

Board minutes from Board meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Members of the board in attendance:

Royal Roland, Jim Reese, Tony Paris, Scott Smith, Jeff Carey, Mike Telfer, Joel McDanel, and Larry Mather.

Effective immediately, Royal Roland has stepped down as the District 3 director and board president.

Secretary's note. The minutes of the board meeting on Sept 23, 2022 was handed out to each board member. After each of them read thru them, Mike Telfer made a motion to approve the minutes. Jeff Carey seconded the motion. The vote was taken with all ayes.

One update from the previous year, Dana heard back from Electronic Specialties and the radio's ordered for the race day officials to use are finally here. They are programming them and will then get ahold of Dana and get them to her.

Next item was the treasurer's report. Jim Reese went thru all the income and expenses from the previous year. Jeff Carey made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Tony Paris seconded the motion. All ayes on the vote.

Next item is the election of officers for the Board of Directors. Royal Roland is resigning as the President of the Board and resigning from the board itself effective immediately. He explained some of the jobs that he has taken care of in the past, and letting the board know they will need to figure out who is going to do each of these jobs.

Jeff Carey was nominated by Joel McDanel and Tony Paris was nominated by Jeff Carey. Tony Paris, Jeff Carey, Mike Telfer, and Joel McDanel voted for Jeff Carey. Larry Mather and Scott Smith voted for Tony Paris. Jim Reese abstained. The new board President is Jeff Carey.

Mike Telfer nominated Tony Paris for Vice President. Tony Paris was the only one nominated for Vice President so he will continue in that position.

Jeff Carey nominated Jim Reese for Treasurer. Joel McDanel seconded the motion. Jim Reese was the only one nominated for Treasurer so he will continue in that position also.

Larry Mather nominated Mike Telfer and Joel McDanel seconded that nomination. Tony Paris nominated Brandon Jenson for Secretary. No one seconded that nomination. Scott Smith, Jim Reese, Larry Mather, Joel McDanel voted for Mike Telfer. Tony Paris voted for Brandon Jenson. The new secretary is Mike Telfer.

Roger & Judy will do the nominations for Iowa Registered and Iowa Sired for 2023. They will also handle writing purse checks and do 1099 tax reporting for 2023. They will continue to do the progressive pick 10 and progressive pick 5 in What Cheer. They will not be doing the points and standings for the horses and drivers. Dana will be doing this moving forward. She will take care of the Pick 10 and Pick a Winner. She will be getting people set up at each track that will be the contact person. She will also have them to get people to sell the programs and have one or two people who will help pick up the entries at each race along with someone to help with the giveaways for the different winners each race day.

Someone will need to renew policies for General Liability and make sure the fairs are listed as additional insured. Also, Renewal-continuation of bond for the Treasurer. This has been given to Jim Reese to take care of.

Royal will not be doing the programs (running copies or proof read, etc.). Dana will now be printing all the programs along with the Judges sheets, Vet Reports, Exception Reports, and other misc. reports.

Royal has given us the list of Fair Contacts. Dana will get a list out to each of the Board of Directors. Dana will get ahold of each fair contact and find out who should be in charge of the different jobs that the fairs need to get done in advance of race day. We will be asking the board members to help in contacting these different staff to make sure everything will be done so the races go on with little to no

issues. They will need to have tile flags or other way to mark out track at tracks with no inside markings. They need to measure out track on race day and clearly mark it. They need to make sure that each of the tracks have a USTA License ahead of time.

Royal will not be taking care of the track or preparations at Oskaloosa.

Other items that need to be done are the Pac reports. 2 or 3 times a year someone will need to go on the website for Iowa campaign ethics and put in there how much everybody contributed and how much was spent. Non election years it is only done 2 times a year. A board of director will also need to keep track of insurance and keep it current. Someone will need to get the starting gates and the conditioner to the races and set up and torn back down the moved to the next track. Dana will get ahold of the USTA at the end of the racing season to get reports for doing the breeders awards.

Royal will make sure the audit of the Iowa Harness Racing Association gets done and turned into the Iowa Racing Commission.

Royal and Duane Roland will continue to take care of the track at What Cheer.

Roland and Dieleman will continue to do payroll reporting for wages for the IHHA for a fee of \$400. They will continue to do 1120 tax return for the Iowa Harness Horse Association for a fee of \$750. It has been done for free since 1980. Roland and Dieleman will do 1099 reporting for breeder's awards, officials for a fee of \$450. This had also been done for free since 1985.

The Board of Directors will need to make sure that they have people attending the Iowa Association of Fairs meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 10am at the Holiday Inn in Des Moines, across from the airport, with representatives of fairs that conduct racing to set 2024 schedule.

Next item is the committee assignments for the board.

Legislative – Tony Paris, Jim Reese, Mike Telfer

Officials/Racing/Drug Testing – Scott Smith, Joel McDanel, Dana Meyer & Brandon Jenson

Promotions – Tony Paris, Jeff Carey, Mike Telfer & Dana Meyer

Hall of Fame – Jeff Carey, Joel McDanel

By-Laws – Jim Reese, Mike Telfer

Matt Eide was unavailable to call in or be at the meeting. Mike Telfer gave an overview of what he has talked to the legislative people about including harness racing. Might have a grudge match or something like that for fun with Iowa Legislators sometime this summer at a race in What Cheer.

Next topic discussed was any racing issues. At the annual meeting the association members voted not to have finals. After the annual meeting in November of 2022, the board decided that there would be no finals this year and they would race for more money throughout the year.

Then the board looked at the schedule and this is what was approved for the 2023 racing season.

Larry Mather made a motion for one IA Sired race to be added at Oskaloosa on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Jim Reese seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion passed

Scott Smith moved to keep the cap at \$108,000 with a minimum of \$6,000 for Iowa Sired stakes A races and add 1 more Iowa Registered race in place of the finals on the last weekend of racing. That makes 11 Iowa Registered and 3 Iowa Sired races.

Mike Telfer seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion passed.

After much discussion on the conference call, Mike Telfer made a motion to drop the Iowa Registered races on October 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> and raise the purses to \$7,000 on the other Iowa Registered races. Tony Paris seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion has passed.

The race on June 24,2023 will be the last date for 5 horse fields for 2-year-olds.

**IOWA HARNESS HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION**  
**SCHEDULE FOR 2023**

**\*Means there will be aged races on these dates**

May 28, 2023 (Sunday)	What Cheer	12:30 post time
June 3, 2023 (Saturday)	West Liberty *	12:30 post time
June 10, 2023 (Saturday)	Humboldt	12:30 post time
June 14 & 15, 2023 (Wed & Thurs)	Eldon *Wed 6:00pm	Thurs 12:30 post time
June 24, 2023 (Saturday)	Allison *	12:30 post time
June 25, 2023 (Sunday) <b>[IA Sired]</b>	What Cheer	12:30 post time
July 3 & 4, 2023 (Mon & Tue)	Humboldt	12:30 post time
July 7,8 & 9, 2023 (Fri, Sat, Sun)	What Cheer *	12:30 post time
July 11, 2023 (Tuesday)	Bloomfield	6:00 post time
July 15, 16, 2023 (Saturday, Sunday)	What Cheer	12:30 post time
July 20, 2023 (Thursday)	Monticello *	11:00 post time
July 23, 2023 (Sunday)	Kahoka, MO	12:30 post time
July 29, 2023 (Saturday)	Nashua *	12:30 post time
July 30, 2023 (Sunday) <b>[IA Sired]</b>	Oskaloosa	12:30 post time
Aug 5 & 6, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	Humboldt	12:30 post time
Aug 12 & 13, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	Humboldt *	12:30 post time
Aug 19 & 20, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	Humboldt	12:30 post time
Aug 26 & 27, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	What Cheer *	12:30 post time
Sept 2 & 3, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	What Cheer	12:30 post time
Sept 9 & 10, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	What Cheer *	12:30 post time
Sept 16 & 17, 2023 (Sat, Sun)	What Cheer	12:30 post time
Sept 23, 2023 (Saturday)	Eldon *	12:30 post time
Sept 30, 2023 (Saturday) <b>[IA Sired]</b>	Humboldt	12:30 post time

The next topic regarding racing was the jackpot races. There was discussion as to whether to continue the jackpot races. The races in Allison, West Liberty, Bloomfield, and Nashua are the race venues in the past. They were originally set up to help get more horses to race those days. After discussion, Jim Reese made a motion to not have jackpot races this year. Joel McDanel seconded the motion. The vote was taken with Tony Paris voting no and all others voting yes. The motion passed and there will not be jackpot races this year.

The next item was the claiming races and claiming limits. There was a lot of discussion as to whether the horses would be better off running in the B class races. The horse can continue racing in the B class throughout the year and there would be no claiming of these horses. The discussion also was that the purse would stay at \$1500 since there is no claiming.

Larry Mather made a motion that there not be any claiming on B class races and the purse would stay at \$1500. Mike Telfer seconded the motion. The vote was taken and Jim Reese voted no and all others in attendance voted yes. The motion passed. There will no be any claiming races and the purse stays at \$1500.

Next item is where are the aged races are going to be. The schedule written in these minutes show a \* behind each town, where we race, that will have aged. The purse will continue to be \$3000 for one division and \$2500 for two divisions for aged races.

Purse money for overnight races will stay at \$1000 including FFA races.

Aged races were discussed next. Please note the schedule that is above, that the \* by the town is where the board decided to have aged races.

The next item discussed; was what time the horses must be at the track. Larry Mather made a motion that all horses must be at the track by 11:00 am and all entries be paid for by 11:30, for any horse on that race day. If for any reason you are unable to make it by this time, due to transportation problems, it is your responsibility to call the judge and let him know. Mike Telfer seconded the motion. After the discussion, the vote was taken. Scott Smith, Larry Mather, Tony Paris, Mike Telfer all voted yes and Jim Reese and Joel McDanel voted no. The motion passed. This means that at all horses must be on the fairgrounds at 11 and entry fees paid to the clerk of course by 11:30 for any horses racing on a day that included Iowa Registered or Iowa Sired races.

Scott Smith then let the board know that Mike Morales will continue to be the judge for this year. Scott Smith is contacting the starters and the driver to make sure they are still planning on doing their same jobs.

Update from Scott on 1/23/2023:

Brenda Groter Hopp, Kim Larson, Lyle Miller, Lesa Peters, and Mike McDanel will continue throughout 2023.

Next item the board discussed is whether we need to chart the races early in the season at some of the overnight races. Tony Paris made a motion that we chart the first three races this season. The 28<sup>th</sup> of May at What Cheer, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June at West Liberty, and the 10<sup>th</sup> of June at Humboldt. Joel McDanel seconded the motion. Tony Paris and Joel McDanel voted yes. Scott Smith, Jim Reese, and Mike Telfer voted no. Larry Mather did not vote on this motion. This motion did not pass.

Then Scott Smith made a motion that we chart on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May in What Cheer and the 10<sup>th</sup> of June in Humboldt. Tony Paris seconded the motion. The vote was taken, and Tony Paris, Scott Smith, Larry Mather, Mike Telfer, and Joel McDanel voting yes. Jim Reese voted against the motion. The motion passed. We will have charting done at the first race at What Cheer and the first race at Humboldt.

**The board meeting dates were set for the rest of 2023 racing season:**

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Holiday Inn on Merle Hay Road Des Moines at noon**  
**Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the fairgrounds in Humboldt**  
**Saturday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds in What Cheer**

Dana will contact each board member 3 weeks prior to the board meeting to get any issues that should be on the agenda. Anyone can contact Dana or a board member to get stuff on the agenda. Dana will also remind each member 4 or 5 days prior to the meeting to remind everyone to be there.

The next item discussed is the payment schedule to nominations. Should it be just 1 date with a late date payment with a penalty, Or, stay the same as before with the different payment dates. Larry Mather made a motion to add \$25 to each of the nominations and for payments to be made 1 time for all horses on March 15<sup>th</sup>, with April 15<sup>th</sup> being the deadline for late payments. Scott Smith seconded the motion. The vote was taken with all ayes. The motion passed. After extensive discussion this is how the nomination are for this year.

On or before May 15, 2023, the nominated horse MUST be registered as an Iowa Registered horse with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship under provisions of 99D.22 of the Code of Iowa. If this is not completed and the number reported to administrator of the nomination process, the horse will be ineligible to race and the nomination payments **will not** be refunded.

**Nomination payments – Iowa Registered 2 & 3 YO Trotters & Pacers**

March 15, 2023.....\$250 per horse

**Nomination payments – Iowa Sired 2 & 3 YO Trotters & Pacers**

March 15, 2023.....\$125 per horse

**Nomination payments – Iowa Aged 3 YO and older Trotters & Pacers**

March 15, 2023.....\$125 per horse

If payment is not postmarked on or before March 15, 2023(on aged horses only), they can become eligible by paying the \$125 plus a late charge of \$125 for a total of \$250 prior to entering the horse to race.

If payment is not postmarked on or before March 15, 2023 for any 2- or 3-year-old for Iowa Registered and/or Iowa Sired they can be made eligible until April 15, 2023 by paying the nomination fee plus that same amount as a penalty.

**Starting Fees**

Feature Race.....\$100 per horse

B Class and Aged.....\$ 25 per horse

There are no claiming races.

Next item discussed was the money given to What Cheer race track for their pick 10 and pick a winner. The board agreed to give them \$1000 for the progressive Pick 10 and \$500 for progressive Pick 5. The board decided to continue with this and also try to do the same thing in Humboldt, to try to get a bigger crowd enjoying the races.

Tony Paris brought up some other items to be discussed. One of them being the banquet location. Another one was if we are staying in November for the banquet. Mike Telfer said that he has connections in Des Moines at the Holiday in or at Prairie Meadows. He says he thinks we should give Prairie Meadows a chance to match what we had at Marshalltown and see if they would be a better place to have the banquet. Another item Tony had was we need to look into what we will need to do in the near future with the starting gate. It is a 2008 that we bought used. It needs to be the mega cab so the gates work with the back seat doors. The person Tony talked to said it needs to be a Ford or Dodge. Chevy trucks are not recommended. They say we need to go with a ¾ ton truck. The one we have will have about 150,000 miles at the end of this season and it is in good condition so we would have good trade in value. They put about 15,000 miles during each season. They also recommend a 2wheel drive so the truck isn't so high up in the air with it being 4wheel drive. Also, that way horses can't go under the gate either. The other item Tony had, was to look at the track conditioner. They did get new teeth for the one and have replaced most of those. Joel McDanel is going to contact someone regarding another one they may have that might be for sale.

Mike Telfer brought up the YouTube taping and getting ads made for the time between each of the races. If anyone has someone they think would be wanting to get ads on during the races, contact Dewain Hulett, Owner Hulett PubliPro LLC. Also, it was discussed that Tony can call Dewain to have him start selling ads. We will need to put a list together of people that he can contact for ads.

The last item was to discuss and approve the budget for the 2023 season. Scott Smith made a motion to approve the budget. Larry Mather seconded the motion. All board members voted yes. The budget was approved.

Joel McDanel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 pm. Larry Mather seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Following the weekend board meeting, Jeff Carey called Dana, to let her know that there was a motion brought to the board by Mike Telfer, that stated, the last race of the year on Oct 7 & 8 be dropped and the money from those races be added to the Iowa Registered races throughout the season. Everyone was contacted and the vote was given to Dana over the phone. Scott Smith, Tony Paris, Mike Telfer, Brandon Jenson, and Joel McDanel voted yes. Jim Reese and Larry Mather voted no. The motion was passed.

Then Jeff Carey called Dana and asked her to set up a conference call board meeting. It was set for Wednesday Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. Those board member on the conference call were Tony Paris, Jim Reese, Jeff Carey, Scott Smith, Mike Telfer, Larry Mather, and Joel McDanel. After running the budgeted money where we take the money from the finals weekend (purse money, blood testing expense, vet expenses, etc. and using the lowest amount from sports betting from Prairie Meadows and the most amount of money needed to pay for the races, the board decided to use the reserves to make up any shortage we have.

There was another discussion regarding the money paid out for daily expenses on race day. Tony Paris made a motion to increase the Humboldt and What Cheer checks to \$2,200 and \$1,800 (or as needed) for day-to-day operating expenses for all the overnight races. Scott Smith seconded the motion. A verbal vote was taken by Dana. All board members in the call except Jeff Carey (who doesn't vote as President) voted yes. The motion passed.

Another item discussed was the gate situation. It had been brought up a few years ago at an earlier board meeting. Larry Mather and Jeff Carey gave an update on where they are on getting prices on different options. They are continuing to get information and will give an update later. We will need to get someone to take the gates down and put up at the different overnight races. The people that they have spoken to say that we should be able to get them in about a month. They will continue to search for other gates to get us the best deal on them.

Dana is working on the open director's position. She will be contacting members in district #3 to see who they may have that would want to or be willing to fill the position until the end of the term which is Dec 31, 2024. Dana will let the board know if she has anyone for this position. Then the board will have a conference call again to vote regarding the people that are interested in this position.

Another item was brought up in the conference call. Dana is going to do the progressive Pick 10 and progressive pick 5 in Humboldt.

Another item is Mike Telfer is looking into having the Governor at a race sometime this season at What Cheer. He is checking on dates that might work, and one that he is looking at is July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Mike is talking to the Lieutenant Governor or Chief of Staff to get something setup if possible.

Conference call adjourned at 6:07pm.