

MINUTES
OF THE 136TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE NATIONAL HORSERACING AUTHORITY
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
17 JANUARY 2018, AT 14:00

ATTENDANCE:

National Board Directors:	Mr K P Truter	(Chairman)
	Mr L J Barends	(Chief Executive)
	Mr C S Beyleveld	
	Mr A G O'Connor	
	Mr S M Dolamo	
	Mr J J du Toit	
	Mr A D Hyde	
	Adv P Stais SC	

Members:	Mr A M Costa
	Mr I A E Jayes
	Mrs C J Hartley
	Mr R S Napier

Apologies:	Mr E G Anderson
	Mr A J Rivalland
	Mr R J Trotter
	Mr J M Witts-Hewinson

In Attendance:	Mr B Sibanyoni	(The NHA)
	Mr D Moodley	(The NHA)
	Mr R Gomes	(Nolands South Africa)

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed all Members present to the One Hundred and Thirty Sixth Annual General Meeting of The National Horseracing Authority.

2. Quorum

The Chairman confirmed that the NHA had received 11 Proxies and together with the Members in attendance, confirmed that there was a quorum present and declared the meeting duly constituted.

3. Notice of Meeting

The Notice of the Annual General Meeting was published in the Racing Calendar, on Tellytrack, in Computaform, on The NHA Website and was sent to all Members whose e-mail addresses were on record.

The Notice of the Meeting was taken as read.

4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 January 2017

The Chairman asked that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 January 2017, be confirmed.

Proposed: Mr R S Napier

Seconded: Ms K Hartley

The Minutes of the Meeting were confirmed.

5. Report of the Chairman of the National Board of Directors for the year ending 31 July 2017

The Chairman confirmed that the report had been circulated to all Members.

The report was taken as read.

Proposed: Mr R S Napier

Seconded: Mr C S Beyleveld

6. Audited Financial Statements of The National Horseracing Authority of Southern Africa and the Funds held in Trust, for the period ended 31 July 2017

The Chairman advised that the Auditors were present to answer any specific questions.

The Chairman handed over to the Chief Executive and requested that he provide the meeting with the highlights of the year.

The Chief Executive advised that The NHA recorded a surplus, which amounted to R2.6m and that The NHA cash reserves had increased substantially to just over R10m.

The Chief Executive then provided an overview of the initiatives The NHA had embarked on during the year as recorded in the Annual Report.

The Chairman said that it was pleasing to be able to report such good financial statements to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Mr Napier said that having a surplus was both essential and prudent for an organisation like The NHA and that this surplus should be increased. He added that he assumed that this was The NHA's strategy.

The Chairman thanked Mr Napier. He said that this had been a major concern to the National Board, as over the years The NHA reserves diminished substantially and the Board was of the opinion that there was no way they could conduct themselves without reserves and that in fact it would be irresponsible. He said that one of the main priorities was to rebuild The NHA's reserves.

Mr Napier said that he was delighted to hear this.

Mr Beyleveld said that he felt that the legal and litigation costs appeared to be an awfully low figure despite the fact that the legal costs of The NHA have increased dramatically over the last couple of years.

The Chief Executive said that this was correct. The nett legal costs had been offset by legal savings and a combination of collecting more fines. He said that as The NHA now use an internal legal resource, this had also assisted in saving on external legal fees.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman requested the Meeting to adopt the Financial Statements.

The Meeting resolved to adopt the Financial Statements.

Proposed: Mr A G O'Connor
Seconded: Adv P Stais SC

The Chairman thanked the Auditors for their attendance, who then left the meeting.

7. Appointment of the Auditors

The Chairman proposed that The NHA retain the services of Nolands of South Africa and that the remuneration for the past audit be left in the hands of the Board.

Proposed: Mr K Truter
Seconded: Mr A G O'Connor

8. To transact any business which may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting.

8.1 Matter raised by Mr I A E Jayes

Mr Jayes said that he had observed racing for 60 years and had started to notice that at every race meeting a horse becomes loose and that Jockeys are falling.

Mr Jayes said he was raising this issue as he was interested to find out the status quo. He said that he would like to know how many Jockeys had been thrown in the last 5 to 10 years. He said that he would like this discussion to be pursued and feedback to be given.

The Chairman thanked Mr Jayes and said that it was certainly nothing he had noticed. He said that he thought that Mr Jayes' point and argument were certainly well made and advised that Mr Barends would raise this with the Jockeys' Academy and the SA Jockeys' Association. He also said that Mr Hyde may wish to discuss with the top Jockeys and obtain their opinion.

Mr Hyde said that racing was a very competitive sport and when riding overseas our Jockeys are very mindful of advancements/changes made by their overseas counterparts. He said that he would obtain feedback from various role players as well as from the various Stipendiary Boards.

The Chairman requested that Mr Hyde pursue this.

8.2 Mr Napier raised the point of intractability

Mr Napier said that 482 horses had been suspended for intractability in the last year.

Mr Hyde said that The NHA were mindful to get races off on time and to ensure the safety of horses and riders, as well as the fact that owners were the crucial part of racing. He said that The NHA had definitely made an effort to crack down on the intractability of horses.

Mrs Hartley queried if any statistics had been gathered to identify specific Trainers or horses and possibly The NHA could tighten this up.

Mr Hyde confirmed that this information was included in the various Stipendiary Stewards Reports and also in monthly statistics. He said that the Stipendiary Stewards do contact any Trainers in their respective regions and engage with them on this issue.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their input and asked if anyone had any further comment to add.

The Chairman advised the meeting that Messrs Andy O'Connor and Cecil Beyleveld were both retiring as Directors of The NHA and thanked them for the invaluable contribution.

Mr Costa thanked the Directors for their selfless work that they do year round. He said that they were always victims of criticism and people were slow to laud them for their generous and valuable contributions that they make to the industry.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 15:30.

**K P Truter
Chairman**

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