

, Gary April 27, 2023

Call to Order 6:30pm

Quorum –

Conflict of Interest:

Additions to Agenda:

Approval of Agenda:

New Business:

- Horsemen spokes person
- AGCO review
- Racing update

Adjournment

April 27, 2023

Call to Order 6:32pm

Present: Dwayne, Sandra, Ron, Hope, Bill, Alicia, Kris, Claudette, Doug Bellan, Rob, Cathy, George Carther, Steve, Yvonne, Randy McFadden, Gary Langstaff

Absent: Charlene, Brad, Don, Carolyn, Randy

Quorum: Yes

Conflict of Interest: None

Additions to Agenda: Directors

Motion to Accept: Ron, 2nd Hope, carried

Purpose of Meeting: Follow-up from AGM regarding horse people nominating a representative in the backstretch.

- Rob had a meeting in the barn and Rob is the spokesperson for the horsemen. All agreed 2 days after the AGM meeting; no one objected.
- **Alicia:** Any conflict needs to be signed and faxed w/AGCO; any issues regarding the back barns are to be voiced at monthly meetings by Rob.
- Doug Bellan asked what is Rob's job function, and does he bring issues to the board's attention? **Alicia:** Yes.
- It was noted at the AGCO review: they want to make clear that if horsemen have an issue with an official rule, that the board has no power to change that rule. They must go to AGCO to inquire about changing or modifying a rule.
- Rob acknowledges that he is just a voice, and he is not there to change AGCO rules, this implies to all horsemen, even trainers coming in.
- Doug Bellan asks if Rob's position generates from tonight. **Alicia:** Yes. We are starting fresh and have a revised plan.
- Cathy voiced about incoming trainers being upset; Rob had discussions involving gray areas. **Alicia:** You are considered an official track 6 races or more all year round; AGCO rules are applied here 365 days a year.
- **Regarding Training Days:** **Alicia:** An official track only has to offer 1 day; every track will be different; Dresden offers 3 days. **Doug Bellan:** Who Chose That? **Alicia:** The Fair Board chose that.

- Rob would like to focus on training; an outsider came in and ruined the track and Danny had to spend time and money to fix it. Rob would like to explore different options. Use common sense (Trainers).
- Rob would like to explore the potential to rent out Ship-In stalls for more income to offset the expenses. Would be beneficial business-wise.
- Doug Bellan notes that we need owners to buy into this industry. It's springtime.
- Cathy notes that people with full-time jobs need alternate days and times to train. Doug Bellan says that we need to enforce the rules.
- **Rob:** Stall agreements can be modified; suggests allocating stalls for other days (7-2pm) to ship in. (They) pay a certain amount and sign an agreement, no overnights.
- **Doug Bellan:** The problem with asking for stalls outside of training days is that we were told "no". Rob: Would like to move forward with alternate days for ship-ins; if you want to use our facilities, (they must) pay to do so.
- **Bill:** Grand River trains a certain day and (they) clean up after themselves. **Rob:** The amount for ship-ins (are) to be determined by the Fair Board; privileges will be revoked. Walk-throughs will be done 2 times a week. Maybe accommodate (public training) on a Saturday. **Doug Bellan:** Teamwork needs to be done.
- **Bill:** Bringing in sick horses is a concern. **Rob:** Separate barns could alleviate that; stipulations are needed; stay to the outside (of the track) in bad weather.
- **Cathy:** People are approaching (us) to stable at Dresden. **Alicia:** Danny is focusing on race season for now-for AGCO. The future plan is that Barn 2 will be available for stabling; AGCO is looking for track improvements; We are looking for a facility to be proud of. Barn 1 and paddock are areas to be proud of. We need to show AGCO that we are working together. AGCO is running this like a business. They keep receiving calls and we need to fix that. (We need) to concentrate on getting things under control and follow all the rules.
- **Rob:** No sharing stalls; each stall is not connected to any horse. You cannot pay for one stall and bring 4 horses. Have to follow the rules. **Doug Bellan:** Wants to be able to come and train (along with Gary Freer). **Rob:** No overnights, clean up, leave it how you found it. **Doug Bellan:** What if 15 horses came into ship-in? **Rob:** We should be able to accommodate horses and clean up. Maintenance cleans up for the three scheduled training days (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) and the Lessee cleans their own stalls/areas assigned to them via the contract.
- Doug Bellan makes note to liability concerns; Alicia states that wheelbarrows have been stolen. **Rob:** Renters are to supply their own tools if they rent stalls. They are to clean up

themselves. Maintenance cleans up for ship-ins on the scheduled 3 days, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

- **Alicia:** You need an AGCO license in order to be allowed at the track. Looking for common decency that if you don't have an AGCO license, you're not allowed in the paddock. 365 days a year. **Doug Bellan:** What about sign-in guests? Concerns? **Alicia:** If you sign in a guest you would say on "*example date*", I had "*example name*" with me. You would put it in a book and if anything happened on that day, they could question the guest because of the act. If there was a fine, it would be on the trainer or whoever signed them in.
- People entering the paddock will be coded every Sunday. They can tell if they're legit, only on race days. There is also a warning that there is an inspection that will be happening soon on the track property.
- Cathy asks who will have forms for where your horse is being trained?
- **Alicia:** Subject to a power point presentation: Track rules will be available in the paddock-AGCO has approved our racetrack rules. Stall Rental Agreements are posted. We are currently going through an audit; we were the first. In this day and age this is how it needs to be done. Doug Belan would like to know if you can get a fairly cheap AGCO license. **Alicia:** I believe \$20 dollars is the cheapest. If you need help (filling it out), we're here to help you. **Rob:** At Mohawk, everyone needs a license. You have to say your number and the reason you are there.
- Bill states that Horsemen can't vote and this needs to change so they can vote for what's happening at the racetrack. Alicia states that she had to show AGCO improvements like conduits and drains. They had everything on that list, and they wanted to see it. **Doug Bellan:** They have the power to shut down the track. Hope states that these are the rules, and we must follow them, and this is the first step.
- **Doug Bellan:** We should be able to come here and have fun. Some feel bad for coming. **Rob:** One thing that everyone needs to understand is that it takes time to resolve concerns. Many people want more than 3 training days. **Alicia:** On top of soon-to-be inspection, AGCO is coming to ensure we're ready for racing. We need people in the stands and any suggestions for upcoming race dates are welcomed.
- Cathy would like to provide an estimate for asphalt replacement in the grandstand area.
- **Alicia:** Last point is Directors; Official word from AGCO; Randy is on the board-not the racing committee, therefore he cannot vote. Dwayne is on the board-not the racing committee, therefore he cannot vote, and no motions.

- Doug Bellan suggested that we have animal shows like Brigden, and a car show that could be part of the fair. Everyone agreed at the suggestion.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion-Bill at 7:52pm.