

IaHHA Annual Membership Meeting

Tentative Minutes

January 12th, 2013

The IaHHA Annual Membership Meeting began at 2:00 pm on January 12th, 2013 at the Best Western Inn in Marshalltown, Iowa.

IaHHA President Royal Roland began the meeting with the President's report. He expressed the opinion that not racing at Prairie Meadows had made it harder to sell horses at the end of the season but that the law had provided stability to the industry. He emphasized to members that public perception matters on issues such as whipping.

Jim Reese presented the Treasurer's Report. The IaHHA is carrying forward a balance of \$39,606.92 with an additional \$5,928 in the PAC account.

IaHHA lobbyist Matt Eide gave the legislative update. The party splits in the legislature stayed relatively stable but there a fair number of new members that will need to be made aware of our issues. It is looking like the governor will run for re-election and he has been a great help to our industry. There will probably be a gambling bill this session, specifically tied around the online poker issue. There is a referendum scheduled in Linn County and the riverboat in the Quad Cities will probably be moving inland by the interstate. There is expected to be a license transfer in Sioux City.

The next item on the agenda was election of directors. **Rick Huffman was re-elected from District 1. Royal Roland was re-elected from District 3.**

There was one at-large director with an expiring term. Bob Kohlwes declined to run for re-election.

Les Peters was nominated by Garry Phillips but declined the nomination.

Nick Roland was nominated by Les Peters

Will Roland was nominated by Garry Phillips

Brad Kohlwes was nominated by

Motion by Joel McDanel, seconded by Bob Kohlwes, that nominations cease. All Ayes.

Brad Kohlwes was elected to a three year term.

During the open forum the group discussed proposed changes to split aged races by earnings in their last 5 starts instead of sex in an attempt to change the fields up from week to week and make the races more interesting for the fans. Some thought this was unfair to the mares while others thought the mares shouldn't always get to draw the inside in these races. It was also discussed ways to allow non-competitive colts that have exceeded the annual earnings cap to move back down into the B class. The board's preferred method was to add a claiming tag on those horses so the owner would risk losing the horse if they chose to drop back down. The groups seemed unsupportive of straight claiming races in general.

The group also discussed the first year of performance on the newly remodeled tracks at Humboldt and What Cheer. It was discussed that the inside safety lane in What Cheer was not maintained during the season leading to rain ruts and grass growing in towards the inside lane.

There was a split opinion on starting the races at noon or 1:00, with 1:00 winning a narrow decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.