

**THOROUGHBRED OWNERS OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friday, August 13, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.
Del Mar Racetrack**

MINUTES

Directors Present: Nick Alexander, Joe Ciaglia, Gary Fenton, Rick Gold, Ryan Hanson, Mike Harrington (by phone), Stephanie Hronis, Lindsay LaRoche (by phone), Bob Liewald (by phone), Terry Lovingier, Ed Moger, Samantha Siegel (by phone), and Bill Strauss.

Directors Absent: Jack Owens, and Richard Rosenberg.

Staff Present: Greg Avioli, Mary Forney, Joe Hasson, Wayne Atwell, and Jordyn Egan.

Others Present: Josh Rubinstein.

I. Del Mar Update

Mr. Rubinstein joined the meeting to give the board an update on the Del Mar summer meet to date and prospects for sports wagering at the track.

II. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Lovingier, seconded by Ms. Hronis, the minutes of July 15, 2021 were unanimously approved.

III. CHRB Board Update

A. August Meeting Agenda

Mr. Avioli reviewed the CHRB agenda, a copy of which was provided to the board. He and Mr. Fenton commented on the agenda item concerning a statute on vet inspections of horses before races and workouts, noting there are new vet charges to owners for these inspections. Mr. Avioli noted that the board could consider increasing the owners' participation purse, perhaps at the end of the year. A discussion ensued. Ms. Forney was asked to compile a summary of historical increases in the participation purses for use at tomorrow's annual meeting.

B. HISA / UC Davis Budget Update/Potential Assembly GO Hearings

Mr. Avioli reviewed the two articles about two lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of HISA, which were provided to the board. Ms. Hronis updated the board on the HISA discussions at the recent TOBA board meeting she attended.

IV. Sports Wagering Update

A. Proposed DMTC – TOC Sports Wagering Revenue Sharing Agreement

Mr. Avioli updated the board on the status of the negotiations for contributions to purses from potential sports wagering at Del Mar.

V. NTRA Update

Mr. Avioli provided an update on the status of the NTRA and the likely new CEO, Tom Rooney. A copy of Mr. Rooney's resume was provided to the board.

VI. 2022 CHRB Race Dates Committee Meeting

A. Proposed Calendars submitted by DMTC, SA and Los Al

Mr. Avioli reviewed proposals for 2022 race dates by Del Mar and Los Alamitos, which were provided to the board. He asked for board input on comments he will be asked to make at the CHRB board meeting next week. The consensus of the board was that the 2021 dates scheduled worked well in the North and South, and TOC should support the same in 2022. Following discussion, Mr. Fenton asked board members to send him an email with any specific recommendations for 2022 race dates.

VII. Stabling & Vanning

A. S & V Committee Update

Mr. Avioli provided a Stabling & Vanning committee update and reviewed the fund status, a copy of which was provided to the board. He mentioned that the S & V committee approved a payment to SLRD for extra veterinarian costs based on the new pre-work vet check requirements required by the CHRB.

B. Long Term Planning Report

Mr. Strauss updated the board on the current discussions regarding long-term planning options for stabling and vanning in Southern California. Mr. Avioli added that a feasibility study costing approximately \$160,000 will be funded from the 2021 co-op spending funds from TOC, DMTC and Santa Anita. On a motion by Mr. Gold, seconded by Mr. Fenton, the board unanimously authorized the expenditure for the feasibility study from these funds.

VIII. Legislative Report

A. Proposed Contribution- Senator Portantino Chair Appropriations Comm.

Mr. Avioli reviewed the request to contribute \$5,000 to a fundraiser to Sen. Portantino, Chair of the Senate Finance Committee. On a motion by Mr. Lovingier and a second by Mr. Moger, the contribution of \$5,000 was unanimously approved.

IX. Owner Relations Committee

Ms. Hronis provided a report on last Saturday's Owner Appreciation Day. She also updated the board on a new initiative the committee is moving forward with – the

“Golden State Fillies” campaign, which will kick off with a special luncheon in the Del Mar Directors’ Room on Thursday, Aug. 26.

X. Racing Affairs

Mr. Fenton reviewed the Los Alamitos fall and winter purse proposals, which were provided to the board. The Racing Affairs committee previously met and approved the proposals. Mr. Fenton then reviewed the Santa Anita fall and winter-spring purse proposals, which were provided to the board. The Racing Affairs also reviewed and approved the Santa Anita proposals.

Following discussion, Mr. Fenton made a motion to ratify the action of the Racing Affairs committee in approving the Los Alamitos and Santa Anita fall purse proposals, with the stipulation that Santa Anita be asked to raise the fall purses to keep them consistent with the 2021 Winter/Spring meet. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lovingier and unanimously approved.

Mr. Fenton then reviewed the Santa Anita 2022 Winter-Spring meet stakes proposal, which was provided to the board. Following discussion, it was decided to invite Mr. Merz to come to a future board or executive committee meeting to further discuss this proposal as well as have staff complete a stakes review and analysis.

XI. Horse Counts

Mr. Avioli reviewed the statewide horse counts as of July 2021, which were provided to the board.

XII. Financial Report

A. The Jockey Club Owner Conference Sponsorship Request

Mr. Avioli reviewed a request to sponsor the dinner at this year’s Owner Conference in November, the amount of sponsorship being \$2,000 each for TOC and co-sponsor CTBA. On a motion by Mr. LaRoche, seconded by Ms. Hronis, the sponsorship in the amount of \$2,000 was unanimously approved.

B. July Financials

Mr. Avioli updated the board on the July financials.

XIII. Sports Wagering

Mr. Avioli reviewed a new ballot initiative introduced yesterday in California by the card rooms for expanded sports wagering, a copy of which was provided to the board.

XIV. The board then adjourned to Executive session where it approved a new three-year Employment Agreement for the CEO to be effective as of July 1, 2021.