

BIO for Mike Arnold

My name is Mike Arnold, and though most of you probably don't know who I am, you've likely seen me standing at the rail watching races or occasionally around the backstretch. I currently own 3 horses in the Travis Ellis barn including Tajmania (unless somebody has claimed him between time of writing and reading lol). Unfortunately, I couldn't be there with you tonight in person as I am in PEI for their harness racing awards banquet.

I've been involved in Standardbred racehorse ownership since 2016, have owned (bought/sold/claimed/etc.) around 40 horses in that time frame, and I am licensed and racing in 3 jurisdictions in Canada being Alberta, Ontario and PEI. Each jurisdiction has their own positives and negatives, and I think my experience with other racing jurisdictions can lend a unique perspective and well-rounded background from an ownership point of view.

Over that time frame, locations, and number of horses, I've had 4 trainers. 3 of those 4 I still do business with in the 3 jurisdictions. The other one, well he taught me a lot of lessons about the dark side of this business.

I'm not hands on with the horses, I am hands on with the business. I know most of you trainers just groaned reading or hearing that, but I believe my trainers would vouch for me. One of them last week had me handle all the financial details on a horse he was selling in the US that I had no stake in, because he knew I could get it done much easier and quicker than he could. I'm sure reading/hearing this blurb, or if you spend any time actually talking to me you get tired of hearing the word business. That's my qualification, what I bring to the table for this position, I know and believe in the business. I have an anecdote I follow, not sure who said it first but its true: Good business partners can make good friends, good friends do not make good business partners.

In high school a special treat when we got done haying/combining/milking the cows in time was going to Hanover Raceway with my brother-in-law who had a fondness for the game. At that time Trevor Henry was on his way up, Colonel Schneider JR was a mainstay, Bud Fritz' son in law drove the milk truck and we had no idea how big of a deal Bud Fritz actually was, and Clarence Beitz had the coolest track built inside the bush at his farm outside of town. Saturday night under the lights in Hanover will forever be ingrained in my memory. It even became my go to date move, as I learned at \$2 a race it was affordable entertainment and excitement.

I am willing to stand today for the position of director-1 yr. The reason I specify 1 yr is that for somebody new on the outside coming in, I think 1 yr is much more appropriate than a

longer commitment. We can get to know each other and re-evaluate our connection next year.

Thank you for hearing my nomination and your consideration.

Mike Arnold