

Minutes of Meeting of the New York

State Racing and Wagering Board

March 15, 1979 10:00 A.M.

A meeting of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board was held on Thursday, March 15, 1979 at the Board Office, Two World Trade Center, New York.

The meeting being called on Monday, March 12, 1979, public notice of the meeting was given to the Associated Press and UPI and to the public by posting in the Board's reception area on the 74th floor and also on the 44th floor.

Present: Bertram D. Sarafan, Member; Dr. Joseph O'Dea, Member

Also Present: John Van Lindt, Executive Director; John Dailey, Director of Racing and OTB; Victor Cocozziello, Counsel; Richard Corbisiero, Director of Wagering Systems; Sal Ferrara, Director of Audits, Investigations and Licensing; Dean Alfange, Director of Quarter Horse; Kenneth Esolen, Administrative Consultant; Kenneth Beh, Director of Public Relations; Bernard Golar, Assistant Commissioner and Director of OTB Regulations; Sal Curiale, Assistant Counsel; Lois A. White, Assistant Counsel; Ted Garrison, Assistant Counsel and Thomas C. Davide, Secretary to the Board.

A. Minutes. The Board approved the minutes of its meeting held February 20, 1979.

Minutes. The Board approved the minutes of its special meeting held February 22, 1979.

B. For Board Ratification:

1. Finger Lakes- Additional Races. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 1, 1979 of request by Finger Lakes to conduct 10 races on Saturdays and Sundays, March 10, 11, 17 and 18th and on Saturday, April 7 and April 14th. This request is made in anticipation of an increase in the number of horses stabled at Finger Lakes this year.
2. Jimmy Miranda/Apprentice Extension. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 5, 1979 of request by Mr. Miranda to extend his Apprentice License for 5 days due to inclement weather.

3. Jockey Club Steward's. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 5, 1979 of request by the Jockey Club to have Mr. Warren Mehrtens be Steward at Finger Lakes for 1979 and William T. O'Conner, Robert F. Kelly, Jr. and Bartholomew Sweeney, Jr. to act as alternate Stewards at the 1979 NYRA meet.
4. Proposed Amendments to Section 4024. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 8, 1979, of amendments to Part 4024 of the Thoroughbred Rules and Part 4055 of the Special Rules for Steeplechase, Hurdle' Races and Hunt Meetings.
5. Genesee Monroe Racing Association/Matinee Racing. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 8, 1979, of request by Genesee Monroe Racing Association, Inc. to hold Matinee Racing on Saturday, March 17, 1979, to make up the day lost on February 26, 1979, due to inclement weather.
6. WROTB- Finger Lakes. The Board approved for entry into the minutes it's prior approval of March 8, 1979, of request by WROTB in conjunctio with Finger Lakes Race Track to accept wagering on a late daily double on races run at Finger Lakes Race Track, beginning Saturday, March 10, 1979. The late double would be taken on the 6th and 7th races.

C. For Board Approval:

1. Monticello Raceway - Sunday Post Time . The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Monticello Raceway to change the post time of their Sunday races to 2:00 P.M.
2. Monticello Raceway - "June Jackpot". The Board denied request by Monticello Raceway to hold a promotion whereby patrons would have to select all ten winners for the night, winners would share in a \$100.00 prize, if there were no winners \$100.00 prize would be carried over until there was a winner or winners. On last night of racing, for the month of June, if there is no winner the money would be distributed to those coming the closest.
3. Finger Lakes - 1979 Racing Officials . The Board approved for entry into the minutes the names submitted by Finger Lakes in its letter date February 23, 1979, as the Racing Officials for 1979. Mr. Finnigen was approved provisionally as a Paddock Judge, pending his performance during this meet.
4. Vernon Downs- 1979 Promotions. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Vernon Downs to hold certain promotions in 1979 as outlined in their letter dated February 16, 1979.
5. Yonkers Raceway/Promotions. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Yonkers Raceway to hold Fan Appreciation Night on Friday, March 23, 1979-Free Grandstand Admission, also Old Timers Night on Friday, April 6, 1979, clubhouse admission will be reduced to \$2.25, grandstand admission reduced to \$1.25.

6. Special Policemen-Yonkers Raceway. The Board approved for entry into the minutes the list of names of Special Policemen submitted by Yonkers Raceway, in its letter dated, January 5, 1979, under the Authority of Section 8012a of the Pari-Mutuel Law, for the year 1979.
7. WROTB-Additional Branches. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by WROTB to amend its plan of operation to provide for an additional branch to be located in Fulton, New York, Oswego County.
8. NYCOTB/Flamingo Stakes. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by NYCOTB to accept wagers on the Flamingo Stakes to be run at Hialeah Park in Florida on Saturday, March 24, 1979. They further request permission to accept win, place, show, exacta, quinella, and triple wagers on this race, with a \$2.00 minimum and \$3.00 maximum on quinella wagers. NYCOTB would be acting as agent for the five other OTB regions. This is being approved with the understanding that the Board must be notified three days in advance of which type of wagering will be taken.
9. Suffolk County OTB-Additional Branches. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Suffolk County OTB to amend its plan of operation so as to add three branch offices located one each in Farmingdale, North Babylon and Central Islip.
10. NYRA/American Totalisator 300 Betting System. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by NYRA for approval of its use of the American Totalisator 300, Totalisator System, effective at the Belmont Spring Meet, 1979.
11. NYRA/Capital Construction. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by NYRA to A. Construct a new winterized 5/8 mile training track within the present training track at Belmont Park. The approximate cost of this venture would be 3½ million dollars. B. To construct a trackside dining facility at Aqueduct. The approximate cost of this facility would be 2 million dollars.
12. Harry M. Zweig Memorial Trot (#7). The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Harness Horse Breeders of New York, for the conditions for the Harry M. Zweig Memorial Trot #7.
13. Saratoga Raceway/Additional Daily Double Quinella Wagering. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Saratoga Raceway to institute a second daily double on the 8th and 9th races and quinella wagering on the 5th and 10th races, with their April 19, 1979 opening.
14. Saratoga Raceway - 30 Day Rule Waiver. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by Saratoga Raceway to have the 30 Day Eligibility Rule 4113.5 (a) (1) waived for their upcoming meeting beginning April 19, 1979.

15. Proposed Rule Amendments 4012.6 thru 4012.9. The Board approved for entry into the minutes the final approval of these amendments governing pre-race testing at designated thoroughbred tracks.
16. NYCOTB/Simulcast from Yonkers. The Board deferred request by NYCOTB to conduct live telecasting (simulcast) of racing from Yonkers Raceway, into three OTB branches on Staten Island, on a nightly basis.
17. Donald E. Strain/Trainer-Driver. The Board approved for entry into the minutes Mr. Strain's offer to withdraw his appeal and to plead no contest to the charges and accept a penalty of a suspension of six months with the period of the suspension in excess of 120 days to be suspended. Due to drug related matters Mr. Strain's license was revoked by the Board, the incident occurred in the 10th race at Monticello Raceway on May 15, 1976, Mr. Strain's horse Bachelors Host finished second. Mr. Strain's license had been suspended for the 120 days between the time of the initial action of the Board and a court stay. Consequently the 120 days would constitute time already served.
18. Hearing Officer Report in the matter of Ralph Kaufman/Trainer-Driver. The Board affirmed the decision of the judges to suspend Mr. Kaufman for five days as recommended by Hearing Officer Rooks in his report dated 2/15/79.
19. Hearing Officer Report in the matter of Irving Wildman, applicant for bingo supplier's license. The Board affirmed recommendation of Hearing Officer Rooks, to refuse a license to Mr. Wildman, because of his prior connection with firms merchandising unlawful breakopen type lottery tickets.
20. NYRA/Use of Belmont Training Track. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by NYRA to conduct its daily program of thoroughbred racing at its Belmont Park training track should the daily transport of horses between Belmont Park and Aqueduct be interrupted as a result of the present labor strike at NYRA.
21. NYCOTB/The Kentucky Derby, The Preakness Stakes. The Board approved for entry into the minutes request by NYCOTB to begin negotiations with the management of Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky and Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, Maryland, concerning the running of the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on Saturday, May 5, 1979 and the running of the Preakness Stakes at Pimlico Race Course, in Baltimore, Maryland on Saturday, May 19, 1979. Pending the outcome of such negotiations NYCOTB would then submit a contract for the Board's final approval.