



Steeplechase Owners and Trainers Association, Inc. Minutes

June 30, 2021 – 2:00pm EST

Attended:

Miriam Anver	Gail Clark	Wendy Kingsley	Todd Wyatt
Mark Beecher	Lucy Goelet	Jeff Lehew	Leslie Young
Keri Brion	Ricky Hendriks	Alex Leventhal	Donnie Yovanovich
Sean Clancy	Marsha Hewitt	Sanna Neilson	
	Arch Kingsley	Hill Parker	

Unable to Attend:

Joe Davies, Fenneka Bentley

I. Guest Caller – Bill Gallo

We have a lot of opportunity in the summer but the horse population is low as far as the summer is concerned - 9 Races at Saratoga and 14 races at Colonial.

The horse population is at an all-time low. He believes that this is the aftermath of COVID.

Bill Gallo has been in touch with Todd Wyatt and there are 10 trainers that have indicated that they have a horse (or more) for Saratoga. Many are single horse entities. We have somewhere in the vicinity of 30 horses for Saratoga.

Colonial will be a lot easier because there is no betting so there isn't a huge emphasis on field size. There are a lot of options for Maidens at Colonial.

Todd Wyatt and Bill Gallo loosely agreed to have a call with the 10 trainers to come up with some decisions about races at Saratoga. We can't card a race at Saratoga with less than 7 horses so we need to figure out how to make that happen.

We have an important situation in Saratoga that we need to maneuver around to fill as many of the races as possible.

We have a \$75,000 Filly Stake at Colonial that does not have much

support at the moment.

Todd Wyatt asked about Colonial saddling.

The jocks room will be on the backside, trainers will be in the receiving barn and this is where they will tack their horses. Our races will be at 12:15 and 12:50, regular programming starts after that.

We will be running over the National fence at both summer meets. The NSA is responsible for getting the fences set-up. Al Griffin is sending crew members from Great Meadow to set the fences up every Monday and take them down after our races.

Harrison Young will be supervising the fences at Colonial Downs. The NSA will be paying him for this. He may start the races as well.

Bill Gallo just sent out a notice about the possibility of a Trial at Shawan Downs if there is enough interest. This will be rather informal and is scheduled for July 7.

Jack Fisher is being inducted into the Hall of Fame on Friday, Aug 6. Bill Gallo encouraged everyone that can attend, please do so. There is talk of a social event on Weds, August 18, the day prior to the Jonathan Shepherd Stakes.

- II. Approve May Minutes** Kimberly Kapacziewski
With no corrections, the minutes stand approved as emailed to the board.

- III. Committee Reports**
- Treasurers Report** Wendy Kingsley
- | | |
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| Checking | \$9,059.96 |
| Savings | \$14,597.55 |

Race Conditions Committee Sean Clancy
Summer conditions – if you have a horse, a condition or a suggestion – share that with Todd Wyatt, Sean Clancy or Bill Gallo. Sean has expressed to Bill Gallo that if he is thinking about making changes to conditions, please announce those immediately so trainers can make changes as necessary.

- IV. President's Report** Todd Wyatt
- A. Al Griffin reached out to Todd Wyatt about the EasyFix fence. He would like to meet with the committee and Dr. Cowles to continue the discussion about these fences. The committee consists of Jack Fisher, Kate and Bernie Dalton, David Bourke, Sean Clancy, Sanna Neilson, Ricky Hendriks and Todd Wyatt. As far as Todd knows, there is a pad that EasyFix is shipping over to the USA via container.

B. Summer racing is very important to our sport. There is money offered and we simply don't have the horses to run. What is going wrong here? Todd asked the group for feedback.

Hill Parker suggested that certain hunt meets would make races run but there are plenty of times where there isn't someone willing to step up to the plate. A group such as SOTA could step-up to the plate and assist the race meet and there would be more opportunity.

Keri Brion suggested some hurdle races that aren't just 2 miles. Possibly run some 3 mile races that aren't Iroquois. There aren't many opportunities for horses that aren't super-fast and distance may be to their benefit.

When all maidens are rated 116, no matter what the race is like, it is challenging – distance may help horses.

Ratings may be something that the SOTA board can address in a future meeting.

Hill Parker suggested a rating race for horses that have never won 3 races at 110 or less. That eliminates seasoned campaigners against one that has just broken its maiden.

Every trainer needs to reach out to Sean Clancy and let him know what horses you have and conditions that work for them.

Leslie Young inquired about younger jockeys being able to ride this summer. Todd Wyatt believes there is discussion at the NSA office but he is uncertain about the official decision.

V. Old Business

A. Honoring Jack Fisher being inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in Saratoga (Bill Gallo discussed)

B. Jockey Report: Wendy Kingsley and Kimberly Kapacziewski made calls about connecting the dots between riders and hunt meets, put together protocols to present to Emery and Jockey Association as suggestions [document attached]

Wendy Kingsley talked to the board about a plan to present the emergency protocol list that she and Kimberly Kapacziewski came up with to Emery at the NSA office as well as the jockey association. We want to show that the owners and trainers care about our riders. The hope is that this list will get the ball rolling to get a solid plan in place to handle jockey injuries.

VI. New Business

Kimberly Kapacziewski

A. Our sport lost an icon last week with the passing of Maggie Bryant.

B. Board member, Marsha Hewitt, has served as the equine marketing specialist in South Carolina. The Thoroughbred Association hired a lobbyist to address the issues of ADW (Advance-Deposit Wagering). South Carolina currently doesn't allow betting on anything.

The lobbyist has gotten a bill through the House and the Senate to form and Equine Study Committee that will see what can be done to promote the horse industry in the state of South Carolina.

The committee needs to hear from us – feedback will go a long way in supporting this initiative.

Marsha Hewitt encouraged anyone that has raced in South Carolina to please send a note to Kimberly Kapacziewski with your input.

Kimberly Kapacziewski will get with Marsha Hewitt to come up with some talking points and this is something that we can do to make a difference.

VII. Adjourn 3:15pm

Kimberly Work Timestamp:

June 30: 1hr 25min Board meeting

July 2: 35 min – spoke with Emery at NSA office re: Jockey Protocol and emailed to her

July 8: 2.5 hours editing meeting minutes, emailed Bill Gallo's minutes to him for approval, sent to Executive Committee for approval

Rider / Hunt Meet Information Sheet

Hunt Meet Name:

Hunt Meet Representative who handles riders:

Who can assist with a jockey's stuff that is left behind? Examples: tack bag including helmet, vest, silks, whip and cooler, rental car return

Who can assist in helping with accommodations of a jockey has missed their flight but is released from the hospital and needs a place for the night?

(Or is not in shape to travel but is released from the hospital and needs a few days or somewhere until someone can come get them?)

If a jockey needs to be air-medevac'd out of the hospital, where would they likely go?

If they are air-medevac'd off the racecourse, which hospital will they be taken to?

Hospital info - What is the address to the hospitals that you use?

[Specific directions to the local hospital from the race course]

Keeping in mind that security and traffic officers sometimes don't let you turn in the direction that the GPS is telling you or the directions are telling you to go.

Rider Information:

Where is medical info located?

Medical information is on a card that each rider has on their wrist or on their armband.

What needs to go with jockey?

- Phone + Charger
- ID
- Shoes
- Clothes

Who will contact a jockey's emergency contact in the event of an accident?

