

THE HORSEMEN'S BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors Second Floor Boardroom, Hastings Racecourse, Vancouver BC April 21, 2019

Present:

Officers of the Association: David Milburn, President.

Directors of the Association: Mary-Anne Baumgartner, Nancy Betts, Michael Bye, Ed Claggett, Phil Hall, Barbara Heads, Steve Henson, Gary Johnson, Linda Lytle and Warren Wilson.

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 a.m.

Tribute to the Late Richard Yates

Richard Yates was the Secretary-Treasurer of the HBPA of BC from 2010 until his sudden death on March 22, 2019. He was a true advocate of, ambassador for and friend to racing. In addition to his local HBPA of BC duties, he produced the cleverly written "Richard's Wrap-Up" after each race day about the winning horses and their connections. He was also instrumental in the formation and administration of the two Hastings Racing Clubs with approximately 500 members with whom he was in frequent contact about their stables.

He was influential on the national racing scene as secretary-treasurer of the HBPA of Canada for seven years. He served with distinction on numerous committees and assisted in executive matters for the national HBPA in the USA.

He bred, owned and trained many hard-running racehorses for his clients and himself for 27 years, authentically participating in the life of the backstretch community.

The board honoured the memory of Richard with a "48 flat" period of silence, acknowledging his favourite half mile workout when preparing his horses for their races. The board members, each in their own way, recalled and reflected on his life and service.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board of directors approves the minutes of its previous meeting held on January 26, 2019, as circulated.

Election of Vice-Presidents

The president explained that the three officers (president and two vice-presidents) are empowered to finalize decisions on a tripartite basis, provided that the three unanimously agree on the action and that their decision furthers previously approved policies and discussions of the board of directors.

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice-President-Owner. Gary Johnson was nominated, and further nominations were invited twice more.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board of directors declares Gary Johnson elected by acclamation to the position of Vice-President-Owner.

Election of Vice-Presidents (continued)

Nominations were opened for the position of Vice-President-Trainer. Steve Henson was nominated, and further nominations were invited twice more.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board of directors declares Steve Henson elected by acclamation to the position of Vice-President-Trainer.

Industry Updates

President Milburn provided updates on the results of a series of industry and other meetings:

Hastings Racing Clubs 1 and 2. Three people have been contracted by the management committee to manage the two racing clubs. Matthew Elder (a club member), Mark Freeman (a club member) and Nigel Reid (a horseracing journalist) have begun with the work of updating the email distribution lists and establishing Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts for each club to facilitate communication with the 500 members between the two clubs. Club 1 has two horses in its stable, and Club 2 will have three horses with the claiming of one more in the coming week from one of the California tracks. Current works are now being posted on the platforms.

Weekly Racing Wrap-Ups. Glen Todd (HRIMC), Ole Neilsen (BC TOBA) and David Milburn (HBPA of BC) have contracted with horseracing journalist Nigel Reid to produce the twice-weekly Hastings Racecourse wrap-ups during the racing season. The Thoroughbred portion of the industry marketing budget will cover the \$10,000 cost.

Secretary-Treasurer Recruitment Process. The board confirmed its desire to adjust the secretary-treasurer's job description to enable management oversight and supervision of the financial components of the position with the functions themselves being contracted to a qualified person.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board directs that the secretary-treasurer duties be divided (with financial services and bookkeeping being contracted to another person) for the current fiscal year and that a review be conducted in early 2020 in order to prepare recommendations for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board delegates to the officers (acting unanimously) the task of recruiting, employing and contracting with the next HBPA of BC secretary-treasurer with the understanding that the maximum annual compensation is \$50,000.

HBPA of BC Financial Services. Cristan Gossen has agreed to provide bookkeeping and related financial services on an interim part-time basis similar to her previous contract (prior to Richard Yates employment). Compensation for her services to date is under discussion. In light of today's motion confirming the desire to contract the work for the coming year, the compensation discussions will proceed on the understand that the maximum annual compensation is \$15,000.

HBPA of BC Office Equipment. The organization's desktop computer, printer and scanner will be retrieved from Richard Yates' home shortly and moved to the HBPA of BC office.

Richard Yates Contract. The president explained that the late secretary-treasurer's contract was comprised of three parts: salary, retirement funding, and expenses. The contract also included a 90-day disability clause. Following discussion, a motion was proposed.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board of directors authorizes the payment of the equivalent of three months of the late secretary-treasurer's salary to his estate and the payment of the Memorial Services' cremation fee.

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Richard Yates Memorial Service. Discussions will be held with the family to determine the timing and content of a memorial service at the track, if desired by the family.

Current Fiscal Year Budget

Lead by Audit, Finance and Insurance Committee chair Warren Wilson, the board reviewed a preliminary draft of the budget for the current fiscal year. The budget is to be finalized at the next meeting of the board of directors.

With regard to bank signing authorization, the board agreed that it would continue to authorize the two vice-presidents.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that: The board of directors directs that any one of the two vice-president officers are authorized to sign bank cheques and related banking documents.

A certified resolution document will be prepared immediately.

Tom Wolski Blog Financial Support

Further to the previous meeting's decision to request continuation of funding for Tom Wolski's blog production (\$250 per edition for 26 editions, totaling \$6500 plus external edits of the blog for \$100 per edition for a total annual cost of \$9100) from the Horse Racing Industry Management Committee, the president reported that the HRIMC decided against the request. BC TOBA agreed to fund half the total cost (\$4550).

The board decided to fund 50 per cent of the blog expense, provided that the HBPA retains the right to edit the blogs prior to publication. Nancy Betts agreed to undertake the editing responsibility. The president agreed to advise Tom Wolski that this will be the last year that the HBPA will provide financial support, due to ongoing budgetary restrictions.

Horse Population Update

Michael Bye reviewed his document tallying the spring works at Hastings Racecourse to April 20, with comparative figures for the previous two years. He noted the absence of 2-year-old works, compared to 43 this time last year. With the now improved weather conditions, many more 2-year-old horses will begin to work, but the first 2-year-old race may not be able to be scheduled until early June, despite condition book offerings being available in May.

Selected Committee Reports

Feed Store – covered in budget discussion.

Jockey Issues – twenty jockeys have signed immigration application forms (overseen by Mel Snow).

Learning Centre – fire safety sessions have been completed with an inadequate number of fire extinguishers reported in the barns. Hastings management has committed to correcting the shortage.

Teletheatre BC – organization is ahead of budget and has identified a new Sechelt location. A new Victoria location involves difficulties due to new city council policies. Sites immediately outside Victoria are being evaluated. TBC is undertaking promotional activities with the two racing clubs to increase the use of the Horse Player Interactive betting option.

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Rules & Appeals – a Rules Committee meeting is scheduled for April 24. David and Ed will propose a rule change incorporating the current house rule on three-month waiver claiming.

Grooms & Owner Recognition Program – Mary-Anne & Barb are continuing to negotiate the development of a new program for grooms and the improvement of existing programs for owners.

Adjournment

Having completed the approved agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.