

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Members of Standardbred Canada, held in the Hazel McCallion C & D Room of the Delta Meadowvale Hotel, Mississauga, Ontario on Saturday, January 31st, 2009 at 1:00 PM.

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Jackson Wittup called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present.

2. **Notice of Meeting & Identification of Members**

Mr. Wittup advised that Notice of Meeting had been properly sent by first class mail via the December 2008 and January 2009 issues of TROT Magazines, and whereas there was a quorum present, declared the meeting duly constituted for the transaction of business.

3. **Introduction of Directors**

Mr. Wittup introduced the current Standardbred Canada Directors in attendance at the meeting.

4. **Introduction of Officers**

Mr. Smith introduced the officers of the Board as follows:

Chair - Jackson Wittup

Vice-Chair - Tammy McNiven

Corporate Secretary - Caren Brown

Chief Financial Officer - Rosenna So

President & Chief Executive Officer - Ted Smith

5. **Introduction of Staff**

Mr. Smith introduced the members of staff present at the meeting.

6. **Minutes of Annual Meeting of Members of February 2nd, 2008**

MOVED by Dr. Maurice Stewart **SECONDED** by Bill Pambrun that the minutes of February 2, 2008 be accepted as presented.
CARRIED.

7. **Business arising from Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

8. **Approval of 2008 Audited Financial Statement**

The 2008 Audited Financial Statement for Standardbred Canada was presented by Ted Smith. (Attached)

MOVED by Byron Beeler, **SECONDED** by Eric Johnston that the 2008 Audited Financial Statement be accepted as presented. **CARRIED.**

9. **Appointment of Auditor for fiscal 2009**

MOVED by Ken Morden **SECONDED** by Bill Pambrun that the firm of Grant Thornton be approved as Auditors for Standardbred Canada for fiscal 2009. **CARRIED.**

10. **Report of the Chair of the Breeders Committee**

Chuck Ibey, Chair of the Breeders Committee, advised that a proposal to encourage Standardbred horses to be used for non-breeding and racing purposes had been developed. He noted that a motion was approved whereby a flat fee of \$75.00 would be charged to people requesting transfer of ownership of horses for non-racing and breeding purposes and would include a one year's subscription of TROT Magazine.

Mr. Ibey explained that the Breeders Committee had reviewed issues faced by SC's Identification Technicians and made recommendations to streamline the process of simultaneous collecting DNA and permanent identification by freeze branding.

He noted that with regard to Contagious Equine Metritis, new restrictions are in place for Equine Imports and Equine Semen into Canada from the United States. The issue is being looked into further by the Board.

11. **Report of the Chair of the Board**

Mr. Wittup thanked the Executive Committee for their support during 2008. He noted that 2008 had been a difficult year for the industry and looked forward to the upcoming National Driving Championship to be held at Fraser Downs. He advised a 2009 Wagering Conference would be held in Windsor at the end of April.

Mr. Wittup congratulated Somebeachsomewhere and his connections on an outstanding year.

12. **Report of the President & Chief Executive Officer**

Ted Smith presented the report of the President & Chief Executive Officer, giving an overview of the activities of the Association in 2008 and new initiatives planned for 2009 including administering the Ontario Mare Residency Program. He reviewed racing in each region of Canada.

He advised that Drivers/Trainers/Grooms/Officials would receive a 20% increase in weekly benefits from the Standardbred Canada Tri-Part Insurance Program and noted this was due to a positive claims experience in 2008.

Mr. Smith congratulated Bill O'Donnell on becoming the newly elected President of the Ontario Harness Horse Association.

13. **New Business**

Ken Hardy expressed concern that two of Standardbred Canada's members had applied for the weekly disability insurance covered under SC's Tri-Part Insurance Program and were denied benefits.

Mr. Smith advised that he and Rosenna So will meet with Great West Life Insurance Company and SC's insurance broker to discuss the issue. Further, he noted that the members were entitled to the right of appeal.

Following discussion, it was **MOVED** by Bill Bannon, **SECONDED** by John Zahara that Ted Smith and Rosenna So meet with Great West Life to examine the insurance policy and investigate the cost of implementing short-term disability coverage. **CARRIED.**

Brent McGrath spoke on the current whipping rule and the perception of whipping to fans. Mr. Smith agreed to raise the matter at the next meeting of Racing Commissioners International.

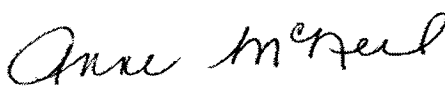
14. **Termination**

Whereas there was no further business, the meeting terminated on a motion by Carmen Maturo Perzow.

Respectfully submitted,



Jackson Wittup (Chair)



Anne McNeil (Recording Secretary)