

NTWA Newsletter from President Tom Law

October 12, 2006

Greetings fellow Turf writers. Hopefully this somewhat tardy letter finds you all in good spirits either in the midst of or heading into the busy time of year with the Breeders' Cup World Championships right around the corner.

There are only a couple items of concern this month but they are fairly important.

First, planning and preparation for the 47th annual National Turf Writers Association Awards Dinner on Wednesday, November 1 at The Olmsted in Louisville continues to progress. Hopefully all of our members received an invitation in the mail and are considering attending. This event is annually one of the highlights of Breeders' Cup week and considering our roster of award winners this year should be no exception.

Additional information and invitations to the dinner have been mailed to other industry participants and we've received a decent amount of RSVPs already, but if you know anyone that might be interested in attending please contact Jill Williams for an invitation and she'll get one in the mail as soon as possible. Also, feel free to put a little pressure on some of your industry contacts to possibly purchase a table for the dinner.

Second, a reminder that the NTWA will conduct the second of two annual meetings on the morning of Thursday, November 2 at Churchill Downs. The NTWA board meets first, followed by the general membership. We realize that this is a busy time for everyone so we'll conduct the meeting at a time that is convenient hopefully for all and take care of business in an efficient manner.

This brings me to the most important item of business this month, membership bylaw changes. A committee was formed at the spring meeting at Churchill Downs to discuss changes to the National Turf Writers Association Official Bylaws, which are available on page 92 of the Turf Publicists of America/National Turf Writers Association directory that is published annually.

The committee should be commended and applauded for their hard work in this area and if you've got a moment when you're at Churchill, give thanks to Jay Privman, Brad Telias, and Jill Williams for their hard work. To paraphrase one of the members of the committee, and I'm in complete agreement, these changes are very important and reflect the membership policy of this organization, and will affect the make-up of it for some time to come.

For those that do not have the bylaws handy, Title IX of the bylaws states:

These bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds vote of the Regular Members responding to a call for same, either at the annual

Churchill Downs meeting or by mail. Response by mail must be made by returning to the Secretary the Proposed Amendment ballot on or before the time indicated at the bottom thereof, provided, however, the Secretary will have mailed the Proposed Amendment ballot to all Regular Members in good standing in care of the last address of such members posted with the Secretary no later than two weeks prior to the date specified for the return of such ballot.

The proposed changes to the bylaws will be sent by mail from Secretary/Treasurer Jill Williams on Monday, October 16. Regular members will then need to vote on each of the proposed changes and return their ballot to Jill by the date specified. At that point the changes will either be accepted or not accepted, wholly or in part, and the bylaws officially changed.

Please get in touch with me if you have any additional questions or concerns at tlaw@thoroughbredtimes.com, at my office at 859-260-9800 ext. 125, or on my cell phone at 859-396-9407. Thanks again, and best of luck at the races.

Thanks,

Tom Law
NTWA President