

NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

May 8, 2015

Approved 8/18/15

Present: President Rick Clark, Vice President Mike Deer, Shane Brown, Sebastian Petroll, Jim Blumer, Rick Ramsey, Casey Hinton, Josh Visser, Larry Barker, Marc Wagman, Chris Mossman, Jesse Chase, Josh Visser, Brett Walters, Jennifer Hoyt, Brian Welman, Barbara Brookshire, Fred Thomsson, Shannon Rafacz, Joao Marcos

Conference Call: Frank Costantini, Dave Belson, Beth Richards, Guy Vernon, Kelli Brummett, Susy Baeck, Joe Wolfe

Staff: Commissioner Gary Carpenter, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Assistant Commissioner Christa Morris, Senior Director of Publications Carol Trimmer, Executive Assistant Liz Feuerstein, Manager of Member Services Jamie Jones, Director of Events & Affiliates Shianne Megel, Senior Director of Marketing Todd Branson, Senior Director of Business Development Todd Barden, Manager of Events Tiffany Gonzales, Director of Accounting Chris Mossman, Senior Coordinator of Events Megan Lundquist

Guests: Bailey Walters

Call to Order

President Rick Clark called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

A quorum was established.

Consent Agenda

A motion and a second were made to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Update

John Foy presented the financial update.

Building Update

Rick Clark gave an update on the new office building. The Executive Committee took a tour the previous day and the goal is to be moved in after Labor Day and before the Futurity. The Board of Directors is welcome to tour the building during the Derby.

Commissioner Update

Commissioner Gary Carpenter briefly reviewed our Long Range Plan. We have been narrowing down our priorities to attack specific ones. Some of these include: global governance, membership value, judging, NRHA programs, and animal welfare. He stressed the importance of reviewing our 58 programs and our task forces.

IT Update

Gary Carpenter gave an update on our IT department. The Jockey Club has put in a proposal and it is available for review. NRHA staff and Executive Committee members will visit the Jockey Club's headquarters in Lexington this summer. The Board will vote on the proposal at a later date.

Rule Changes

NRHA staff reviewed the proposed rule changes for 2016. The rule changes were then discussed.

Break at 9:32 a.m. Reconvened at 9:46 a.m. Jody Brainard joined the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Jody Brainard

Jody Brainard discussed the judges program and the Judges Committee.

Rule Changes, Continued.

Christa Morris and Jamie Jones continued the discussion on the proposed rule changes for 2016. Afterwards, it was announced that all the rule changes now belong to the Board and that member comments close July 15 on the website. Afterward, they will be sent to the Board for review prior to the August meeting.

Jody Brainard left the meeting at 11:05 a.m. Break at 11:11 a.m. Reconvened at 11:17 a.m.

NRHA Events

2015 European Futurity Report

Shianne Megel gave a recap of the 2015 European Futurity. Overall, entries were up and the sponsors were happy. There were some areas that needed improvement, such as the footing, dragging, and schooling. The European Affiliate Council also met in person for a successful meeting.

2015 Futurity Schedule

The proposed schedule for the 2015 Futurity was presented. A lot of time and effort was put into the schedule and the goal was to keep the days as short as possible to accommodate special events. The show will run on Thanksgiving and no one will be allowed in the Super Barn early.

A motion and a second were made to approve the 2015 Futurity schedule. Open to discussion. There was discussion on the patterns presented and the need to notify the NRHA body as soon as possible regarding any changes.

A motion and a second were made to make an amendment to the original motion to approve the schedule not including the patterns. Motion and amendment passed unanimously.

Break at 11:37 a.m. Reconvened at 11:54 a.m.

2015 NRHA Derby Update

Tiffany Gonzales gave an update on the 2015 NRHA Derby. Overall, entries were up and this could be our largest Derby yet for entries. Horses can move in on Thursday, the 18th at noon. The 4D Reining Competition was approved and will be sponsored by Classic Equine. There will be a \$20 entry fee. The Board was reminded that the B52 parking lot is gone so parking will be an issue at the show. Due to this, it was decided that there will be no parking passes for stall sponsors.

NRHA Derby Discussion

Rick Clark appointed a task force to review the NRHA Derby. Their charge will be to make recommendations to the Board on whether or not the Derby needs to remain how it is, the format of the show, if it needs to move, etc. They will work closely with Todd Knerr, Christa Morris, and the Finance Committee. Mark Blake will serve as the committee chair with the following members: Colleen McQuay, Clark Weaver, Mike Hancock, Bob Santagata, Vaughn Zimmerman, Karen Shedlaskas, and Josh Visser.

A motion and a second were made to approve the Derby Task Force. Motion passed unanimously.

50th Discussion

Todd Branson discussed the upcoming plans for the 50th running of the Futurity and 50th anniversary of NRHA. It will be a yearlong celebration that will include more corporate partner recognition, souvenirs, video coverage, special recognitions, live commentary, etc.

Rick Clark then discussed the idea of having Lyle Lovett and his band perform Thursday evening. Money from the Oklahoma CVB and the 50 for 50 Campaign will help cover the costs. A motion and a second were made to approve the Lyle Lovett concert and to sign the contract. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Updates

Finance Committee

John Foy presented the Finance Committee's report and their recommendation. There was consensus that anything over \$10,000 would go to the finance committee for an official recommendation. This will help NRHA be more financially secure.

Eligibility Committee

Shannon Rafacz reviewed the Eligibility Committee and possible recommendations they may bring to the August Board meeting.

Sale Selection Committee

Tiffany Gonzales reviewed the Sale Selection Committee's recommendation with the Board. A motion and a second were made to approve the Sale Selection Committee's recommendation to allow yearlings and two-year-olds to receive an NRHA nomination for half price. There was much discussion regarding the matter. Call to Question. Motion passed 19-4.

Youth Committee

Hayley Lewallen presented the Youth Committee's report.

Non- Pro Committee

Larry Barker presented the Non-Pro Committee's report and recommendation. Rick Clark suggested that the Professionals Committee review their recommendation as well.

Nominating Committee

Brett Walters gave an update on the Nominating Committee.

Professionals Update

The Board reviewed the Executive Committee's recommendation to pay out the Professionals forfeitures that occurred during the designated grace period. A motion and a second were made to approve the EC's recommendation. Open to discussion. Call to question. Motion passed 14-6.

Break at 1:29 p.m. Reconvened at 1:46 p.m.

VRHA Request

Megan Lundquist presented a request from Virginia Reining Horse Association (VRHA) to clarify a previous decision made by the Board via electronic voting.

A motion and a second were made to allow the VRHA to show in the Southeast region for 2015. The regions will then be reviewed to see if they need to move the Commonwealth of Virginia to the South East region. Motion passed unanimously.

Australia Continental Championship Conditions

A motion and a second were made to approve the Australia Continental Championship Conditions. Motion passed unanimously.

Shannon Rafacz left the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

Apprentice Applications

A motion and a second were made to approve the apprentice applications. Motion passed unanimously.

Professionals Presentation

Todd Branson presented the new Professionals website.

RHSF Update

Rick Clark encouraged everyone on the Board to give back to the reining industry and to become a 100 Grand member. He also mentioned that the RHSF will meet during the Derby and they will be holding a silent auction during the Banquet.

NRHA staff left the meeting.

Medications Hearing Panel- Executive Session

Protests and Investigation Update- Executive Session

NRHA staff returned to the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Breakout Discussion Groups

Christa Morris presented the programs survey results. President Rick Clark appointed a task force to review our 58 programs. Jennifer Hoyt was appointed to chair the committee with Rick Ramsey, Jim Blumer, Dave Belson, Kelli Brummett, Kim Maharaj, Larry Barker, Brett Walters, and Joe Wolfe as members. John Foy, Christa Morris, and Nick Cornelissens would serve as staff liaisons.

A motion and a second were made to approve the Programs Task Force. Motion passed unanimously.

Everyone then broke off into three groups to discuss NRHA's 58 programs.

Meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.