



**Delaware Jockey's Health & Welfare Benefit Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting Held On
October 16, 2013**

The Delaware Jockey's Health & Welfare Benefit Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at 2:15 p.m., in the second floor conference room of the Horsemen's Office, located on the grounds of Delaware Park, 777 Delaware Park Boulevard, Wilmington, Delaware 19804.

The following Board members were present:

Edward J. Stegemeier, Board Chairman
W. Duncan Patterson, Jr., Ex-Officio member
Bessie Gruwell, DTHA , Executive Director
John E. Mooney, Delaware Park, Executive Director of Racing
Pete Lizarzaburu, Retired Jockey
Mindy Coleman, Esq., Jockey's Guild, Counsel

The following Board members were excused:

Delaware Jockey Board Member – position currently vacant
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The following individuals also were present:

Andrew Kerber, Esq., Deputy Attorney General, Commission Counsel
John F. Wayne, DTRC Executive Director
Robert E. Colton, Delaware Jockey's Association, Director
Jordan Terrell, DTRC(recording minutes)

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

At 2:07 p.m. Chairman Stegemeier called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion duly made (Gruwell) and seconded (Mooney), the minutes from June 12, 2013 were approved.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Retired Member Eligibility Discussion

The proposed eligibility rule 2.1.2.3, stating that jockeys retired from Delaware (but still licensed elsewhere) would not be eligible for a plan, was discussed. Andrew Kerber stated that the board can go to public meeting based on a clerical error and he would send in a notice to change the language. Robert Colton explained that another rule (1.2) needed to be changed to agree with the above amendments. Kerber stated that 1.2 can be altered as a conforming change to match the eligibility listed in 2.1.2.3. The changes regarding 2.1.2.3 were approved at the DJH&WBB meeting on June 12, 2013. Kerber will send those changes

collectively to Jeff Hague as a typographical change (2.1.2.3) and as a conforming change (1.2.) Upon a motion duly made (Mooney) and seconded (Coleman on behalf of Heriberto Rivera), the change of rule 1.2, which will allow one active and one retired rider on the board, was approved.

B. Return to Work Injury/Illness Form

Colton said the form was problematic and needs to be worked on. Risk management does not want an additional form. Colton adapted the form and resubmitted it to Delaware Park pending approval. The form is a work in progress.

C. Christiana Health Care

Edward Stegemeier revisited the idea of having a race event dedicated to members of Christiana Health Care. This event would show Delaware Park and the board's appreciation for Christiana's hard work and involvement with the track's medical needs. Part of the current screening process for Christiana Care interns asks about the prospective intern's knowledge regarding horses and racing. Stegemeier suggested inviting about half a dozen people, including the director of the emergency room, over to the park and providing lunch. It was proposed that this take place some time in June and will be discussed at a later date.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Changes to Board Make Up

The change in law permits an active and retired rider on the board, or two active riders. Now, there are more retired riders than active riders. Robert Colton spoke on the potential problems with having more retired jockeys in terms of medical problems and insurance premiums. Robert Colton and Mindy Coleman discuss the differences between Delaware's jockey rules versus other tracks.

B. Nutrition Program Update

Colton reported that, in speaking with Edward Stegemeier and Dr. Sue Snider, the nutritional program would continue with serious consideration for mandatory participation by Delaware Jockeys. Professor Sue Snider recommended Robert Colton enroll in the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension program for Master Food Educator. Colton is looking to add some type of program or continued education, including the annual dinner seminar, for jockeys to attend and educate themselves on nutrition. Edward Stegemeier proposed scheduling the dinner earlier in the racing season, to promote more attendance, as well as making it a requirement to attend one of the continued education sessions (within two weeks) to be licensed at Delaware Park. John Wayne suggested that the nutrition program also encourage the spouses and family to attend, since they are participating in the preparation of the meals. Duncan Patterson commented that smaller classes may be beneficial to make sure the information is getting through to the jockeys.

C. Report on ICHSWJ Meeting at Monmouth Park (Sept 12-13, 2013)

Colton reported that the meeting was very educational, specifically on concussions and temperature regulation. The Jockey Association met the day before the conference. Colton reached out to Sarah McCullen regarding specific nutrition, dieting and fitness. Colton wished that more state commissions had attended. Mindy Coleman commented on her frustrations regarding attendance. Coleman stated that Steve May and Ed Martin reached out to multiple commissions regarding this meeting and reflected on her excitement about the conference every year. There are many commissions, with the exception of Delaware, that do not have a safety committee.

Ed Stegemeier would like to involve the University of Delaware with Sue Snider's contribution to the Nutrition Program. It would be beneficial to get an article published in Blood Horse (or the like) to get both the University and the track recognition for their involvement.

The next International Conference for the Health, Safety and Welfare of Jockeys is in Hong Kong in two years.

D. Counseling Program Options

Ed Stegemeier reminded everyone that Wes Jones is no longer handling the counseling. Robert Colton will be in touch with Brandywine and is still looking for a replacement.

E. Helmets and Safety Vests Standards

Robert Colton recommended that jockeys wear approved helmets and vests only. Colton stated that the current DTRC rules should be revised, not listing specific standards since they change all of the time, to only allow "commission-approved" or "steward-approved" equipment. Mindy Coleman stated that the Jockey's Guild has been discussing these same issues and will report back to the board when they have reached a conclusion. Colton suggests eliminating rule 8.11.4 "...rider's safety vest (with a minimum British rating of #5)" which references a standard that has never existed. Robert Colton reported the current approved safety helmets and safety vest standards, not currently a part of DTRC rules. Ed Stegemeier and Robert Colton discussed the difference between weigh-ins and outs, in respect to the vest policies, that Delaware Park has versus other tracks. Colton states that he emailed the language which states that all riders will have to wear commission-approved helmet and vest.

F. 2013 Year to Date Schedule of Costs

Projected Delaware Jockey H&W Fun Surplus (Cost) is estimated to be \$28,950.

G. PDJF Discussion

A suggestion was received that the Board consider making a \$5,000.00 annual contribution for three years, beginning in 2013, to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund. The \$5,000.00 contribution would match the current contributions pledged by the Delaware Park, Thoroughbred and Arabian Horsemen's Associations. Upon a motion duly made (Gruwell) and seconded (Lizarzaburu) a contribution in honor of Ramon Dominguez to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund of \$5,000 for three years was passed.

5. State of the "Fund"

Robert Colton made the following report for the state of the fund:

- The 2013 year-to-date revenue less expenses as of October 30th is \$19,318.
- The projected end-of-the year revenue less expenses is \$34,033.
- The unencumbered balance as of October 1st is \$1,147,922.87 with approximately \$19,700 in a check awaiting deposit (**reported by John Wayne.**)
- Spending this year totals \$81,237.11 including money paid to the University of Delaware and insurance costs through September (**reported by John Wayne.**)
- The current participation is 17 active jockeys and 15 retired jockeys for a total of 32 members.
 - Of the 17 active jockeys, four did not ride the qualifying number of Delaware mounts during 2013 and will lose their benefits effective December 31, 2013.
- Year 2014 will begin with a total of 28 participating active and retired jockeys.
- An additional 14 active jockeys rode the qualifying number of races for either 2012 or 2013 but have not enrolled in any of the health benefits.
 - Of these 14 jockeys, 5 will lose their eligibility effective December 31, 2013 as they did not ride the qualifying mounts for 2013.

Colton expects increased participation in 2014 due to the Affordable Healthcare Act, commonly known as Obamacare, effective January 1, 2014.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 3:20 a.m. Bessie Gruwell moved that the meeting be adjourned, followed by Edward Stegemeier who seconded.