

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING (DRAFT)
THE INDIANA STANDARDBRED ASSOCIATION
MAY 17, 2008 – 2:00 P.M.
TOP OF THE PARK, HOOSIER PARK
ANDERSON, INDIANA

I. CALL TO ORDER – 2:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Directors present were President, Jack Holton, 1st Vice President Jack Kieninger, 2nd Vice President Sam Hedington, Nat Hill, Carrie Hollman, Mike Peterson, Larry Rheinheimer, Doug Rideout, Harold Ruddick, Brandon Bates, Phyllis Edwards and Roger Young, ISA Attorney. A quorum was present. Guests present were Jessica Barnes, Kelly Rousch, Mike Brown, Dr. Alan White, Carol White, Merlin Yoder, Steve Brannon, Andy Bryner, Jean Bryner, Sharon Beeman and other horsemen. Invited guests were Joe Gorajec, Executive Director IHRC, Robin Babbitt IHRC Legal Counsel and Alan Armstrong, IHRC Member.

III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

a. Comments and Questions

President Holton indicated the official ISA meeting would begin after the guests concluded their invitation to speak and answer questions from members of the Indiana Standardbred Association. regarding the IHRC proposed new rules for 2008. He introduced Joe Gorajec, Robin Babbitt and Alan Armstrong.

Joe Gorajec spoke of the necessity for drafting strict regulations for the IHRC oversight regarding the large amount of money to be received by horsemen's associations. He indicated that responsibility on oversight is great for the IHRC.

Robin Babbitt, who has represented the IHRC since 1993, spoke of the statutes that give the Commission the authority to adopt rules and enforce those rules and regulations. He related examples of monies having been mishandled in other jurisdictions and the consequences for the lack of adequate rules of enforcement.

President Holton indicated the rules on oversight of funds are not a problem for the horsemen. The Indiana Standardbred Association has conformed in practice to the proposed rules governing funds received for the last several years. He also spoke of the requirement of ISA that any person responsible for monies, records and disbursement of funds must be bonded for that purpose. The standardbred horsemen do have difficulty understanding the necessity for the proposed rules regarding oversight on persons volunteering to run for Director of ISA. Roger Young, ISA Attorney, indicated that the slot legislation does not grant the IHRC power to oversee the composition of horsemen's organizations. Joe Gorajec assured the association that the IHRC already has the right to look at past criminal history regarding arrests, looking at tax returns, etc., and that right was granted when the application for a license is signed by horsemen. Robin Babbitt indicated that he agreed with ISA concerns on some of the criteria questioned. ISA can address those concerns in response to the IHRC proposals.

Further discussion centered on the need for regulations to protect funds disbursed by IHRC and to see that horsemen receive the benefit of monies disbursed to horsemen's organizations. President Holton assessed the need for setting up a meeting between the Commission and ISA to discuss a broad interpretation of how the organization needs to spend monies received. The ISA will then submit a proposed budget to the IHRC. Roger Young assured the Commission representatives that the Indiana Standardbred Association will respond with the organization's draft for changes to the proposed rules for 2008. The ISA will work with the IHRC in a spirit of cooperation on proposed rules and developing budgets for spending monies received.

The subject of Health Certificates for horses shipping in to race were discussed. The IHRC rule of requiring a health certificate within 30 days for every horse shipping in to race at Indiana racetracks will be enforced in 2008. State law requires that all horses shipping to Indiana must have a valid health certificate within the last 30 days, but does not require horses shipping within the state to conform to the 30 day requirement. The IHRC has a current rule that all horses shipping in to race at an Indiana track must have a health certificate issued within the last 30 days. ISA 1st Vice President Jack Kieninger related how high the cost will be for horsemen to conform to that rule because the call for a vet to come to the farm to issue the certificate will cost \$50 or more in addition to issuing the health certificate for each horse. This creates a heavy financial burden for trainers racing several horses that reside in the state and ship to tracks to race. The IHRC rule for health certificates issued every 30 days does not apply to horses stabled at the track. Joe Gorajec agreed that the cost can be excessive and he will take another look at this requirement. Coggins and Rhino rules are currently enforced.

This concluded the discussions with the IHRC representatives. President Holton called a 15 minute break before resuming the regular ISA meeting at 3:30 p.m.

15 Minute Break

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 19, 2008

Motion by Brandon Bates to approve Minutes of the April 19, 2008 meeting, seconded by Doug Rideout. Motion approved.

V. AGENDA

a. Hoosier Park Contract

President Holton submitted copies of the signed 2008 HoP contract to Directors for review. ISA proposed changes in the contract had been accepted.

b. 2009 Budget Discussions

A 2009 projection for Annual Race Track Payments From Slot Revenue was presented to Directors with breakdowns on shares to be received by horsemen associations and the IHRC, and a 2009 Spreadsheet for Potential Slot Revenue.

President Holton reminded committee chairs to be prepared to present their assessment for committee budgets for consideration by the next regular ISA meeting. Backside Benevolence and Equine Promotion or Welfare will receive primary focus and consideration in the proposed budget.

c. Committee Reports

1. Pari-Mutuel – Brandon Bates. Health certificates are required by Wednesday on track. Brandon suggested to help facilitate this requirement that a vet be available at the gate to issue health certificates for horsemen entering the track. He reported that invalid Rhino and Coggins papers are slipping by security checks and that Security should be much better. Rick Moore has promised to help make security tighter. Scott Peine has done very well in his effort to do a good job under trying circumstances. Kevin Mack is working on reinstatement.
2. Public Relations – Sarah Conrad. No report.
3. Breeders/Owners/Sales – Nat Hill. No new report.
4. Political Action – Jack Kieninger. No Report
5. Fairs – Sam Hedington. Nothing new to add at this time. Elite Blankets have been ordered.
6. Insurance – Jack Holton. Situations have arisen re sulky insurance that may have to be revisited. Reference was made to a situation where an owner allegedly lied about ISA membership and when the driver's sulky was badly damaged in an accident in that race, the owner was not a current paid member. Sulky insurance was not available to the driver for his damages. Alternative solutions were discussed.
7. Membership – Phyllis Edwards. We currently have 719 paid members which means we are improving on last years total at this time of year. Pizza nights at Hoosier Park have been very popular with horsemen.
8. Finance – Nat Hill. He has worked with Joe Gorajec on budgets while serving on Breed Development. Cooperation from the Board will be needed when we submit our ISA proposed budget.
9. Scholarship – Carrie Hollman. The situation with an incident happening at the Hoosier Horse Fair this year has been resolved with all concerned parties. Scholarship applications are due May 15th.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Doug Rideout presented a copy of the MEC Pennsylvania Racing Services, Inc. detailing their policy for trainer preference at the track. He is gathering information to be considered when writing a guide for trainer preference at Indiana racetracks. The guide should be perfected for 2009.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

Meeting date set for June 14th at 2:00 p.m. at Hoosier Park, Anderson, IN.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Regular meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – ALL BOARD MEMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. for the purpose of choosing a replacement for Bret Shultz, ISA Director who submitted his resignation earlier in May. Candidates nominated to replace Bret Shultz until a replacement is made in the general election were Mike Merkel from Evansville, IN and Ted Engel, Indianapolis, IN.

Sam Hedington nominated Mike Merkel, seconded.

Jack Kieninger nominated Ted Engle, seconded.

There were no nominations from the floor. Motion to close nominations was accepted.

Vote by ballot – Mike Merkel was elected to serve the balance of the term of Bret Shultz.

President Holton reported that Kevin Mack has to serve out his suspension during the rest of the meet at Hoosier Park. Scott Peine will replace him as HoP Race Secretary until the end of the Standardbred meet.

Proposed changes to the ISA By-Laws were discussed and approved with the stipulation that all changes to be voted on by the membership will be voted on individually with the exception of Article IV. Sections 10, 11, 12 and 13 in regard to Conflicts of Interest Policy which may be voted on with those sections combined. Motion was made by Nat Hill for ISA membership to vote on by-law changes individually by section with exception of Sections 10, 11, 12 and 13, seconded by Jack Kieninger, carried unanimously.

Ballots for proposed changes to the ISA By-Laws will be mailed to the membership for voting and returned to the ISA office. Meeting date for counting ballots will be July 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Greenfield office.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Phyllis Edwards
ISA Director