

**IaHHA Board Meeting**  
**January 17, 2016**  
**Ramada Inn, Ankeny, Iowa**  
**1:00 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Royal Roland, Jim Reese, Mark Holtan, Joel McDanel, Scott Smith, Tony Paris, Jeff Carey, Dan Roland, Brandon Jenson, & Ex. Sec. Lindsay Sponheim

The regular board meeting of the Iowa Harness Horseman's Association was called to order by President Royal Roland at 1:10 p.m. on Saturday, January 17, 2016 at the Ramada Inn in Ankeny, Iowa.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by members and a motion to approve the minutes was made by Joel McDanel, seconded by Jeff Carey, all ayes, motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was read by Jim Reese. A motion to approve the report was made by Dan Roland, seconded by Jeff Carey, all ayes, motion carried.

During the election of officers Scott Smith made a motion that officers remain the same. Joel nominated Dan Roland to be President, Jeff Carey seconded, however Dan declined the nomination. Jim Reese seconded Scott Smith's motion that officers remain the same, all ayes, motion carried.

Royal updated the board that there was approximately \$9,000 in the PAC and that approximately \$4,000 has been paid out to candidates. The Thoroughbreds have ~\$15,000 and the Quarters have ~\$10,000 in their PAC's and have not paid out any to candidates. The three horse breeds are going to have a horse day at the Capital on March 16 and members are encouraged to participate.

Scott Smith is waiting till after this meeting to get all of the race dates to contact the officials and set them up for the summer. Mike, Jim, and Lyle are all on board for the 2016 season. Jeff Carey informed the board that Gabe Wand would be willing to judge if we ever got into a pinch. Mark Holtan also informed the board that the guys in the starting truck would like to have the windows tinted to help block out sunlight and keep the truck cooler, all ayes. Brad Kohlwes would like to have the starting truck about a month before the races begin so he can service the truck and ensure that it is running properly for the 2016 season.

Joel McDanel proposed at the previous meeting that a 3-man executive committee be formed in the event a decision need to be made in a short amount of time. Mark Holtan made a motion that the officers serve as an Executive Committee and if an important decision is made by this committee, they will contact Lindsay Sponheim who will in turn contact the rest of the board members.

The drug policy was discussed and the board has agreed to go to Ames before the beginning of the 2016 race season and meet with Renee Novak and her team and go over the testing procedures for the IaHHA. Renee has agreed to this and is very willing to show the board how all tests are performed and answer any question we have.

Joel McDanel made a motion to include in the drug policy that blood be drawn after each race. The Vet will follow a horse back to the stall and immediately draw blood from at least one horse from each race. At the end of the race day a random set of 4-6 samples will be chosen to be sent for testing. On top of taking blood samples, as many urine samples as possible will be collected on race day. The motion was seconded, all ayes, motion carried.

TCO2 testing was discussed and Dan Roland made a motion to table changing/amending the policy as far as TCO2 testing till we have met with Renee Novak, all ayes, motion carried. Royal Roland made a motion that changing medications the day of the races not be allowed. Medications must be declared on entry day and not changed after entry. The motion received 8 ayes, 1 nay, motion carried.

The 2016 tentative racing schedule was discussed. The board agreed that no dates should be added to the 2016 racing schedule since we are currently trying to cut money. It was discussed and adopted that the May dates at Humboldt and What Cheer would have no 2-year-old races, but instead hold schoolers after the races for the 2 year olds. The board discussed implementing a qualifying standard. Dan Roland suggested times of: 2:15 for 2-year-old pacers, 2:30 for 2-year-old trotters, 2:10 for 3-year-old pacers, and 2:15 for 3-year-old trotters on one of your last two chartered lines for the A Class beginning after the What Cheer Fair dates in July. The board decided to table this till next meeting after some discussion and further study.

The 2016 budget was a main topic for this meeting. Many options were discussed on how to cut money for the upcoming season. Approximately \$135,000 needs to be cut from the 2016 budget. The consensus from the annual meeting was that the cuts should be uniformly made across the board. Some of the options discussed are as follows:

- Raise entry fees
- Cut purses 8%
- Cut purses 5% and raise entry fees and stakes payments
- Cap Iowa Sired Race Day
- Reducing Aged Iowa race days

The board spent much time discussing the possible options for cutting the budget and then end result was as follows:

- Raise entry fees \$25 for the A/Feature Iowa Registered & \$25 for the Iowa Sired Races both
- Capping the Iowa Sired Races to \$65,000 per day
- Deleting two Iowa Aged Raced days
- Cutting the overnight purses from \$1,000 to \$750 per race

Jeff Carey made a motion to accept these conditions to cut the 2016 budget, Tony Paris seconded, all ayes, motion carried to cut the 2016 budget.

The 2016 Board Meetings were also set as follows:

- April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Ankeny, Iowa 1:00 p.m.
- July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 – Humboldt, Iowa after the races
- September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Humboldt, Iowa after the races
- November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Ankeny, Iowa 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 4:00 P.M.