

**THOROUGHBRED OWNERS OF CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Friday, April 16, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.  
Del Mar Racetrack**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present:** Nick Alexander (phone), Bob Baffert (phone), Jeff Bloom (phone), Gary Fenton, Rick Gold, Mike Harrington (phone), Stephanie Hronis (phone), Bob Liewald, Ed Moger (phone), Jack Owens (phone), Richard Rosenberg, Samantha Siegel (phone), and Bill Strauss.

**Directors Absent:** Joe Ciaglia and Terry Lovingier.

**Staff Present:** Greg Avioli, Mary Forney, Joe Hasson, Elsa Peron (phone), and Patricia Chinnici.

- I. Approval of Minutes  
On a motion by Mr. Gold, seconded by Mr. Lovingier, the minutes of March 12, 2020 were unanimously approved.
- II. Chairman's Award  
Mr. Fenton reviewed his thoughts on the selection of the Chairman's Award, for which he recommends Aidan Butler in recognition of his efforts to keep racing going during the last two difficult years, including the pandemic. The board was in agreement.
- III. Chairman's Letter  
Mr. Fenton reviewed his Chairman's Letter, which he will be sending out to the membership monthly. He provided a copy of his first one sent out in March. Mr. Lovingier offered to send it to the CTBA membership.
- IV. The Stronach Group Update (Craig Fravel)  
Messrs. Fravel and Mackey joined the meeting to discuss Northern California racing and the Stronach Group's plans for stabling this summer. Golden Gate would like to give the racing surface a break for a few weeks, as well as give some attention to the barn area stalls and living quarters; however, they have not made any final decisions yet. They also discussed the reasoning for running four days a week at Golden Gate even though Santa Anita is running three days a week.  
  
Mr. Fravel also provided input on the Stronach Group request regarding the Stabling & Vanning fund subsidizing an extra veterinarian at SLRD.
- V. Del Mar Grooms' Jerseys

Mr. Liewald discussed the proposed Del Mar jerseys/t-shirts to be provided to the grooms and other backstretch workers this summer, with funding coming from the Co-op Marketing budget.

VI. NOTWINC/SCOTWINC Update

Mr. Hasson reviewed the status of the Northern California satellite locations and handle reports, which were provided to the board. He also updated the board on current proposed legislation pertaining to workers' comp.

VII. PostTime/Workers Comp Update

Mr. Avioli provided an update on the new safety initiatives and resulting reductions in workers' comp claims/costs.

VIII. CHRB Board Meeting Agenda

Mr. Avioli reviewed the CHRB board meeting agenda, which includes an agenda item regarding reconsideration of the crop rule. A copy of the proposed rule was provided to the board. A discussion ensued.

IX. Legislative Report

Mr. Avioli reviewed the article on the political climate in California as relates to racing, a copy of which was provided to the board. He then reviewed a request from the American Horse Council to contribute to the cost for the California breakout to their Economic Impact Report, which is expected run about \$20,000 to \$25,000 and would be shared by the California industry stakeholders. On a motion by Mr. Strauss, seconded by Mr. Fenton, to board approved a contribution of up to \$5,000.

Mr. Liewald gave an update on the sports wagering discussions.

X. Racing Affairs

A. Registered Stable Names

Mr. Fenton reviewed the situation in California whereby owners can only register one stable name. He noted that it is by CHRB statute, and he recommended research to determine if the statute can be changed. He feels the change would be beneficial to owners and help bring new owners into the sport. Messrs. Avioli and Hasson will begin research and focus on rules in other states.

B. Los Alamitos Summer Meet Purse Proposals

Mr. Fenton reviewed the Los Alamitos summer purse proposals, which were provided to the board. On a motion by Mr. Lovinger, seconded by Mr. Strauss, the board unanimously ratified the vote of the Racing Affairs Committee to approve the proposals as presented.

C. New NoCal Entry Panel

Mr. Avioli informed the board about the proposed new CHRB entry panel in Northern California, noting the importance of consistency for any such panel.

D. Purse Reports – Santa Anita and Golden Gate

Mr. Avioli reviewed the Santa Anita and Golden Gate purse reports, which were provided to the board.

E. Horse Counts

Horse counts for Northern and Southern California were provided to the board.

XI. Financial Report

Ms. Chinnici provided a financial report for March and end of year.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.