

**NCHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Sunday, June 3, 2018**  
**2018 NCHA Annual Convention**  
**Hilton DFW Lakes Hotel – Grapevine, Texas**

A meeting of the NCHA Executive Committee was held on Sunday, June 3, 2018, at Hilton DFW Lakes Hotel, in Grapevine, Texas. Those present were President Phil Rapp, President-Elect Ron Pietrafeso, Vice President Steve Norris, Ernie Beutenmiller, Rock Hedlund, Skip Jones, Matt Miller, Tommy Neal, Lachlan Perks, David Pilcher, Tatum Rice, Ronnie Smith and Kristen York. Also present was NCHA Legal Counsel Jim Morris, NCHA Interim Executive Director Lewis Wray and NCHA Director of Administration Catherine Cheugh.

New President Phil Rapp welcomed the Executive Committee members and made special note of new committee members Skip Jones, Lach Perks and Kristen York.

**Competition Committee**

Competition Committee Chair Frank Merrill was present to discuss with the Executive Committee various Competition Committee matters.

**Committee Member Changes:** Mr. Merrill advised that Don Pooley has resigned from the Competition Committee due to time constraints. Mr. Merrill was advised that Kathy Daughn has been selected by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Pooley's resignation. **MOTION** was made by Rock Hedlund and **SECONDED** by Ronnie Smith that Kathy Daughn be appointed to the Competition Committee.

Mr. Merrill advised the Executive Committee members that vacancies have now been created by the election of Kristen York and Skip Jones to the Executive Committee. The Competition Committee voted to fill the Skip Jones vacancy with Scott Wray. There is one more vacancy to be filled. Mr. Merrill advised that the Executive Committee will be advised when the vacancy is filled. Mr. Merrill also noted that Denise Seiz has been elected as Chair of the Amateur Committee.

Discussion ensued as to how to constitute the Competition Committee so that the members serve in a stair-step type manner in order to have consistency on the committee at all times. Competition Chair Frank Merrill and Vice Chair Bob Trebemba will address this concept and report back to the Executive Committee.

**Communication Between Executive Committee To Executive Committee:** Frank Merrill advised the Executive Committee that directives to the Competition Committee from the Executive Committee do not reach him or other members of the committee. He asked that communication between the two groups be more consistent and frequent.

**Competition Committee Proposed Class Restructure:** Competition Committee Chair Frank Merrill led a discussion regarding comments received from various NCHA members regarding the proposed class restructure during discussions in various committee meetings throughout the convention. Lengthy discussion ensued regarding where the focus of the Sub-Committee needs to be between the weekend shows and the limited age events. After further discussion, President Phil Rapp asked that the Competition Committee review all the comments and suggestions received from members and to report back to the Executive Committee at the August meeting for comment and discussion, with possible approval at the October Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Merrill indicated that the Competition Committee will reconvene prior to the Summer Spectacular.

Discussion ensued on how important it is for the Competition Committee have access to raw data and analytics from the various NCHA Departments. The question was then raised as to how the implementation of any new restructuring plan will affect the NCHA IT Department in terms of amount of time to reprogram HUB to accommodate any changes.

### **Protect the Harvest**

Dave Duquette of Protect the Harvest addressed the Executive Committee members regarding the status of the group's efforts. Mr. Duquette advised the members that Protect the Harvest not only needs the financial support of NCHA, but also support from individual members to show support at the grassroots level.

Discussion ensued on the viability of combining forces with other equine associations in order to fund the expense of a lobbyist dedicated to just issues involving equine sports. Mr. Duquette stated that he will be willing to help facilitate such an effort and will report back to the NCHA Executive Committee.

### **Marketing**

NCHA Senior Sales Executive Bobby Hunt advised the Executive Committee that there is interest in having a ranch cutting event during the Summer Spectacular and that Kathy Cardon and Rock Hedlund have volunteered to do all the work for the event. Mr. Hunt advised that NCHA would need to provide \$4,000 for the event. Mr. Hunt was asked to come back to the Executive Committee with a prospectus for the event.

Mr. Hunt led a discussion as to how to keep the World Series program going considering the loss of the Mercuria sponsorship for the events. Considerable discussion ensued regarding the viability of the program, reducing the number of events to just 3 and how else NCHA might be able to salvage the program. Questions were raised as to the possibility of having more than a single sponsor for the World Series program and how best to identify possible sponsors who may be willing to participate if the cost was split amongst a group of sponsors. Mr. Hunt stated that he will work on soliciting multiple sponsors for the event and report back to the Executive Committee.

### **Limited Age Events Schedule**

President Phil Rapp reported that the Limited Age Events calendar will be forthcoming as soon as potential conflicts with other events have been resolved.

### **Tentative Schedule for 2018-2019 Executive Committee Meetings**

President Phil Rapp advised the members of the following tentative dates for 2018-2019 Executive Committee meetings:

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 7-8, 2018

Monday, October 29, 2018

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

### **Executive Session**

**MOTION** was made by Ernie Beutenmiller and **SECONDED** by David Pilcher to move the meeting into Executive Session. **MOTION PASSED.**

### **General Session**

**MOTION** was made by Steve Norris and **SECONDED** by Ernie Beutenmiller to move the meeting back into general session.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, **MOTION** was made by Matt Miller and **SECONDED** by Tatum Rice to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION PASSED.**