

**National Reining Horse Association
Professional Committee Winter Meeting Minutes
Date: February 7th, 2023 at 1:45 P.M. (CST)**

Approved 2/23/2023

Members Present In-Person: Jordan Larson – Chair, Gunny Mathison, Nick Valentine

Members Present Virtually: Jason Vanlandingham, Ryan Rushing, Kaci O'Rourke

Not Present: Dan Huss, Hiram Resende Silva Filho, Matt Palmer, Kole Price, Tracer Gilson, Casey Hinton, Trevor Dare, Brandon Brant

Staff: Sr. Director of Education and Officials – Patti Carter, Education and Officials Coordinator – Lillian Esterl-Byrne, Sr. Director of International Affairs & Development – Sam Oldfield, Sr. Director of Corporate Relations – Christy Landwehr

Guests: Executive President – Mark Blake, ProTrainer Editor – Jennifer Paulson, Stewards Committee Chair – Van Luse

I. Call To Order

Jordan Larson, Professionals Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. (CST)

II. New Business

a. Strategic Plan

i. 1-3-5 Year Plan

1. Discussion was had on how to create better communication with the NRHA Professionals.
 - a. A text campaign was established and will be redistributed to all professionals following the Winter Meeting in an attempt to elicit greater participation.
2. Hall of Fame
 - a. Leslie Baker, Executive Director of the Reining Horse Foundation, will be invited to a future meeting to explain the Hall of Fame selection process to the Professionals Committee
3. The apprentice program was discussed with a focus on how to better support young professionals within the industry and how to encourage youth interest in becoming a NRHA professional.
 - a. Collaborating and connecting with university equine programs will be investigated to achieve this goal.
 - b. An effort will be made to re-promote the apprentice program.
 - i. A suggestion was made to make it a two-year program. This suggestion will be further discussed amongst the committee at future meetings.

4. A larger effort will be made to better promote the NRHA Professionals Facebook page to aid in better communication with the professionals.
- b. Medication Testing Discussion – Sam Oldfield
 - i. Sam Oldfield discussed the new medications policy and its implementation for future events.
- c. Tutorial on “How to Update Your Trainer Profile on ReinerSuite”
 - i. The tutorial video will be posted on the Professionals page on the NRHA website.
- d. Discussion on Safe Sport
 - i. Tabled for future meeting.
- e. ProTrainer Highlights and Topic Brainstorming – Jennifer Paulson
 - i. The ProTrainer is published digitally four times a year.
 - ii. The publication is focused on the business aspect of NRHA Professionals.
 - iii. Topic suggestions are always welcome and encouraged.
 - iv. Reminders about the ProTrainer are distributed through multiple avenues.
 1. Email blast
 2. Text campaign
 3. Facebook group post
- f. Discussion on 2023 Futurity Patterns
 - i. A motion was made and seconded to recommend Pattern 15 for the 2023 Non Pro Futurity prelims – motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. A motion was made and seconded to keep the finals patterns the same as the ones used for the 2022 Futurity – motion passed unanimously.
- g. Collaborating with Stewards and Judges – Van Luse, Steward Committee Chair
 - i. Van Luse spoke on the value of bridging the gap between the stewards and the professionals.
 1. Future communication between the committees will be established.
- h. Three Horse Limit at Major Events
 - i. Tabled for future meeting.
- i. Discussion on Requiring Events with High Added Money to Hold a Go Round and Finals
 - i. Tabled for future meeting.
- j. Next meeting will take place February 23 at 3:00pm (CST)

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 P.M. (CST)