

NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2026
Zoom

APPROVED

Present: President Mike Hancock, Vice President Casey Hinton, Directors-at-Large John Tague, Karen Shedlauskas, Andrea Stillo, Tom McCutcheon, and Ed Bricker

Staff: Commissioner Billy Smith, Assistant Commissioner Christa Morris-Stone, Chief Financial Officer John Foy, Sr. Director of Education and Officials Patti Carter, Sr. Director of International Affairs & Development Samantha Oldfield, Sr. Director of Medications & Compliance Liz Kelsey

Guests: Legal Counsel Jeff Todd

Call to Order:

President Mike Hancock called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Executive Session

Breeders Task Force Review

A motion and a second were made to approve the charge and task force appointments, with the addition of Leonardo Arcese, and to allow Commissioner Smith to handle Ixtul and JBJ. Motion passed unanimously.

Derby Challenge

No action taken on the Derby Challenge.

A motion and a second were made to add \$150,000 to the Derby purse, and to appoint a subcommittee of 3-5 executive committee members to come forward with a formal recommendation to the executive committee to later be ratified by the board (as a part of the Derby conditions). Motion passed unanimously.

World Reining Qualifier

A motion and a second were made to approve the World Reining qualifiers at the 2026 6666 NRHA Derby presented by Markel to run concurrently with the NAAC/ancillary show. Motion passed unanimously.

European Affiliate Council Proposal

A motion and a second were made to approve \$25,000 being allocated to Europe for 2026, only, in lieu of the \$75 increase (to be placed into their Derby or Futurity, or beyond, their decision) and to require that Europe increase their nomination fees effective in 2027 (pending final board approval of Nomination Conditions to reach amount) and to inform them a current affiliate investment plan is in the works. Motion passed unanimously.

Untangling of the mane clarification

A motion and a second were made to approve the rule clarification addressing rider conduct while the horse is in motion: If a rider untangles a horse's mane or straightens the latigo while the horse is in motion, a five (5)-point penalty will be assessed. Motion passed unanimously.

Following updates on the Horse Protection Act, Mexican San Luis Potosi, and NRHA Sponsorship/Partnership Trends (2015-2025), the meeting adjourned.