this year's banquet... I believe if you go back in meeting minutes... years ago Larry Gibson made a motion and it was approved to place year end awards divisions to 5th place.

Last year, our local open show circuit gave out better awards than WPOAC did. It made me question why we spend all this money to show breed shows and be gone all weekend when we could have gotten nicer awards showing a few one day open shows closer to home.

Appreciated the participation awards—especially the practical, usable items like vests, step stools, and floor mats. These types of awards feel thoughtful and functional.

We need to find a way to do more YE awards even if that means fundraising.

How about custom reins, useful show tack for the larger awards. Awards could be coupons for farm stores or to redeem for cost of the show, office fee or stall etc.

Custom tack, Cowboy Bronzes, useful items like Hay Chix nets and an umbrella. Jackets, bags, cups are overused.

Haven't ever really gotten anything. The end of the year is the busiest for my job so it's hard to attend.

I think participation awards are a great thing. Some kids work hard, and may not get an award otherwise, and it's nice for them to get recognition. Wisconsin shows are tough!

Instead of selecting chairs (example) for all the high points, maybe provide a point system and allow people to pick what would work for them? I have no clue how WPOAC does theirs, but I have received

many year-end awards that don't have a purpose in my life. It makes sense to allow people to "order" what they would use. (example 5th place gives you 10 points. All your year end points add up and you have 75 points. You can select a chair, vest, or something else. If you want something from a higher point area, then you would have to pay the difference).

I have not attended an awards banquet yet but I think more recognition needs to be happening. People pay a lot of money to the club every year and they deserve to be rewarded for it. The Wisconsin ranch horse club does a really nice job of this. More transparency about points and who's receiving awards would also be nice. I'm not sure if it's done or not but for the year-end presentation it would be nice to include everyone in the presentation that qualified for participation and then specially recognize those that won a division award. If the club can't raise enough money to get better awards, we should be seeking out sponsors and fundraising in other ways outside of just show and membership income to help.

59. The banquet location is appropriate and convenient.

- a. Strongly Agree: 9 / 35%
- b. Agree: 8 / 31%
- c. Neutral: 8 / 31%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

60. The cost to attend the banquet is reasonable for what is provided.

- a. Strongly Agree: 7 / 27%
- b. Agree: 7 / 27%
- c. Neutral: 11 / 42%
- d. Disagree: 0 / 0%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 1 / 4%

61. Activities offered for kids at the banquet are engaging and appropriate.

- a. Strongly Agree: 3 / 12%
- b. Agree: 8 / 31%
- c. Neutral: 14 / 54%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

62. Overall, the banquet is a valuable and enjoyable event.

- a. Strongly Agree: 6 / 24%
- b. Agree: 7 / 28%
- c. Neutral: 11 / 44%
- d. Disagree: 1 / 4%
- e. Strongly Disagree: 0 / 0%

63. Please share any additional feedback or suggestions for the WPOAC banquet in the future.

Have not attended a banquet in many years.

If Banquet leaves its current location I will probably not attend... so look forward to a weekend at the Osthoff.

I like the Osthoff. However, the cost of the dinner has gotten really high. Last year, to save \$, only 2 members of my family of 4 drove down to the dinner to get awards. To pay for a hotel room, gas and all

the dinners has just gotten too expensive for our family. The food is alright but not worth the cost in my opinion.

I really love that we have the opportunity and connection to be at the Osthoff. It is such a wonderful resort, and I greatly appreciate all that goes into it.

Banquet is very cliquy and makes it difficult for kids to hang out with other kids because they will not include them willingly. Not a very welcoming feeling in activities for kids.

Osthoff is a beautiful facility.

The banquet is perfect as is

I have not attended a banquet yet

Very lucky to have access to a facility of this caliber at a discount.

I LOVE the Banquet at The Osthoff, but haven't been able to attend recently as it has landed on the same date as another obligation I have. When I was able to attend, I thought it was very reasonable for the venue.

We've not been able to attend the banquet in the past, but looking forward to this year!

64. What is your favorite thing about WPOAC?

I like the variety of classes and divisions a family can enter to fulfill everyone's needs. Overall the atmosphere is safe for riding and I feel it is safe for families as well

Shows are typically less than 2 hours from home.

We have a state club

Seeing all the great people and ponies

I haven't shown in years, but I loved the family atmosphere and camaraderie . And the fact that even though everyone was a competitor, if someone needed help there were so many folks ready to lend a hand.

People and ponies x 4

The members and friendships I have made. Memories go back years!

The lasting friendships and the spirit of friendly competition. WPOAC creates an environment where members can grow together, support one another, and build bonds that extend far beyond the arena.

The shows in West Salem and that they are trying to offer more classes (like ranch).

Our friends are there

Our favorite thing is the people and connections we have made along the way.

Most of the shows are close to home

It's in my own state so the shows are closer than other states

65. What is one thing you would change about WPOAC?

More time for the fun events at the end of the day....shows go too long

I wish we wouldn't have hit this bump in the road which has caused us to lose good people not attending our shows and helping out both at the shows and behind the scenes.

The tension and people not getting along

I think the group needs to see some coherence as a whole. There seems to be a disconnect within the membership and leadership no matter who might be filling those roles in any specific year. I am just not sure what the answer is to make that happen other than having more meetings so everyone is on the same page with decisions being made and what is going on.

The current president x 3

Leadership and communication. The club needs to be run following the bylaws and Robert's rules of order. There's a proper order to motions being made, bylaws being amended, etc and that was not followed. People shouldn't be volun-told or disregarded when they volunteer to help with something.

I would establish a structured, inclusive communication forum where every member—regardless of age, experience, or role—feels genuinely heard. There seems to be a divide within the organization and a lot of unnecessary drama. Creating a safe space for open dialogue would help bridge gaps, reduce tension, and foster a more respectful, unified community. Every member deserves to feel valued and supported.

I wish it was less cliquy. There are definitely friend groups that can feel exclusionary.

People

66. Share any additional feedback not addressed in this survey.

The changing of the meeting over and over this summer was unfair and stressful to the members and shouldn't be changed on the whim of the club president. It's hard to be involved when you schedule a meeting when the people who are showing are trying to get their ponies ready for the day!

Overall the past year I've seen a lot of people grow a sour taste for our club due to how it's being run. I would really love for the reputation of the club to come back and grow in a positive direction. Youth and adults should be equally important in their opinions and recognition for their involvement.

I would be nervous to have [Name Redacted] as head of the Futurity committee. I know there is a good amount of money in that account, and I won't trust her to make financial decisions for the club with it. Do what you think is best, but my gut is screaming that it is a mistake for WPOAC.

Quite frankly, I just really love ponies and showing them and I appreciate having a state to do that in and I hope the club sees many, many more years.