

Minutes from April 19, 2025 board meeting at Holiday Inn & Suites Des Moines Northwest

12:30 pm meeting called to order.

Board members in attendance are Jim Reese, Tony Paris, Cory Larson, Duane Roland, Larry Mather, Jeff Carey, and Mike Telfer.

The minutes from the January 18, 2025 board meeting were passed out. There was a correction made on the minutes of the wording on one of the racing issues. Then the board discussed the reading of the by-laws and any changes that may need to be changed. Larry Mather made a motion to resurface both tracks per year. Cory Larson seconded the motion. All ayes. The minutes are approved.

Next item, Treasurer's report. Jim Reese explained the different items. Duane Roland made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Tony Paris seconded the motion. All ayes. Treasurer's report is approved.

Next item was the nominations for this year. There are:

37 IA Reg 2YO Filly Trotters	19 IA Sired 2YO Filly Trotters	12 Aged Trotters
41 IA Reg 2YO Gelding Trotters	15 IA Sired 2YO Gelding Trotters	16 Aged Pacers
48 IA Reg 2YO Filly Pacers	9 IA Sired 2YO Filly Pacers	Total of 28 Aged horses
46 IA Reg 2YO Gelding Pacers	13 IA Sired 2YO Gelding Pacers	
27 IA Reg 3YO Filly Trotters	14 IA Sired 3YO Filly Trotters	
32 IA Reg 3YO Gelding Trotters	13 IA Sired 3YO Gelding Trotters	
30 IA Reg 3YO Filly Pacers	9 IA Sired 3YO Filly Pacers	
27 IA Reg 3YO Gelding Pacers	6 IA Sired 3YO Gelding Pacers	
Total of 288 IA Registered horses	Total of 98 IA Sired horses	

That is a total of 414 horses nominated between all 3 divisions as of 8-2-2025.

The legislative report from Matt Eide:

There is a bill in drafting that would exempt us from horse feed taxes or taxes on anything related to horses like horse feed, supplies, that would go into the racing fund. He thought it would be out this week but he is hopeful for next week. He doesn't expect any action on it this year but hopefully next year. A state Senator from Council Bluffs has a bill to increase the tax rate on sports wagering from 6.75% to 9%. Most of this money would go to public safety, and it does create a mechanism to help the thoroughbreds with their HISA lawsuit from the federal bill that is being challenged in the courts right now that's trying to create uniform regulatory union for all thoroughbred racing across the country. They take 2% of the pari-mutual tax right now and divert it into the new fund which will totally go to offset the lawsuit. The other bill is one that would prohibit smoking on casino floors. It did get past committee but did not go past that. They argue that it is between 16% - 18% drop in revenue if smoking is banned.

We will have our 3rd Annual Legislative Race Day on 9/6/25 at the Humboldt County Fairgrounds with four legislators. It was suggested that one of the board of directors reach out to the racing and gaming commission to invite them to the races that day.

Vet information: The price per hour was discussed for this year. They usually work about 12 hours per weekend or 6 hours a day. Mike Telfer wanted to get a better idea of what they were charging us. Both the main vets used in previous years have had different amounts per hour. The board will need to discuss what they are going to agree to paying the veterinarian.

The board discussed the driver/starters for Humboldt since Lyle would not be with us this year.

The board discussed the pay for the Mike Morales for judging for the year. They came to an agreement on payroll and he will be given a list of duties he will need to be in charge of and the budget he is allowed to spend thru the year on testing. Tony Paris made a motion to pay the flat rate agreed upon with Mike Morales. He will be in charge of the drug program and getting supplies, doing the reports, etc. Larry Mather seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion passed.

Duane Roland made a motion that the budget for drug testing is \$1300 per 2 day meet and \$1950 for 3 day meet for IA Registered and \$650 for IA Sired race days, not to exceed \$18,500 total for the year. Larry Mather seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion passed.

The next item discussed was the Pick the Winner, Pick 10, and Last chance pick 5.

Tony Paris made a motion to increase the amount to \$1500 for Humboldt and \$1500 for What Cheer for the progressive pick 10. There was no second on the motion.

Cory Larson made a motion for \$1000 for Humboldt and \$1000 for What Cheer for the progressive pick 10. Jim Reese seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion passed.

Pick the winner will be \$5.00 paid by the association for the first 10 races if there are that many.

Pick 10 has been \$1500 if you pick all 10 correct. That paper is separate and turned in before the races start for the day. Cory Larson made a motion that in order to play or payout pick 10 there must be 10 races. This can be at any track. There will be no pick 10 if there is 9 or less races. The vote was taken with 1 board member voting no. The motion passed.

Next the board discussed what was agreed upon for race day expenses.

PER DAY

Judge \$750.00

Announcer \$400.00

Chart/Photo Finish \$475.00

Clerk \$250.00

Checks/Deposit \$250.00

Track Crew X 2 People \$100.00 per person

Timer \$100.00

Pick The winner Person \$100.00

Ambulance \$250.00 each race day except \$200 in Humboldt per day

Tony Paris gave Jim Reese the \$8000 grant check for the recording of our races thru the season for YouTube.

Mike Telfer sent an email regarding the reading of the By-Law changes. Larry Mather made a motion to approve the 2nd reading of the By-Laws changes. Jim Reese 2nd the motion. All ayes. The reading was approved. It can be voted on at the next meeting in August.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 19th after the races at What Cheer. Tony Paris is going to bring some samples for the trophies for this year's banquet for the board to look at. After the board meeting conference call on July 25, 2025, the new board meeting was moved to August 9th in Humboldt, Iowa.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54pm