

THOROUGHBRED OWNERS OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friday, March 17, 2023 @ 11:00am
Santa Anita Park Executive Conference Room

MINUTES

Directors Present: Nick Alexander, Gary Barber, Joe Ciaglia, Tim Cohen, Gary Fenton, Rick Gold, Ryan Hanson, Stephanie Hronis, Lindsay LaRoche, Bob Liewald, Terry Lovingier, Ed Moger, Richard Rosenberg, Johnny Taboada

Directors Absent: Samantha Siegel

Staff Present: Wayne Atwell, Patricia Chinnici, Jordyn Egan, Joe Hasson, Bill Nader, Elsa Peron

Others Present: Aidan Butler (1/ST), Scott Chaney (CHRB), Jason Egan (Santa Anita), Rick Hammerle (Santa Anita), Darrel McHargue (CHRB), Nate Newby (Santa Anita)

1. Call to Order

Mr. Nader called the meeting to order at 11:02am.

2. Santa Anita Update Aidan Butler, Jason Egan, Nate Newby, Rick Hammerle

Mr. Newby introduced Messrs. Egan and Hammerle from the racing department. He discussed the unusual amount of rain resulting in cancelations and how some of those dates/races will be made up. He explained that average field size and handle statistics compared favorably to this time last year. The board agreed that the track has done a great job communicating and managing the difficult circumstances. Mr. Butler updated the board on various topics and welcomed questions from the board. Discussion ensued.

3. CHRB (Stewarding) – Scott Chaney & Darrel McHargue

Messrs. Chaney and McHargue discussed stewarding accreditation and continuing education standards in California. Mr. Barber had a specific question and discussion ensued. Mr. Fenton suggested that TOC members are welcome to come to the staff with questions or concerns about stewarding should there be a need in specific cases.

Mr. Chaney updated the board on CHRB negotiations with HISA related to the funding credits. Mr. Nader thanked him for his hard work on behalf of the California stakeholders. Discussion about the implementation of the HISA Anti-Doping and Medication Control program (scheduled to start March 27) ensued. Mr. Nader initiated a discussion about the transfer of a canceled race date due to inclement weather. Discussion ensued.

4. Approval of January Minutes

Mr. Lovingier moved to accept the January minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hronis and passed unanimously.

5. CHRB Meeting Recap
Mr. Nader gave a recap of the CHRB meeting, highlighting actions taken on the Northern California Race dates (Humboldt Fair at Ferndale and Golden Gate Fields) and ceasing the pursuit of a 2023 Legislative Proposal to amend health and welfare funding mechanisms for jockeys and backstretch workers. Discussion ensued.
6. Jerry Jamgotchian Worker's Comp Inquiry
Mr. Nader updated the board on the ongoing communications with Mr. Jamgotchian regarding jockey worker's comp deductions.
7. Owner Relations Update
Ms. Hronis gave an update on items from the recent Owner Relations committee meeting, focusing on the 2022 Statistical Owner Awards winners and soliciting comments before results are announced. She explained the background on the 2023 TOC Handicapping Tour that will be launched in April and reviewed upcoming events.
8. Racing Affairs
Mr. Nader reviewed the Del Mar 2023 Summer purses and stakes information, which were approved by the racing affairs committee. Mr. Fenton moved to ratify the racing affairs committee's action on the the Del Mar 2023 Summer purses and stakes, Mr. Liewald seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Mr. Fenton explained Mr. Hines' interest in joining the racing affairs committee in an advisory capacity. With no objection from the board, Mr. Hines' addition was approved.
9. CoOp Update
Ms. Egan gave an update on the current California Horse Power Coalition efforts, including a presence at Ag Day in Sacramento on March 21. She also mentioned that the CoOp would fund a California breakout of the American Horse Council economic impact study. The study will begin in April with results due in the autumn.
10. Financial Update
Ms. Chinnici gave a financial update.
11. For Information
Mr. Nader reviewed the three reports presented to the board for informational purposes. They included the Key Indicators Report, Season-to-Date Statistics, and a Santa Anita Handle Update.
12. Other business
Mr. Nader mentioned a Fasig-Tipton proposal to have a two-year-old sale in Del Mar in April of 2024. Discussion ensued.