

IaHHA Board Meeting

April 26, 2015

Best Western in Ankeny, Iowa

1:00 P.M.

Present: Royal Roland, Mark Holtan, Scott Smith, Dan Roland, Brad Kohlwes, Jeff Carey, Rick Huffman, Jim Reese, Lindsay Sponheim

Absent: Joel McDanel

The April 26, 2015 Board meeting of the Iowa Harness Horse Association was called to order by President Royal Roland at 1:00 p.m. at the Best Western in Ankeny, Iowa.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by all members. Jeff Carey moved to accept the minutes and Dan Roland seconded, all ayes, minutes were approved.

Jim Reese gave the Treasurer's Report. Dan Roland moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jeff Carey seconded, all ayes, Treasurer's Report was approved.

Royal Roland gave a legislative update which included a proposed bill that would ban smoking at Iowa Casinos. Also a bill that would require the new casino in Greene County to make up for any money lost by Prairie Meadows that is used to pay horse racing purses. Both bills went nowhere in the legislation.

The IaHHA drug policy was finalized. The first discussion was over the use of Cobalt and how to regulate its usage. Lindsay Sponheim has been in contact with Brian Ohorilko with the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission and he has said "We (IRGC) have established some Cobalt limits for the start of this season. We are watching (and have someone in attendance) at the ARCI meetings. Should the ACRI adopt the most recent RMTTC recommendations, it is likely we will adopt those limits sometime in the middle of the racing season." Royal moved to accept the limits set by the IRGC and to amend the drug policy by stating "the IaHHA will be following the IRGC rules regarding the use of Cobalt. Jeff seconded said move, all ayes, the IRGC Cobalt rules will be added to the IaHHA Drug Policy for 2015.

Second discussion question was TCO2 testing. Dan suggested that the list of horses that are to be tested on a given race day be posted at the entry table so people that are to be tested when they pay their entries. Mark Holtan recommended bringing the horses that are to be tested on a given race day to a central location so the Vet does not have to go searching for horses on the fairgrounds. The board was in consensus that TCO2 testing should be done Pre-race and pre-warm up between 10:30 and 11:00 a.m. on race day. Royal proposed that the Vet pick the race that is to be tested each race day, and that it is the owner's/trainer's responsibility for bringing

the horse to the Vet for testing. Jim Reese mentioned that some horses that are in later races do not show up till later and wondered how to work around that. Royal and Dan suggested that "Horses that miss or are late to TCO2 testing may be scratched at the discretion of the attending Vet." The board agreed and this clause is to be added to Section 7 of the Drug Policy.

Dan and Mark suggested adding the following statement from the Circuit Book to the beginning of the Drug Policy "Any situation not covered by these rules will be addressed by the IaHHA Board of Directors." Other board members agreed.

Scott Smith moved that the board accept the changes to the Drug Policy and put it into effect for the 2015 racing season. Dan seconded, all ayes, Drug Policy is moved to be amended and put into effect for 2015.

After last year's annual banquet Lindsay Sponheim has been searching for a new location to hold the 2016 banquet. After looking into approximately 8-10 locations Lindsay narrowed it down to two locations and provided the board members with information about both locations. The board liked the Adventureland Inn location in Altoona. Scott moved that the 2016 Annual Banquet be held at the Adventureland Inn. Rick Huffman seconded, all ayes, it was moved that the 2016 banquet be held at the Adventureland Inn in Altoona, Iowa.

The Iowa Horse Fair went well this year. There were a lot of people that stopped by the booth at the trade show and picked up information about harness racing and schedules for 2015. The main suggestion for the 2016 Horse Fair is more help from our members in the booth at the trade show. Lindsay suggested buying a TV to replay the races on instead of her computer so the screen is larger and purchasing stall drapes and table covers with and IaHHA logo on them to look more professional. The board agreed to these purchases.

Summer race sponsors were discussed and Lindsay asked for help from the board members on getting sponsors from their locations. Lindsay is also working on getting race schedule poster printed and some banners made for the IaHHA to display at the races, banquet, horse fair, etc.

In other business, Royal told the board that Roger Roland would like to have \$500 from the IaHHA to continue the Pick A Winner contest at What Cheer. The board agreed to give Roger the money and keep the contest going due to its popularity.

Brad Kohlwes is looking into purchasing new radios before the racing season for the IaHHA so there can be correspondence between the starting gate and the judge in the tower, and the board agreed to purchase new radios.

The starting gate has been fixed in Ohio and needs to be picked up. If the starting gate is returned in time the board discussed having schoolers at What Cheer on a weekend in May.

Backstretch cameras were also discussed and Mark Holtan is looking into using a truck with a bucket that can be lifted in the air while in the middle of the track so that Craig can video tape the races from the air without any visual impedances. Scott informed that board that he has a gentleman coming to the races at Central City to test the use of a drone that has a camera attached.

Three Points of Emphasis were discussed by the board and will be given to the judges for the summer.

1. Consistency about going inside the pylons
 - a. If your horse makes a break and you have clearance to the outside you have to go out, but if you do not have clearance you may go inside but must wait for clearance to return to the racing surface.
 - b. You cannot go inside the pylons to improve your position.
2. No one handed whipping will be allowed before the head of the stretch.
3. Drivers and judges will pay attention to slow rated quarters that may impede the rest of the field.

The Iowa Aged conditions have been changed this year to split divisions by sexes. The board has agreed that there will be one division of colts, one division of fillies, and the third division will be mixed with the fillies drawing inside post positions. To prevent a fourth division from being created, the filly division will be filled by adding colts to it with the fillies drawing the inside.

Jim Reese let the board know that Dr. Phil Kapraun, D.V.M., is willing to come to Iowa and give a talk if that is something we would like to do. It was suggested that he could possibly give a lecture or question & answer session at the 2016 Annual Banquet.

Royal informed everyone that Keith Fisch is now going to be in charge of track maintenance at What Cheer instead of Earl McKay.

Brad moved to adjourn the meeting and Jeff Carey seconded, all ayes, meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The next IaHHA board meeting will be held July 4th after the races at Humboldt, Iowa.