

NCHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020
5:00PM Central

A conference call of the Executive Committee of the National Cutting Horse Association was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 5:00PM central time.

Those members present were: President Steve Norris, President-Elect Ora Diehl, Vice President Ted Sokol, Kristen York, Rock Hedlund, Kirby Smith, Byron Green, Sharon Overstreet, Toddy Pitard, Skip Jones, Matt Miller, Ernie Beutenmiller, Lach Perks and Tatum Rice. NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn, Director of Shows Shianne Megel and Cathy Marie Aleff were also in attendance for this call. NCHA Legal Counsel Jim Morris joined the call for a portion of the meeting.

The Executive Committee conference call was called to order at 5:03PM and roll call was taken.

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION FOR LIFETIME MEMBER

Executive Director Jay Winborn opened by addressing the members of the Executive Committee with a request from the Horse and Cattle Welfare Chair Lindy Burch to investigate a complaint regarding a lifetime NCHA member out in Palo Pinto County that was recently arrested under suspicions of animal cruelty. There is evidence of photographs and video footage circulating on social media that support these allegations. This case has been active for about two weeks now and Jay has been in direct contact with Sherriff Brett McGuire that has confirmed an arrest has been made but there has been no conviction to date. This individual is currently awaiting his arraignment.

Horse and Cattle Welfare Committee has strongly suggested that this individual be requested to appear before the Executive Committee to be given notice of membership suspension awaiting the outcome of his trial. Jay would like authorization to send out a notification letter requesting his presence at the upcoming October EC meeting to be held in Fort Worth, TX.

After much discussion, a **MOTION** was made by Ora Diehl and **SECONDED** by Ernie Beutenmiller to authorize this notification letter requesting his presence before the Executive Committee at the October meeting. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

If this individual does not appear before the Executive Committee, then his NCHA membership will immediately be revoked.

RECAP OF RECENT STALLION FOAL MEETING

President Steve Norris addressed the members of the Executive Committee with a summary from the Stallion Foal Meeting last Wednesday, September 9th at the NCHA office. Those in attendance were President Steve Norris, President-Elect Ora Diehl with members of the Executive Committee Task Force Subcommittee including Chair Tatum Rice, Sharon Overstreet, Rock Hedlund, Toddy Pitard and Skip Jones. Stallion Owners and Breeders Committee Chair

Michelle Cowan and Vice Chair Suzy Silverberg represented their committee. Executive Director Jay Winborn, Director of Shows Shianne Megel and Cathy Marie Aleff were also present from the NCHA office. Angie Highland from Highland Market Research was also present at this meeting.

Overall, the meeting was very productive, and a lot of Stallion Owners and Breeders Committee concerns were addressed. Stallion Foal was adamant about an audit for this program. With the data that was provided during this meeting, the audit request may have been satisfied. A new Stallion Foal self-auditing program was introduced to Michelle and Suzy that was recently put in place from the NCHA office. Michelle and Suzy were provided their confirmations and certificates for the horses that they have nominated in the system as a means to verify our records. Over 2,000 letters of certification will be going out of the office soon to all nominators that will include when each stallion or foal joined the program, what each horse paid to date with a registration numbers as a means of confirmation. In addition to that, a new bank account has been opened exclusively for the Stallion Foal program. An NCHA transfer of funds in the amount of \$1.1M was made to this new account within this past week.

Suzy Silverberg actually returned to the office the next day to visit with Jay Winborn and Denise Seiz to balance out a few more numbers.

Jay stated that he recently heard from Michelle Cowan as a follow up from the meeting requesting the detail of a consolidated report out of the HUB to the general ledger account. Jay already addressed this with the accounting department and the request is being filled.

DIRECTOR'S FORUM

This new stallion foal self-auditing process will be posted for the Directors on this forum. Jay really encourages all to utilize this new tool, it is a great resource and way to communicate. The office is really proud of this product because each department had a part in its production. The app works well on your phone and is available for Apple and Android users. He encouraged all to download if you have not had a chance yet.

President Steve Norris suggested that maybe we need to get another email out to the Directors to sign up for more participation and a better way to communicate and share ideas across the regions.

MEMBERSHIP IN DIRECTOR DISTRICTS

The Executive Committee should have received some preliminary numbers of membership counts in the Director Districts. Jay wanted to highlight the Michigan results as they have almost doubled their membership count this past year. Jay has already reached out to Dan Agnew with the great news.

STALLION FOAL REFUNDS

Ernie Beutenmiller inquired about the status of the refunds for the Stallion Foal entries from the Super Stakes cancellation. As previously stated in the Executive Committee meeting minutes, it has been determined how we would handle refunds. He wanted to know if a recommendation had come from the Stallion Owners and Breeders Committee on that topic yet. Jay explained that as a result of the Stallion Foal meeting that took place on September 9th it was discussed and a decision had been made to that after funds were transferred over to the new Stallion Foal bank account that refunds would be issued from the office.

USCHA SHOW DISCUSSIONS

This is an NCHA approved event scheduled for November 21st in the Watt Arena during the Futurity. There have been some complications with the set up of this show but is a great start to help grow this sport. NCHA plans on maximizing the use of our facility to bring in more people for our show and to give them an experience of attending a premier NCHA event. This show is a way to reestablish our leadership in the cutting industry and help bridge relationships.

After hearing from the Executive Committee members on this topic, concerns are that there might be a violation of Standing Rule 6 that our point year ends two Sundays before Thanksgiving and doesn't start until December 28th. Most members agreed that this is a good way to gain a few members and would like to consider involving more cutting horse associations on events like this in the future.

It was suggested that on future press releases that they be communicated with the Executive Committee for discussion purposes first so that they could field questions appropriately.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Steve Norris requested the meeting go into Executive Session with our NCHA Legal Counsel, Jim Morris.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.