

MINUTES (AMENDED)

OREGON RACING COMMISSION AUGUST 17, 1995

The Oregon Racing Commission met on Thursday, August 17, 1995, at 1:30 p.m. for their regular meeting in Room 140 of the Portland State Office Building located at 800 N. E. Oregon Street, Portland, Oregon. Commissioners in attendance were as follows: Stephen Walters, Chair; Brad Higbee, Vice Chair; George Rankins and Richard Reid. Laura Fine was excused. Agenda items were discussed in the following order with resulting actions:

1. Minutes of July 20, 1995 Commission Meeting

ACTION: MOTION (Reid) Approve minutes as amended.
VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

2. Multnomah Greyhound Park Update

Carl Wilson reported they were still in the same trend as they have been in reports at previous meetings. The live handle is down 20%, with the total handle down 14%. Attendance is down 13%, with the average attendance being down 7%. The simulcast handle is up 16%, with wagering on horse signals down 5.3% and greyhound signals up 92%. The total greyhound live handle, which includes wagering on-track, off-track and exported wagering, is down 11.7%. This Saturday is Derby Night. Mr. Wilson extended an invitation for all commissioners to attend.

3. Lone Oak Racing Update

Lonnie Craig reported the simulcast handle is up 6.1% and believes this is on account of the two extra signals they are taking this year. They have spent more time on direct advertising this year which they believe is the reason the live handle is up 6.8%. Entries have been good thus far. Steve Barham brought to the attention of the commission a problem LOR has been having with Autotote regarding decoders.

4. Iron Halters

Steve Barham gave background on the iron halters. The issue is whether or not an iron halter should be allowed as racing equipment. The Board of Stewards has said it shouldn't, stating it should be considered as a training device only. It was recently discovered that they have been being used in the past and that the stewards were unaware of their use.

ACTION: MOTION (Reid) Direct the Board of Stewards to conduct an investigation on the use of iron halters on the race track, taking whatever testimony they feel is necessary, and present their findings and recommendations to the commission at the September meeting.

VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

5. Request by Mark Boag for Reconsideration of Commission's Order Revoking License

Paul Sundermier, Assistant Attorney General, presented background information on Mark Boag during his licensure with the ORC. The most recent ruling was a Final Order of Revocation which was issued June 1, 1995. Mr. Boag followed by stating his reasons as to why he feels he should be relicensed.

ACTION: MOTION (Higbee) Deny request for reconsideration.

VOTE: 4 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Excused

6. New Portland Meadows 1995-96 Race Meet Application

Dave Nelson and Gene Ferryman reported on current conditions at the track including some of the financial responsibilities they will have this coming year which have not been present in the past. Mike Dorough and Woody Mitchell then came forward and at the request of Chair Walters, Steve Barham went through item by item the application as submitted. Items discussed included: the two week break at Christmas, which is still of concern to the HBPA; the fact that they are maintaining the current purse levels, however, it would still be nice if they could at some point increase the spread between the bottom claiming purses and the top allowance purses; OTB sites, especially those with a projected decrease in handle of 20% or more, needing to have a full blown pro forma as well as any new sites which are being considered; Gene Ferryman's accessibility to track management as well as ORC for decisions; bond of \$275,000, which is the same as last year; items noted by Board of Stewards and Investigators in their end of meet reports following the 1994-95 season; possible conditions which may be added prior to granting the race meet license. This item is to be continued to the September meeting for [approval] action.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.