

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**  
**April 26-27, 2012**

Approved 8/23/2012

**Present:** Beth Himes - President, Mike Deer, Terry Griffin, Doug Milholland, Rick Ramsey, Rosanne Sternberg, Josh Visser

**Not Present:** Rick Clark – Vice President

**Staff:** Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Executive Administrator Jessica Johnson, Senior Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Senior Director of Shows & Affiliate Programs Chris Potter

**Guests:** NRHA Legal Counsel Terry Wiens

**Call to Order**

President Beth Himes called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

**Minutes**

Rick Ramsey motioned to approve January - April meeting, conference call and e-vote minutes as amended today. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously.

***Christa Morris, Melanie Rinehart, Shianne Megel, Michelle Wrigley, Chris Mossman joined the meeting.***

**2012 – 2013 Business Plan Review**

Dan Wall presented the main focus of the business plan and clarified the new structure.

Dan Wall specified how the entire business plan will not be made public. NRHA will only publish the key priorities on the website, not the goals, action steps or other details.

Dan Wall listed the seven key priorities: 1) Establish permanent NRHA & RHSF International Headquarters, Hall of Fame and Museum, 2) Focus on animal welfare, industry integrity and competition experience, 3) Concentrate on membership satisfaction and retention, 4) Facilitate the development of NRHA programs worldwide, 5) Continue European development and integration, 6) Develop a long-range strategy

for North American NRHA – owned events and 7) Increase public awareness of the sport with the intent to recruit new members.

Dan Wall outlined the goals and action steps of each key priority.

***Doug Milholland joined the meeting at 10:37am***

Beth Himes commented that she would like to incorporate an action step into key priority 5 (continue European development and integration). The action step would be to develop a long-range strategy for European NRHA – owned events. Additionally, if approved by the Board of Directors, the North American NRHA Owned Event Strategy Task Force will be added to key priority 6 (develop a long-range strategy for North American NRHA - owned events) as a supporting committee.

Other changes were noted in the Business Plan prior to final review in August.

Terry Griffin noted the good transition back to a staff-driven organization.

Mike Deer recommended the reordering of Key Priorities, move key priority 6 (develop a long-range strategy for North American NRHA - owned events) before key priority 4 (facilitate the development of NRHA programs worldwide).

Josh Visser motioned to approve the key priorities of the business plan as amended. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. Motioned passed unanimously.

***Michelle Wrigley and Shianne Megel left the meeting***

***Lora Turner joined the meeting***

**NRHA Horse Sale**

Dan Wall explained the staff's research and evaluation of the NRHA Horse Sale. Additionally, input was received from the NRHA Sale Committee on certain topics.

Jessica Johnson explained each item evaluated and the staff/committee recommendation.

The Executive Committee made the following decisions:

- 1) Tack Stalls – one task stall per five sale horses
- 2) Shavings – remove complimentary bag of shavings
- 3) Research Company – remain with Robin Glenn Pedigrees for 2012, and directed staff to research options for 2013.

- 4) Catalog Manufacturer – send out postcards to reduce mailing list size to interested parties or members who have purchased a horse in past 5 years, research lower quality paper options, look into only providing catalogues at the sale.
- 5) Consignment Deadline – remains same, the turn-around time after sale selection will be increased to improve customer notification and capitalize on potential ad revenue.
- 6) Consolidating to one name – NRHA Market Futurity Horse Sale with three sessions (Market Prospect, Market Marketplace and Market Showcase)

The remaining items were tabled for later discussion.

***Break at 11:56am***

***New Office Task Force Conference Call***

***Reconvene at 1:28pm***

***Shane Brown and Todd Barden joined the meeting at 1:30pm***

### **Professionals Committee**

Shane Brown discussed the current initiatives of the Professionals Committee. The Professionals Committee has been working on increasing communication and promotion within the Professionals and among the Industry, Training Donation Program, Rookie Day/Regional Clinics and the letter from the chair in the *Reiner*.

Jessica Johnson requested that the Professionals discuss the logistics of the Code of Conduct on the Professionals form and discuss potential disciplinary procedures.

***Shane Brown left the meeting at 1:42pm***

Discussion regarding the clinic requirement for Top 20 Professionals occurred.

Todd Barden mentioned increasing the professional's fee to \$50 to cover the increase in promotional expense and awards.

Dan Wall explained how the Business Plan incorporates the assistance of NRHA Professionals to develop NRHA programs.

### **World Championship Proposal**

Dan Wall reminded the Executive Committee about their interest in looking at other award options for the Year-End Awards.

Tabled.

***Todd Barden left the meeting at 2:05pm***

***Terry Wiens joined the meeting at 2:10pm***

***Closed Session 2:10pm***

**Allen Mitchels Lawsuit Update – Executive Session**

**Sponsorship Update – Executive Session**

***Open Session at 3:00pm***

***Rick Ford and Christa Morris joined the meeting at 3:05pm***

**Marketing Committee**

Rick Ford explained last year's activities with the Marketing Committee. The Committee would like to create a long-term marketing plan (five-year), research sponsorship fulfillment, increase global presence and conduct a new demographic survey.

Dan Wall requested that the Marketing Committee conduct a meeting to strategize items on Business Plan and create a marketing campaign to implement.

Beth Himes directed Christa Morris and Rick Ford to review and repopulate 2012 committee members.

***Rick Ford left call at 3:25pm***

Beth Himes commented that all committee initiatives support the Business Plan key priorities.

***Christa Morris left the meeting at 3:30pm***

***Vic Clark and Lora Turner joined the meeting at 3:33pm***

**Sale Committee**

The NRHA Horse Sale recommendations were reviewed.

Beth Himes asked Vic Clark to make sure the sale selection committee and staff were prepared for a quick turn-around. The results will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

Rosanne Sternberg expressed her concern with the cost of the videos.

The sale layout and number of horses in each sale were discussed. Moving the prospect sale demonstrations to the Coliseum on Thursday afternoon was a huge improvement. Therefore, the Thursday sale (Breeders Showcase) cannot increase in size due to this reason. The Friday sale (Marketplace) could increase in size to accommodate more, possibly 175-180 total horses.

Dan Wall asked if there was any discussion with adding a fourth day or an opportunity to do more days and shorten time period to move off the Non Pro finals. Vic Clark stated that the cost would be significantly higher and he would rather look at a Wednesday, Thursday, Friday sale. Discussion regarding the impact on buyers occurred. It was decided that the sale would remain Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

The conflict of interest between the sale selection group, auctioneers and committees members placing horses in the same was discussed. Beth Himes directed the members involved in the sale selection process to leave the room and recuse from voting on their own horses. Beth Himes requested a policy be drafted to reflect the direction.

Terry Griffin visited with Troy Heikes regarding his involvement in the Sale Committee and NRHA Horse Sale. Troy Heikes was very willing to participate again and would give some thought and bring back questions/comments to the committee.

Discussion regarding the horses ages that need nominated was discussed. It was determined that yearlings and 2-year-olds must be nominated into either program (North American or European) in order to be eligible for the NRHA Sale.

Dan Wall explained the issue with the late consignment fee payments. Staff recommended that the NRHA office charge a \$100 fee for all consignors not paying the consignment fee when submitting the consignment.

Rick Ramsey motioned to recommend a \$100 fee be charged for individuals failing to submit the consignment fee with the consignment application and promote this change accordingly. Seconded by Mike Deer. Motion passed.

Mike Deer recommended placing a live feed in the Capital City Café.

The feasibility of offering online bidding was discussed. It was determined that many buyers do not purchase online and there are several issues and concerns with security of online bidding.

### **Hall of Fame Committee**

Dan Wall asked Vic Clark and Carol Trimmer to explain the Hall of Fame nomination procedures.

Carol Trimmer accepts and prepares nominations (background, show records, etc.) to send out to all Hall of Fame Committee members. Included in the Hall of Fame books is a list of nominations from past years that were not selected.

Both Carol Trimmer and Vic Clark feel the same criteria and standard has been met, except when the committee has been changed.

Dan Wall questioned how NRHA can maintain the same standard from committee to committee? Vic Clark would like for committee members to have experience and knowledge in many specific areas. Dan Wall stressed the importance of doing a good job at the committee level to continue bringing in good people and maintaining the history of NRHA.

Terry Griffin directed staff to promote the nomination deadlines. Additionally, allowing the committee to recognize a horse/person deserving of the Hall of Fame award and automatically nominating them could be beneficial to NRHA.

The Executive Committee wants to review the criteria and bring back to Hall of Fame Committee.

***Vic Clark and Lora Turner left the meeting***

***Break at 5:05pm***

***Reconvene at 5:11pm***

**NRHA Horse Sale**

Discussion regarding the NRHA Horse Sale occurred.

Mike Deer suggested we charge 9% on the Prospect session to cover the increased facility rental and other items, but leave 8% commission on the Marketplace and Showcase sessions.

Terry Griffin motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to increase the Prospect sale horse commission to 9% and to give Dan Wall authority to negotiate sale contracts. Seconded Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously.

**Australia Funding Proposal**

Chris Potter presented the 2012 Australian Continental Championships funding proposal.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept the 2012 Australian Continental Championship proposal. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Affiliate Outreach Nominations**

Chris Potter summarized the efforts of putting the 2012 Affiliate Outreach Program into motion. Each affiliate had the opportunity to submit liaisons to the Affiliate Committee. The Affiliate Committee made the final selection for each regional liaison.

Rick Ramsey motioned to accept the 2012 Affiliate Outreach Program Liaisons. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously.

***Cathy Irvin and Jamie Boller joined the meeting at 5:51pm***

### **Affiliate Committee**

The Affiliate Committee has established a working group to develop criteria for affiliate requesting to change regions and sending out a monthly e-newsletter to affiliates.

Next month the new liaison webinar will be launched to encourage affiliates to work with people within their region.

The Executive Committee directed staff to promote affiliates that reach incentive levels and a year-end summary in the e-newsletter, website homepage and the *Reiner*.

Several emails have been sent to regions/affiliates about Regional Director Elections.

Beth Himes directed staff to contact and remind the current Affiliate President if a nomination deadline is approaching and a Regional Director nomination hasn't been submitted.

***Cathy Irvin and Jamie Boller left the meeting at 6:01pm***

### **Bylaw Submission**

Terry Griffin asked the Executive Committee to review and possibly recommend the following bylaw change. "Regions that fail to fill a seat/vacancy would forfeit their right to select to the Board of Directors, who could approve anyone to fill that position (not only from that region)."

Dan Wall noted that the Nominating Committee adamantly felt that it should be from that region or leave the regional seat empty.

Mike Deer commented that the regionalization of the Board of Directors had to do with getting representation from a broader base. If the regionalization is removed from the

Board of Directors, the perception to the membership could potentially turn negative. The membership wants to see representatives from their region on the Board of Directors; whether they participate or not, the members want to see that the opportunity to participate exists.

Rosanne Sternberg mentioned that unexcused absences could remove Regional Directors or NAA members that fail to participation.

Dan Wall agreed with Mike Deer's suggestion, in addition to leaving the vacancy if a replacement cannot be located.

### **November Meeting Date**

Discussion regarding the November Meeting dates occurred, the consensus was to have one full day of Executive Committee and a few hours of immediate Board of Director items. .

Tabled.

## **Friday, April 27, 2012**

**Present:** Beth Himes - President, Mike Deer, Terry Griffin, Doug Milholland, Rick Ramsey, Rosanne Sternberg, Josh Visser

**Not Present:** Rick Clark – Vice President

**Staff:** Executive Director Dan Wall, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Chief Operations Officer Dennis York, Executive Administrator Jessica Johnson, Senior Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Senior Director of Shows & Affiliate Programs Chris Potter

### **Call to Order**

Beth Himes called the meeting to order at 7:40am.

### **New Task Force Formation – Executive Session**

***Break at 8:38am***

***Reconvene at 8:47am***

### **Hearing Body Nominations – Executive Session**

### **Rookie Level 1 & 2 Handbook Clarification**

Chris Potter presented the Rookie Level 1 & 2 Handbook clarification. Staff recommended allowing the rule to be interpreted as written, classes can be run separately, but if shows want to run them concurrent with other classes the only options are Rookie Level 2, Rookie Level 1 and Prime Time Rookie.

Doug Milholland motioned to accept the staff recommendation. Seconded by Mike Deer. Motion passed unanimously.

### **NRHA New Office Task Force Update**

Rick Ramsey presented the update from the New Office Task Force meeting on Thursday. The initial concept, Business Plan key priority and the action steps to accomplish the goals were discussed.

***Christa Morris and Michelle Wrigley joined the meeting at 9:00am***

### **Medications Hearing Panel – Executive Session**

#### **2012 NRHA Derby Medications Testing**

At the 2012 NRHA Derby, NRHA will conduct anonymous testing.

The Executive Committee requested to build the guidelines for Derby testing, but not be involved with specific draw numbers or class selections.

Josh Visser motioned to set the guideline for 2012 NRHA Derby testing at 50% of budget in preliminaries and 50% in finals with the testing veterinarian to determine what random samples are pulled from each division. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

***Break at 9:36am***

***Reconvene at 9:45am***

### **November Meeting**

Terry Griffin motioned to recommend November 9, 2012 for Executive Committee from 7:30am - 6pm and November 12, 2012 for Board of Directors from 8 am - 10am via conference call or webcast. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Import/Export**

Dan Wall updated the Executive Committee on the recent import/export development into Oklahoma City. Currently, the Secretary of Agriculture is working with Heritage

place to secure a stalling area for quarantine, which would allow horses to import/export directly from Oklahoma City. Another advantage to the project is the Oklahoma Federal Vet has been extremely involved and supportive and is current working the logistics of allowing quarantined horses to exercise in the arena.

### **Protest Update – Executive Session**

***Dori Schwartzenberger, Ollie Griffith, Michelle Wrigley joined the meeting at 10:07am***

### **Judges Committee**

Dori Schwartzenberger updated the Executive Committee on the recent activities of the Judges Committee.

The January Workshop was well attended and the committee reviewed charters, goals and the mission statement. The committee discussed the possibility of increasing the standard and skill level of judges by changing the difficulty level of the schools. Additionally, the committee reviewed the re-test policy and will present a revised version to the Board of Directors.

Four spring Judges Schools have been held: January, March, Belgium and Italy. Both new applicants and experienced judges attended the schools together at international schools. There was a separate Applicant Seminar in the US with the new 3 day format.

Rosanne Sternberg commented that it was extremely important to create a worldwide standard with testing procedures.

Discussion regarding the possibility of using Europeans as teaching panel members at the Europe schools to decrease travel cost.

Ollie Griffith was concerned with the security of NRHA's judging materials. Additionally, if the goal is to get a worldwide standard of judging, NRHA should keep the teaching panel consistent worldwide.

Dori Schwartzenberger expressed concerns with the rule interpretations remaining consistent. One of the biggest struggles of the teaching panel is training all judges to interpret the rules the same way. Also, the judging materials are NRHA's intellectual property and it is vital to this industry that it is protected.

Dan Wall commented that part of creating worldwide integration, is training and getting our best international judges consistent with the same standard. It may be possible to have one teaching panel member present at each school, versus two or three.

Dori Schwartzenberger asked if it was relevant for NRHA to invite a select group of European judges to a U.S. school to get a better feel for the applicant seminars and judges schools.

Some NRHA Affiliates reside in reining developing countries. Therefore, NRHA approves continental (Ollie used the term Continental, but the correct term is Restricted) privileges for judges passing applicant seminars, which allows judges to judge in the continent they reside (i.e. Australia, Brazil).

Ollie Griffith outlined the current judges' school format and recent changes. A freestyle judging portion is added, the penalty clip test now requires a maneuver score. Breakout groups are utilized to discuss and review runs with small number of participants (9). Lastly, a lot of time is spent on judge's conduct, ethics and animal welfare.

### ***John Foy joined the meeting at 10:36am***

Beth Himes requested to get clarification on pattern placement, downward speed transitions and rollbacks.

Regarding pattern placement, the Judges Committee reviewed and horses crossing the center line during rundowns (requiring the rider to remain on one side of the arena) will be zeroed. If a rider crowds the center line, but doesn't cross, judges are instructed to deduct the maneuver score. The best run pattern is run by pattern description. A letter will be sent to NRHA Judges and NRHA Professionals and placed in the *Reiner* for the general membership regarding the clarification.

Regarding downward speed transitions, horses that run hard and slow down in a few strides are more appealing than horses that run hard and hit the ground hard. If cadence is not broken the horse should not be penalized. Horses that run hard and crash to ground is not as appealing, however, if it is acceptable and smoothly done, credit should be awarded. Usually, horses that leave slide marks three to four feet are acceptable, anything over would usually be a break of gait. Beth Himes requested a verbal description be drafted and sent out to Judges, Professionals and the membership.

Rollbacks can be completed in a variety of ways. The Judges Committee typically refers to the verbiage in the *Handbook*.

Dan Wall requested interpretation guidelines and documentation of penalty application and the verbiage used to teach and explain the maneuvers. Additionally, NRHA may need to take a distinct position on downward speed transitions to create a clear, ideal picture.

Lastly, the conflict of issue at NRHA – owned events was discussed. The Judges Committee will ask the Board of Directors to approve a policy that would prohibit Judges officiating NRHA – owned events from having conflicts in either pen.

Dan Wall commended Dori Schwartzenger and Ollie Griffith for their professionalism on the committee and at the January Judges School.

***Dori Schwartzenger and Ollie Griffith left the meeting at 11:01am***

***Mario Boisjoli, Christa Morris and Melanie Rinehart joined the meeting at 11:03am***

### **Animal Welfare/Stewards Committee**

The Animal Welfare/Stewards Committee Chair, Mario Boisjoli, updated the Executive Committee on recent meeting discussion.

The committee discussed and decided not to proceed with a plan to give warning cards at NRHA events. Stewards currently feel that they lack authority to deal with extreme cases. Show Stewards are NRHA event officials, working in conjunction with show management, and have authority to deal with situations and make a decision which protects the integrity of NRHA. Beth Himes directed the Show Stewards to develop event protocol policies.

Discussion regarding lame and exhausted horses occurred. If obvious, the Show Steward can consult with show management or, as an event official, can ask to have the horse cared for or taken to a stall.

Additionally, Show Stewards need to coordinate efforts with the NRHA Professionals to allow the Professionals to police themselves.

Beth Himes directed the committee to develop educational videos about training techniques and videos for Show Steward training.

Mario Boisjoli asked the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for their continued support and educational assistance.

***Mario Boisjoli left meeting at 11:30am***

At the 2012 NRHA Derby the Professionals meeting will host Cindy Schonholtz and open the media training to the membership.

### **YouTube Video**

A YouTube video displaying training in a warm-up pen at an NRHA event was discussed. A response was sent to all inquiring parties.

Staff was directed to review other organization complaint policies and create a policy that allows complaints (by members or non-members) to be viewed and handled on a case by case basis.

### **Media Credentials**

Christa Morris presented the media credential request form for NRHA – owned events. Staff will begin enforcing the guidelines at the NRHA Derby. Owners would be allowed to take photos of their horse(s), and credentialed media can take photos in the arena for approved uses. Additionally, staff can monitor for third-party photographers and request that they no longer take photos. If the individual refuses staff's request, staff has the authority to ask photographer to exit the grounds. The protection of NRHA's intellectual rights and contracted employees is very important.

***Lunch break at 12:05pm***

***Reconvened at 12:45pm***

### **FEI - Executive Session**

***Terry Griffin left the meeting***

***Karen Shedlauskas, Vaughn Zimmerman and Michelle Wrigley joined the meeting at 1:00pm***

### **Sire & Dam Committee**

Karen Shedlauskas explained the impact of the Sire & Dam Program changes. The number of breedings, percent sold and revenue collected has increased compared to prior year. It is important that NRHA keeps the industry awareness focused on Sire & Dam Program and the benefits it can offer.

Discussion regarding the possibility of expanding the program in Europe occurred. Rosanne Sternberg volunteered to call Susy Baeck and see if she has any interest in participating in the Sire & Dam Committee.

Karen Shedlauskas was instructed to work with Vaughn Zimmerman and create a revised list of Sire & Dam Committee members for the Executive Committee to approve.

***Vaughn Zimmerman and Karen Shedlauskas left meeting at 1:27pm***

### **Show Steward Selection**

Beth Himes addressed the need to evaluate the Show Steward Selection Policy. Show Management needs to be involved in the selection of Show Stewards.

Rick Ramsey motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors the revised Show Stewards selection policy which gives show management authority to select Show Stewards from the final list. Seconded by Doug Milholland. Motion passed unanimously.

***Jennifer Hoyt, Melanie Rinehart, Leigha Stevenson joined the meeting at 1:34pm***

### **Events Management Committee**

Jennifer Hoyt summarized the recent committee meetings.

### **Second Go Evaluation**

The Events Management Committee presented two available options for the second go-round.

Concerns regarding the perception of owners if we eliminate the number of horses allowed into the second go were discussed.

Rosanne Sternberg recommended to the Board of Directors the approval of Option 1 of the second go proposal which would include 256 total runs (200 Level 4, 150 Level 3, 100 Level 2, 100 Level 1). Seconded by Josh Visser. Motion passed unanimously.

### **World Championship Shootout**

The Events Management Committee recommended increasing the entry fee to \$2,500.

Mike Deer motioned to accept the Events Management Committee's recommendation and increase the entry fee to \$2500. Seconded by Doug Milholland. Motion passed.

### **NRHA Cowtown Classic**

Jennifer Hoyt summarized the conditions for the Novice Horse Derby, Pre-Futurity and 7 & Up Non Pro Conditions.

Horses may be ridden one or two handed in any legal bridle in both the Open and Non Pro Pre-Futurity.

Rosanne Sternberg motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors the 2012 NRHA Cowtown Classic conditions. Seconded by Doug Milholland. Motion passed unanimously.

### **2012 Cowtown Classic Schedule**

Dan Wall noted that the Novice Horse Non Pro Derby will run during the same time as the Open Pre-Futurity.

Rosanne Sternberg motioned to recommend approval to the Board of Directors of the 2012 NRHA Cowtown Classic schedule. Seconded by Rick Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **4D Reining Proposal**

Melanie Rinehart explained the concept of the 4D Reining class structure. Staff recommended running the 4D class concurrent with August 12, 2012 Rookie, Youth and Green classes, offering \$1,000 added money with an entry fee of \$20 and no retainage.

Rosanne Sternberg motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors the acceptance of the 4D proposal presented by staff. Seconded Rick Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

***Break at 2:37pm***

***Reconvene at 2:44pm***

***Brett Walters and Shianne Megel joined the meeting at 2:45pm***

#### **Youth Committee**

Brett Walters summarized the recent activities of the Youth Committee. The Youth Committee submitted a 2012 rule change regarding incentive levels and will be submitting a by-law change to decrease the number of delegates along with specifically defining roles to get youth delegates more involved. Additionally, the Youth Committee has had recent conversations with NRHA Professionals on incentivizing professionals to volunteer for regional clinics. Also, look at reinvigorating Rookie Day and Regional Clinics, supporting growth with alliance relationships and improving the raffle ticket award program.

***Jessica Johnson and Dan Wall left the meeting at 3:00pm***

#### **Investment Presentation – Executive Session**

***Jessica Johnson, Michelle Wrigley and Dan Wall joined the meeting at 3:43pm***

#### **Judge Selection Policy**

Conversation regarding the current NRHA – Owned Event judge selection occurred.

Josh Visser motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors a revised policy which would allow the NRHA Board of Directors to select the final list of judges by reviewing and adjusting the ranked nomination list by majority vote on individual judges. Seconded by Doug Milholland. Motion passed unanimously.

***Michelle Wrigley left the meeting***

***Michael Martin joined the meeting at 4:15pm***

**Non Pro Committee**

Michael Martin expressed concern with the non pro sponsorship rule, regarding the NRHA's inability to monitor the rule and the perception among the industry.

***Michael Martin left the meeting at 4:36pm***

**Disciplinary Procedures Letter**

Jessica Johnson was directed to review the letter and present a proposal during an Executive Committee Conference Call.

***Todd Barden and Melanie Rinehart joined the meeting***

**World Championship Awards**

Discussion regarding the World Championship awards resumed. Consensus among the Executive Committee was that new awards would provide a refreshing new look for NRHA World Champions. A new trophy option was discussed, but could not be finalized due to restrictions in the NRHA Handbook.

Rick Ramsey motioned to recommend boots, buckle and Lawson trophy for the World Champion awards. Seconded by Terry Griffin. Motion passed unanimously.

**Merchandise Contract – Executive Session**

**Sponsorship – Executive Session**

***Michelle Wrigley and Melanie Rinehart joined the meeting***

**Tradeshow Vender Policy – Executive Session**

***Michelle Wrigley, Todd Barden and Melanie Rinehart left the meeting***

**China Training Opportunity**

Dan Wall explained the China training opportunity. NRHA was approached by EliteFortune group in China, to assist in locating two trainers to go to China for four months. Two riders were selected and will be departing to China in May.

***Michelle Wrigley joined the meeting***

**NRHA Events Judge Selection**

Michelle Wrigley presented the revised judge selection policy for the Board of Directors

Terry Griffin requested that guidance be given to the Judges Committee prior to selection.

### **European Derby Judge Selection Guidance**

The Executive Committee discussed the guidelines for selection of the 2012 European Derby judges. It was determined that selection guidelines will remain the same as last year for this event.

***Michelle Wrigley left the meeting***

***Closed Session at 5:43 pm***

### **Nominating Committee – Executive Session**

***Meeting adjourned at 6:02pm***