

2010 Spring Celebration Board Meeting
April 23, 2010

President Chris Walker calls the meeting to order at 12:10.
Eddie Barrow gives the invocation.

Present were:
Eddie Barrow
Jamie Lawrence
Ronnie Hooker
Andy Roberts
Chris Walker
Ed Hiers
Kelly France
Darlene Harris
Fred McRoy
Tim Toler
Judy Jones
Mike Etheredge

Absent were:
Tonya Parsons-Beaver has called and is not present due to her father's illness.

Motion to excuse Tonya, second, no objections, motion passed.

President Walker – Discussed the show and how entries are up. The attitudes from both the old comers and the new comers are positive and we seem to be going in the right direction.

Old Business

President Walker asked if everyone had a copy of the minutes, Eddie Barrow made a motion to accept, second by Darlene Harris, no objections, motion carries.

Personnel and Property Committee – Fred McRoy

Our committee met this morning, and I would like to say I appreciate everything the ladies have done in the office. I know for a fact they have put in a lot of long hours. Debbie Morris, Chase Hurst, Dorothy Jones, and Glenda Barrow have all volunteered their time and they are greatly appreciated.

We did have a robbery, they took Tracy's computer, but Chase Hurst was able to log in to the computer and get all the information to catch the guy who stole it. He has been arrested, he is now in jail, and we will be getting our computer back. In the meantime, we had to replace that computer, which was already voted on to get Tracy a laptop.

Tracy and Melisa both take the laptops home at night, there is a daily backup done and there is a backup on the server. So, we will be covered if anything else happens. We did not lose any data.

We have put together a committee that will report back at the June meeting as far as barn contracts and what should be done in booking stalls in advance for Spring and for Fall. Everything seems to be running fine; I have heard very few complaints. The lights in the warm up ring are great, is the warm up ring complete?

President Walker – There are no plans to connect it to the building and the reason for that is they said they have to back a tractor into the building and they would have trouble if they did that. They are hoping to do bigger things in the future.

Membership and Promotions – Kelly France

Tonya Parsons-Beaver has a lot going on, she has gotten some shows in Kentucky that we had lost. They agreed to affiliate with us again. She has gotten calls from Western Virginia and Eastern Kentucky shows that want us to waive their show cards for their first show. They are willing to affiliate with us and try to have all the show cards and registrations taken care of by next year and will affiliate with us then as well.

President Walker – The plan that Tonya and the committee had, to financially help these shows, we are going to have to get in gear and come up with something. Judy Jones and I have agreed to help a couple of these shows by taking care of a judge and maybe even sponsoring a class with them.

Judy Jones – We need to focus on memberships and registering more horses. Put our focus on promoting the breed.

Jamie Lawrence – I think its all great ideas, but we have to look out for the future of this business and if we start giving away all the money we have now, we will not have anything left to operate on. We have got to get something in return.

Melisa Taylor – It takes time to develop programs, but if you take an old commissioner list and call these people, talk to them, let them know we need their help. We want to get our breed on the right track.

We have to go to affiliated shows with affiliated judges, or else we lose who we are. Someone mentioned forming our own HIO and sanctioning these shows. Discussion followed. We have got to set some criteria as far as helping these shows. Memberships and Promotions will really have to study these things, we do want to help these people. There will need to be more investigations and discussions about this and then we can make some decisions.

We are set up on Facebook, we made the page on the 19th and now have more than 200 friends on it. It needs to be policed, and we in the office do not have the time needed to invest in this. I would like to see the membership committee monitor this.

Advisory Committee – Jamie Lawrence

Nothing to report.

Judges Committee – Ronnie Hooker

There was a lot of confusion when it came time for re-licensing; we are working on straightening this up. We are calling those that haven't taken care of it yet, and they are claiming they didn't get anything. To help promote some of these new shows, we have a list of judges that are willing to judge for expense only, and some for nothing. We have no judges that are up for apprenticing this year. Applications have to be in by the last day of the previous year for apprentice.

Trail, Field, and Pleasure – Darlene Harris

I have had some calls in the last couple of weeks about the versatility program and trying to get some information. We should have a few more sign up soon. Versatility and Rack Across America should work together.

Breeders Committee – Ronnie Hooker

They have found pending files stuffed everywhere in that office, some up to 14 or 15 years ago. The committee met and voted on those older files and decided to discard the pending files that are more than 5 years old. I have a bunch that I have been going through this morning; we will contact the ones individually that only need minor things to complete. We have already contacted a good bit and straightened them out and got them taken care of. We have switched completely to DNA, we are sending DNA kits to the people that claim they never got the blood kit at our expense. They seem very appreciative and are becoming more interested in registering more horses. We are still going through these files. In 2009, we had 33 pedigree registrations, and at this point we have already more than doubled that. We are on the right track; we are clearing a lot of things up.

One thing the committee wants a little clarification on is the growth plan, the board voted 2 or 3 years ago to suspending this. I want to clarify that to this committee so that we can get it straight with the office.

INDUSTRY GROWTH PLAN

Eight Year Plan to close the Stud Book

2005 Horses eligible for commission registration must be sixteen (16) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed "For Production Only" and cannot be used for show purposes.

2006	Horses eligible for commission registration must be fourteen (14) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2007	Horses eligible for commission registration must be twelve (12) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2008	Horses eligible for commission registration must be ten (10) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2009	Horses eligible for commission registration must be eight (8) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2010	Horses eligible for commission registration must be six (6) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2011	Horses eligible for commission registration must be four (4) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2012	Horses eligible for commission registration must be two (2) years old or younger. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.
2013	Horses eligible for commission registration must be less than one (1) years old. Mare and stallions whose use will be for breeding purposes only can be commissioned registered regardless of age. These registrations papers will be designed “For Production Only” and cannot be used for show purposes.

It was suspended, not cancelled, in case we decide to pick it back up. If we do reinstate, we will have to start over due to the years we missed in between. Decision was made to void the growth plan at this time. The board had previously voted on to do so.

President Walker – We showed some mules last year, we talked about putting them back in this Spring. It came up while we were discussing the classes, but it is my understanding that you cannot show anything in that ring and pay money for anything outside of a registered Racking Horse. If that is the case, we have to determine what we are going to do with mules in the future. If there wasn’t so much positive feedback, then we wouldn’t need to address it, but there has been a lot of interest.

Ed Hiers – In order for you to show in a sanctioned class, and all of our sanctioned classes are listed in there, then you have to be registered. The mule class is not a registered sanctioned class in the rule book; therefore you wouldn't have to be registered.

Judy Jones – The wording for the class was open mule class, and that's the way it needs to read.

Motion was made to add mule classes back in for the Fall celebration, seconded.

Ronnie Hooker – The commissioner meeting requirement is a problem, they have to understand that it is a requirement to attend. We had one here at the Spring show to help make up for the ones that couldn't make it to Winter Meetings. There was 8 who attended this time, next time may be 20, or may be 2, but we are putting effort into giving more opportunities to cover that meeting requirement.

Motion to grandfather some of the old commissioners back in, ones that have been out a year or more, previous requirements to be a member for a year is waived, and the past due fees waived. They must pay membership and commissioner fee for this year, Motion made by Judy Jones, Andy Roberts second, no objections, passed.

Rules & Enforcement Committee – Eddie Barrow

The only thing we have been working on is the Polygraph for the Judges. We have been working on the outlines and things.

Exhibitor Status Committee – Andy Roberts

Nothing to report, other than the numbers are up this year.

DQP Committee – Mike Etheredge

Nothing to report.

Horse Show Committee – Kelly France

Entries are up this year. I, as well as Chris Walker, have been around to the barns, and the people on the grounds are excited. I have heard very few complaints; overall, there have been no problems. The entries are higher than they have been in the last 2 years. The ticket people need to be checking tickets more. We need to enforce the golf carts and 4 wheelers running around.

Judy Jones – There are issues with the trainers coming into the back and blocking peoples view and shoving their way through the spectators. There is also an issue with kids in the warm up ring, unless that child is showing, they have no reason to be there. It is an accident waiting to happen, we have been fortunate that no one has been hurt.

Chris Walker – On Friday or Saturday nights of the Fall celebration, the seats are pretty well packed. Some trainers that come in are very respectful; others will stand right in your way. If you say something to them, then they get mad. I think we should designate a couple of spots for these trainers to go to when they come in to watch their horse. All these issues need to be addressed before the Fall celebration. Everyone talked about putting black Plastic up around the fence and a guard at the gate, box seat ticket takers,

where do the trainers need to go, 4 wheeler and golf carts need to stop at show time. These things need to be addressed with the show committee and come up with some solutions for the board in June. In the mean time President Walker will get Danny Odum and Kelly France together to work on a solution for the trainers.

Melisa Taylor – I know that this is a problem and if you have any suggestions, please let me know.

Jamie Lawrence – I suggest we charge \$5.00 for every person who comes through the gate.

Judy Jones - Their has been a time when we had a officer at the back gate and one at the front gate maybe that what we need to go back to.

President Walker again stated the show committee needs to come to the board with some solutions.

We need to do something about the horse sale, it is hard to have a horse sale and a general membership meeting at the same time. We need the people at both places.

Chris Walker –At the Fall, we will coordinate better between the horse sale and the general membership meeting.

Judy Jones – Some of the best turnout we had for general membership meeting at Spring or Fall was when we had it after the show on a Friday night.

Computers – Chase Hurst

Chris Walker – Chase Hurst is here, he has been working on our computers. He has done a tremendous amount of work for us, thus far, at no cost. Please thank him for all his efforts.

Melisa Taylor – We have a lot of problems with our access database, which is the horse registry part. For instance, when doing a transfer and then printing the papers, the markings showed up as an error. When going back in and attempting to correct this, the system deleted the horse. Luckily, Chase was able to find the horse for us. That is just one of the problems that we are having. One of the things Chase has been working on with us is the Showtime program, which is where we put in the entries for the show. I asked for Chase to come up with a price for the work he intends to do for us, he has so far charged us nothing.

Chase Hurst – There are 1,554 horses in the system with no owners. There are 2,656 duplicate members in the database. There are 113 horse owners with no horses, even if the horse has been sold or whatever, there should still be record tied to them. Showtime pulls information in for the trainer, the rider, the horse, and the horse owner. This generates reports for the DQP and for center ring, this is all integrated together. It still functions to a certain extent, but over the years, there has been so many changes it has caused the database to become corrupt and unstable. Once since I have been working with them, it crashed completely. One record locked an entire database up. The solution is to go in and clean it up, because the data is still there, but each computer has its own access to the data that is on the server. We need to get a good clean front door to the server. There is no exact figure I can come up with to do the work, there is no way of knowing how many hours it will take me to do the work. My suggestion is to take this one project at a time, and I am not sure how to price it, unless maybe by the hour. I have mentioned maybe a retainer, where there are x number of hours per month. I may worked 20 hours on it one month, then there may be a month where they don't need any help. My profession is accounting and computer setup, so since I don't do access on a daily basis, it

would be hard for me to say how many hour I will need to spend to redo an entire program.

Chris Walker – Chase, based on what you have done for us in the past, I don't think there is too much question in your work, or your being fair to us. It would be good, as a board, we are sitting here representing all the members and we have to be diligent with their money. Could you give us some parameters, what could be the worse case scenario time wise.

Chase Hurst – I only bill out \$50 per hour, and if you research on access, they are charging anywhere from \$100 to \$200 per hour. Sometimes when they call, it only takes me 10 minutes because I can log in from Owensboro and in 5 minutes, I'm done. I think if we could take like the Showtime, say we will spend \$500 on it and I can spend more time with it and see what needs to be done. Then get approval at that point. I can try to get a scope of the project down on paper.

Judy Jones – Are you satisfied working by the hour.

Chase Hurst – Yes.

Chris Walker – Would you suggest we approve a certain amount of dollars or time. Let you see where your at and then come back and address it then.

Chase Hurst – Yes, to redo the Showtime, I have watched enough from this show that I may need only 4 or 5 hours to redo the entire thing. They need to be able to add the placements and the prize money on it.

Melisa Taylor – I am more concerned with the horse side, we can work around losing Showtime, but we can't work around losing horses.

Chris Walker – Can we assign so much time towards that program.

Chase Hurst – We can say 10 hours initially for the access database. If I see something come up that is taking longer, because a lot of the thing that would prevent the corruption and things are simply some check boxes that say don't allow it. I won't get technical, but there are some rules that I can apply to it so that it won't allow it to happen. They should have been in place prior to this, but I am unsure why it isn't. There have been several hands working on the design side of it. Your data is there other than the cleanup with the duplicates, it's the front end, a lot of the cosmetics of it, the ease of use of it that needs to be improved upon. The server you have is the oldest computer you own and that is what is holding all of your data. When I came here, all of the individual work stations were each storing their own files on that, so they were not even being backed up. The first thing I did was that we copied every single file from every work station onto the server and I put a single backup drive on there. I then provided Tracy and Melisa with a thumb drive with instruction on how to backup the database and quickbooks. I would suggest an online backup that automatically backs up all the documents every night. With the computer being stolen, I am surprised they didn't go and unplug the little backup thing and then all of the data would have been gone. You are currently using 35 gb of data, the charge 50 cents per gb, so you are looking at \$21 per month. A lot of that information on that server is duplicate, and she has been going in as she has time to clean that up. So once that is all cleaned up, that price could even go down.

Judy Jones – Why don't we look at maybe a yearly or monthly maintenance fee. We are happy with what you have done, and if you would be happy with that, then I think we should set up a maintenance agreement with him.

Darlene Harris – That was what I was thinking too, that way we don't feel like we are taking advantage when we call on him for help. Chase has been a tremendous help, we have been very lucky to have him. I recommend that we go with Chase's recommendations as far as our hardware goes.

Chase Hurst – I can do that, I can provide a status report to each board member as we are going through it and give you an idea of what is going on. The stolen computer is the one I want to bring over as a file server because it is more stable. Quickbooks would not copy over to the current server, it gave an error message. You are going to see that a lot with the database too. It has a lot to do with the age of the computer and you got newer work stations trying to access it at the time same. The computer that was stolen was just built last year, and it is more than capable of holding that information.

Chris Walker – Ok, Chase you are approved, and at this time we will do \$50 per hour, and then we will come back and negotiate a maintenance fee.

Chase Hurst – I will take care of the online backup myself. The website only has the first page up and now that tax season is over, I will have more time to dedicate to this. I need information from all the associations about what you want on the site.

Melisa Taylor – Talk amongst yourselves and give us your input as to what you want to see on the site. The head shot that is on there now is not going to stay, it is a generic horse. I would like to use a head shot of our World Grand Champion.

Polygraph for the Judges

Ed Hiers – We all approved the motion that the judges would have to agree to submit to a polygraph test if requested. We also said that we would request one until we set the criteria. A committee was formed and we got together this morning and this is basically what we came up with. This is not nearly as broad as our discussions; this is not defined, and explained to you all the criteria that they will use, but it gives you everything that the committee thinks needs to go in the rule book.

The motions that we are looking to add went through rules enforcement today and they agreed there is nothing else they think we need to add.

Proposed Rule Changes

Pg.54 – Section 9.3 Judges Classification System

(C) To be eligible to judge the Spring & Fall Celebration, A judge must hold an “AA” or “AAA” license and must agree to submit to a polygraph test if requested.

Motion to add – Such request may be either random or part of a specific investigation. The determination for any request shall be made by a majority vote from the RHBAA President and Chairman of the Rules Enforcement, Judges, and Show Committee.

Pg. 59 – Section 9.6 License Denial, Revocation, 7 Suspension

(A) Motion to add – Refusal to submit to a polygraph test if requested or a failure of such test. In the case of a Judges refusal, it would also constitute a breach of contract and the Judges monetary compensation shall be withheld.

Pg. 134 – Section 18.2 Violation by Judges

(M) Motion to add – Failing a polygraph exam. Any judge who may fail a polygraph exam either random or specific may request, at their own expense, one retest by the same polygrapher within 30 days of the original exam. Failure of such retest is considered final and shall be a class E violation with penalties then determined by the Judges Committee.

The things that are not in here are things that they would utilize in order to make the determination; it could take a protest, backed by other protests. Or several individuals, not just one that go to the committee and say ‘look, something’s not right, or we have heard this rumor’. I’m not talking from the same barn, but from several individuals from

different barns or something like that. That may give them reason to suspect that maybe we need to have them tested. They will not single out a judge individually, if any request is made for a judge to be tested, all the judges for that show will be tested. A formal protest does not have to be filed. It will take 3 out of 4 on the committee to decide to do the polygraph. The test is what gives you the evidence to then move forward in a penalty situation. This is an RHBAA expense, the cost of the polygraph test depends on the length of the test itself. If a judge refuses to take the test and we haven't paid him, then we have the right not to pay him. If a judge refuses to take the test, their license is automatically suspended, and the license will not be reinstated until they take the test. That 4 man committee, along with the polygrapher, will also decide on the questions that will be asked during the test. Our discussions were that if a judge was in fact guilty, and he knows that he is guilty, he is probably not going to be retested at his own expense. If he is innocent, at least we are allowing them the opportunity to retest and maybe clear things up. If failed, it would be a class E violation. Class E violations can take penalties from a simple probation up to expulsion from the RHBAA and fines up to \$1,000. We would leave the discretion of those penalties up to the judges committee. We discussed that some violations may be more serious than others.

Chris Walker – The way this committee is set up, it is set up so that they, in and of themselves, can get the polygraph test done. Ultimately it comes down to that 4 person committee; they have the power to say yes or no.

Ed Hiers made a motion to post the proposed rule changes, Andy Roberts second to vote for at the June meeting.

Roll call vote:

Eddie Barrow - Yes

Jamie Lawrence - Yes

Ronnie Hooker - Yes

Andy Roberts - Yes

Chris Walker - Yes

Ed Hiers - Yes

Kelly France - Yes

Darlene Harris - Yes

Fred McRoy - Yes

Tim Toler - Yes

Judy Jones – Yes

Mike Etheredge – Yes

Tonya Parsons-Beaver - Absent

Motion passed.

Chris Walker – There was a protest made, a letter was sent to each of the judges. I have read back over the judges section in the rule book and we have been discussing the polygraph for the judges. The committee is made up of the judge's chair, the rules enforcement's chair, show committee, and the president. In the years past, I have always heard that the come back when a judge is accused of doing anything wrong, judging a class, whatever. The normal come back is 'we hired them for their opinion'. Just like everything else we are working on, I want to work on changing our mind set. We have talked about some of the things that we are going to make changes as far as money and

getting people to do their barns different, and not jamming it down people's throats. That we are going to have to take it slow and make these changes slowly. I want to do the same thing with the attitude of the judges and look to change to mind set of how we judge our horses. It is my opinion, that it is not the opinion of the judge. We are not hiring them for their opinion, if we were, we could get it done a lot cheaper because everyone has got an opinion. There are times that opinion certainly has to fall into play because you got so much likeness, doing exactly the same thing. Although they are meeting the qualifications of the rule book, you may favor one kind of lick over another kind of lick. It is very clear to me as I hear about the judges. One place in the rule book about apprentices, ***'if there is reason to believe the apprentice is qualified'***, not whether he has a good opinion or not, but qualified. He has been trained, or he has a good knowledge of what our horses are supposed to do. Another place states ***'Designation as a Racking Horse Breeders' Association of America-approved judge is a privilege, not a right'***. I think we have felt for some time like it is a right, but it is a privilege to be a judge. ***'whose equine expertise and personal character merit the honor'*** The honor of being a judge. ***'An individual's ability and conduct as a member, exhibitor, and judge must be exemplary and are subject to continual review.'*** I am just going to hit some highlights. ***'A Judge will remain under continuous review of the Judges' Committee.'*** ***'A judge shall not be required to give his/her reasons for a tie to any exhibitor, or spectator, or person other than an RHBAA authorized official.'*** In some cases, they are required to give an explanation. ***'A judge's decision represents his/her own individual preference in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Racking Horse Breeders' Association of America.'*** There is a lot to that; I encourage everyone to read them. I want us to think about changing our mind set on judges in general and on what we expect and require of our judges. We are not hiring for opinion, we are hiring because they are qualified, they know what the horse is supposed to do and we are expecting them to do just that. It is a privilege, it is not a right, it's a great honor to stand out there and judge our horses. They have been voted in by our membership, and our membership voted them in because they put trust in them. The polygraph committee does have the ability to make a decision without concrete proof. It's hard to get concrete proof all the time and this particular committee for the polygraph don't necessarily have to have concrete proof to require that polygraph. As they pointed out on our conference call, if we had concrete proof, it wouldn't be at the polygraph state, it would be at the judges committee, or rules enforcement, but look at changing our attitude and our mind set toward the fact that we do have the ability to reign this thing in a little bit as a judges committee and as sitting on the committee that can require the polygraph test, sometimes we are going to have to go with a gut feeling and make a call that's not pleasing and don't seem fair to some. But we are going to have to make a call that sometimes is stout, so we should encourage our board members to back that attitude and that mind set. My point is that as long as it is within the regulations, opinion has to decipher. Perception is reality, they say. As we are trying to clean this thing up and trying to do things better, and different, I don't want opinion to be the first thought, we put a lot of confidence in our judges, and we expect them to be qualified and do a job. I don't want to look to pick on any judge whatsoever, but if there is opportunity, if there is an obvious problem in the future, we need to take a good hard stand on that. We need to be in the same mind, one mind and one accord kind of deal. We don't need to make an example out of anybody; we just need to do the right thing every single time. In the future, whoever is on the judges committee and whoever is the judge's chair, needs to look at that as opportunity to do good for the industry.

Treasurer – Darlene Harris

The projected budget was made in comparison of year 2006 – 2009 for 2010. After making the comparisons we found the income for areas such as campers, stalls, booth rental etc. had not been broken out into different categories. Therefore, we are very optimistic even though we have a negative based budget. The positive side is we are expecting growth.

All bills are paid for the show. Checking account balance is \$4,476.09 our Money Market is \$128,848.70.

Andy Roberts made a motion to accept the budget and Treasurer report, Tim Toler second, passed.

Darlene Harris, Motion to adjourn, Kelly France second, passed