

**THOROUGHBRED OWNERS OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, April 7 – 11:00 a.m.
Santa Anita**

MINUTES

Directors Attending: Allen Aldrich, Nick Alexander, Bob Baffert, Ron Ellis, Mike Harrington, Terry Lovingier, Ed Moger (by phone), Billy Morey, Jack Owens (by phone), Mike Pegram, Samantha Siegel, Kathy Walsh, and Mike Wellman.

Directors Absent: Mark Dedomenico and Bill Strauss.

Staff Attending: Nick Coukos, Greg Avioli, Mary Forney, Jenniver Saavedra and Richard Scheidt (by phone).

I. Call to Order

Mr. Coukos called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Wellman, the minutes of March 17, 2016 were unanimously approved.

III. Executive Session

The board then adjourned to Executive Session.

IV. President's Report

A. Industry Update / Northern & Southern California Horse Counts

After the board reconvened to full session, Mr. Coukos provided an update on the CHRB task force on the mandatory release of medical records. He has had discussions with commissioner Auerbach and Mr. Cassidy, and they have decided to put this task force on hold at this time due to a general sense of lack of support for the release of medical records.

Mr. Coukos then gave a brief recap of the CHRB meeting of March 24.

Mr. Coukos informed the board that the race meet contracts for CARF and Del Mar summer are completed. Regarding CARF, there is now a relationship with Oak Tree for the June meet and possibly the Stockton dates in September if moved to Pleasanton. He also noted that Mr. Korby has resigned as executive director of CARF effective Nov. 1.

Mr. Coukos then reviewed the Northern and Southern California horse counts.

- B. Stockton Dates to Pleasanton/GGF
Mr. Coukos reported that an application is expected to come from CARF to move the Stockton dates to Pleasanton. The TOC Northern California racing committee preferred to support those dates being run at Golden Gate. Mr. Coukos updated the board on discussions he had yesterday with Messrs. Chillingworth and Burge regarding the June and September dates at Pleasanton. Following discussion, Mr. Harrington made a motion to support moving the Stockton dates to Golden Gate Fields. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morey and passed with two no's (Aldrich and Owens).
 - C. Participation Bonus (\$900 minimum) June 23 to July 10
Mr. Coukos reported that, following the board's decision in our last meeting to deny Santa Anita's request to pay trainers from CMC money, the Executive Committee has revisited the concept of participation bonuses for owners. During the last three weeks, the Executive Committee passed a motion to use the funds as participation bonuses to owners, and this concept was presented to Santa Anita. Although Santa Anita has not accepted the concept, they have proposed as an alternative adding purse money to races with eight or more horses in the field. Following discussion, Mr. Harrington made a motion to approve a minimum purse payment of \$900 during the 3-week period June 23 to July 10. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lovingier, and further discussion ensued. The motion then passed with two no's (Alexander and Wellman).
 - D. Del Mar Post Time for Final Two Fridays (3:30)
Mr. Coukos informed the board that Del Mar has agreed to run a minimum of eight races every weekday during their summer meet. They have also decided to go with a 3:30 post for the last two Fridays.
 - E. Barretts Sales March 30 Results
Mr. Coukos provided a brief recap of the Barretts sales results.
 - F. CTHF Letter
Mr. Coukos noted that CTHF (California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation) has requested nominations to their board and asked if any board member would be interested in serving.
- V. ADW/Simulcast Committee
- A. ADW Hub Fee Arbitration Update
Discussed in Executive Session.
 - B. NYRA Fee Request
Mr. Coukos updated the board on the request from NYRA for a reciprocal arrangement that would reduce the rate that NYRA currently pays for the California signal. Monarch will provide an analysis after review. It was agreed that a final decision could come from the Executive Committee.

- VI. Finance Committee
Mr. Alexander provided a financial update. Mr. Owens recommended a presentation of our insurance portfolio at the July meeting when the new board is in place.
- VII. Owner Relations Committee
 - A. Chairman's Award Nominees
Mr. Pegram indicated that Mr. Baffert was his choice for this year's Ed Friendly Industry Service Award.
 - B. Mr. Wellman reminded the board of the TOC Open Forum April 23 at Los Alamitos
- VIII. Racing Affairs Committee
Mr. Scheidt provided a brief report on status of the CARF and Del Mar race meet agreements.
- IX. Medication Committee
No report.
- X. Legislative Committee
Covered in Executive Session.
- XI. Race Meet Reports
Mr. Scheidt provided brief race meet reports for the Santa Anita and Golden Gate meets to date. He also updated the board on the fact that Golden Gate is broadcasting in HD, new televisions are in place on the turf club tables, and the marquee sign has been repaired.
- XII. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, 2016, 11:00 a.m. at Santa Anita
- XIII. Adjournment
Mr. Coukos adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.