

**NCHA Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday & Wednesday, January 24 & 25, 2017
NCHA Offices * Fort Worth, Texas**

The NCHA Executive Committee met on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24 & 25, 2017, in the NCHA offices in Fort Worth, Texas. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. with a quorum of 14 present: President Chuck Smith, President-Elect Lewis Wray, Vice President Phil Rapp, Kathy Daughn, Chris Dublin, Jeff Fisk, Jack Holt, Seth Kirchner, Jay Klamon, Jerry Louie, J. B. McLamb, Matt Miller, Tatum Rice, and Ronnie Smith.

A motion was made by Jeff Fisk, seconded by Jay Klamon and passed to approve the minutes from the November 1 and December 9, 2016 meetings.

A motion was made by Chris Dublin, seconded by Kathy Daughn and passed to close and reconvene in Executive Session.

The meeting reconvened back into regular session at 2:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Ronnie Smith, seconded by Jay Klamon and passed to authorize the NCHA officers to enter into a contract agreement with Chuck Smith for him to continue as the interim Executive Director and then assume the duties full time at the end of his duties as President. These terms were approved by the committee during Executive Session.

2017 NCHA Futurity Dates/Publication of Other Dates

The 2017 NCHA Futurity was scheduled to end on Saturday, December 16. Discussions with the City of Fort Worth and the facility, have resulted in the opportunity to move the date back so that it ends earlier and on a Sunday evening. The new dates for the Futurity are a start date of November 13 or 14 (depending on number of entries) and an end date of Sunday, December 10. It was recommended to include the LAE Committee in working on the show schedules for Triple Crown events.

There has been a delay in publicizing NCHA produced show dates until a show schedule could be provided. This policy will now have the anticipated show dates listed on the show calendar as soon as possible. The actual show schedule will be published as soon as it can be finalized based on the number of entries.

Office

Chuck Smith gave a report on the NCHA office and employees. There are interviews being conducted for some current openings on staff. It was reported

that Alan Gold, the longtime Director of Publishing, will retire on February 5. However, Gold has agreed to assist on a contract basis. Additionally, Bobby Hunt is on staff to assist in sponsorship sales. Hunt's position led to discussion of contract employees keeping their status as directors and committee members. As a precedence has already been set with other individuals, it was determined those individuals can retain their director and committee status. However, they should recuse themselves from a meeting should an item come up for discussion and vote that directly involves their position.

Official NCHA Rule Book

There are often rule changes that happen late in the fall every year. These changes can often delay the publication of the next year's book. Additionally, often there are rule changes that must be made during the year after the publication. A motion was made by Jerry Louie, seconded by Seth Kirchner and passed for the official version of the NCHA Rule Book to be the one that is published and kept current on-line. Any changes to the Rule Book during the year will be listed prominently on-line and in the Chatter.

Europe/Area 26

The history of support the NCHA has provided for Europe/Area 26 was reviewed. After discussion, a motion was made by Jeff Fisk, seconded by Jerry Louie and passed for the NCHA to support Europe/Area 26 in 2017 by providing \$15,000 and four buckles (similar to those utilized at the NCHA National Championships) toward the European Championship. All other standard NCHA rules will apply.

Long Range Planning Committee Report

Chair Chris Dublin reported the current sub-group (Chris Dublin, Jerry Louie, Lindy Burch and Chuck Smith) met with the Long Range Planning Committee in December to review the development and details of the Competition Committee. It is believed the formation of this committee would provide a clearer avenue for recommendations to proceed from the committee level. This committee would meet more often than current standing committees and reach a consensus on a recommendation before presenting to the Executive Committee. There would be representation from all of the appropriate committees with individuals from both the weekend and LAE segments so that all sides of an issue can be reviewed. The Long Range Planning Committee is scheduled to meet again to finalize the committee guidelines. Once approved, the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the current standing committees would meet so that details of the Competition Committee can be explained. Additionally, the regional representatives on the Executive Committee will be able to provide the information to their directors and members

in advance of the Convention. At the Convention, the Competition Committee would be presented for approval during one of the Board of Directors meetings.

2017 Vice President Election Ballot

As outlined in the By-Laws, a drawing was conducted to determine the positioning the names of the Vice Presidential candidates on the mailed ballot. Garry Merritt's name will be placed first and Ron Pietrafeso's name second. All members with email addresses will be sent an electronic ballot. Those members without emails (or who do not vote on-line) will have paper ballots mailed to them.

2017 Standing Committee Appointments

President-Elect Lewis Wray presented proposed standing committee appointments for the year. The new appointments would take office after the Convention. It was noted there is a lack of regional representation on a few of the committees. A motion was made by Chris Dublin, seconded by Ronnie Smith and passed to approve the committee appointments with changes to ensure there is every effort made to assure equal regional representation.

Show Department

Director of Shows Dave Brian presented a change to Standing Rule 11.b. Currently the entire rule reads: If a horse is drawn twice, the judge shall draw to determine which draw position is to be used. The original cattle changes are not affected. A motion was made by Phil Rapp, seconded by Seth Kirchner and passed to approve the following addition to Standing Rule 11.b: If a horse is drawn twice, the judge shall draw to determine which draw position is to be used. ***The original cattle changes are not affected. If more than the allowed entries are drawn in a rider class, the judge shall draw to determine which draw position is to be used. The original cattle changes are not affected. The entry fee/cattle charge is not required for the withdrawn entry.***

It was reported the Augusta Futurity went over the 150 run judging rule. The committee reviewed the request to waive the penalty for exceeding the 150 run limit. It was decided the rule should be upheld.

A request from the PCCHA for their Core Balance Derby in June was reviewed. Their request involves allowing all amateur contestants the ability to show in both the non pro and the unlimited amateur in LAE's until \$500,000 in lifetime earnings is achieved. While understanding the position of the show producer and their desire to explore additional options to increase show entries, the NCHA is

unable to grant this request at this time. The PCCHA will be encouraged to conduct those classes as unapproved so that the results can be studied and use those statistics for analysis for future consideration in NCHA rules. The PCCHA will also be encouraged to contact the chairs of both the Amateur and Non Pro Committees for potential inclusion on those two agendas at this year's Convention.

It was reported there are two unregistered horses are currently entered in the Super Stakes. The stallions for the 2011 and 2012 breeding seasons were not required to be paid up in the Super Stakes program. It was determined to discuss with the owners of the two unregistered nominated horses, determine the best process to obtain DNA parentage confirmation and table for a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

NCHA Executive Committee Meeting Wednesday, January 25, 2017

The NCHA Executive Committee reconvened on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, in the NCHA offices at 8:00 a.m. A quorum of 13 were in attendance. Jay Klamon was absent.

HUB/IT Update

Director of IT Steve Carnes was in attendance to give an update on HUB. The membership portion of the program is up to date and ready for office use. There are some portions of the show entry and results area that are being finished. The new NCHA website currently pulls its data from the old AS400 system and will continue to until HUB is live. Once that happens, the website will be capable of much more for the NCHA members and staff. Carnes also reported that negotiations are continuing with the owners of Faster Cut to continue utilizing their program and ways to form a more cohesive partnership.

Membership Report

Membership Services Manager Julie Davis was in attendance to provide an update. She reported that membership numbers are even with figures from last year at this time. There have been four complimentary memberships gathered from Challenger events. There was discussion of incorporating a "one fee membership" which would cover any fees whether an individual showed as a non pro, amateur or was a trainer. Right now there is an option for a lifetime non pro fee but not for a lifetime trainer fee. There was also discussion of changing the membership grace period from March 1 to February 1. The March 1 date is five days before the beginning of the Eastern Championships and can cause issues

for those participating in that show that have not yet renewed their membership. There was no action taken on these membership changes but they will be reviewed at a later date.

Finance Committee Report **Stallion Committee Report**

Finance Committee Chair Garry Merritt and NCHA controller Shana Veale were in attendance to give an update on current NCHA financials and go over the audit report for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2016.

Additionally, Merritt reported on the Stallion Owners and Breeders Committee recommendation which was previously approved by the Finance Committee as well. After review, a motion was made by Jeff Fisk, seconded by Kathy Daughn and passed with three opposed (Seth Kirchner, Jack Holt and Ronnie Smith) to approve the following:

1. That the investment of all stallion/foal funds be changed to a no risk investment like CD's. Removing any risk to these funds. The funds should be transferred to the approved investment account once a year and within 30 days after the grace period ends.
2. That the Administration Fee of \$50,000 be deducted from the total amount of fees collected each year prior to being invested. Also that the following change to the Stallion / Foal Rules be made to clarify the use of the funds.

The item below will be inserted in the Stallion & Foal Subscription Rules under Section E. Administration:

An administration fee of \$50,000 will be deducted from the Stallion Subscription & Foal Nomination Program as long as an NCHA staff person is dedicated to the processing and approval of subscriptions and nominations. This cost will be split with 75% being deducted from the total Foal Nomination funds and 25% being deducted from the total Stallion Subscription funds each year.

3. Any interest earned from the investment of the Stallion Foal funds stay with the program.

Major LAE Show Schedule

Garry Merritt is also the chair of the Approved LAE Show Producers Committee and provided the major LAE show schedule for the time period July 1 – December 31, 2017 for review. It was reported that any date conflicts have been approved by the individual show producers with the shows involved. The Futurity dates will be changed to the approved dates of November 15 – December 10. A motion was made by Phil Rapp, seconded by Jerry Louie and passed to approve the show schedule as presented.

Marketing/Sponsorship Update

Chief Marketing Officer Terry Bassett provided an update on his areas in his department. A photography and Videography policy for 2017 NCHA events was reviewed. A motion was made by Matt Miller, seconded by Chris Dublin and passed to approve the policy, pending input by the NCHA attorney. It was reported that Hart Photos will continue as the photographer for the Triple Crown events. Video West will be the videographer for all NCHA produced events and will provide the photography at the two Western events.

The Livestream video (webcast) figures were reported. Comparing 2015 to 2016, the total view increased by 87% and the unique viewers increased by 90%. The ability to view the webcast reliably on a mobile device was responsible for the majority of this increase.

A motion was made by Phil Rapp, seconded by Lewis Wray and passed to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.