

NCHA Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 31, 2017
Hilton DFW Lakes Hotel * Grapevine, Texas

The NCHA Executive Committee met on Wednesday, May 31, 2017, at the Hilton DFW Lakes Hotel in Grapevine, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. with a quorum of 12 present: President Chuck Smith, President-Elect Lewis Wray, Vice President Phil Rapp, Kathy Daughn, Jack Holt, Seth Kirchner, Jay Klamon, Jerry Louie, J. B. McLamb, Matt Miller, Tatum Rice, and Ronnie Smith. Both Kathy Daughn and Jay Klamon arrived after the meeting had begun.

A motion was made by Tatum Rice, seconded by Ronnie Smith and passed to approve the minutes from the January 24 & 25, 2017 meeting; March 7, 2017, April 3, 2017, and April 10, 2017 conference calls. These minutes had all been reviewed and approved via email previously with this motion serving as documented approval.

Finance Report

Barb Benedum was introduced as the new CFO with her first day in the office being May 15. The year to date budget through April 30, 2017 was reviewed. Additionally, reviewed was the annual financial report. The annual financial report will be available on-line.

Executive Director – Office Status Report

Membership – Julie Davis was in attendance to provide an update on membership. Currently total membership is down about 4.5% compared to May of last year. There have been a total of 51 free memberships as a result of the Challenger events.

Judges – Russell McCord was in attendance to provide an update on the Judging Department. He reported that judges numbered 308 compared to over 400 ten years ago. His recommendations include increasing the number of applicant clinics from every other year to offering several each year and at different locations. Another item being considered at this year's Convention is to allow single A judges a lower earning requirement. McCord reported on a meeting earlier in the year to discuss and work on the Zero Tolerance Policy regarding pulling/jerking on a horse. A video has been created to help educate the judges on what is allowed/disallowed. Two years ago a collegiate judging clinic was offered during the Futurity. Since then, McCord has received numerous requests to offer the clinic again. A motion was made by Seth Kirchner, seconded by Tatum Rice and passed to pursue the collegiate judging contest for this year's Futurity. McCord also discussed the ways to include the prominent ranches during the Triple Crown events. A task force consisting of McCord, Dave Brian, Terry Bassett, Matt Miller and Tatum Rice will work on the possibilities of offering a ranch class during a Triple Crown event.

Show Department – Dave Brian was in attendance to provide an update on the Show Department. Although there are still some invoices left to process, it is believed that the Scottsdale Nationals will show a small loss. However, the show itself went very well with high marks for the facility, stall area, footing, cattle, etc. Based on the number of entries received in the office, it is recommended to take a day off of the Denver Nationals show. A motion was made by J.B. McLamb, seconded by Kathy Daughn and passed for the Denver National Championships show to be held June 23 – 29. It was reported that for the Summer Cutting Spectacular, entries are up in the majority of classes at this time.

Update on Hub

Steve Carnes reported that Hub is currently running internally in the office and is undergoing final testing on the interlinking between departments. Staff members Julie Davis, Dee McLaughlin and Linda Smith were in the meeting to report on their areas and the transition to using the Hub system.

Cattle Committee

The costs associated with pre-settling were reviewed. This item will be reviewed and discussed further during the Cattle Committee meeting at the Convention. The Executive Committee will meet after the Convention to discuss again. At a previous meeting, it was approved to remove a quarter cow from all Triple Crown classes with the exception of any second go rounds. It was felt this motion needed further clarification. Following discussion, a motion was made by J.B. McLamb, seconded by Matt Miller, and passed to remove a quarter cow out of all first go rounds. Additionally, a quarter cow will be removed from all semis and finals while maintaining a minimum of four cows in any semis or finals. This will be subject to final approval based on review of a chart and review by attorney.

Marketing Report

Terry Bassett gave an update on the marketing department and sponsorship activities for the previous 12 months. This will also be presented during the Promotion & Development Committee meeting. It was announced that a concert will be held on Saturday, August 5, following the semifinals in the Exhibit Hall. The act has not been finalized at this time. The event will be sponsored by Waco Bend Ranch and called "Waco Bend Ranch presents Cowtown Cuts Loose at Will Rogers". The goal is to draw attendance from the local community.

Competition Committee

The Board of Directors are scheduled to review and be asked for their approval of the Competition Committee during the Convention. It was noted that under Item C, #4, the statement for the Executive Committee to name the Chairman and Vice Chairman in advance of the appointments by the standing committees is not correct or feasible. The EC will wait until after the affected Standing Committees have made their appointees before appointing the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

A motion was made by JB McLamb, seconded by Jay Klamon and passed to close the regular meeting and open in Executive Session.

A motion was made by JB McLamb, seconded by Jay Klamon and passed to reconvene in regular session.

Executive Director Report

It was reported that the office has in the past secured hotel rooms for both staff and contestants at NCHA produced events. It has been determined that only staff rooms will be secured in the future. For Triple Crown events, there will continue to be "host hotels" offered to contestants.

Executive Director Smith has been asked to serve on to related boards in the horse industry. AQHA has asked him to serve on the Show Committee, Western Division. The American Horse Council has appointed him to their Animal Welfare Committee. The AHC meets in Washington DC the weekend following the Convention.

Although it was an agenda item, the NCHA "Grace Period Policy" is scheduled for discussion on several committees at the Convention – LAE, Professional Trainers, Non Pro and Amateur. The committee will wait to see what recommendations are presented.

The next two Executive Committee meeting dates have been set. The August 7, 8 & 9 meeting will be utilized to review the recommendations from the standing committees from their Convention meetings. The fall meeting is scheduled for October 30, 31 and November 1.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.