

**NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION  
Judges Committee Meeting and Workshop Minutes  
NRHA Office, OKC  
January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

*Approved 2/10/18*

**January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Members Present: Mike McEntire, Ann Salmon Anderman, Joe Hayes, Ronnie Wayne, Brett Walters, Jody Brainard, Todd Sommers, Dean Latimer, Craig Schmersal, Eugenio Latorre, Maik Bartmann, Adi Wagner, Filippo Masi, Larry Kasten

Members Not Present: Tim McQuay, Doug Milholland, Terry Thompson

Staff Present: Mallory Vestal, Kristen Liesman, Samantha Oldfield

Guests Present: Jeremy Olsen

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Mike McEntire at 1:00 pm.

**Changes to 2018 Testing**

Committee discussed the changes made to testing for 2018. Individual testing began mid 2017 and the committee agreed to continue with this testing structure for 2018. In addition, the committee decided to begin the schools by administering part of the test which includes the first set of ten.

The committee went on to discuss the final change made to testing for 2018 and this was the written test moving to an online format.

**Strengths & Weaknesses**

The committee discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and threats of the committee and judging. After discussion the committee selected their top three strengths and weaknesses. It was determined that the top three strengths of the committee and judging include: experience, dedication and the scoring system. The top three weaknesses include: a lack of rating system for the judges, the current conflict of interest rules and members lack of knowledge of the rules. The committee then discussed some potential threats to the judging system and reining as a whole.

**How Do We Improve?**

Discussion regarding ways to improve our current judges and judging system. Newsletters will continue to be sent as well as some online tools to help keep our judges up to date on new rules. The committee also discussed creating a Facebook page to use as a platform for new information.

The committee reviewed the final version of the code of ethics that beginning in 2018 all judges will be required to sign.

The committee discussed creating a review system for both the management and judges for each event. The motion was made to begin sending out a one-page questionnaire to both the show manager and judge after every event. The motion is seconded and passes unanimously.

### **Judging and Animal Welfare**

The committee then discussed the new 5-point penalty in regards to a horse dropping to its knees or hocks. New video examples were put together to use for educational purposes. The committee discussed how far we have come in the treatment of our horses and how as a whole they look better than ever.

### **Major Event Review**

Discussion regarding the review program for judges after a major event. Judges from major events will be able to further strengthen their judging skills by reviewing their work from major events. Selected runs will be judged by the entire judges committee and these results will be subsequently shared with the major event judges. This is again, one tool to continue to strengthen the skillset of even our best judges in the industry.

### **Judging Runs-Executive Session**

The committee went on to judge runs for education material.

Adjourned for the evening at 5:34 pm.

## **January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Members Present:** Mike McEntire, Ann Salmon Anderman, Joe Hayes, Ronnie Wayne, Brett Walters, Jody Brainard, Todd Sommers, Dean Latimer, Craig Schmersal, Eugenio Latorre, Maik Bartmann, Adi Wagner, Filippo Masi, Larry Kasten, Tim McQuay

**Members Not Present:** Doug Milholland, Terry Thompson

**Staff Present:** Mallory Vestal, Kristen Liesman, Samantha Oldfield

**Guests Present:** Jeremy Olsen

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Mike McEntire at 8:00 am

### **Strengths & Weaknesses**

Committee continued discussions on the strengths and weaknesses from the day prior.

*Christa Morris-Stone joins the group at 8:07 am*

### **Rule Changes/Clarifications for 2019**

Christa stepped up and reviewed the rule changes that are going before the Board for 2019. The committee discussed them. They inquired about being able to make changes to the online rule book throughout the year if they find a discrepancy or something that needs to be cleaned up for better clarification. The committee discussed all rule changes that were proposed by them and will make their official recommendations during the NRHA Convention.

*Christa Morris-Stone leaves the group at 9:15 am*

### **Major Event Equipment Check**

The committee went over where we need to go with the equipment checks at our major events. It was decided budget allowing that it is best to have more than one person monitoring the make up arena.

### **Judging Runs- Executive Session**

The committee went on to judge runs for testing material.

*Lunch is taken from 12:00-1:15 pm.*

### **Rating System- Executive Session**

The committee went on to set the first phase of rating judges. The list of current judges was reviewed.

Mike asks for a sub-committee to be put forth to work on phase II of the rating system. The sub-committee will consist of Doug Milholland, Brian Welman and Brett Walters. They will present their findings at the 2018 Convention in the Judges Committee Meeting.

### **Monitor System Guidelines:**

Mike asks for a sub-committee to be put forth to work on putting together a document outlining the duties of the judges monitor at major events. The sub-committee will consist of Joe Hayes, Ronnie Wayne, Eugenio Latorre and Bub Poplin. They will present their findings at the 2018 Convention in the Judges Committee Meeting.

### **Conflict Policy**

Mike asked the committee their thoughts on the conflict of interest rules and how they can be improved as they are seen as one of the biggest weakness of judging. The committee discussed that todays judges are held to the highest standard and that the conflict rules be moved to policy and be defined there. The committee will begin putting together a policy to go to the Board later in 2018.

### **Judging Runs- Executive Session**

The committee went on to judge runs for education material.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm