

Roping Club seeks new members

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Thursday, 17 January 2013 15:01 -

Anyone interested invited to Jan. 24 meeting

Whether you rope or ride or even own a horse, anyone is invited to a meeting of the Gothenburg Roping and Riding Club next week.

“Everyone in the community is welcome to attend because we are looking for new members,” said president Jared Slagle. “If you’re interested in learning and being part of the Pony Express Rodeo each July 3 and 4, we’d love to have you be part of the club.”

At the meeting, new officers will be elected.

Slagle said the rodeo, one of the largest in Nebraska, has more than 300 entrants and brings in more than 200 cowboys and cowgirls from around the country.

Attendance each night, he said, is more than 700.

In addition to the rodeo, the club also:

hosts 10 barrel races with approximately 60 contestants at each event.

stays active with youth horse enthusiasts. Slagle said the Pony Express 4-H Club, with 15 members, is active at the arena where they practice on Monday evenings from May to September.

The club also hosts a yearly horse show in August. Proceeds from entry fees helps members pay for the 4-H Foundation’s annual trail ride at Halsey forest in October.

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As a community service project, club members clean the rodeo grounds before the rodeo and, after the event, pick up trash.

Slagle said the roping and riding club is planning more equestrian and agriculture events in 2013.

He said the club is always looking for more ideas and people to help with new activities.

“We emphasize sustaining and promoting the Western lifestyle through tourism and our youth,” Slagle said.

For more information, contact Slagle at 529-2139.