



Indiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Inc.
(317)-903-4382 --- www.inhbpa.org

HBPA News

Welcome to the 2016 Indiana Grand Meet

2016 Meet Opens April 19

The backside at Indiana Grand is open and, little by little, it's beginning to resemble the busy place it will be by the end of Spring.

The track opened for workouts on March 9th; one day after it was originally scheduled to open, due to a soggy surface. The gate opened for business the week of March 28. The track kitchen opened April 4. The first day of racing is April 19.

Racing will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 2:05 pm, and Saturdays, at 6:05 pm. In July and August, a 2:05 Thursday post time will be added. The four race days per week schedule resumes in September, through the end of the meet, Saturday, October 29th.

For more information on the meet, Indiana Grand's Horsemen Information Page can be accessed at:
<http://indianagrand.com/racing/horsemens-information/>

The first Condition Book can be accessed at:
http://indianagrand.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Condition_Book_One_041916_051116.pdf

Stewards Meeting 4/18

The Indiana Grand Stewards have scheduled a horsemen's meeting in the track kitchen on Monday, April 18, at 11am, to get ready for the opening day and the upcoming season.

HBPA Adds Two to Staff

When you stop by the HBPA office trailer and Chapel trailer on the backside of Indiana Grand, you'll meet two new people on staff.

At the beginning of April, we welcomed Michelle Bruns, administrative assistant, and Ailsa Calderon, HBPA Chaplain.

Stop by the trailers and introduce yourself, and make them feel at home. We're glad they're here. You will be too.

Free Lunch, Monday, 4/21

Indiana Grand is welcoming back horsemen and women with a free lunch in the track kitchen on Thursday, April 21, from 11am to 1 pm.

New Chaplain to Host Get-Together Friday, 4/22

HBPA Chaplain Ailsa Calderon invites you to a welcome dinner after racing, Friday, April 22, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm, in the tent on the frontside.

Indiana HBPA will provide food and non-alcoholic beverages, through Indiana Grand's catering. Ailsa will be providing some entertainment, through her church, including a band and a program.

Come out and enjoy yourself and meet our new Chaplain.

HBPA Board Meets 3/22/16

Call to order-Mike Brown called meeting to order. Blaine Davidson was absent while recovering from recent surgery. Mike made correction to minutes from 2/29/16.

Financial Report-Mike Brown reviewed bank accounts. Regions account needs to build up to be able to pay for our share of Trakus, the simulcast enhancement incorporated into Indiana Grand broadcasts last year.

Mike Brown discussed the March 15th Commission meeting. At the meeting, new IHRC executive director Mike Smith talked about some of his priorities. They include continued emphasis on enforcement, lengthened retention of blood and urine samples, a review of the classification of IHRC's status as an agency, out-of-competition testing, and marketing the industry.

The board discussed the challenges of living under the multiple medication violations program and flaws in the therapeutic medications schedule, with its occasionally arbitrary withdrawal and threshold levels. The issue of dietary and environmental contamination is becoming an increasing problem, particularly in light of the ever-increasing sensitivity of testing regimens. As a balancing mechanism, attention must be paid to what constitutes a performance-enhancing level. Measurements allow detection of substances way below the level of anything that could possibly affect a race.

The board wishes to have Mike Smith at the next board meeting. There has been no change in the equine herpes rule. Our proposed language has not been added to the bill of sale, yet. We suggest that anyone giving away or selling a horse should write in the fact that their horse is not changing hands for the purpose of slaughter, as some small protection against second- or third-hand blame.

IN HBPA Issues-The board has decided to hire Michelle Allender Bruns, office staff, and Ailsa Calderon, Chaplain.

Breed Development-Jessica Barnes came to the meeting and discussed promotional efforts and an overview of the breed development program. Jessica said there has been \$1.4 million added to the Thoroughbred Breed Development Program for this year. This year there will be 322 Indiana bred or sired races, up 15% from last year. Stake races have also been raised to \$100,000. The next breed development meeting is set for 3/29/16.

Among many suggestions made to her was holding a breed development meeting here at the track, to encourage input and communication. Other ideas included development of a long-term plan, more races for better horses, writing the book so that trainers can anticipate and train for important races, three-year licenses for owners and trainers, and potential reinstatement of owner awards.

Tianna Richardville and Rachel McLaughlin discussed equine promotions possibilities and plans for this year's meet, including HBPA Education Night, Saturday morning at the track events and an ongoing Fan Friday event. HBPA will be co-promoting many of these events this year.

The new HBPA facebook page can be accessed at www.facebook.com/indianahbpa.

National Convention-The board approved an honorarium for the medication panel at the national convention.

Benevolence-The Schedule for the doctor and dentist has been set for the clinic. The dentist will be 4/1/16, starting at 10am, and the doctors start 4/5/16 at 9am until noon.

There were 2 requests for benevolence: James Payne and Ronnie L Brown. Both were approved

HBPA Board Met 2/29/16

The Indiana HBPA Board of Directors met Monday, February 29, on the third floor at Indiana Grand. President Joe Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. All directors were present for the meeting.

The board accepted Minutes from the June 25th meeting, then heard the financial report from Executive Director Mike Brown. All HBPA accounts are in good shape, except for the combined Equine Promotion and Equine Welfare Account, funded by .5% of the combined revenues of the casinos at Hoosier Park and Indiana Grand.

The **Equine Promotion and Equine Welfare** account serves two important functions but, because of that, it is easy to drain its balances.

We are participating financially with Indiana Grand in Trakus (the tracking system that displays chicklets for horses' positions on the track during races,) which improved our simulcasts and generated revenue. Also, we contributed to securing broadcasting of Indiana Grand racing on HRTV and TVG, which enhanced exposure and our handle revenues. And, we paid a share of the final installment on the new horse ambulance.

These are investments that accrue to the benefit of all horsemen racing at Indiana Grand. Handle was up considerably in 2015. And the horse ambulance in use is a vast improvement in equine safety.

But the other half of the Fund is also important. Making grants to organizations doing good work in second careers, adoption and retirement for former thoroughbred race horses is a necessary and appropriate part of our mission at HBPA.

In 2014 we gave out \$90,000 in grants to second career organizations and entities doing research in equine health and safety. In 2015 we had less to put into equine

welfare, because of additional promotion expenditures.

Our 2016 budget proposed to spend equine welfare funds from the benevolence account. That has to be approved by the IHRC as part of our application. If approved, that will help balance the twin demands on our equine welfare account.

The board discussed **regulatory issues**, such as the new executive director announcement, the schedule for IHRC meetings – including a March 15 meeting at the fairgrounds – and a scheduled IHRC meeting for Indiana Grand in September.

In addition to the regulatory update, the board discussed **issues associated with our working relationship with Indiana Grand** (which continues to be good.) The board approved the 2016 new contract, with several amendments, including altered dues language and specified accountability regarding the purse account.

The board discussed the need for and potential types of promotional activities for building a fan base.

Though it is not specifically an Indiana Grand issue (in that it involves IHRC,) one of the biggest topics was the Indiana program races – and/or lack of specific types of races in the condition book. Board members are concerned that many Indiana races were used early in the year, which burned through a lot of Indiana money, while open races weren't filling.

President Joe Davis worked with the IHRC, and with Indiana Grand and Centaur management to get additional races written into the Indiana program this year. That should pay off in more races.

The board **approved a \$20,000 grant to the Gluck Insitute**, at the University of Kentucky, for ongoing equine research on pharmacology and equine medication.

The board discussed pushing for a 2nd gap for access to the track. Soon after this discussion, Race secretary Kevin Greely joined the meeting. We discussed the 2nd gap, training hours, the move-in date, proofing condition books prior to printing – which is in our contract --, how the receiving barn will function this year, and realigning the manure bins for safety.

The HBPA board discussed how our communication can be improved. The HBPA website needs to be updated and expanded to include things like calendar information, special events, links to IHRC and Indiana Grand information and documents, ARCI's Multiple Medication Violation policy, stakes information, licensing information, aftercare information and dues information.

Benevolence account financials were presented. Two claims were presented for financial assistance – Ron L. Brown and James Payne. Both were approved.

Next Board Meeting, 4/28

***** The April meeting of the Indiana HBPA Board of Directors will be held April 28, at 10 am, on the third floor of the Indiana Grand clubhouse. IHRC executive director Mike Smith will attend.

Additions to HBPA Policy

Indiana HBPA will be dispensing ice this year, in addition to the track kitchen continuing. Members will need to pay \$1 for each 7lb. bag, or \$3 for a 22lb. bag, when it is picked up at the HBPA trailer.

Dues collection will be \$10 per horse, per start, to be deducted from owners' accounts with the track bookkeeper. Owners can make appropriate arrangements with their trainers for trainers' \$5 share of dues. **As approved by the IHRC, there is no opt-out for dues.**

Income Maximums for benevolence eligibility are now \$50,000 for an individual and \$100,000 for a couple.

Benevolence Assistance caps for 2016 eligible members will be \$6,000 (up from the previous \$5,000.)

Eligibility for benevolence assistance will still require income verification as established by providing a copy of the most recent income tax submission and/or documentation of filing for an extension.

2016 Officers and Board

President	Joe Davis
Ist Vice President	Randy Klopp
2nd Vice President	Michael Lauer

Owners	
Blaine Davidson	Ron McKay
Kathryn Kunz Duran	Merrill Roberts
Penny Lauer	

Trainers, Owner/Trainers	
Kim Hammond	Michael Lauer
Marvin Johnson	Tianna Richardville
Randy Klopp	

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