

**AQHA Racing Council
Houston, Texas
2013**

1. Approve the Graded Stakes report with the following amendments: The 2014 Ruidoso Derby, Southern California Derby and Golden State Derby to remain G1 races. (Recommendations 3-5 were reviewed by the Racing Committee and their action appears on Graded Stakes Subcommittee Report).

Executive Committee Action: Approve

2. Recommend that the Graded Stakes Committee consider that the 3-year average falls below the minimum level for three consecutive years before lowering the grade.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

3. Approve the Racing Committee report as presented.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

4. Appoint the following AQHA Members to the Champions Selection Committee:

- a. Jimmy Eller – TX
- b. Melodie Knuchell – CA
- c. Lowell Neumayer – NM
- d. Micah McKinney – TX
- e. Matt Witman – OK
- f. Tommy Goncharoff – NM
- g. Butch Hammer – IA
- h. Vince Genco – CA
- i. Tom Lepic – IA
- j. Vaughn Cook – CO

Alternates

- Tommy Hays – TX
Billy Smith – NM
Walt Fletcher – KS
Lloyd Yother – AZ

Executive Committee Action: Approve

5. Council Members and staff will identify possible people who are interested and have the ability and expertise to teach new racing officials and continuing education classes.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

6. Staff will gather information to establish a rating system for racing officials and review at the summer meeting. **Explanation:** The council would like to review information that might help racetracks and jurisdictions in evaluating and hiring racing officials – very similar to how other sports review their officials or the AQHA Judges approval system.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

7. Approve the grant requests for Florida, Wyoming and Idaho at 80% of the requested funds.
 - a. Florida:\$71,329
 - b. Wyoming: \$8,000
 - c. Idaho:\$1,600

Executive Committee Action: Approve

8. Approve the definition presented to define horse racing, to replace rule RAC300.3:
 - a. In cases where races eligible for AQHA recognition are run under the supervision of a Racing Authority, the Racing Authority's rules take precedence. While the rules of Racing Authorities take precedence, AQHA, for purposes of AQHA records and programs, reserves the right to deny or revoke recognition of a race which does not observe the rules and regulations contained herein. American Quarter Horse racing is defined as two or more American Quarter Horses registered with the American Quarter Horse Association, entered and competing in the same race at the same time from a regulation starting gate, at distances and conditions recognized by AQHA and running at full speed, unimpeded by obstacles, thru a common finish line. Also see rules RAC 301 and RAC 302.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

9. The Racing Council has reviewed the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission's ruling concerning Rylees Boy and the positive ruling against his owner/trainer Geraldo Ochoa-Pena. Since the race happened prior to the AQHA policy put into effect January 1, 2013 concerning Champions Awards and positive drug rulings the Council has determined that a final ruling must be issued before further possible action is taken concerning the 2011 Champion Aged Gelding award.

Executive Committee Action: Approve

10. Extend Dr. Steve Fisch's Racing Council term to 2016 to put the Racing Council back on a 2-2-3 rotation. **Explanation:** This is to address the issue with the passing of Scoop Vessels and his term on the Racing Council. Instead of asking or determining which current council member should step down early they determined that someone should serve two extra years to put the Council back in line with the resolution. This would put the Council back on a 2-2-3 election term by 2016. They will elect 1 person in 2013, 3 in 2014, 2 in 2015 and 2 in 2016.

Executive Committee Action: Approve