



Hello To Everyone in Region IV and V,

What a hard decision to make, but I have **cancelled the 2011 IEAHC Concurrent Horse Show** that was scheduled for May 27,28,29.

I have several reasons, foremost has been the very recent and very real concerns regarding the EHV-1 outbreak and the as yet unknown course of this very virulent and dangerous infection amongst our horse community here in Washington.

We have already had Vet Advised cancellations of some of our entrants, and the financial viability of the show was affected by this as well as by the already unstable current economic conditions.

Therefore, after careful consideration, consultation with our Board of Directors and our show veterinarian, and thoughtful deliberation regarding the welfare of the equine community and liability of our club, it became clearly apparent that the best thing to do was to cancel the show.

What does this mean for Region IV and V? This is uncharted water, but due to the magnanimous response of many of our obligators (the fairgrounds director has agreed to waive all costs in light of this situation being out of our control), our judges have agreed to not impose fees beyond their immediate costs (ie: plane tickets), and sound management on the part of our club board directors and treasurer, IEAHC is likely to escape with minimum financial impact.. No one could foresee the EHV-1 outbreak at such a crucial moment of the show season, and therefore it is considered a *force majeure*, if you will.

It is the IEAHC's greatest wish to sustain momentum through this show season. Our board of directors will convene in the near future to discuss moving forward with next year's show, as well as supporting and promoting our Arabian horses in Regions IV and V. It is my desire to regroup and strengthen our club, and to push forward with preparations and planning for a stellar 2012 show year. I recognize that this affects competitors in multiple regions,, not just at our show but at others, but strongly feel the horse's safety and health is the primary obligation of our club.

Feel free to contact me at vonsharon@comcast.net or (509) 710-5477 if you have any concerns or questions. Right now we are focusing on equine safety and planning for the future of our club.

Thank you sincerely,

IEAHC President,

Sharon Cramer