

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**  
**November 15, 2013**

***Approved 2/6/2014***

**Present:** Beth Himes – President, Rick Clark – Vice President, Mike Deer, Terry Griffin, Jennifer Hoyt, Tom McCutcheon, Josh Visser

**Webinar:** Rosanne Sternberg

**Staff:** John Foy – Chief Financial Officer, Jessica Johnson – Director of Operations, Carol Trimmer – Sr. Director of Publications, Megan Lundquist – Administrative Assistant

**Guests:** Jim Blumer, Rick Ramsey

**Call to Order**

Beth Himes called the meeting to order at 8:18am.

**Minutes**

Mike Deer motioned to approve the minutes from September 4, 2013, September 19, 2013, October 16, 2013 and E-vote minutes from September 27, 2013, October 4, 2013, October 7, 2013, October 11, 2013, and October 30, 2013. Motioned seconded by Terry Griffin. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Update**

FYE 06/30/13 Audit Report – John Foy presented the June 30, 2013 Audit Report to the Executive Committee. In laymen's terms the auditor has issued what is known as a clean audit opinion. NRHA's net income for the year is \$361,000. In FYE 2012 NRHA over estimated its tax liability by \$59,000, 2012 earnings was adjusted to reflect this, but this adjustment does not impact the opinion of the auditor. The audit report is dated 10/31/13 and was on the website that evening, by completing the Audit in a timely manner the NRHA has met its fiduciary responsibility to the membership to timely report the results of the Audit per the *NRHA Handbook*.

**Financial Update – Executive Session**

Beth Himes noted that the funds she received for additional duties as President during the interim would be donated back to NRHA. Rick Clark thanked Beth Himes for her generous contribution.

Jim Blumer commended John and the entire staff for their hard work in completing and presenting accurate financials.

The EC would like to continue receiving the fully detailed, line item report.

Key Economic Indicators – John Foy reviewed the Key Economic Indicators for the first 3 months of the new fiscal year. It is overall a quiet quarter, with no major NRHA events planned during the quarter. Profit and Loss Summary shows that NRHA is currently operating positive against budget, with \$82,000 in unrealized investment gains. He also stated that we are currently \$70,000 ahead of budget on payroll. Terry Griffin motioned to accept financials as presented. Motion seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Building Update – Executive Session**

#### **2014 World Equestrian Games**

Beth Himes stated that NRHA needs to decide on how many people to send to Normandy, France for the 2014 World Equestrian Games. The games are from August 23 thru September 7 and neither AQHA nor NRHA will be having a booth there. Discussion regarding the number of representatives for the reining portion occurred. Mike Deer motioned to send 3 people to the 2014 WEG: Commissioner, President, and Vice President. Seconded by Rosanne Sternberg. Motion passed unanimously. Beth said that 10 days of hotel are required per person. John Foy advised that the finance department will come up with a budget for travel expenses. The Executive Committee authorized Beth Himes to place a deposit on the rooms in France.

Break at 9:10 am. Reconvene at 9:17 am.

***Jamie Boller and Michelle Wrigley joined the meeting.***

#### **2014 NRHA Derby Conditions**

Jamie Boller gave an overview of the Futurity and Derby Conditions Task Force recommendations for the 2014 NRHA Derby. The Task Force is recommending the Prime Time Open be removed and to have 2 payments for the Non Pro Derby, with the same entry deadlines as the open. Jennifer Hoyt, chair of the task force, stated that the reason for the 2 payments were complaints regarding the large sum of money that was due at one time. There was extensive discussion regarding entry fees and the fee structure currently set up. John Foy stated that entries were up in 2013 with the 1-&-Up Structure. Terry Griffin motioned to recommend the payment format for 2014 remain the same as 2013 for the Non Pro. Motioned seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Motion passed unanimously.

Josh Visser motioned to recommend removing the Prime Time Open from the 2014 Derby Conditions. Motion seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the addition of divisions in the Non Pro after the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Entries can add levels after the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for a \$100 penalty fee, up until 2 days prior to the go-round.

#### **Stall Sponsorships**

Terry Griffin presented the new stall sponsorship guidelines. For the 2013 Futurity, stall sponsorships were maintained as before. For future stall sponsorships, areas of the Superbarn and Barn 6 were divided into zones (A to F). Zone A is for Corporate Sponsorships and will only be offered on an annual basis to others if current corporate sponsors decline the stall fronts. Contracts can be in ranch, trainer, or ranch & trainer's name, but once contract is received by the office it cannot be changed. There was discussion regarding zone b/c costs and trainers who will have over 40 horses. Terry Griffin recommended keeping Zone B prices at \$2,000 for 2 stall fronts, instead of the presented price of \$3,000. Advertising on storage walls in Barn 6 is to be considered as stall fronts and will be charged accordingly. There was discussion over contracts and ranch/trainer relationships. For the Derby, pricing will remain as is, but the new rules will be implemented. Terry Griffin motioned to recommend to the board to approve the stall sponsorship guidelines as presented. Motion seconded by Mike Deer. Motion passed unanimously.

### **EC Disclosure**

Beth Himes disclosed that she has a horse competing in the Open Futurity and all of her horses are currently listed in an LLC.

***Todd Knerr joined the meeting at 10:22 am.***

### **2013 Futurity Update**

Todd Knerr presented to the Executive Committee an update for the upcoming 2013 NRHA Futurity. Todd recommended turning the coliseum into a single open entrance, instead of an in and out gate. This would leave only 1 gate attendant and would allow for easier transition between the AQHA World Show and NRHA Futurity. Tom McCutcheon suggested that instead of 1 large entrance to have a smaller out gate as well, especially with the second go-round pattern. After discussion, the Executive Committee stated that they wanted to leave the in/out gate as is; the savings are not enough to warrant the change. Todd Knerr stated that there are no other big changes at the Futurity. Jamie Boller told the Executive Committee that there are currently 624 (qualified) futurity entries.

***Rick Clark left the meeting at 10:36am.***

There was discussion regarding offering valet parking services for the final 3 nights of the Futurity. Further discussion regarding the enhancement of Corporate Sponsor parking and the relocation of staff parking occurred. The Executive Committee recommended revisiting the parking areas at the Futurity and options besides valet services.

Todd Knerr discussed closing barn row to thru traffic during the show day, due to vehicles being left unattended all day. Tom McCutcheon made a suggestion that instead of closing barn row to thru traffic, to use stickers on the vehicles with phone numbers on them. Truck owners will be called to move their vehicle or vehicle will be towed. The Executive Committee recommended using the sticker system instead of closing barn row.

***Todd Knerr and Jamie Boller left the meeting at 10:57 am.***

Break at 10:58 am. Reconvene at 11:18 am.

***Josh Visser left the meeting at 11:18 am. Christa Morris joined the meeting.***

### **European Affiliate Council Update**

#### **2014 European Derby – Executive Session**

2014 European Medications Policy – Christa Morris presented the updates to the European Medications Policy for 2014. Some items were moved around in the policy, but are still present. Banned medication substances were changed to a 3-year penalty period, as opposed to a 1-year penalty period. Jennifer Hoyt motioned to accept the European Affiliate Counsel's recommendation and recommend the Board approve the revisions for the 2014 European Medications Policy. Motion seconded by Mike Deer. Motion passed unanimously.

***Christ Morris left the meeting. Todd Barden and Krissy Colbath joined the meeting at 11:46am.***

#### **2014 Trophy Pricing**

Krissy Colbath presented the 2014 Trophy Prices, noting the differences in shipping costs. Terry Griffin motioned to approve the 2014 Trophy Pricing. Motion seconded by Jennifer Hoyt. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Trophy Design Modifications**

Todd Barden updated the Executive Committee on what slight design modifications have occurred, such as adding wires in the neck to increase stability. Todd Barden stated that he was looking for permission to pursue further design modification options in partnership with Montana Silversmiths, to allow the trophies to travel better. Once modifications options have been reviewed, the options will be discussed with each trophy artist prior to requesting any changes. Jennifer Hoyt mentioned that Montana should look at the packaging, as it seems to have changed this past year. She also stated that she is seeing more issues with plaques being damaged than trophies. Todd Barden was given the permission to investigate design modifications with Montana Silversmiths.

***Todd Barden and Krissy Colbath left the meeting.***

***Break for lunch at 12:00 pm. Reconvene at 1:00 pm.***

#### **Reiner Comp Advertising**

Carol Trimmer presented a comparison between advertising revenue and Corporate Sponsor comped advertising. *Reiner* advertising income is decreasing due in part to the number of sponsor comp advertisements. In House advertising was noted as well.

#### **Category 1 Added Money Clarification**

Jessica Johnson reviewed the proposed rule clarification. Terry Griffin motioned to clarify the added money limits for Category 1 classes. Motion seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Adaptive Reining Physician's Statement**

Jessica Johnson discussed the changes to the statement, which include a disclaimer to resubmit if medical conditions change, NRHA ID# and the addition of "ride a horse astride". Mike Deer motioned to approve the revisions to the physician's statement. Motion seconded by Terry Griffin. Motion passed unanimously.

***Hayley Lewallen and Christa Morris joined the meeting at 1:18 pm.***

### **Sire & Dam Update**

Hayley Lewallen updated the Executive Committee on the Sire & Dam Program. Postcards have been sent out in 2 groups, with a very good response. Fliers were sent to AQHA and sent out to over 8,000 people. There are currently ads running in *Western Horseman*, *Barrel Horse News*, and *Quarter Horse News*. Hayley presented the possibility of changing the name of the Top 20 stallions (for the Sire & Dam auction) to the Elite 20, due to some confusion with stallion owners. Terry Griffin recommended changing it instead to the Sire & Dam Top 20, to eliminate confusion with it being based on NRHA earnings from the previous year. More discussion regarding the title of Sire & Dam Top 20 versus Elite 20 occurred.

***Jennifer Hoyt, Rosanne Sternberg, and Josh Visser joined the meeting at 1:26 pm. Christa Morris and Hayley Lewallen left the meeting.***

***Frank Costantini, Shianne Megel, Chris Dennis joined the meeting at 1:30pm.***

### **RHSF Board Appointments**

Frank Costantini updated the Executive Committee on current RHSF operations, including fundraising efforts in regards to the ongoing 2010 WEG debt. Frank expressed concern over RHSF Board structure and discussed possible bylaw changes.

Frank suggested possible Board members for 2014:

Ann Admonious, Mark Blake, Vicki Santos, Phillip Aaron, Rita Reed Harris, Patti Wegener, Dave Belson, Michael Miola, Mike Hancock, Tracy Lynch, Andre DeBellefeuille, Mandy McCutcheon, Becky Hanson, Brett Walters

Frank mentioned the recent addition of a title sponsor for the RHSF Slide to Remember Lucas Oil/Protect the Harvest. Frank thanked the staff for their hard work on the Slide. There was discussion around auction items at the RHSF after party.

***Frank Costantini and Chris Dennis left the meeting.***

### **Logoed Apparel Clarification**

Shianne Megel presented the logoed apparel clarification recommended by staff and the Non Pro Committee.

***Tiffany Gonzales joined the meeting at 2:26pm.***

Rick Clark motioned to clarify that non pro exhibitors be allowed to compete with one after market logo as presented today, including NRHA. Seconded by Rosanne. MPU.

***Tiffany Gonzales left the meeting at 2:44pm.***

#### **2014 NAAC Conditions**

Shianne Megel presented to the Executive Committee the recommendations of the Affiliate Committee in regards to the 2013 NAAC Conditions. The Affiliate Committee wanted to allow an un-designation option at the NAAC level. Concerns were expressed over the increased workload for staff with the un-designation option at that level. The Executive Committee opted to leave the conditions as is. Josh Visser motioned to approve the un-designation form for the RAF level. Motion seconded by Rick Clark. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **RAF Contracts – Executive Session**

#### **RFPs for 2015**

Shianne presented the Affiliate Committee recommendation to allow for open ended RFPs allowing from a minimum of 2 years and a maximum of 5 years. These are for bids starting in 2015. The request was made by an affiliate so that they could negotiate a better contract with the facility. Mike Deer motioned to recommend to the board to allow for RFPs to be open ended for a minimum of 2 years and a maximum of 5 years. Motion seconded by Tom McCutcheon. Motion passed unanimously.

Break at 3:15 pm.

Staff left the meeting.

#### **Commissioner Discussion – Executive Session**

#### **2014 Medications Discussion – Executive Session**

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm