

The Racing Committee was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Pari-Mutuel Committee Chairperson, Mark Loewe.

1. Roll was taken by Michele Kopiec. Present were: Chris Antonacci, Steve Bateson, Sam Beegle, Dave Bianconi, Jason Bluhm, Marilyn Breuer-Bertera, Barry Brown, Kim Crawford, George Ducharme, Joe Faraldo, Mark Ford, Joe Frasure, Rich Gillock, Kevin Greenfield, Jeff Gregory, Todd Haight, Sam Hedington, John Hensley, Skip Hoovler, Jacquie Ingrassia, Ben Kenney, Mike Kimelman, Mark Loewe, Don Marean, Steve McCoy, Chris McErlean, Bob Miecuna, Dr. John Mossbarger, Steve O'Toole, Scott Peine, Jim Reynolds, Dr. Andy Roberts, Jason Roth, Ray Schnittker, David Siegel, Mike Sweeney, Ashley Tetrick, Mike Torcello, Gabe Wand, Dr. Scott Woogen.

2. **Driver/Trainer Committee Update**

Michele Kopiec gave an update on the rule that went into effect on January 1, 2021, requiring new trainer applicants to have had USTA membership for at least one full year and show evidence of a racing commission license for at least three consecutive years. The compliance for the additional information has gone well, with the issuance of a limited trainer's license to those who do not meet the criteria totaling 22% of licenses issued in 2021, versus an average of 5% in prior years.

Chairperson Gregory recommended the discussion of the option of having a monthly testing site for both written and practical exams. The idea will be discussed at a future meeting of the driver/trainer committee.

Mike McNeely, VanGundy Insurance Agency, gave an in-depth overview of the disability income program with accidental death and dismemberment written by VanGundy, underwritten by Chubb insurance. There are no rate changes for 2022. There are 4,150 members eligible for coverage with 148 opting in. Mike welcomes any and all suggestions to increase participation.

3. **Regulatory Committee Update**

Chairperson Faraldo deferred to the HISA update from the General Session.

TC Lane gave an update of the Officials Internship Program, which was introduced on May 30th of 2021. The extensive program was created as a result of the board assessing a need to not only increase educational opportunities for our racing officials, but work toward increasing the supply of quality individuals in the stand. The association selected John Zawistowski to serve as the first to complete the program. The initiative was in conjunction with the Minnesota Racing Commission, Running Aces Racetrack and the Kentucky Racing Commission. After the successful conclusion, John was employed the KHRC at the Red Mile, under veteran racing official, Tim Schmitz. Currently John is now an Associate Judge at Pompano, awaiting his next role as this meet wraps-up. We look to continue this program in 2022, as Minnesota, Indiana and New York have all indicated that they too would like to mentor and train an individual to put into place around the country.

4. **Fairs Committee Update**

Chairperson Hoovler gave an update on the fair situation in Ohio. Renee Mancino & Steve Bateson reported on the fair broadcasting program to "simulcast" the race cards. Rich Gillock stated how Pennsylvania is trying to get more fairs on board to host racing and there were other updates from Jim Reynolds (IL) and Sam Hedington (IN).

5. **2022 Proposed Rule and Bylaw Changes**

Chairperson Loewe proposed that, because of overwhelming acceptance at the district meetings, rules 1, 2 (as amended to be in by 11:59 p.m.), 6, 7, and 8 be approved as a lot. McCoy moved to approve, Hedington seconded. The proposals were approved.

The following rules were overwhelmingly rejected at the District level: 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 19. McCoy moved and Gregory seconded that these rules be rejected. The proposals were rejected.

The committee considered and acted upon the following proposals:

- Proposal #3 – rejected
- Proposals #4, 18, 20, and 21 – rejected after the discussion of the notes on the proposal
- Proposal #5 – accepted
- Proposal #10 – rejected
- Proposal #11 – rejected
- Proposal # 26 – by-law change is moot due to #11 being rejected
- Proposal #16 – tabled
- Proposal #22 – rejected
- Proposal #23 – tabled
- Proposal #24 – tabled due to #23 being tabled
- Proposal #25 – accepted

6. **Pari-Mutuel Committee Update**

Michael Carter provided an update on the Strategic Wagering program. Overall in 2021, strategic wagers handled \$43.9-million vs \$37.5-million in 2019.

Chairman Loewe discussed accident protocols in various jurisdictions and the necessity to establish uniformity for the safety of all drivers and horses. Ohio is currently coming up with extensive protocol that may be a model for other tracks/jurisdictions.

As there were no other matters to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.