

NCHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES
September 3, 2025
4:00PM Central

A conference call of the Executive Committee of the National Cutting Horse Association was held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, beginning at 4:00PM central time.

Executive Committee members present were President Barnwell Ramsey, President-Elect Kathleen Moore, Vice President David Costello, Phil Benadum, Kirby Smith, Byron Green, Ora Diehl, Tommy Williams, Steve Smith, and Casey Green. Executive Committee member absent was Les Jack. NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn, NCHA Director of Shows Shianne Megel, Cathy Marie Aleff and Dakota Pruitt were in attendance at this meeting.

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 4:02PM and roll call was taken.

President Barnwell Ramsey stated the purpose of the call to discuss clarification on leveling for Premier Aged Events, Western Nationals Survey Results, and more association items.

PREMIER AGED EVENTS LEVELING – SHIANNE MEGEL

NCHA Director of Shows Shianne Megel addressed a concern that has come up regarding a show choosing not to hold leveling classes for a certain division. The issue presides itself on a show hosting Open and Non-Pro classes that follow the NCHA leveling guidelines in the rulebook but is choosing to hold an unlimited amateur class instead of a levelled amateur class. The concern that Shianne brought up is there is not anything in the rulebook that states they are breaking a standing rule in offering an Unlimited Amateur class and not levelled amateur classes. The other issue present was that while there is not a levelled amateur class, the show is still considered an approved show.

The Executive Committee tabled the topic for the upcoming meeting in October to discuss a possible rule change to make certain classes required at Limited Age Events.

WACO FUTURITY – JAY WINBORN

NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn provided an update on the Waco Futurity. NCHA was notified that the 2025 Waco Futurity has been cancelled with the reasonings of increased cattle prices and venue costs.

FUTURITY ENTRIES – SHIANNE MEGEL

NCHA Director of Shows Shianne Megel provided an update on the current Futurity entries compared to last year.

The Open currently has 782 entries compared to 612 last year. The Non-Pro has 248 entries compared to 263 last year. The Amateur has 246 compared to 269 last year. The Intermediate

Amateur has 213 compared to 222 last year. The Limited Amateur has 67 compared to 71 last year.

SWEETWATER SHOW – Jay Winborn

NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn brought up a show approval issue where a show secretary made a clerical error in not putting in a cattle charge for their classes. The show had already been approved and was within the 30 days of being able to make changes.

A **MOTION** was made by Ora Diehl and **SECONDED** by Steve Smith to approve the show with the addition of the cattle charges so that the show is able to be produced. **MOTION PASSED by majority of the EC Members with one (1) opposition from Phil Benadum.**

After motion passed, the Executive Committee tabled for further discussion at the October meeting to look at assessing a fine so a show can add changes during the 30-day window before the show takes place.

WESTERN NATIONALS SURVEY RESULTS – KIRBY SMITH

Executive Committee member Kirby Smith provided an update on the Western Nationals Survey. The survey consisted of 4 questions. The 1st question was "Would you like the NCHA to explore bringing back the Western Nationals?" The 2nd question was "Have you ever attended the Western Nationals?" The 3rd question was "If you answered yes, what location would you prefer?" The 4th question was "What is your home region?"

President Barnwell Ramsey asked Chairman Kirby Smith to elaborate more on questions/answers in survey before reviewing RFPs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting into executive session to discuss a director term date.

GENERAL SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting back into general session.

NEW BUSINESS

At this time, there is no new business to bring before the Executive Committee for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

At this time, there is no old business to bring before the Executive Committee for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, a **MOTION** was made by Tommy Williams and **SECONDED** by Steve Smith to adjourn the call at 5:26PM. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**