

Harness Horse Breeders of NYS

Attendees: Wanda Polisseni, Betty Holt, Anne Zweig, Noelle Duspiva, Erin Shantel , Jean Brown, Bob Brooks, Jeff Gural

April 16th 2015 @ 2pm

Conference Call

Noelle brought meeting to order at 2:05pm.

- 1) Trotting hobble rule: USTA passed the Trotting Hobblerule which allows it to be treated as “regular equipment item”. It was suggested that the HHB write a letter of support to the NY Gaming Commission to change NY law such that USTA rule can put in the NYSS Racing conditions. All agreed to allow Betty to do that. Betty will circulate a draft of the letter to board members prior to submission to the Gaming Commission.
- 2) New USTA rule for DNA/registration – A suggestion was proposed to notify breeders, especially in western NY, when the USTA freeze brander will be in their area. Notification would be via postcard so that people (like Amish Breeders) without internet, can get notice. Betty will investigate how best to be done.
- 3) Empire Breeders Classic Payment Notice suggestion. Notify people in February, along with NYSS payment notices, that EBC payments are due. Everyone was in favor of it.
- 4) Morrisville Sale/Goshen sale-Jeff felt that non participation would hurt the Morrisville’s Equine program. Per Erin everything goes back into the college. Betty spoke to Commissioner of Agriculture and he didn’t have an opinion on it and Rob Williams said it was a business decision. Ann Zweig felt we should be neutral. Noelle and Jean could not take sides and recused themselves. Bob Brooks felt that the big farms should have consulted the HHB. He said that his local politician (William Magee on Assembly Ag Committee chairman) was not appreciative. Gural felt that the HHB should support Morrisville so that the politicians will look favorably on the organization. Discussion centered on increasing the numbers of the Morrisville Sale to at least 80. Bob and Jeff made a motion to put out press release for encouraging people to consign to Morrisville plus give background to program. Motion passed (Jean and Noelle abstained).
- 5) Meeting adjourned at 2:47pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jean Brown, Secretary