



# NDA Special Board Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2014

## Attendees

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### Board Members Present:

- Katie Miller, President
- Melissa Ward, Secretary
- Tish Gade-Jones, Treasurer
- Tillie Jones, Junior Representative
- Dara Liss
- Kathy Hanford
- Jane Fucinaro

### Board Members Absent:

- Briana Bartlett, Vice President
- Laura Stueck

### NDA Members Present:

- Mike Smith
- Jennifer Rawlinson

## Reason for special meeting

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President Katie Miller called this special board meeting to further discuss the conflicts surrounding the 2014 Cornhusker Classic recognized shows, and to hold a vote on the matter.

## Call to Order

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Katie called the meeting to order at Firespring in Lincoln at 7:10 pm.

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### Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

The May 5, 2014, NDA special meeting minutes were reviewed. Kathy motioned to approve the minutes. Dara seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

## Issue at Hand

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The board continued the discussion from the May 5 special meeting about the Cornhusker Classic. On behalf of the Competitions Committee, Mike Smith reported that Jim had furnished us with an itemized cost breakdown of the show costs, which conclusively illustrated that the cost of hosting the show at Quail Run would exceed \$20,000. The bulk of this cost is due to the temporary stabling required for a Level 3 recognized show, accounting for approximately \$16,000 of the total costs.

The board readdressed the alternatives that were discussed at the last meeting, and further defined the following options:

- hold the show as planned at Quail Run, incurring a total loss of approx. \$10,000–12,000;
- downgrade to a one-day, jump-out schooling show at Quail Run;
- downgrade to a one-day, jump-out schooling show at another venue;
- downgrade to a Level 2 recognized show at another venue, incurring a total loss of approx. \$2000 but retaining USDF-recognized status; or
- cancel the show altogether.

Deliberation of these options resulted in the consensus that the board is unwilling to deplete NDA banked funds by 50%, and so Quail Run will not be a good fit for the show this year. However, the board's priorities are to 1) avoid canceling the show outright, and 2) not reduce the number of Region 4 USDF-recognized shows available to NDA members. The board agreed that downgrading from Level 3 to Level 2 is the solution that makes the most sense for the majority of the NDA membership, though every effort should be made to regain Level 3 status next year. There are a few options for different venues on the existing show date, May 30–June 1, including (in order of preference):

- Lancaster Event Center (since a Level 2 show will require fewer resources from the venue, allowing the show to occur simultaneously with previously scheduled events at the venue which precluded a Level 3 event);
- Phoenix Equestrian Center (since they already have temporary stalls on site); and
- Fremont's Christiansen Field (since they have plentiful stalls and low costs).

Melissa motioned to cancel the agreement to hold the Cornhusker Classic as a Level 3 recognized show at Quail Run Equestrian Center. Dara seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

Jane motioned to downgrade the Cornhusker Classic to a Level 2 recognized show, to be hosted at a different venue, yet to be determined. Kathy seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

The board directed the Competitions Committee to immediately discontinue negotiations with Quail Run for this year, reiterating the possibility of resuming negotiations in 2015 when permanent stalls have been built. The Competitions Committee will also contact the above prospective venues and/or book them for the show weekend. Should a three-day recognized show not be possible at any venue, the board will reconvene to discuss the possibility of further downgrading to a schooling show. The Competitions Committee will have venues vetted and/or booked by Friday, May 9, at which point a comprehensive communication will be made to NDA membership to explain the situation.

## Next Meeting Scheduled

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The next regular board meeting will be May 12, 2014, 6:30 pm at FireWorks Restaurant.

## Adjournment

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Melissa moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm, Tillie seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

## **Addendum**

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Two days after this meeting, on May 9, 2014, the Competitions Committee reported that the Lancaster Event Center had been successfully booked for the show. Mike reported that new information about LEC's available facilities negated the preclusion of a Level 3 show. Since a Level 3 show is once again possible, the board held an official vote via email. Briana moved to restore the Cornhusker Classic from Level 2 to Level 3. Kathy seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Melissa Ward  
NDA Secretary, 2014