

Memorandum of the Regular Meeting of the
Indiana Horse Racing Commission

December 17, 2024

Harrah's Hoosier Park
4500 Dan Patch Circle
Anderson, IN

NOTE: Complete transcripts and a link to the video recording of this Commission Meeting can be found at <https://www.in.gov/hrc/meeting-information/>

Commission members present: Philip C. Borst, Chairman; Gus Levengood, member; Bill McCarty, member; Bill Estes (via phone), member.

Commission Staff members present: Deena Pitman, IHRC Executive Director; David Rothenberg, IHRC General Counsel; Dale Lee Pennycuff, Staff Attorney; Jessica Barnes, IHRC Breed Development Director; Wendi Samuelson-Dull, IHRC Chief Financial Officer; Michael Morris, IHRC Security Director; Jeffrey Freeman, IHRC Investigator; Karen Rash, Harrah's Hoosier Park Test Barn Administrator.

Speakers from the audience: Rick Moore, Vice President and General Manager of Racing at Harrah's Hoosier Park; Eric Halstrom, Vice President and General Manager of Racing at Horseshoe Indianapolis; Joe Morris, Senior Vice President for Caesars Entertainment; Jacob Rheinheimer, Race Marketing Manager for Harrah's Hoosier Park; Jeremy Medley, Director of Marketing for Harrah's Hoosier Park; Tammy Knox, Race Marketing Manager for Horseshoe Indianapolis; Brian Lewis, Assistant General Manager for Horseshoe Indianapolis; Ernie Gaskin, Director for the Indiana Standardbred Association; John DeLong, President for the Indiana Standardbred Association; Tony Renz, Executive Director of the Indiana Standardbred Association

I. Call to Order

Chairman Borst called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of the meeting memorandum and executive session memorandum from the October 24th, 2024, Commission meeting.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval of the meeting memorandum and executive session memorandum from the October 24th, 2024 commission meeting. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

III. Agenda

1. Review of 2024 Year-To-Date Commission Rulings as of December 1, 2024.

Commission reviewed the rulings and had no further questions. No vote was required for this agenda item.

2. Review of 2024 Year-To-Date HISA Rulings and HIWU Rulings as of December 1, 2024.

Commission reviewed the rulings and had no further questions. No vote was required for

this agenda item.

3. Consideration and approval of Horseshoe Indianapolis's (Centaur Acquisition, LLC) 2025 permit renewal application in accordance with 71 IAC 11-1-3(b); 71 ICA 11-1-7; 71 IAC 11-1-21; 71 IAC 2-9-1; and

a. Consideration and approval of the renewal of Horseshoe Indianapolis's satellite facility license in *Clarksville* for 2025 in accordance with 71 IAC 12-1-23 and 71 IAC 12-1-10.

Presentation of the requested approval for Horseshoe Indianapolis and its Clarksville satellite facility was made by David Rothenberg IHRC General Counsel. No questions were asked.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval of the renewal. Commissioner Levensgood motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Estes. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

4. Consideration and approval of Harrah's Hoosier Park (Hoosier Park, LLC) 2025 permit renewal application in accordance with 71 IAC 11-1-3(b); 71 ICA 11-1-7; 71 IAC 11-1-21; 71 IAC 2-9-1; and

a. Consideration and approval of the renewal of Harrah's Hoosier Park satellite facility licenses in *New Haven* and *Indianapolis* for 2025 in accordance with 71 IAC 12-1-23 and 71 IAC 12-1-10.

Presentation of the requested approval for Harrah's Hoosier Park and its New Haven and Indianapolis satellite facilities were made by David Rothenberg. No questions were asked.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval of the renewal. Commissioner Estes motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Levensgood. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

5. Consideration of Caesar's 2025 Operational Plan as required by the Commission's Final Order dated July 15, 2020.

Joe Morris, Senior Vice President for Caesar's gave a brief overview of the 2024 season, including a video highlighting events which took place at both tracks during the meet. Additionally, Morris highlighted the various physical improvements that were made at the tracks.

Rick Moore, Vice President and General Manager of Racing for Harrah's Hoosier Park gave a recap for 2024 and a look ahead at planned activities for the 2025 meet. Jacob Rheinheimer, Race Marketing Manager for Harrah's Hoosier Park gave a recap on the marketing activities for the 2024 meet. Jeremy Medley, Director of Marketing for Harrah's

Hoosier Park spoke about the impact the facility has had on the local community.

Eric Holstrom, Vice President and General Manager of Racing for Horseshoe Indianapolis gave a recap for 2024 and a look ahead at planned activities for the 2025 meet. Tammy Knox, Race Marketing Manager for Horseshoe Indianapolis gave a recap of marketing activities for the 2024 meet. Brian Lewis, Assistant General Manager for Horseshoe Indianapolis spoke about the impact the facility has on the local community.

Ernie Gaskin, Director of the Indiana Standardbred Association made suggestions regarding getting the public more interested and involved in racing. John DeLong, President for the Indiana Standardbred Association commented that with the rise of ADW's and how the public are wagering on races, the meet programs need to be dynamic. Tony Renz, Executive Director of the Indiana Standardbred Association commented on the difference in marketing budgets between the two tracks and the staffing levels post-COVID. Lastly, Adam Kallick, Sycamore Group, commented on the need to pay close attention to legislation concerning iGaming and the relocation of a casino from southern Indiana to northern Indiana.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion to approve the 2025 operational plans. Commissioner McCarty motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Estes. The roll call was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

6. Ratification of Executive Director's interim approval of Lien Games Racing LLC as a Secondary Pari-Mutuel Organization (SPMO) for the remainder of 2024.

Dale Pennycuff reviewed Director Pitman's interim approval of Lien Games Racing SPMO 2024 license.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for ratification of the director's interim approval. Commissioner Estes motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Levengood. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

7. Review and consideration of license renewal applications for 2025 Secondary Pari-Mutuel Organization (SPMO) for the following companies:

- a. Churchill Downs Technology Initiatives Co (dba TwinSpires, Inc.)
- b. Television Games Network (dba TVG & FanDuel Racing)
- c. Premier Turf Club, LLC (dba Fanatics Betting & Gaming)
- d. Xpressbet, LLC (subsidiary of Stronach Group Company)
- e. AmWest Entertainment (dba AmWager.com)
- f. NYRA Bets, LLC
- g. PENN ADW LLC (dba Hollywood Races)
- h. Lein Games Racing, LLC

Dale Pennycuff reviewed commission staff's recommendation to approve the above-named SPMO's for renewal. No questions were asked of commission staff.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval to renew above-mentioned SPMO licenses. Commissioner McCarty motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Estes. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

8. Status update regarding 2025 breed development committee programs:

a) Consideration and approval of 2025 Standardbred Breed Development program

Jessica Barnes, IHRC Breed Development Director presented the recommendations for the 2024 Standardbred Breed Development program.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval for the 2025 Standardbred Breed Development program. Commissioner Estes motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner McCarty. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

b) Consideration and approval of 2025 Quarter Horse Breed Development program

Jessica Barnes presented the recommendations for the 2024 Standardbred Breed Development program.

Chairman Borst asked for a motion for approval for the 2025 Standardbred Breed Development program. Commissioner McCarty motioned for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Estes. The roll call vote was unanimous 4-0 for approval.

c) Status of 2025 Thoroughbred Breed Development program

Jessica Barnes reported that the advisory committee would be meeting in January and afterwards would seek commission approval.

d) Status of 2025 Standardbred Advisory Board's County Fair Harness racing program

Jessica Barnes reported that the advisory committee would be meeting in January and afterwards would seek commission approval.

9. Racetrack winter training update:

- a. Winter training plan from Horseshoe Indianapolis.**
- b. Winter training plan from Harrah's Hoosier Park.**

Rick Moore and Eric Holstrom gave winter training updates for Harrah's Hoosier Park and Horseshoe Indianapolis respectively. The commission asked questions which were answered diligently. No vote was needed for this agenda item.

10. RCFAC Update.

Joe Morris gave an update to the RCFAC recommendations and offered a preview of what be expected as to 2025 expenditures. The commission and commission staff posed questions which were answered by Mr. Morris. No vote was required for this agenda item.

11. Rulemaking Update.

David Rothenberg, IHRC General Counsel, gave an update on the current situation with rule promulgation. Questions were asked and responded to by the commission. No vote was required for this agenda item.

12. HISA Update.

Executive Director Pitman gave a short HISA update regarding anticipated 2025 fees. Joe Morris made additional comments. No vote was required for this agenda item.

13. Delegation of authority to conduct racing business to Executive Director.

Dale Lee Pennycuff requested the commission to delegate the authority to Executive Director Pitman to approve rule readoptions under 71 IAC 2-2-1.

Chairman Borst requested a vote to approve the delegation. Commissioner Estes moved for approval with a second from Commissioner McCarty. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

IV. New Business

Eric Holstrom proposed a capital substitution, which was submitted after the agenda was formed, so the request was put on as new business. Holstrom proposed a new tractor for the turf course and a new starting gate be placed on the approved expenditures for 2025. Chairman Borst requested a vote to approve the substitution. Commissioner Levengood moved for approval with a second from Commissioner McCarty. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.

Dale Pennycuff requested the commission to approve updates to the 2025 IHBPA's application. Chairman Borst requested a vote to approve the updates. Commissioner McCarty moved for approval with a second from Commissioner Estes. The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 4-0.

Executive Director Pitman

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:33 p.m.