



ASHA Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes of 19th of November, 2016

In Attendance: Blair Corbeil, Rod Starkewski, Connie Kolthammer, Jamie Gray, Kelly Hoerd, John Hind, Ryan Grundy, Diane Bertrand (attended via phone in conference call). Regrets - Norman Kennedy, Bill Andrew (attended a portion via conference call) and Sam Johnson. Also, present Fred Gillis, and Michelle Aschim. Meeting called to order at 12:11 pm.

- 1) **Approval of the Agenda** - Moved by John Hind and seconded by Connie Kolthammer for approval of the agenda.
Motion Carried.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of previous Director Meeting held on August 20th, 2016** - Moved by Rod Starkewski and seconded by Diane Bertrand that with no errors or omissions noted, minutes of the meeting of August 20th, 2016 approved.
Motion Carried.
- 3) **HRA Update – Bill Andrew-**
Bill presented his report via telephone conference: Bill reported that the good news is that HRA has a deal with Edmonton/Northlands Park, which continues racing through 2017 and into 2018. The unfortunate news there is no extra money to conduct this racing. There will be a push from HRA to cut purses to race. Bill recommended holding onto any extra money to use for the purses as the industry faces cuts. There was discussion to clarify amounts and contracts dates. Finalization of the 2017 /2018 race schedule and stakes programs for the two breeds and two tracks will occur at the HRA Board meeting on December 2nd. Diane asked if the Alberta Bonus would return for 2017, but given the conditions, the recommendation is not to return it for 2017, and to see how things play out for 2018 before making any promises.
- 4) **2016 Racing**
 - a) At the request of Diane, Doug Fenske attended to answer questions regarding security and retention at the track. Members of the Board asked Doug numerous questions and Doug clarified HRA's position on many issues. Further discussion during the meeting with Doug centered on facility issues (such as types of cameras, walls and mats in the retention stalls) to addressing the end of meet meeting scheduled soon, date to be determined.
 - b) Financial Report to May 2016 – John Hind
John delivered the financial report and as predicted, due to the cuts from HRA and due to racing three extra months at Century Downs, we are running a deficit. However, the yearling sale made a small profit. Kelly asked about the insurance rates and requested a copy of the documents provided by the insurance providers, BBD. Kelly wants to investigate drivers providing their own bike insurance to alleviate bike insurance payouts from ASHA in the future. **Moved by** John Hind and seconded by Connie Kolthammer for approval of the financial report.
Motion Carried.
 - c) 2016 Handle Report – Fred Gillis
The handle is in decent shape, however we are at the beginning of the Northlands meet and there will be no extra races, as money must carry over to the new season with the continued reductions from HRA in 2017.
 - d) Simulcast Performance– Fred Gillis
Simulcast monies continue to trend down on a yearly basis. The BIP money will remain the same. The stake money will drop as previously addressed. The Breeders committee will meet on December 5th to review and approve the schedule and purse money for the Stake book. Fred wants more stake sponsors to generate about 50 k towards the purse. There is commitment from two, but more required.
- 5) **Racing 2017**
 - a) Stake Committee – Connie Kolthammer
Connie is still awaiting finalization of the schedule and purse
 - b) Stabling at Century Downs – Fred Gillis
Discussions occurred regarding stabling at CDRC; Fred to discuss options at the end of race meeting.
 - c) Dates for Awards and AGM– Fred Gillis
Fred recommended the Awards be on Feb 18th on the last weekend of racing at Northlands. After some discussion, Kelly suggested should Diane be in charge of securing the venue for the awards. Kelly, Blair and Diane would prefer having the awards on February 25th, the week after racing. The Board approved April 8th as the date for the AGM, upstairs at Century Downs.

- d) Number of Race Days – Fred Gillis
108 race days are projected with the draft calendar presented by Fred. There may still be a reduction in purses, but it will be minor. Fred requests (board) members be aware of any interest for sponsors of Stakes races.
- 6) **Committee Reports:**
- a) Breeders Report – Connie Kolthammer
Connie reported she remains in a holding pattern until confirmation of the schedule and purse allocation, but it is on the Agenda for the Breeders Committee meeting on December 5th. Connie is also attending a breed improvement industry meeting on December 12th to discuss reduction in slots revenues.
- b) Owners Committee - Diane Bertrand
- Diane addressed the concerned regarding the surface at Century. CDRC and ASHA will address these concerns at the (end of meet) meeting scheduled within two weeks as previously mentioned.
 - Diane also addressed maintaining a consistent condition sheet. The recommendation is to meet with the race secretary prior to the start of a new meet to assure clear communication regarding the condition sheet. Connie and Diane agreed to meet with Jason later in the week in order to establish consistency.
- c) Drivers/Trainers Chair - Kelly Hoerd
- Kelly voiced concern regarding the Thoroughbreds racing at CDRC for the 2017 season; Fred has assurance from various levels the Thoroughbreds will race in 2017.
 - Kelly addressed hiring an independent consultant to locate sponsors for the Stakes races.
- 7) **New Business-**
- Purse Grant Splits – John Hind
 - John and Sam attended the meeting with the new committee; any discussion surrounding the BIP allocation is premature until 2019 when there will be two racetracks again. The issues discussed generated clear progress for all breeds racing.
 - Fred had a request from Paul who would like to see racing on Mondays instead of Fridays to sell the race signal since there is less competition on Mondays and too much competition on Fridays

Meeting adjourned at 3:26 pm