

## Board Meeting

Tuesday, May14, 2024- 7:35 P.M.

Present: Greg Budach, Justin Anfinson, Jessica Johnson, Cathy Dessert, Tony Huffman, Vikki Pfeilsticker, Jesse DeLong, Dan Roland, Brian Detgen, Scott Banitt, & Brandon Jenson

AJ Fetterly, Nancy Robertson

Absent:

AGENDA: Jessica Johnson moved and Vikki Pfeilsticker 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the minutes from April 2<sup>nd</sup> which carried

Treas. Report: Cathy Dessert moved and Brandon Jenson 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve which carried

Officers and committees:

D & O insurance- Nancy had talked about numerous companies declining to cover us due to our relationship with Running Aces and their current litigation. She did find one company offering 1 million dollars in liability protection with a \$10,000 deductible at a cost of \$3400 annually.

Committee reports:

By-Laws- No longer has a chairperson but we need to look at quorum requirements due to non-in person meetings.

Cathy Dessert moved & Jessica Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> to remove the "in person requirement" from our by-law language to be reviewed at the next board meeting & the motion carried.

Membership committee- We discussed the annual renewal date possibly June 1, after discussion; Jessica Johnson moved to establish the date of January 1 running to December 31 each year which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vikki Pfeilsticker and carried.

County Fairs- has not met

Drivers- will meet when Aces opens

Hall of Fame –has not met

Legislative- Jessica updated the board on the latest actions regarding sports wagering and where it stands currently.

It appears like it has about a 60% chance of passing in its current form vs. 20% a few weeks ago.

The Thoroughbreds introduced an amendment giving them a much higher percentage of the money generated.

Marketing Committee- T-shirts, the USTA is offering a special price on fair t-shirts, Rapit Printing is also a source quoting at approximately \$2500 for 500 T-Shirts. The committee would like board approval.

Dan Roland moved to give the Marketing committee an annual budget of \$5,000. After discussion the motion was amended to \$7500 & 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Johnson which carried.

Hoofball fantasy pool will be reintroduced this year. Our share of the cost would be \$500.

Summer Fling update: Posts have been made on Facebook announcing 3 horses, Muffin Top & Bobs Time will share ownership with up to 30 people and Louis currently has 15 but looking for 30.

We discussed the MHRI reserved table on the Running Aces Apron at a cost of \$275 for the summer.

AJ asked if we were planning to supply water in the paddock again this summer.

Vikki Pfeilsticker moved to have AJ pick up water for race nights in the paddock which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Justin Anfinson & carried.

Annual Meeting: Vikki Pfeilsticker moved that we have the annual meeting next year on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2025 which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Johnson & carried.

AJ will confirm the date with Running Aces.

We discussed a horsemen's BBQ and Vikki Pfeilsticker moved to plan a BBQ this year with Running Aces sharing the cost, Jessica Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it carried.

Vikki mentioned a first aid clinic for horses at a cost of \$75.00 per person, numerous other clinics are planned.

Unfinished business: We discussed the open seat on the board vacated by Jeff Ryan. Jessica Johnson moved to leave the seat open till next year which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vikki Pfeilsticker by failed 8:3.

Dan Roland moved to appoint Scott Banitt to the open seat to fill the remainder of the term which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jay Delong and carried.

Discussion regarding Roberts Rules: There are concerns about some of the rules regarding discussion and voting.

We agreed to let the By-Laws committee discuss & present at a future meeting.

Executive board election:

President- Jessica Johnson nominated Justin Anfinson which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Roland and with no other nominations Justin was confirmed as the motion carried.

Vice President - Justin Anfinson nominated Cathy Dessert which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Roland and with no other nominations Cathy was confirmed as the motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer- Justin Anfinson nominated Greg Budach which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Roland and with no other nominations Greg was confirmed as the motion carried.

Nancy Robertson contract discussion:

Her contract expired April 30<sup>th</sup> and after discussion Cathy Dessert moved to keep her under contract through December 31<sup>st</sup> at the same bi-weekly rate which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tony Huffman and carried.

She would not be required to be present at every draw and every race night.

Benevolence fund discussion:

After discussion, Cathy Dessert moved that the entire board determine how we spend the benevolence funds which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Johnson & carried.

AJ mentioned that Jerry Longo asked to be on the drivers & track committees. She will ask him to clarify what committees for certain.

We discussed who pays for the blankets for the late closer events and AJ will ask Aces to share some of the cost.

Jay asked about the driver and track committees since the meet starts Sunday already.

Jessica mentioned that the lockers in the drivers' room need some attention; Justin will approach Steve or Ryan to see about improvements to them.

Next Meeting, June 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30 P.M.

Jessica Johnson moved to adjourn which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tony Huffman and carried.

Condition book discussion:

Move the first meet at Cannon Falls from May 4<sup>th</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup>.

We discussed the remainder of the book.

Jessica Johnson moved to compensate entrants in a Minnesota bred race if there are only two horses entered at a rate of 37.5% each with the remainder to roll into future Minnesota Bred races; the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Roland and carried.

2024 Points vs. money discussion for champion awards:

After discussion, Jessica Johnson moved to use points for the 2 & 3 year old classes awards the same points as % of purses with aged horses using total money earned; the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vikki Pfeilsticker after discussion the motion failed.

Dan Roland moved and Tony Huffman 2<sup>nd</sup> to base awards on total money earned at Aces including finals night for all 2, 3, and aged classes; motion carried.

Justin Anfinson moved to leave the county fair points system in place which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jay DeLong and carried.

Dan Roland presented the schedule they had worked on for Minnesota Breds and moved to adopt it for 2024 which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Johnson and carried.

Marketing-AJ is on track working on social media and has a meeting scheduled later this week with Aaron from Running Aces to discuss trying to work together. We'd like to do more barn tours and AJ will coordinate so she is available for the tours. Darin sometimes gives tours to Running Aces staff; we need to coordinate with him when those happen.

Summer Fling -We have plenty of horses available and have ordered horse head bottle openers for gifts to Summer Fling participants. Some people are still awaiting pictures from last year.

Rule Change Committee-has not met

Photographer- AJ could not find a contract from last year, the marketing committee will write up a contract to have Nicole sign. Nancy volunteered to look at anything we write up.

Open Board position: After discussion Jessica Johnson moved to table any action till next month, there was no 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Tony Huffman moved and Cathy Dessert 2<sup>nd</sup> that we fill the vacant position with a Minnesota resident only which carried.

Nancy talked briefly about D & O (Director's & Officers) liability insurance and has received some rather high bids, (\$25,000). She is reaching out to HHI and a few other sources to get some more options.

Committee's discussion: Jessica Johnson moved and Vikki Pfeilsticker 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the new committee rules document as presented and the motion carried.

Next meeting: May 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30 P.M. Jessica moved to adjourn which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vikki & Carried.