



ILLINOIS HBPA

Board Meeting August 27, 2024

I Call to Order

II Role Call

The meeting was called to order by Jim Watkins at 6:05 present were as follows:

- Jim Watkins
- Scott Becker
- Kevin Wilborn 6:18
- Harry Lynch
- Patti Macari by phone
- Mike Moore
- John Rednour Jr by phone at 6:18
- Cynthnia Rush by phone
- John Wainwright
- David Warchol
- Duane Wells by phone

III Old Business

Golf Tournament

Melody Higdon reported that the 2024 annual golf tournament will be at Arlington Golf course on Wednesday August 31, 2024. Melody reported that we collected \$ 700 in golf sponsors to help cover some costs. There are 23 teams playing. Jim Watkins said the Accel is donating some money for the golf tournament.

IV New Business

General members Meeting/Dinner September 2024

The HBPA will host an annual general member meeting in September 2024. It will be held in the Black Stallion room. We will provide a dinner for the members.

Annis Amplified

This is an organization that provides youth programs at the track. Jim Watkins said that the HBPA will host a program at Fairmount Park.

Update on Racing Days Changed

The racing schedule will be cut short by 2 weeks in November 2024 due to construction of the new temporary casino. An 8th race will be added to the card to replace the racing days missed.

Winter Training

The contract for winter training will be complete by September 19 before the IRB meeting. Cost has not been discussed yet. Jim Watkins discussed the possibility of getting rid of Abbott services to reduce cost.

2025 Race Days

Jim Watkins and Scott Becker will meet with Accel on September 3 to discuss the general contract, winter training and the money owed to the HBPA.

Gerald Butler Suspension

Gerald Butler was suspended by HISA for having thyroid and syringes found in his tack room. Pending his hearing he has been ask to leave the track. He faces upto 2 years suspension and a \$ 25,000 fine. Gerald also has accusations that he threatened HISA employees.

DuQuoin Races

DuQuoin races has been set for Monday October 7, 2024. Illinois money add for the races is \$ 150,000. Post time is 1:00pm.

Hosting 2025 Executive Meeting

Jim Watkins has been in conversation with the National HBPA about hosting the summer 2025 executive meeting at Fairmount Park. Approximately 50-60 people will be in attendance. Jim would like to have activities such as cardinal game, Ach trip and various activities in the St. Louis area. We will have the temporary casino.

V Financial Reports

August 2024 Financial Statements Statement

Melody Higdon presented the August 2024 financial statements and review expenses over budget. Melody reported that the expense are down. Collecting golf fees upfront has cover expense spent on the golf tournament. Benevolence-Activities is under budgeted by \$ 800 due to golf fees and hole sponsors. Dues and subscriptions is over budgeted by \$ 3,063 because the HBPA dues are budgeted in September but was paid in August in the amount of \$ 3,000.

Review Bank Accounts

Melody Higdon reported that bank balance as follows:

Collinsville Building and Loan	\$ 12, 134.98
DuQuoin State Bank	\$ 142,013.11

Region Bank	\$ 1,960.59
Total	\$ 156,108.68

Purse Report

Melody Higdon reported that FanDuel owe the HBPA \$ 208,702.85. Jim Watkins will discuss the issue with Mike from Accel.

IV Committee Reports

Activities Committee

Melody Higdon suggested the HBPA to take the horsemen to the Rodeo on October 4, 2024 at the Grizzlies Stadium. It is \$ 40 per ticket. This is not all-inclusive.

Lobbyist Report

John Costello reported that the VETO session is in November 2024. John has heard that they are possibly cutting dates up north.

Attorney Report

Lloyd Cueto reported that there will be an injection to stop HISA. The injection will be filed within the next 2 weeks. Lloyd has been talking to the National HBPA council. He would like to get a few horsemen to talk about the rules. He would like to talk to horsemen with recent refermands.

Lloyd is hosting a St Clair County bar association social event on September 28, 2024 at Fairmount Park. This is not only attorney and judges, it will also include families as well. He is looking for a place to host it. Melody Higdon suggested the first floor. He will contact Nikki to organize the event.