

Squaw Butte Back Country Horseman

Proposal #2

Paid Packing Clinic at Idaho Horse Expo 2024 or more?

Background: SBBCHI has been doing numerous packing clinics over the last few years with growing interest and support, both at chapter events and demonstrations at the Idaho Horse Expo. Due to multiple SBBCHI members belonging on the Idaho Horse Council, the possibility of offering a paid Pack Clinic at the Horse Expo was brought up. The clinic would typically last around 4 hours, with participants having the option on bringing their own stock. Under the supervision of BCHI packers, participants would learn to pack their own or provided animals. Insurance would be provided by the Idaho Horse Council, similar to how they provide insurance to other clinicians.

Cost of participating in a clinic typically ranges \$250-\$400 per-person. Ideally 10 participants with 5 instructors would allow 1 instructor per 2 students and an animal or two. Ideally, we will hold a pack scramble on the last day, currently Expo has 3 days and it may expand to 4. Members could compete at the end, and it would be awesome to have a BCHI team to compete against.

This really is a bigger event than one chapter taking on alone. If we could get participation and knowledge from other packers/parts of Idaho. We would have a greater impact on educating people about different ways to pack.

This has multiple positive results. This event could generate 18-12k in revenue depending on participants, this has potential to be a yearly long term event. It would need to be determined the breakdown for chapters that participate/state. But this also could carry forward as a huge part of the BCHI Rendezvous and BCHI outreach. While giving Treasure Valley Community College a pack clinic, one of the students brought up trying to use his GI bill to pay for one of the very few Pack Schools. It was over \$4k per person for 16 days. He joined and plans to attend every event he can in hopes of learning packing and conservation skills.

This would be a massive recruitment and fund-raising opportunity. From one clinic at Treasure Valley Community College for 17 students, Squaw Butte gained 6 new members in less than a week and multiple requests on our next pack/educational event.