

NCHA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2025
NCHA OFFICE – FORT WORTH, TX

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Cutting Horse Association was held Monday, October 27, 2025, beginning 8:00AM. All times are based on the central time zone.

All Executive Committee members were present: President Barnwell Ramsey, President-Elect Kathleen Moore, Vice President David Costello (via phone), Les Jack (via phone), Phil Benadum, Kirby Smith (via phone), Byron Green, Ora Diehl, Tommy Williams, Steve Smith, and Casey Green. NCHA Executive Director Jay Winborn, NCHA Treasurer Denise Williams, NCHA Director of Shows Shianne Megel, NCHA Manager of Committee Relations Cathy Marie Aleff and Dakota Pruitt from the NCHA Office were also in attendance at this meeting. NCHA Legal Counsel Jim Morris attended a portion of the meeting.

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 8:13AM and roll call was taken.

President Barnwell Ramsey welcomed the members of the Executive Committee and led the attendees in prayer welcoming the opportunity to serve and lead with wisdom, patience, and grace as the committee works together to shape a better future for this great association. Emphasis was made on the guidance of unity, collaboration, and respect on discussions as the Executive Committee makes decisions during these meetings.

President Barnwell Ramsey lead the Executive Committee in reciting the NCHA mission statement.

Mission Statement

The National Cutting Horse Association promotes and celebrates the cutting horse, whose origin on Western ranches allows us to support ranching and its Western heritage. By establishing rules for the conduct of cutting horse shows, NCHA strives to give cutters a level playing field and a progressive class structure which accommodates everyone from the beginner to the advanced competitor. NCHA draws on the diverse talents and background of its members and encourages their participation in helping it achieve these goals.

PRESIDENT REPORT – BARNWELL RAMSEY

President Barnwell Ramsey addressed the members of the Executive Committee with some quick updates for his report.

Ramsey said he has been showing and traveling around. Went to Peach State and noticed it was smaller than in the past. Bigger trainers were missing from Peach State. Weekend shows seem to be smaller overall. Concern is that shows are running on top of each other. Ramsey also stated that he ventured to Idaho and the Pacific Coast. Noticed that some groups of trainers are coming in for the Open and not bringing any Amateurs or Non-Pro's with them.

Ramsey did notice in his travels that many shows did not have an NCHA presence and would like for people to know that NCHA is there not to just collect money.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – JAY WINBORN

Executive Director Jay Winborn addressed the Executive Committee with updates from the office.

Futurity

Winborn expressed that the biggest show of the year starts in 2 weeks and that we are ready. Faced some challenges in not being the Coliseum. There will be a bleacher setup behind the wall which will be designated for Owners and Competitors that advance. Stated that we have every indication that the Coliseum will be ready for the Super Stakes considering they will have it for the Stock Show, which might not be a bad thing to let them sort through all the possible bugs and kinks that might linger after the construction.

Office Staff Updates

There has been a change in staff at the office with Cari Claxton resigning in the show department and with MaKinzie McFarland taking her place.

NCHA Approved Shows

Efforts are continuing to monitor shows that are being produced that are not served or are in the best interest of the Association.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – DENISE WILLIAMS

NCHA Treasurer Denise Williams addressed the Executive Committee with our current state of the July and August financials for the association.

National Cutting Horse Association Finance Commentary July 2025

Statement of Position

The Association ended the month with total assets of \$33.9 million, which represents an increase of \$1.6 million from the previous month.

The Association's cash decreased \$1.5k as a result of premium payouts for the 2025 Summer Spectacular show. The investment portfolios increased ~\$105k which was primarily due to the unrealized gain of \$65k on the investment portfolios.

The Stallion Foal Cash & Investments noted an increase of \$50k which was primarily due to the unrealized gain of \$29k on the Stallion Foal Investment portfolio and receipt of foal nominations during the month.

Accounts receivable decreased by ~ \$23k as a result of collections exceeding billings for the month.

Total Prepays increased \$3 million for the month as premium payouts related to the Summer Spectacular show were processed during the month and the show does not close until August.

Total liabilities increased ~\$1.6 million from the previous month. This was primarily due to an increase of \$938k in deferred event revenue from cash receipt of \$625k in Summer Spectacular show entries and \$368k in 2025 Futurity show entries. The remaining increase in total liabilities was primarily attributed to an increase of \$569k in accounts payable and accrued expenses which were primarily related to the 2025 Summer Spectacular show expenses.

Net assets decreased by approximately \$58k which represents the net loss for the month of July.

Statement of Activities

Before the impact of the unrealized gain/loss on investments, for the month of July, the Association posted a net loss of \$151k while the FY 2025 budget anticipated a net loss of \$159k for the month.

Revenue for the month totaled \$332k or \$64k more than budget. This favorable variance was driven by investment portfolio income. Interest earned on our investments outpaces budget by \$28k due to higher balances and rates. In addition, we noted higher than anticipated cash sponsorship revenue of ~\$27k which was due to the timing of sponsorship collections. It should also be noted that income had a favorable variance of \$10k which was due to higher protest and fee income for the month. These favorable variances in total revenue were offset by a slight \$10k unfavorable variance in approval fee revenue.

Total expenses for the month were \$483k which was \$56k more than what was budgeted. The following categories had unfavorable variances worth noting.

Show Marketing - \$26k unfavorable variance due to timing of the sponsorship for the National High School Rodeo.

Legal - \$17k unfavorable variance due to legal work related to MERP.

Home Office - \$9k unfavorable variance due to HVAC repairs at home office.

A **MOTION** was made by Steve Smith and **SECONDED** by Byron Green to accept the July Financials as presented. **MOTION PASSED.**

National Cutting Horse Association Finance Commentary August 2025

Statement of Position

The Association ended the month with total assets of \$30.9 million, which represents a decrease of \$2.9 million from the previous month.

The Association's cash decreased \$2.5m primarily because of premium payouts for the 2025 Summer Spectacular show. The investment portfolios increased \$3.1 which was primarily due to the receipt of the 2024 Futurity MERP reimbursement of \$1.4 million and transferring \$1.5 million of excess cash from the operating account to the short-term investment portfolio. The excess cash from the operating account was primarily due to the receipt of 2025 Futurity entries. It should also be noted that the long-term investment portfolio had an unrealized gain of \$130k.

The Stallion Foal Cash & Investments noted an increase of \$115k which was primarily due to the unrealized gain of \$85k on the Stallion Foal Investment portfolio and receipt of foal nominations during the month.

Accounts receivable decreased by ~ \$770k as a result of receipt of the \$1.4m MERP funds for the 2024 Futurity offset by the accrual of the 2025 Summer Spec MERP of \$616k.

Total Prepaids decreased \$2.9 million for the month as premium payouts related to the Summer Spectacular show were expensed as the show closed in August.

Total liabilities decreased ~\$3.5 million from the previous month. This was primarily due to the revenue recognition of Summer Spec entries of \$4.4 million offset by the \$1.5 million collection of 2025 Futurity entries. The remaining decline was primarily due to the recognition of sponsor revenue related to the Summer show.

Net assets increased by approximately \$598k, which represents the net profit for the month of August.

Statement of Activities

Before the impact of the unrealized gain/loss on investments, for the month of August, the Association posted a net profit of \$364k while the FY 2025 budget anticipated a net profit of \$593k for the month.

The unfavorable variance from budget of \$229k (\$593k - \$364k) was primarily because the Summer Spec show missed budget by \$246k. The change in venue, the increased cost in cattle and the additional added money of \$100k were the primary drivers that contributed to the unfavorable variance for Summer Spec Show.

The only other items worth noting for the month that were not produced show related were the following Items

On the revenue side –

Membership revenue was up \$24k for the month which appears to just be a timing of cash receipts vs what was budgeted for the month. YTD membership revenue is unfavorable by \$55k but that is attributable to the promo offer that was not known when the budget was approved.

Investment portfolio revenue had a favorable variance of \$45k for the month which was

primarily due to the \$27k realized gain due to the Frost advisors replacing the underperforming mutual fund investments. The remaining increase was due to higher rates and balances in the investment portfolios.

On the expense side –

Office expense had an unfavorable variance of \$19k due to the timing of the payment for the printing of show programs that were budgeted to be paid in July. YTD printing expense has a favorable variance of \$5k.

Projects expense had an unfavorable variance of \$23k which was primarily due to the ~\$15k in expenses related to the Special Ops cutting that was held during the Summer Spec show.

A **MOTION** was made by Kathleen Moore and **SECONDED** by Byron Green to accept the August Financials as presented. **MOTION PASSED.**

Proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

**National Cutting Horse Association
Summary Statement of Activities
FY 2026 Budget**

					APPROVED BUDGETS		
	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2025 YTD ACTUAL + SEPT BUDGET	\$ CHG	% CHG	FY 2025 BUDGET	FY 2024 BUDGET	FY 2023 BUDGET
Revenues:							
NCHA Produced Show	\$ 22,946,377	\$ 22,571,673	374,704	2%	22,440,845	22,327,193	17,470,966
Sponsorship	2,465,374	2,271,906	193,468	9%	1,996,458	1,889,358	2,014,134
Horse Sale Commission	1,486,078	1,649,510	(163,432)	-10%	1,330,950	1,187,462	1,544,632
Approved Shows	1,914,214	1,991,327	(77,113)	-4%	1,955,320	1,868,320	1,753,195
Membership	1,002,778	901,549	101,229	11%	957,016	750,000	747,676
Advertising	116,900	125,046	(8,146)	-7%	140,000	140,000	219,239
Investment Portfolios	817,000	1,414,388	(597,388)	-42%	432,633	299,382	171,913
Youth Activity	185,000	209,134	(24,134)	-12%	133,000	136,000	155,000
Other Income	205,695	187,168	18,527	10%	200,796	113,368	132,518
Total Revenue	\$ 31,139,416	\$ 31,321,701	\$ (182,285)	-1%	\$ 29,587,018	\$ 28,711,083	\$ 24,209,273
Expenses:							
Premiums	14,372,953	14,195,770	177,183	1%	14,360,309	14,157,538	11,459,842
Awards	1,821,903	1,663,064	158,839	10%	1,660,807	1,426,543	1,436,371
Cattle	4,373,795	3,667,982	705,813	19%	3,681,678	3,873,734	2,873,159
Show Facilities	2,188,367	2,264,862	(76,495)	-3%	2,146,703	2,111,573	1,931,298
Show Marketing	797,213	737,460	59,753	8%	742,951	881,426	702,746
Show Operating	1,867,800	1,887,208	(19,408)	-1%	1,896,586	1,728,880	1,334,768
Personnel	3,706,670	3,439,365	267,305	8%	3,420,367	3,246,863	3,160,409
Professional Fees	888,785	611,336	277,449	45%	554,725	581,800	658,701
Home Office Facilities	253,740	241,895	11,845	5%	243,940	266,920	245,640
Office Operating	818,257	746,800	71,457	10%	717,139	760,053	858,031
Other	941,908	902,784	39,124	4%	913,446	832,271	698,308
Total Expenses	32,031,391	30,358,526	1,672,865	5%	30,338,651	29,867,601	25,359,273
Change in Net Assets Without MERP	(891,975)	963,175	(1,855,150)	-193%	(751,633)	(1,156,518)	(1,150,000)
MERP	3,257,486	2,773,093	484,393	17%	2,547,671	2,175,607	1,836,325
Change in Net Asset With MERP	2,365,511	3,736,268	(1,370,757)	-37%	1,796,038	1,019,089	686,325

**National Cutting Horse Association
FY 2026 Budget
Guiding Principles**

The FY 2026 budget for the National Cutting Horse Association is built on a commitment to financial sustainability, transparency, and member value. The guiding principles include ensuring responsible stewardship of resources, supporting the growth of the sport, and prioritizing programs that directly

benefit our members.

Traditionally, historical results were the primary tool to forecast budgeted revenue and expenses. However, FY 2025 presented several unique challenges for the Association, including hosting two of the three triple crown events at a new venue. Additionally, it was announced during the FY 2026 budget process that the 2025 Futurity will also take place at a different location. The Association has encountered significant increases in cattle and awards costs, making it more complex to analyze historical results and forecast show revenue and expenses this year. Considering these circumstances and rising expenses, special attention has been given to the development of the FY 2026 budget.

Below is a summary of our assumptions:

REVENUE:

1. NCHA Produced Shows Revenue –

a. Number of Entries for each produced show assumes the SAME number of entries as FY 2025.

b. Entry Fees reflect a 3% increase for all produced shows except for the 2025 Futurity and World Finals as those two shows already reflect the 3% increase that was approved in the FY 2025 budget. The 3% increase is allocated 1% to the jackpot and 2% to the show.

c. Practice Pen revenue for each produced show assumes the SAME revenue as FY 2025.

d. Stall revenue for all produced shows except for Eastern Nationals reflect a \$50 increase per stall. Eastern Nationals stall fee assumes a \$20 increase per stall due to the additional day added to the show schedule.

e. Foal Nominations/Stallion subscriptions revenue were budgeted based on the 9/30/25 deferred revenue balances for the 2026 Superstakes.

f. Box Seats/Ticket Sales revenue were the same as FY 2025 for the 2026 Superstakes and 2026 Summer Spectacular. The 2025 Futurity box seats/ticket sales revenue was estimated based on seating capacity at the John Justin arena.

g. Booth rental revenue assumes the same as FY 2025 for the 2026 Superstakes and 2026 Summer Spectacular. For the 2025 Futurity, booth rental revenue was estimated based on vendor capacity at and around the John Justin arena.

2. Sponsorship Revenue – The budget anticipates a \$193k or ~9% increase. Management continues to work diligently on establishing new sponsorships as well as maintaining our existing sponsors.

3. Horse Sale Commission Revenue – Futurity horse sale commissions were budgeted

assuming a 10% haircut from last year's sale. Summer Spectacular horse sale commissions were budgeted, assuming the same level of activity.

4. Approved Shows Revenue –There are three components to this revenue bucket:

a. Approval Fees - Anticipates a decline of 10% approval fees for weekend 8% and small LAE 8% events. All other approval fees (major premier and major LAE shows) assumed the same as FY 2025.

b. NCHA Championship Fee – Consistent with FY 2025, the \$3 fee is split equally among Eastern Nationals, the Circuit Program and NCHA Days. The budgeted revenue was based on the estimated collections for the 2025 point year.

c. Circuit Program – Championship Producer Fee and Circuit Show Fee revenue is anticipated to be consistent with the FY 2025 revenue stream.

5. Membership Revenue – Management proposed no increase in membership fees and plans to offer a 3-year membership option for \$360. Consistent with last year, the Association will offer an early bird discount if memberships are renewed prior to 12.25.25. The early bird rate for the one-year membership is \$100 and for the 3-year is \$300. In addition, the budget anticipates 500 new members which represents an ~7% increase in number of paying members.

6. Chatter & Program Advertising – Starting Jan 1, the Association plans to bring most of the Chatter publication responsibilities in-house and is in the process of identifying third party vendors for printing and distribution.

7. Investment Portfolio – Frost Bank advisors provided projected returns on each investment portfolio. Consistent with prior years, the Association does not budget for realized gain/losses on the investment portfolios.

8. Youth – Donations and Stallion Auction proceeds were forecasted to be slightly lower than FY 2025.

9. Other – Other income assumes a slight increase from FY2025.

EXPENSE:

10. Premiums – The basis for premium expense for all produced shows started with the FY 2025 historical premium payout and then adjustments were made as follows:

a. 2025 Futurity - An additional \$50k was added specifically for the Limited Open class. In prior years, the Association had a sponsor fulfill this added money, but for FY 2026, the budget assumes the Association provides the funds. In addition, premium expense was increased due to the jackpot portion of the entry fee increase discussed earlier.

b. All other produced shows – Premium expense was increased due to the jackpot portion of the entry fee increase discussed earlier.

11. Awards – Higher costs for circuits awards and increased costs for buckles resulted in a higher budget for FY 2026. The Association obtained quotes from GIST for each produced show, and, on average, the cost of buckles increased 12%.

12. Cattle – The cost for cattle increased to \$100/head for all produced shows except for Eastern Nationals. The cost per head for Eastern Nationals was budgeted at \$75/head. Since the shows assumed the same number of entries, we assumed the same number of cattle were needed for each show.

13. Show Facilities –

a. 2025 Futurity – The facility expense for the 2025 Superstakes and 2025 Summer Spectacular were utilized to determine the estimate facility cost for the 2025 Futurity. Those numbers were then increased to take into consideration additional infrastructure needed at the John Justin arena.

b. 2026 Superstakes, 2026 International Circuit Championship & 2026 Summer Spectacular – It is anticipated that the 2026 Superstakes and 2026 Summer Show will be held in the Will Rogers Coliseum. As such, the facility cost for FY 2024 was used to budget for FY 2026. There were no new increases to stalls at WRMC for these shows; however, we did budget for the increase in parking.

c. 2026 Eastern Nationals – No change in the contract with Ike Memorial Center; however, due to the one additional day to the show schedule, the stall cost increased by \$14/stall.

14. Show Marketing - Increase of approximately \$55,000 is attributed to additional promotional activities planned by the marketing department for the Association and NCHA produced shows, with the goal of attracting more members and increasing attendance at events.

15. Show Operating - Show operating expenses are expected to be slightly down from FY 2025 levels. The slight decline is due to the fact that the 2026 Superstakes and 2026 Summer Spectacular shows will be back at the Will Rogers Coliseum.

16. Personnel - FY 2026 FTE count remains unchanged. Budget includes \$108,600 in merit increases for 21 employees, a bonus incentive program, and a 10% rise in employee benefits in June. Travel costs are higher due to additional judge department clinics on both coasts.

17. Professional Fees – Increased due to the new TCLOC relationship. Legal fees were assumed to be \$17,000/month and there was a slight increase in accounting fees.

18. Home Office Facilities - The budget plans to stay in line with FY 2025.

19. Office Operating – The budget anticipates the same levels as of FY 2025 with the following exceptions:

a. Depreciation - The budget plans for HVAC replacement in spring 2026, with capitalized costs of \$325,000, increasing depreciation for the rest of FY 2026.

b. Insurance expenses are up around \$12k due to higher costs of insurance.

20. Other – The budget plans to stay in line with FY 2025.

A **MOTION** was made by Casey Green and **SECONDED** by Steve Smith to approve the proposed FY2026 Budget as presented with the following amendment: the 3% entry fee increase will be completely allocated to the office charge. The Executive Committee will determine future entry fee allocation each year following. **MOTION PASSED.**

Furthermore, a **MOTION** was made by Casey Green and **SECONDED** by Kathleen Moore for the proposed 3% entry fee increase for the 2026 Futurity to be split 1% to the office charge and 2% to the jackpot. **MOTION PASSED.**

VP SELECTION COMMITTEE – KATHLEEN MOORE

President Elect Kathleen Moore presented her proposed list for the 2026 VP Selection Committee members for EC approval.

POSITION	MEMBER
EC/BOD	Les Jack (R1)
EC/BOD	Kirby Smith (R3)
EC/BOD/Governance	Ora Diehl (R5)
EC/BOD	Steve Smith (R7)
BOD	Katie Fonsen Young (R2)
BOD/Past President	Phil Rapp (R8)
BOD	Nick Pilcher (R4)
BOD	Bradey Davis (R6)

NCHA Officers: President Elect Kathleen Moore/Vice President David Costello

NCHA Admin: Cathy Marie Aleff

A **MOTION** was made by Phil Benadum and **SECONDED** by Casey Green to approve the proposed 2026 VP Selection Committee as presented. **MOTION PASSED.**

NCHA AWARDS – CATHY MARIE ALEFF

HONORARY AWARDS

- Arthur Jackson Memorial Award – Brady Bowen
- Julie Hansma Non-Pro Sportsmanship Award – Dawn Chapman
- Mary Kingsbury Award – Jamie Hayes
- Modine Smith Humanitarian Award – Shannon Lamb & Mike Farris (posthumously)
- Todd Drummond Award (Action from EC) - TBD
- Zane Schulte Award – Paul Hansma

The Todd Drummond Award is presented each year during the NCHA Futurity Finals. Nominations are submitted from an NCHA Affiliate. This youth member will be recognized for scholastic, extracurricular activities and cutting horse involvement. The selected recipient will receive a buckle at the presentation.

After a round table discussion, a group of qualified nominees were considered with a final selection being made by the Executive Committee.

A **MOTION** was made by Kirby Smith and **SECONDED** by Ora Diehl to select youth members Tate Leblanc out of Pampa, TX, Madison Tyler out of Friona, TX, and Codie Raffield out of Columbus, NC as the 2025 recipients of the Todd Drummond Award. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – SKIP JONES

BYLAW REVIEW

Chairman of the Governance Committee Skip Jones provided the Executive Committee the proposed bylaw rewrite with revisions made by NCHA Legal Counsel Jim Morris. The revisions made were to add compliance with the law, conform to current practices, and to eliminate redundancies.

A **MOTION** was made by Casey Green and **SECONDED** by Tommy Williams to recommend the approval of the bylaw rewrite at the 2026 Convention to the BOD for approval with the following amendment to leave Article 6 Section 7 as it currently is in the bylaws. **MOTION PASSED.**

DIRECTOR EMERITUS PROPOSAL

Skip Jones also shared a proposal from the Governance Committee on the creation of a Director Emeritus position on the Board of Directors. The goal of the Director Emeritus is to reward and recognize long-serving, proactive directors while making room for the inclusion of new directors. This will allow the NCHA to retain the history and knowledge gained over time while infusing new people and ideas into the organization.

A **MOTION** was made by Tommy Williams and **SECONDED** by Byron Green to recommend the addition of the Director Emeritus to be added to the bylaws and voted on at the 2026 Convention. **MOTION PASSED.**

STANDING COMMITTEE PROPOSED CHANGE

Skip Jones and Jim Morris provided the Executive Committee with a proposed addition regarding Non-Voting Members to the rules under the Standing Committees.

24. The President may also appoint non-voting members to a Standing Committee for a one-year term (which may be renewed). Such non-voting members will not be counted for purposes of determining the total number of Committee members under paragraph 19 or for purposes of

determining a quorum. Such nonvoting members cannot vote on Committee matters, cannot make or second motions and cannot serve as the Chairman or Vice Chairman of a Standing Committee. The President shall not appoint more than three (3) non-voting members to any Standing Committee. However, the limitation of three (3) non-voting members per Standing Committee does not apply to the Finance Committee or the Judges Rules Committee.

The Executive Committee proposed for Jim Morris to include a term start date to the above addition. Jim Morris stated that he will add the requested verbiage and share with the Executive Committee the changes at a later date to be voted on.

LEGAL UPDATES – JIM MORRIS

NCHA Legal Counsel Jim Morris joined the meeting to provide legal guidance for the association.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting into executive session to discuss legal updates.

GENERAL SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting back into general session.

REGIONAL REPORTS

President Barnwell Ramsey welcomed each of the members to provide an update on their region.

Region 1 – Les Jack provided an update for Region 1. He stated that the Utah Futurity did not overlap with any other shows and that it was the largest show they have had. There are also several shows overlapping shows over each other which is causing people to have to pick one over the other. Lastly, Les shared with the group that he has received some opposition to the recent changes to the weekend class increases, most notably the 50K amateur increasing to 75K.

Region 2 – Phil Benadum updated the members that Region 2 had some concerns with open riders coming to shows and then leaving while not bringing any amateurs or non-pros. Phil being the manager of 3 different shows in his region stated that entries were down at all 3. Also brought up the discussion of increasing the threshold of premier status on shows.

Region 3 – Kirby Smith reported that his regions entries were average. Kirby provided an update citing that the shows in the north had around 60-80 entries and the shows in Kansas and Nebraska had around 100-120 entries.

Region 4 – Byron Green provided an update for Region 4. Byron stated that they have had a good year so far. There has been an issue with too many shows going on at once which is causing some overlap but shared that next year can be a better year if they can get the scheduling sorted

out.

Region 5 – Ora Diehl updated that Region 5 is down a little bit in their shows. Stalls are usually around 100 or more but most have only filled 70-90. Cited the recent increase in cattle costs being a big issue with which they are dealing. Wateree cancelled a show due to not having any cattle. The Sunshine Circuit Finals is this upcoming weekend, and they are sitting about the same as they were last year.

Region 6 – Tommy Williams reported that Region 6 had a great show in the Ozark Circuit Finals. Stated that Louisiana and East Texas seem to be thriving.

Region 7 – Steve Smith shared that the Sweetwater show was down compared to normal. He also stated that they normally have roughly 8-10 trainers from the Fort Worth area but with all the shows held locally in that area it is pulling them away from them.

Region 8 – Casey Green reported that Region 8 is strong with cuttings. There are a lot more cuttings going on every weekend. He shared that Whitesboro had 525 horses in 3 days. Blue Ridge starts tomorrow and runs through the weekend. The biggest concern his region has is the cattle supply with the rising costs.

President-Elect – Kathleen Moore updated the members of the committee with some concerns that have been brought to her attention. She shared that there is a growing concern that not enough is being done to help the east coast.

EUROPEAN DIRECTOR UPDATES – ALL EUROPEAN DIRECTORS

The European Directors joined the meeting by way of Zoom call to provide updates to the Executive Committee with events in their regions. Directors present were Pietro Valeri, Jana, and Denis Pini.

They are about to have their biggest show of the year, the European Futurity. They currently have 150 horses, which is about the same as last year. Also wanted to thank the NCHA for putting on the clinic in Germany earlier in the year and that it was well received.

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC) SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting into a PAC session for our NCHA Lobbyist Daniel Hodge to provide the members of the Executive Committee with updates.

PAC UPDATES – DANIEL HODGE

NCHA Lobbyist Daniel Hodge joined the meeting via Zoom conference call and provided updates on recent PAC activity.

Daniel updated the Executive Committee about current Screwworm concerns and the effects it could have on cattle and the equine world. He stated that there are ongoing efforts to stop the progression of the screwworm flies from reaching the borders of Texas.

GENERAL SESSION

President Barnwell Ramsey placed the meeting back into general session from PAC updates.

DIRECTOR DISTRICT SUMMARY

Reminders will be issued for those whose terms expire in 2026 to submit their consent forms if they would like to be considered to serve again.

All consent forms are due in the office by January 15th, 2026, and an online form can be submitted by the following link.

<https://www.nchacutting.com/about-us/our-governance/directors/director-consent-form>

The following district areas are scheduled to lose/gain a seat in the summary below.

ALABAMA (-1)
ARIZONA (-1)
CALIFORNIA & HAWAII (-1)
CANADA WESTERN/CENTRAL (-1)
CANADA EAST (-1)
GEORGIA (-1)
ILLINOIS (-1)
NEW ENGLAND (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT), NY, NJ & PA (-1)
NORTH CAROLINA (-1)
OHIO (-1)
OREGON (-1)
VIRGINIA, W. VIRGINIA, DC, MARYLAND & DELAWARE (-1)
WASHINGTON & ALASKA (-1)

WEEKEND SHOW COMMITTEE DIRECTIVE UPDATE – TED SOKOL JR.

Chairman of the Weekend Show Committee, Ted Sokol Jr., provided an update on the directive that was given to the Weekend Show Committee regarding an increase on horse class limits.

After much discussion, the Weekend Show Committee recommendation was made for there to be no changes to the existing horse class limits. It was a unanimous decision on the committee and for this issue to be presented at the 2026 Convention.

AFFILIATE OFFICERS/SECRETARIES DIRECTIVE UPDATE – PHIL BENADUM

Region 2 representative Phil Benadum on behalf of Kathy Cardon, Vice-Chair of the Affiliate Officers/Secretaries Committee, presented a sample copy of the secretary handbook for final proof and distribution.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

NOW OR NEVER

Executive Director Jay Winborn and appointed chair Ora Diehl met with Denny Gentry, leader in the team roping industry where they discussed the logistics behind their current rating system and if it is a good system to entertain in cutting competitions with the main goal in making a level playing field for all competitors in all classes and divisions. This working group is seeking approval to move forward with further research. If approved, data findings will be recorded over an 18-month period as part of this process.

After much discussion, a **MOTION** was made by Phil Benadum and **SECONDED** by Kathleen Moore to grant this working groups' efforts to continue and research this point system further. **MOTION PASSED.**

EASTERN NATIONALS

Local affiliates will be presented with an opportunity to host night cutting during the Eastern Nationals next year.

WESTERN NATIONALS

Look to set up another call to discuss the data received from the survey that was carried out.

CATTLE WORKING

Efforts are continuing to research and manage current cattle challenges.

WORLD FINALS

President-Elect Kathleen Moore provided an update from the World Finals Committee. Kathleen stated that there was discussion on having the World Finals consist of only an Open, Non-Pro, and an Unlimited Amateur class but thought it would be a good idea to discuss this further with the Weekend Show Committee.

SHOW DEPARTMENT UPDATES – SHIANNE MEGEL

Director of Shows Shianne Megel addressed the members of the Executive Committee with updates from her department.

Current Futurity Entries (as of 10.27.25)

Shianne stated that Open entries are sitting at 600 which she stated is a sweet spot for advancing and for higher payouts. This would result in the Open Semi-Finals taking back 60. As a result, the payouts in the Finals will be maximized. Total entries for the Open are down by 10 from last year.

Shianne also provided an update on Non-Pro entries and Amateur Entries.

Non-Pro Entries sit at 281 which is 17 above last year. Non-Pro 2nd GO will take 169 and the Semi-Finals will take 59.

Amateur Entries sit at 284 which is 9 above last year. The Semi-Finals will take 75.

NCHA Produced Event Entries

Shianne brought up an issue that the show department had during the last Futurity payment. She stated that there were numerous entries that were late arriving at the office and were not postmarked for the deadline. As a way to possibly minimize this issue in the future, she suggested to the Executive Committee to make all entries needed to be received in Office on the day of the deadline.

After much discussion, a **MOTION** was made by Phil Benadum and **SECONDED** by Byron Green require all 2026 NCHA Produced Event Entries to be completed solely online starting January 1st, 2026. **MOTION PASSED by majority with five (5) IN FAVOR with Phil Benadum, Byron Green, Les Jack, Ora Diehl, and Casey Green and four (4) AGAINST with Kirby Smith, Tommy Williams, Steve Smith, and Kathleen Moore. David Costello was not present for this vote.**

OLD BUSINESS

Leveling Mandate for Approved Shows

The Executive Committee issued a directive to the Approved LAE Show Producers Committee to revisit the Leveling Mandates for Approved Shows and bring back their findings at the next EC meeting tentatively scheduled for January 5-6, 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

Show Fines

Discussion for assessing a fine for shows to be able to add changes during the 30-day window before the show takes place.

Future EC Meeting

The next in-person EC Meeting will be held on January 5-6, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, a **MOTION** was made by Casey Green and **SECONDED** by Byron Green to adjourn the meeting at 6:29PM. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

All business items were conducted during today's meeting, eliminating the need for the second day.