

Board Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2025- 7:00 P.M.

Present: Greg Budach, Justin Anfinson, Jessica Johnson, Cathy Dessert, Dan Roland, Brian Detgen, Tony Huffman, Brandon Jenson, Mikaela Del Giudice, Jay DeLong, Nicole Tate, & AJ

Absent:

Treas. Report: Dan Roland moved to approve which was 2nd by Nicole Tate and carried

Minutes: Tony Huffman moved to approve which was 2nd by Jessica Johnson and carried

Marketing Committee- Nicole was in the crowd at Cannon Falls fair and handed out prizes and programs. She received lots of positive feedback and the marketing team supplied prizes for Pick-A Winners. The USTA matching funds grant helped with some of the prizes.

They've been working on a plan to support non-pari-mutuel dates. Marketing is also looking to get Summer Fling members more opportunities to be involved. We have asked the MRC and been approved to give small group barn tours with no more than four participants in a trainers barn. It will be a more controlled environment.

Purse updates- Minnesota bred starters are up to 41.9% of all starters but the total spend is currently down 7.5%. Higher Minnesota bred bonuses are being paid due to the higher number of starters. Bonuses are up 32.6%.

Unfinished business- We are locked into a 5 year contract for the washers & dryers. The contract automatically renews and is set to expire in 2029. The dryer vents need to be cleaned and Running Aces believes they can take care of that.

New business- We discussed the insurance claims by both Brian Detgen and Mooney Svendsen, Brian's are used & Mooney's were new from Cal Expo. Brandon recommended paying Brian \$500 & Mooney \$700- \$800 after discussing with Justin. Justin Anfinson moved to pay both claims, \$500 to Brian & \$700 to Mooney which was 2nd by Tony Huffman & carried.

AJ will communicate and get the checks distributed to them.

We discussed a possible donation for the recent barn fires at Springfield, IL. There were two fires, one was just lost equipment but the other five horses were lost.

Jessica Johnson moved to donate \$1500 to the cause and use that number as our future base for tragedies like this. The motion was 2nd by Brandon Jenson and carried.

AJ will reach out to those in need to find out where to send the donation.

Discussion on communication- Brandon expressed some concerns about our groups lack of communication & the fact that we aren't necessarily consistent. We need to do a better job in communicating to our membership when we make policy decisions. We also need to push Steve to respond more quickly.

Regarding Fair draws, we need to get a clear consensus from several committee members before the draw is posted to stay consistent and eliminate mistakes.

Tony Huffman moved that when AJ does the draw, at least two fair committee members approve before the draw is posted which was 2nd by Dan Roland and carried.

Membership survey discussion- Dan and Nicole had assembled a survey that we could possibly share with our membership. This would be designed to help determine what people intend, partially due to Cal Expo shutting down.

Dan suggested that we do surveys on a regular basis.

The membership committee can handle getting the survey communicated to our members.

Ten horse fields discussion- there have been multiple complaints about 10 horse fields and we discussed the dangers involved. Steve likes them for betting purposes. It was suggested of paying a stipend if there is a ten horse field.

Steve may be more open if we don't make demands for it. Further discussion was tabled for future meetings.

Minnesota incentives – the 30% bonus is treated as earnings on the horses card which defeats the purpose of the 30% allowance on conditions for MN Breds.

Barn Search proposal discussion- The MRC ultimately makes the call on barn searches. They have agreed to reach out to us with a 5 minute warning but they will move forward whether we have someone there or not. It is up to us to supply a secondary contact if we know AJ won't be available. We need to document when we get a call as well as when the search starts and any details regarding the search. We would like to push back when a search should start and ask for them to hold off until we can have a representative present as long as the scene is secure. Mikaela will reach out the MRC to express our concerns and get back to us with their response.

Next board meeting Wednesday August 20th 7:00 p.m.

Cathy Dessert moved to adjourn which was 2nd by all.