

NCHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2020
4:00PM Central

A conference call of the Executive Committee of the National Cutting Horse Association was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 4:00PM central time.

Those present were: President Ron Pietrafeso, President-Elect Steve Norris, Lachlan Perks, Rock Hedlund, Skip Jones, Ronnie Smith, Tatum Rice, Byron Green, Ernie Beutenmiller, Matt Miller, Tommy Neal and Sharon Overstreet. Vice President Ora Diehl and Kristen York were not available for this call.

Also present from NCHA were: Executive Director Jay Winborn, Chief Financial Officer Lance Bryson, Director of Sponsorship Todd Barden, Manager of Marketing/Communications Callie McCarthy, Director of Shows Shianne Megel and Manager of Approved Events Linda Smith. Angie Highland joined for a portion of the call regarding the MERP.

The Executive Committee conference call was called to order at 4:07PM and roll call was taken.

PANDEMIC ACTION PLAN

Executive Director Jay Winborn addressed the members of the Executive Committee with statewide recommendations ordered by Governor Abbott during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic upon us. In line with the CDC and the messages from the President, Jay restated some of the restrictions in place at this time. City of Dallas is closing all restaurants and the City of Fort Worth is soon to follow.

How will NCHA manage through this world-wide pandemic? Jay is recommending that effective today, we immediately get a notice out to our membership and extend it to our independent producers and affiliates updating them on the statement of our position. We are recommending to anyone hosting any NCHA approved events that they postpone or cancel all upcoming events scheduled to take place within the next 30 days, March 18th through April 20th. Also, would like to place a 60-day moratorium on event approvals. Following this period, NCHA will be as accommodating as they can on rescheduling and approving new events. Jay recommends making the statement that the NCHA has postponed the Super Stakes and will provide more information at a later date. NCHA is in constant contact with the City of Fort Worth and some other entities regarding the production of that show. Most importantly, I recommend that we immediately suspend our World Standings, Horse of the Year and Youth calculations until further notice. Also all earnings and results be frozen as of tomorrow, March 18th until we can offer a level playing field for all areas and members. This will eliminate the high risk of any potential liabilities for the association and support our recommendations to postpone or cancel approved shows. The NCHA office will move into a remote status for most employees working from home with office phones forwarded to cell phones. There will be a core group available at all times to service the membership during normal working hours.

After much discussion, Director of Shows Shianne Megel read the draft of what the office intends on publishing to the membership.

- *NCHA Program Standings will be suspended as of March 18th through May 17th. Earnings from shows during this moratorium will not be calculated for award standings, but will count toward horse and rider eligibility for the 2020 point year. This timeframe may be further modified as additional directives are received from the CDC. These standings include but are not limited to: Amateur Horse and Rider of the Year, Area Leaders, Non Pro and Open Horse of the Year, Regional 4/5/6 year old, Challenger and Regional Championship, Rookie of the Year, Senior World Tour, World, Youth World and Youth Rookie of the Year Standings.*

The Executive Committee agreed with this announcement as written.

SUPER STAKES UPDATES

NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn addressed provided some updates regarding the Super Stakes and the possible cancellation of this show due to the CDC restrictions. He raised some concerns with how we message any cancellation and how it might impact our financial state moving forward. Lance has been in contact with the insurance agent and how we might prepare to make an insurance claim. Jay has been in contact with our lobbyist, Daniel Hodge and how this might affect our MERP.

Chief Financial Officer Lance Bryson updated the members of the Executive Committee with updates that we have secured coverage for major event insurance that we have in place and how we can process our claim. We have a total limit of indemnity of \$3.9M. It will be a process to try and capture as much of that \$3.9M as we can from potential loss of show revenue.

Angie Highland addressed the Executive Committee with updates regarding the MERP program. The state is inundated with a lot of major events being postponed and is working diligently to address all concerns. Generally speaking, the Triple Crown is the event that is approved under the MERP. In order for the event to be eligible for the \$2.2 in that program, all three legs of the event would have to take place. Angie will continue to work with the staff and the city for the most advantageous outcome for the association.

A lot of discussions and options were vetted as to how we should move forward with the Super Stakes show.

Executive Director Jay Winborn addressed the Executive Committee by asking for full support to nourish and maintain our sponsors at this time, especially if we must cancel the Super Stakes.

Director of Show Shianne Megel addressed the Executive Committee by recommending the consideration of transitioned payments and extensions for the Summer Spectacular.

Show Department is making the recommendation to transition the Summer Spectacular entries to one payment due on June 1st for a leveled Summer Show, ran in the same 26-day schedule format that was approved for the Super Stakes.

A **MOTION** was made by Skip Jones and **SECONDED** by Steve Norris to adopt this recommendation to transition the Summer Spectacular entries to one payment due on June 1st

for a leveled Summer Show, ran in the same 26-day schedule format that was approved for the Super Stakes. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Another recommendation would be to move the 3rd Futurity Payment from May 1st to June 15th. New entries would remain subject to any late penalties due at the time of entry.

A **MOTION** was made by Tommy Neal and **SECONDED** by Rock Hedlund to adopt this recommendation to move the 3rd Futurity Payment from May 1st to June 15th. New entries would remain subject to any late penalties due at the time of entry. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

In conclusion, Jay would like to get the approval of the Executive Committee to temporarily waive the 40 day approval process post our moratorium on show approvals.

A **MOTION** was made by Ernie Beutenmiller and **SECONDED** by Sharon Overstreet to grant Jay Winborn and NCHA management staff the discretion and flexibility when issuing approvals post 60-day moratorium. This applies to all approval timelines. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:48PM.