



VOTE YOUR CHOICE

Online Elections Coming Soon!

The NRHA Executive Committee and Board of Directors are responsible for managing the business of NRHA and for representing the best interests of its members, the horses and the Association as a whole. Each year, NRHA opens nominations and hosts elections for a variety of leadership positions.

For the 2027–2028 term, three candidates were nominated for the Director-At-Large seat on the Executive Committee. The candidate receiving at least a majority of votes cast will serve on the Executive Committee from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2028.

Voting for the 2026 election will begin September 1 at noon CDT and ends September 15 at noon CDT.

Director-At-Large – Executive Committee (One Seat for Worldwide Voting)

John Tague – Pilot Point, Texas

My journey in the reining horse world began the way the best things in life often do, unexpectedly. More than a half century ago, horses brought my wife Nancy and me together, and we've been inseparable from them ever since. We started with American Quarter Horses after finding our footing in the hunter jumper world, but when life brought us to Texas, we discovered what would become our true passion: reining.

We have dedicated much of our focus to growing this sport at every level. That commitment led me to NRHA leadership and the Reining Horse Foundation, where I've seen firsthand how much this organization means to riders, breeders, and families around the world.



Nancy and I built Toyon Ranch in Pilot Point, Texas, with a simple but ambitious goal: to breed and raise the finest prospects this industry has to offer. That goal is only possible with the support of so many across the industry. Because of that support, I'm proud to say Toyon Ranch has become a top

producing breeder, including the breeder of two Run For A Million Champions, and home to several Invitational and 100X Stakes enrolled stallions.

That foundation of dedication, investment, and love for this sport is exactly what I try to bring to the NRHA. I'm running to continue the work that has created so much momentum for the association — now is the time to bring that momentum deeper and broader across our sport!

Maik Bartmann – Osthofen, Germany

The passion for Reining and the NRHA runs deep in my family. Raised in the sport, I was influenced early by my parents' involvement - my mother as the first secretary of NRHA Germany and my father as a founding member and professional trainer - giving me a lifelong, firsthand understanding of the association.

I began showing Reining horses in 1986 as a youth rider and turned professional at 18. Since then, I have built a successful training business, competed in Reining and Working Cowhorse events, and conducted clinics throughout Europe. For the past 25 years, I have also judged NRHA events worldwide, gaining a broad and balanced perspective on standards and the sport's evolution across regions.



I bring to the Executive Committee a combination of practical industry experience, international perspective, and longstanding service with NRHA. Through roles on the Judges and Stewards Advisory Committee, Board of Directors, European Executive Board, European Affiliate Council and NRHA Germany board, I understand both the strategic and operational needs of the association. I have worked closely with affiliates, professionals and organizers, and recognize the importance of aligning grassroots development with major international events to support sustainable growth, I am deeply grateful for the opportunities NRHA has provided me and for the chance to give back through service.

If elected, I will contribute informed, experience - based decision - making, foster strong communication between leadership and membership, and support initiatives that promote growth, consistency and integrity worldwide. My goal is to help ensure NRHA continues to evolve while staying true to the values that define it.

Paulus Beurskens – Heide, Netherlands

My journey in reining began in 1994 when the finesse, power, and character of the reining horse immediately captivated me. My wife Gisela and I purchased our first reining horse in 1996, and by 2003 that passion had grown into Galaxy Quarter Horses, a breeding operation with horses in training on both sides of the Atlantic. I have been competing as a Non Pro since the 1990s and intend to keep showing for many years to come.

Professionally, I bring decades of executive leadership experience to everything I do. As Founder and CEO of Galaxy Executive Management Solutions and Managing Director at Omniprofs, I have spent my career turning strategy into results and developing people into leaders. That same mindset shapes how I approach my service to this sport.



My commitment to the NRHA is long and deep. I have been a member since 1996, served on the Dutch Reining Horse Association Board and as its President, and have been an active member of the NRHA European Affiliate Council and European Executive Board since 2015. I served on the NRHA Board of Directors, chaired the European Major Events Committee, and have most recently contributed to the Non Pro Advisory Committee, the Aged Event Advisory Committee, the Eligibility Advisory Committee, and the Hall of Fame Committee. At the international level, I also served on the FEI Technical Reining Committee in Lausanne.

On the competitive side, my horses and I have achieved results I am proud of across Europe and beyond, from European Derby and Futurity championships to a World Reining Championships Individual Senior Open Bronze medal in 2025 and most recently an IRHA Derby level 3 Championship in 2026. These experiences have given me a genuine, ground-level understanding of what our competitors, owners, and breeders need from the organization that governs our sport.

What I hope to bring to the NRHA Executive Committee is something I believe is genuinely rare: a balanced, independent, and global perspective shaped by experience in nearly every role our sport has to offer — competitor, Non Pro, owner, breeder, and governing body leader. Combined with my business background, including an MBA from Erasmus University Rotterdam and recognition as Best CEO in the Electricity Industry in 2015, I am well-equipped to help navigate the strategic challenges and opportunities ahead for the NRHA.

My goal is straightforward: to help build a sport with a place for every reiner, everywhere in the world. I am an effective communicator who values trust, loyalty, and genuine engagement with people. I would be honored to earn your vote and continue serving this organization and the members who make it great.

Additional Seats

Several other elected leadership positions will be filled for the same two-year term. *The following uncontested seats will be elected by acclamation by the Board of Directors.*

Vice President:

Margaret Fuchs – Canfield, Ohio

For most of my life, the National Reining Horse Association has been far more than an organization to me — it has been a community, a passion, and an important part of both my family and professional life. I am honored to be a candidate for NRHA Vice President and would sincerely appreciate your support.

I was raised on a farm in River Falls, WI alongside my parents and three sisters, where our family rented horses for trail rides by the hour. My involvement in horses began early on through the farm and 4-H, but my passion for reining truly took shape while attending the University of Wisconsin–River Falls. During that time, I had the opportunity to learn from respected horsemen including Larry Kasten, Jack Brainard, Bob McCutcheon, Tim McQuay, and Bob Loomis.



Over the years, I have remained deeply committed to the sport through training, judging, mentoring, committee service, affiliate leadership, and industry involvement. I have been privileged to serve the NRHA in several roles, including:

- 5 years on the NRHA Board of Directors — East Central Region Director
- 8 years as an NRHA Judges Committee Member
- 8 years as an NRHA Teaching Panel Member
- 4 years as Chair of the Nominating & Governance Committee
- 2 years as an Aged Events Advisory Committee Member
- Former Affiliate Board Member for multiple NRHA affiliates
- NRHA & AQHA Specialized Judge for 30 years

In addition to my NRHA service, my husband and I own Saddle Creek Farms in Canfield, where I have spent many years as a professional trainer. Through coaching, clinics, and youth involvement. I have worked to help grow reining at every level — especially among youth and non-pro riders.

Outside the horse industry, my leadership experience as Head of Human Resources at SCF Bedding, Inc. has strengthened my skills in communication, governance, strategic planning, organizational leadership, and problem solving — all of which I believe are important in helping guide NRHA into the future.

I believe strongly in preserving the integrity and traditions of reining while also preparing our association for continued growth and long-term success. Our industry faces both opportunities and challenges that require thoughtful leadership, transparency, fairness, and a commitment to listening to members across every level of involvement.

If elected Vice President, I will work to support:

- Strong governance and financial responsibility
- Fair and consistent judging standards
- Growth opportunities for riders, owners, breeders, and professionals
- Youth and grassroots participation
- Respectful communication and member engagement
- Continued advancement of NRHA while honoring the values that built our association

NRHA has given me countless meaningful friendships, experiences, and opportunities throughout my life. The opportunity to serve at this level would be a true honor and a meaningful way to give back to the industry that has given so much to me and my family.

I care deeply about the future of reining and the people who make this industry special. I would be honored to continue serving the membership and helping shape a strong and positive future for the NRHA.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Regional Director: (North American regions)

Mountain

Travis Chapman – Eaton, Colorado

The National Reining Horse Association has been a large and important part of my life, and my family's life for the last 26 years. My wife, Michelle, and I have been competing in NRHA events since 2000, her as a professional and I as a Nonpro and our daughters competed in Youth events throughout their childhood and teenage years.

I currently serve as the Mountain Region representative on the NRHA Board of Directors and am seeking re-election. This has proven to be a valuable experience in which I believe I've been able to effectively represent regional priorities and concerns while helping NRHA



continue to grow and move forward to strengthen our industry. Additionally, I have been an NRHA Judge and Steward for 8 years. These roles and the experiences I've been fortunate enough to enjoy, have provided many different perspectives of NRHA both locally, nationally, and worldwide. This has allowed me to understand how challenges and decisions impact exhibitors in multiple ways and to see things from both the Nonpro and Professional perspectives.

This foundation of experience has allowed me to serve effectively and to appreciate multiple perspectives as an NRHA Director. In my roles as a director, committee member, committee chairman, local affiliate president, and director, I have worked to ensure that I hear and understand ideas and feedback from multiple members with varying points-of-view and then use this information to make the best decisions for the organizations I served. I will continue with this philosophy in representing the membership and supporting the continued growth of NRHA and the sport we all love.

Southeast

Bundy Lane - Gates, North Carolina

From the Candidate: As a member of NRHA for over 40 years and raising my children in this sport of reining, I am now at a time in my life where I think I can help guide this organization forward. The training and experience I have gained from sitting on a Farm Credit bank board for 15 years along with building and managing a family farming business has prepared me well in all matters of finance as well as board functions. I have served as the Southeast Regional Director for the past two years and am currently chair of the Non Pro and Finance/Audit Committees, and serve on the Nominating / Governance Committee.



From being the first NRHA Youth 14-18 world champion in 1986 to my daughter competing for Team USA in 2017 and 2019, I have loved this sport and the challenges it presents. Reining is magic when you get it right. I want more people to experience the thrill and excitement I feel when riding a good, broke horse, and helping this sport do that is my goal for being on this board.

Southwest

Jenny Ricotta - Scottsdale, Arizona

For the past two years, I have served on the board as the Southwest representative. Prior to that, I served on the board and executive committee for the AzRHA. I am involved in many aspects of the NRHA - A competitor, business owner and breeder. I am looking forward to represent to Southwest region for another two years.



Canada

Meaghan Myers – Lloydminster, SK, Canada

My involvement in the reining horse industry spans more than 25 years and encompasses all aspects of the sport, including breeding, raising, training, and competing. As an active competitor in both Canada and the United States, I have developed a strong understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing our industry. Reining is truly a family endeavor for us—my daughter and I compete at NRHA events, my husband is serving his third term on the Reining Alberta Board of Directors, and I have contributed through service on several Reining Alberta committees. I am passionate about supporting our members, fostering youth involvement, and helping ensure the continued growth and success of reining.



Need more info?

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