

MHRI Board meeting  
Monday July 10, 2017  
Running Aces horsemen's lounge

Present: Mark Corless, Ulf Holm Johansen, Greg Budach, Rick Magee, Vern Devine, Cindy Ivy, Bob Lems, and Dan Poprawski, Ron Banks, Justin Anfinson, Jessica Johnson

Absent: Kyle VanOtterloo

Guest: Ben Bluhm, Nick Roland, Luke & Nikki Plano, Rick Davis & other MHRI members

Ben addressed the board & mentioned that the MRC has asked that any rule change request be submitted by July 15<sup>th</sup>. He suggested it may be good if we request an uncoupling rule change. We should look at other jurisdictions.

Running Aces currently has requested relief from the rule at the judge's discretion to keep field sizes higher.

Current field sizes by Minnesota rules are a maximum of 10 & USTA is 12.

Ben suggested we request an audience with the commission regarding distribution of breeders fund money. We discussed the 2 year old class & how to split because of the trainer coupling rule. For now we talked about taking the top 8 & then making the rest an undercard (non-betting) race.

Nick Roland distributed a petition signed by horsemen formally addressing MHRI about several concerns the horsemen have. They don't feel like they are being represented by MHRI.

- They don't feel we handled the drop in qualifying times that Running Aces imposed or the rules of entry & purse allocations well.
- We didn't communicate the track/backside/training rules adequately.
- They don't feel the horsemen's rep has been available
- They have concerns about the conduct of some board members as well as our horsemen's rep.

As a group they don't feel like they are being represented.

Ben suggested that we have an open forum meeting with all horsemen to air their grievances.

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 p.m.

Jessica moved to adopt the agenda which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark & carried.

County fair discussion:

Jessica expressed her concerns about the purses at Cannon Falls. She felt the communication was poor & that she was led to believe something different than what we actually ended up doing.

We reviewed the minutes: Cindy moved & Mark 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the minutes from the June 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting & the motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Mark moved & Ulf 2<sup>nd</sup> approval of the treasurer's report which carried.

Greg will move \$1445 from the new owner incentive account to the operating account as reimbursement from payments made under the new owner incentive program.

Minnesota owned races will start to be written beginning on the next condition schedule. MN Owned NW 1 for a purse of \$6,000 using the 8% funds designated for MN Owned classes.

Mark mentioned a Labor Day picnic or a Hambo party. Dan will put together the details for a Labor Day lunch after contacting Stacy from Running Aces to help in a plan.

Open forum meeting will be scheduled for 2 or 2:30 on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We discussed the 2 year old pace dilemma with the current uncoupling rules where all eligible horses are not being allowed to race.

After discussion Bob moved to allow for an A/B split for the MN Bred 2 year old class with the possibility of an undercard race if not enough betting interest can be attained. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica & carried.

Next meeting tentatively set for Monday July 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 at Aces.

Justin moved to adjourn which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick & carried

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