

## **2010 Regionals Clubs Report**

Barbara Riva, outgoing Chairman of the Regional Club Committee:

In leaving my position I would like to sincerely thank the Congress Board of Directors for all their hard work in improving our National Organization. I took on the position of Chairman of this committee with the idea that it would be a task I could easily do with my personal time constraints. I leave this position feeling that the work I've done has not been adequate. I think Regional Clubs are at the front line of representing the Icelandic Horse in the U.S. My hope is that with a new Chairman, fresh new ideas can be implemented.

There have been a few changes with regard to Regional Clubs while I was chairman.

The ability to organize sanctioned breeding horse evaluations exclusively through Regional Clubs has been diminished. I think our National Organization has grown to the extent that this change will work well. It's my sincere hope is that by allowing anyone to organize these events, we may see more breeding horse evaluations available throughout the U.S.

The renewal process for Regional Clubs had been streamlined for last year. From what I've heard, this process had always been a bit tedious and difficult to complete. Doug Smith came up with a great renewal process where specific information just needed to be verified by first the individual regional club representative and then the Regional Club Chairman. It worked extremely well, especially in light of the fact that we were only required to have three Congress members in each Regional Club. With loosening up of that requirement, I did get requests for two new groups to start up. However, we later realized that this was misinformation that was not noticed until recently. Regional Clubs are still required to have at least five Congress members to be official.

I will be completing this year's renewal process at which time our new Regional Club Chairman, Lori Gillespie of the Texas Tolters, will take taking over. I wish her and the Regional Clubs all my best.