

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE CALIFORNIA HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
JANUARY 14, 2017**

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Proceedings of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the California Harness Horsemen's Association (CHHA) held on January 14, 2017.

PRESENT:

David Neumeister (via telephone)  
David Siegel  
Bob Johnson  
Luke Plano  
Steve Wiseman  
Robin Clements (via telephone)  
Richard Thomas (via telephone)  
Billie Schwartz (via telephone)  
Wayne Knittel (via telephone)

As a result, all nine members of the board of directors were present. Also in attendance was Jimmy Perez, Executive Director of CHHA and Vicki Desomer, Treasurer of CHHA and Donna Newman, California Sires Stakes Committee administrator.

Mr. Neumeister, presided. Minutes from the previous meeting had already been approved via an email vote so there were no minutes to approve.

Donna Newman gave the Directors an update from the Sires Stakes Committee including resolution of the 2016 Broodmare Incentive Program, targeted Spring 2017 purses for Sire Stakes races, 2017 sires registration fees and a general overview of CHHA rule changes required to bring such rules current and consistent with changes in legislation and Sires Stakes administration. Specifics can be found in Sires Stakes Committee minutes.

After much discussion regarding purse pool subsidies for Sire Stakes races for 2018, 2019 and 2020, Mr. Siegel made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion was as follows. The CHHA in its next (2017/2018) horsemen's agreement (and contingent upon management acceptance) would set aside \$108,000 from what would otherwise be in the general purse pool, and earmark that money for the Sires Stakes Committee to use to subsidize Sires Stakes races in 2021 and beyond but also give the Sires Stakes Committee to utilize those funds as it sees fit to subsidize races in prior to 2020. A vote was held that was passed 6-2 in favor with Mr. Siegel and Ms. Schwartz voting against the motion.

Mr. Perez detailed for the Directors the need to update our By-Laws to include mention of the Sires Stakes Committee and how the members of said committee are designated, and to reflect that all such committee members are officers or directors of

CHHA so they are covered by the CHHA D&O insurance policy. Related to this, Mr. Perez advised the Directors that the existing CHRB rules are inconsistent with the current administration of the Sires Stakes. As a result, Mr. Perez and Mr. Siegel will update the By-laws and prepare an amendment for a vote in the near future and Mr. Perez will work with CHRB (Phil Laird) to update its rules to reflect current practices.

The final item on the agenda was with regard to a potential amendment to the horsemen's agreement regarding preference date. Mr. Siegel reported that it was management's desire to make a slight modification to the current preference date mechanism. In particular, for Cal-Expo (only) horses entering for more than one race date on a single entry date, that the preference date for any horse racing on those race dates, for preference date purposes only, would be considered to race on the earliest of the race dates covered by the one entry date. For purposes of clarity, if an entry date was on Tuesday, January 17 for race dates Friday, January 20 and Saturday January 21, the horses that actually race on January 20 and 21 at Cal-Expo (other tracks excluded), would all be deemed to have raced on January 20 for purposes of future entry and preference date. Mr. Siegel made the motion and Bob Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-3 margin with Ms. Clements, Mr. Knittle and Ms. Schwartz voting against. Mr. Siegel will discuss further with track management and move forward on the amendment and based on below, may include the judges in such discussion. If still sensible, he will work with track management to complete an amendment.

Mr. Siegel informed the Directors that Watch and Wager made some changes to the house rules regarding scratches. He informed the board that he received a phone call from the judges unhappy with the fact that they were not included in any discussions regarding such rules (neither was the CHHA), and that changes to such rules and potentially rules regarding preference may be overreaching their authority. Mr. Siegel committed to have a discussion on this topic with Mr. Schick.

There being no further business to come before the CHHA board, the meeting was, upon motion, duly seconded and approved, adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*David Siegel*

Secretary of the meeting