



National Little Britches Rodeo Association
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Executive Board Meeting

January 21, 2023

Embassy Suites OKC Oklahoma City, OK

Board Members Present: Billy Nelson, John Stewart, Kerbi Bowden, Brad Nuckles, Em Cragar, Jeremy Sherman, Chris Strickland, Jodi Stoddard, Jimmy Lovelady, Scott Eastep, Jeremy Sharit, Jay Troyer, Kevin Hollingsworth, Paul Bottini, Mark Massey, Danny Cerezo

Also Present Executive Director Annie Walter, Youth Board Member Natalie King and Cory Ferguson

Billy called the meeting to order followed by the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Paul made a motion to accept the minutes of previous meeting and Jimmy seconded. Motion carried.

Annie gave the executive director report to include finance update. Discussion was had on how the money was earmarked for scholarships, youth board and royalty funds. Membership numbers are up from last year close to 200 contestants from this time last year. Discussion was held to include franchise updates, new franchises, franchise complaints.

Ron Besonen presented the associations investments as well as different options we have available for funds. No changes will be made to investment portfolio for now.

Kevin with Western Specialty Insurors reviewed current insurance policy NLBRA has.

John reviewed the finance committee meeting. Suggested taking some of the operating money we currently have and investing in a CD for short term. Going to start paying scholarship payouts monthly verse quarterly. John is making a recommendation to take funds and invest in two different CD's at separate banks till markets stabilize. Mark made the motion to accept the recommendation and Jimmy seconded. Motion carried.

Cory reported to the board about the NFR and both WESA conventions. Cory suggested all the previous sponsors are planning on returning with 5 new sponsors having contracts in hand but not signed yet. Visited about ideas for a motivational speaker during contestants meeting.

Finals chairmen Kevin talked about the arena setup for 2023. Suggested they will not change any arena configuration for the finals. Mark made a motion to raise the protest fee to \$100 and Brad seconded. Motion carried.

Billy gave a camping and stall update. Generators that are currently in lots Gold, Black, generator and Blue will be replaced by plugins. Little Britches will purchase panels and wire and Lazy E will provide the rest. Lazy E is working on updating to 50 AMP plugins on all permanent plugins already in place. Natalie made a motion to accept the recommendation of the camping and stall committee and Em seconded. Motion carried.

Rules committee reported the proposed rules as follows.

Rule Change Proposal (#1) Submitted by: Kerbi Bowden Page 82, Article IV, Section 5, Letter B, Number 14F: Any dragging of calf after roper is dismounted from the calf of more than 10'. The measurement to be determined by impression of calf on the ground and will be determined by the field judge. Additional Comments: The current rule is unclear on if the drag starts from when the contestant dismounts the calf or if the drag measurement starts when the roper dismounts the horse.

Kevin made a motion to accept Kerbi's amendment to the rule change and Natalie seconded it. Motion carried. Rule change would read: Any dragging of calf after roper is dismounted from the horse of more than 10'. The measurement to be determined by impression of calf on the ground and will be determined by the field judge.

Rule Change Proposal (#3) Submitted By: Kerbi Bowden Page 82, Article IV, Section 5, Letter B, Number 14F Any intentional dragging of calf regardless of distance will result, in a no time. Intentional dragging shall be defined as caused by contestant. Excessive dragging of calf will receive a no time. Excessive dragging shall be defined as moving the calf six or more feet after the contestant has called for time. However, if in the opinion of the judge, the dragging was caused by something outside of the control of the contestant, the judge may give the contestant his time. Dragging the calf while the contestant is tying the calf will not be considered excessive dragging. Additional Comments: The current rule is unclear on when the drag measurement starts if it is when the contestant dismounts the horse or the calf. The above rule would mirror that of other junior associations such as the National High School Rodeo Association and National Junior High Rodeo Association so it would provide clarity in the rule as well as continuity for the contestants across multiple associations.

The committee recommended to not approve the second rule proposal by Kerbi, Kevin made a motion to follow the rule committee's recommendation to not approve the rule Jimmy second and motion carried.

Rule Change Proposal (#2) Submitted By: Jodi Stoddard Page 26, Article I, Section 1, Number 4: Franchise rodeos are required to finish one rodeo prior to the next one beginning. With the exception of rough stock, trail course, or steer wrestling, which may be a stand-alone event as

long as each performance directly correlates to a specific rodeo that is already scheduled. Any stand alone rough stock, trail course, or steer wrestling event must be approved by the national office. Additional Comments: The trail course takes time and manpower to put it up and take it down. Sometimes there are less than 5 contestants in an event. This is labor intensive and extra work on a franchise committee to put the course up and take it down multiple times and allows the rodeo to streamline more effectively. The steer wrestling event requires another person (hazer) to be horseback to assist in the completion of the event. Sometimes a contestant struggles getting their hazer/helper to commit to attending every rodeo performance with small numbers in the event

Jody's rule proposal was reviewed as well as her amendment to read as follows. 4. Franchise rodeos are required to finish one rodeo prior to the next one beginning.

Rough Stock may be run as a stand-alone so long as each performance directly correlates to a specific rodeo that is already scheduled. Any stand-alone rough stock event must be approved by the National Office.

Trail course or steer wrestling may be run back-to-back, as long as each performance directly correlates to a specific rodeo and is run in the same weekend or the same days rodeos are scheduled. If a franchise wishes to run trail course or steer wrestling events back-to-back in a weekend or the same days the rodeos are scheduled, the franchise must notify the National Office for approval.

Kevin made a motion to not accept the new rule change and Jay seconded. In favor: Em, Chris, Jeremy Sherman, Kevin and Jay. Oppose Nah: Scott, Mark, Paul, Jimmy, Jody, Kerbi Brad, Jeremy Sharit, Danny, Natalie. John abstained. The rule change passed.

Rule Change Proposal (#4) Submitted By: Kaydence Feia Page 57, Article VII, Section 3, Letter A, The requirements for eligibility for competing in the Finals Rodeo shall be established by the Executive Board at the Quarterly Meeting. The requirements shall be published in the National Little Britches Official Publication before the first day of the current rodeo year stated in Article II, Section 1, Letter B. Additional Comments: We should know going into a season what it is going to take to qualify for finals. Lots of money is invested to get qualifications. To be able to change the rules after the season already has begun seems a bit unfair to those that can't realistically meet the new guidelines.

Brad made a motion to accept the rule proposal and Kevin seconded. Motion carried.

Rule Change Proposal (#5) Submitted By: Teresa Peterson Page 57, Article VII, Section 3, Letter B There can be no limitation of contestants by maximum number. All contestants meeting qualification requirements are permitted to compete. Additional Comments: This section was omitted from the 2022-2023 handbook. It should be added back in or else the limits should be set forth before the season starts.

Board accepts the committee's recommendation to not approve the rule. Brad made the motion and Kevin seconded. Motion carried.

Rule Change Proposal (#6) Submitted By: Teresa Peterson Page 57, Article VII, Section 3, Letter A The requirements for eligibility for competing in the Finals Rodeo shall be established by the Executive Board at the Quarterly Meeting. The requirements shall be published in the National Little Britches Official Publication before the first day of the current rodeo year stated in Article II, Section 1, Letter B Additional Comments: This will benefit the membership as they will know when the season starts, what types of goals they can set for themselves in order to qualify for finals.

Board accepts the committee's recommendation to not approve the rule. Jay made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation to not accept the rule proposals Chris seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion on franchises charging extra for rough stock events. The concern from the national office is the fees will become so high and they are pricing themselves out of the contestants coming to ride rough stock.

Awards committee clarification by John we voted to award 7 in the first go 7 in second go short go and will crown short go champion only, but every kid will get an award for short go qualification. Average prizes will be given through five places. World champion awards will be given 10 deep for buckles and top 20 in the world for an award. Paul made a motion to change the payout to be 25% per round 25% short go and 25% average and Scott seconded. Motion carried.

Jimmy suggested updating the judges form with more detail. Jimmy will update the form and get it to Annie. Kevin made a motion to accept Jimmy's form recommendations and Chris seconded. Motion carried.

Royalty committee report they believe they have found royalty coordinator. In the process of trying to get part of the pageant at the Cowboy Museum. The royalty contest will start on Thursday. Paul made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation to approve Joanna Patterson as the new coordinator Kevin seconded. Motion carried.

Hope Counts committee suggested a donation for a family in need after an accident at a franchise rodeo. Kevin made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation of a donation of \$1,000 to the family Natalie seconded it. Motion carried. Discussion was had on how to grow the Hope Counts account. Starting in 2023/2024 the \$9 office fee will be raised to \$10 and the additional \$1 will go into the Hope Counts funds. Kevin made a motion to change the 2023/2024 NLBRA office fee to \$10 and Mark second it. Motion carried.

Volunteer committee reported that 12 volunteers could get campsite compensated for the following year instead of payment.

Stock committee recommends John Garland and Lee Shumaker for senior bulls. Jeremy Sherman made a motion to accept the recommendation and Jay seconded. Motion carried. Committee recommended Lee Shumaker for junior steers, Jeremy Sherman made a motion and Jay seconded to accept the recommendation. Motion carried. Committee recommend McBride and Stoddard to bring bucking horses. Discussion was had. Chris made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation. Jeremy Sherman seconded. Motion did not pass with all members voting no except Chris, Jeremy Sherman and Kevin. Mark made a motion to accept Phil Sumner and Dickie McBride to bring horses and Jimmy seconded. Motion carried. Committee voted for Marty Kueckelhan to bring all the calves and practice pen. Jay made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation in addition to Marty having calves with a \$3 a run-in jackpot and practice pens and Natalie seconded. Motion carried. Committee recommends Jeff Smith for team roping steers. Kevin made a motion to accept Jeff Smith's bid and Jimmy seconded. Motion carried. Committee recommended Jace Honey for steer wrestling steers. Natalie made a motion to take Jace Honey as the steer wrestling contractor Brad seconded. Motion carried. Committee made a recommendation to use Jim Boy for goat contractor Jody made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation and Danny seconded it. Motion carried. Jay made a motion to accept the J2 for junior bulls and Jeremy Sherman seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion was held about finals qualification for 2024. No change is being made at this time.

Annie gave an update on the Lazy E updates as well as other communities that we requested information on facilities for hosting the finals. Suggested for the coming finals we use the Reliance arena for practice in the morning from 5-8 and have jackpots in the other outdoor arena as well as request another separate arena for barrel/pole jackpots at the Lazy E. All board members need to report to the Lazy E by Thursday before finals.

No other new business.

Kevin made a motion to adjourn, and Jeremy Sharit seconded.

Respectfully submitted

Kerbi Bowden

Signed - 

Annie Walter - Executive Director

Minutes approved by email 2/27/2023