



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
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Minutes of the
Delaware Harness Racing Commission Meeting
PUBLIC SESSION

February 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM
Delaware Department of Agriculture - Conference Room

Commission Members Present

Patt Wagner	Vice Chairman
George Staats	Commissioner
Stephanie Liguori	Commissioner

Others Present

DHRC Executive Director Mark Davis, DAG Andrew Kerber, DSBF Executive Administrator Judy Davis-Wilson, Dover Downs Vice President of Racing Charles Lockhart, Sr., Harrington Raceway General Manager Jim Boese, Harrington Raceway Asst. GM Matt Sparacino, Harrington Raceway Facilities Manager Karen Craft, and DSOA Executive Director Sal DiMario.

DHRC personnel: Lauren Torres

*Chairman Beth Steele and Commissioner Berberian were unable to attend.
Vice Chairman Patt Wagner will chair the Public Session.*

Minutes: Donna Krol

CALL TO ORDER:

At 10:50 a.m. Vice Chairman Wagner called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Public minutes from the January 8, 2019 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Vice Chairman Wagner entertained a motion to approve the public minutes as presented. Motion was made by Commissioner Staats and seconded by Commissioner Liguori. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
February 19, 2019**

NEW BUSINESS:

Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, Veterinarian:

Executive Director: Activity Summary Report

Mark Davis reviewed the Activity Summary Report's provided to the Commission. Report covers the time period of January 1 through January 31, 2019.

Racing statistics: June

Total # of Live Racing Days = 19

Total # Live Races = 263

Average # Races per Day = 14

Total # of Starters = 2,214

Delaware Owned/Trained purse retention: Average = 82.0%

*Delaware Owned now includes horses that are full/partially owned or trained by Delaware residents.

License statistics:

Total # licenses issued = 169

Total Monthly = \$13,990.00/YTD Total = \$13,990.00

(Total Monthly figures include Licenses, Fingerprints, Appeals and Fines)

Personnel Activities:

N/A

Meetings/Events attended by Mark Davis:

Rules Meeting 1-8-19

Commission Meeting 1-8-19

Racing Official Report - Presiding Judge:

Reported by: Mark Davis

Total # of Rulings: 10

Total fine amount: \$2,400.00

Racing Official Report - Chief Investigator:

Reported by: Mark Davis

Total # Human Drug Tests = 19

Positive result: Three, Grooms: Brandon Cruse, Aaron Mcrae & Mica Beauchamp

Total # Breathalyzer tests = 878 average 46/day, Positive result – One, Driver Mike Rossi

Total # Truck & Trailer Searches completed = 5

Fingerprints processed= 14

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
February 19, 2019**

Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, Veterinarian: continued

Racing Official Report - Veterinarian:

Reported by: Mark Davis
Total # of starters = 2,214
Post- Race Testing:
270 Blood samples were collected.
227 Urine samples
43 incomplete collections (no urine)
Catch Rate = 84.3%, average time per catch was 34.4 minutes
Cobalt Analysis: 31 Pre Race samples collected
Judge's Special Tests: 3
Horse Euthanized On/Off Track: None
Accident On/Off Track: Off Track none, On Track none

OUT OF COMPETITION TESTING:

NONE

FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT Requests:

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Sal DiMario spoke about the error that occurred during Race # 7 on 2-12-19. According to Mr. DiMario this has happened twice now and both the Judge's and Starter Car employee need to be reprimanded. Andrew Kerber stated that this was a personnel employment matter and not a public matter for discussion. Mr. Kerber noted that Mr. DiMario is free to fill out a Complaint Form and list the DHRC Rules that have been violated. Mark Davis stated that the Commission is well aware of the incident and that it was handled under the personnel guidelines of State Employees. Mr. DiMario feels that if they hold a DHRC license they should be subject to the same guidelines as the horseman (fined, ruling reported to USTA and posted on the public board). Mark Davis stated that the DHRC Judge's each hold a DHRC license as an official but that does not supersede that they are State Employees. Mr. Di Mario asked about the Starter Car employee, he is not a State Employee and does hold a DHRC license. Mark Davis stated that both DD management and the Judges have spoken and met with Dale Milby and the situation was handled. Again, Mr. Kerber noted that Mr. DiMario is free to fill out a Complaint Form and list the DHRC Rules that have been violated.

CLOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING:

With no further public business to discuss, Vice Chairman Wagner made a motion to adjourn the public session. Motion was carried by Commissioner Liguori and seconded by Commissioner Staats.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM

Next Rules Committee Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 9:00AM at Dover Downs-Kent Room

Next DSBF Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 1:00pm