



DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan. 9th board meeting

Feb. 4th Annual meeting

Look for early meets in May at county fair tracks to get horses ready for Running Aces.

June 6th Running Aces meet begins

Fun Facts from 2011

Total purses paid

\$1,703, 135

Average daily purse

\$37,847*

Average starters per race—7.45

Average daily handle 2011—\$110,681

2010- \$90,473

2009- \$43,353

2008- \$39,050

Projected purses for 2012

Daily -\$46,411*

***includes MN bred**

2011 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT:

RON BANKS (2012)

601 HOFFMAN ST. W.

CANNON FALLS, MN. 55009

(507)-263-0368

SCOTT BANITT (2014)

11995 350TH WAY

CANNON FALLS, MN. 55009

(507)-263-8232

Vacant (2013)

To be filled at Annual meeting

VICE PRESIDENT:

TED NOWATZKI (2012)

111 MARQUETTE AVE.

SUITE 2602

MINNEAPOLIS, MN. 55401

(612)-904-2424

JOSH BANKS (2014)

215 WEST Colville St.

CANNON FALLS MN. 55009

(507)-319-0437

ULF HOLM-JOHANSEN (2012)

8849 OAKDALE AVE. S.

BLOOMINGTON, MN. 55420

(952)-288-6673

SEC/TREAS.

GREG BUDACH (2014)

3912520TH ST.

JANESVILLE, MN. 56048

(507)-234-2261

BRIAN ANFINSON (2014)

7387 COUNTY 44 BLVD.

KENYON, MN. 55946

(507)824-2162

DAVE PAGEL (2013)

34140 COUNTY 25 BLVD.

CANNON FALLS, MN. 55009

(651)-258-4340



Don Schimek died on October 15th after a lengthy battle with leukemia.

Donny served on the MHRI board of directors since 2007. He began harness racing in 1999 after retiring from dairy farming. He had good success with the horses he trained in the short time he was involved. His trainees earned well over \$100,000 and brought Donny and his family plenty of exciting moments. He always took time to listen to others and absorbed new ideas like a sponge.

Don was a veteran of Korea, served as a volunteer firefighter and was a member of the Knights of Columbus.

He thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his kids & grandkids and talked often about them.

He will most certainly be missed!!

RACINO DEBATE CONTINUES

The Racino continues to be a possibility in Minnesota and as you may have heard has been talked about as a means to pay for a new Vikings stadium as well as a way to pay back the school funding shift that was borrowed from future payments due to schools in Minnesota.

As much sense as it makes to 80% of Minnesotan's politicians so far lack the will to act on this measure.

Part of the issue remains the lack of agreement between the two racetracks and the horsemen involved in the distribution of the funds.

Canterbury & the Thoroughbreds still insist on pooling from both tracks then splitting the pool according to need. Obviously under their plan the greatest need is thoroughbred racing, asking for 75% of the purse pool with Standardbreds getting only 25%.

Their argument remains that our purses would be among the top ten tracks in the nation under their plan & that we just don't need as much money as Running Aces would generate.

There has been much activity behind the scene and for right now it's all speculation including the racing commission controlling and distribution the purse pools.

Running Aces had been taking the approach of no pooling but now seem to have done a 180 degree turn and are now talking pooling with Canterbury.

We have retained a lobbyist to represent our interest & make sure that if Racino does happen that we are treated fairly and represented well at the legislature.

If you are represented by someone at the capital that is either on the fence or against Racino now is the time to act & make sure you are heard.

No matter what happens if there is a Racino you can count on substantially higher purses with more racing opportunities in Minnesota.

Highlights of the 2011 Judges report from running Aces

These are some of the judges suggestions to the racing commission after the 2011 meet

- Race secretary should not be acting as paddock judge.
- Vets need to have a better understanding of what justifies a scratch (hople burns, tongue biting).
- Making the paddock a secure facility with security & check in check out procedures
- Requiring two MRC licensed judges at county fair races plus a state MRC vet to test both first & second place finishers as well as any random specials.
- Limiting St.Peter, Cannon Falls & Wheaton to one day events and not to conflict with a Running Aces live dates.
- Suggested a colt stake program at Running Aces.

There were 16 medication violations, 26 driving violations, 14 whipping violations and 38 other, (misc.) violations. Including a suggestion by the judges for the racing commission to not grant a license to two horsemen in 2012 based on their personal misconduct.

MINNESOTA HARNESS RACING INC.
2012 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Telephone #_____-_____-_____

Social Security # or TIN _____

Family Membership \$50.00 - Includes 17 & under

Single \$45.00

Includes 3rd party liability insurance through HHI membership for \$1,000,000

Plus accident insurance for Minnesota fairs

Make checks payable to MHRI

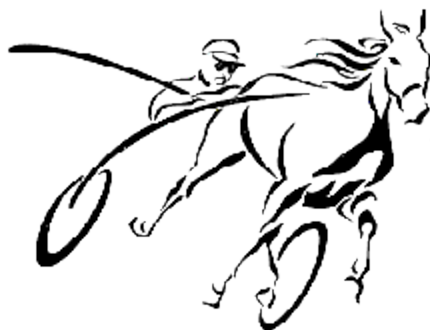
39125 20th St.

Janesville, MN. 56048

(507)-234-2261

All owner/trainer/drivers are required to become
Members of MHRI to race at Minnesota fairs.

Visit us on the web at www.mnharness.com



2012 MHRI ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday February 4th 2012 Running Aces

1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- Latest updates on the Racino
- Lobbyist report
- 2011 awards
- Living Hall of Fame
- Guest speaker provided by the USTA
- Recap of 2011 meet
- Forecast for 2012 meet
- Election of five board members to the MHRI board
- Dinner buffet
- Raffle & prize drawings
- Auction

Please RSVP to Greg Budach by Jan. 21st to reserve your spot.

507-234-2261 greg.budach@mnharness.com