

**The Spin**  
**The Quarterly Newsletter for the**  
**Virginia Reining Horse Association**

**2017 Event Dates**

**March Into Spring: March 3-5,  
2017**

**Memorial Day Classic and Rookie  
Day: May 25-27, 2017**

**Mid Atlantic Reining Classic  
August 2-6, 2017**

**Awards Banquet**

Plans are underway for what is sure to be a great awards banquet. We will keep you posted on the final details. We have secured a location that can accommodate everyone who wants to attend. More details to follow.

**Happy New Year!!!**

**From the Virginia Reining**  
**Horse Association**

**Membership**

Your VRHA membership expires on December 31, 2016. New membership forms are on the website. The Board would like to try to reduce membership fees this year. There will also be incentive to join VRHA before the first show.

Individual and Farm memberships are 15\$ if postmarked before Feb 15, 2016. After that the price will be 20\$. Youth memberships are 5\$, after Feb 15, the price will be 10\$

Remember, as always, you must be a member to be eligible for year-end

awards. This year, you must also be a member to be eligible for weekend high point awards. Check out the web site for more information. Don't forget to renew your NRHA membership as well.

### **Board Update**

The board met on November 13, 2016 for a very long yet productive meeting. The meeting was called to order by president Chris Wiley. The first order of business was board membership. There will be some new faces on the board for 2017 and sadly, we will be losing a few. We want to thank Lianne Rankins, Dana Graft, and Todd Sharp for their service on our board for previous years. They were a huge asset and their presence will be missed. New faces on the board for 2017 include Janis Hall, Peter Defritas, and Emily Springman. We hope that you will join us in welcoming them.

Heather Lukes is also stepping down as our youth director. We want to thank Heather for everything she did this past year. I know the youth, as well as parents, appreciated her guidance and enthusiasm. Thank you Heather.

The board voted on some changes in fee scheduling for 2017. As mentioned in the membership section, our first was to lower the fees for membership. Our next task was figuring out ways that we could also help exhibitors decrease their show bill. This year we will be implementing a change in stall fees. First, there will be no difference in member and non-member pricing in an attempt to encourage our neighbors from surrounding states to come show with us. Second, the stall fees will change slightly, and the **price will include 3 bags of shavings**. Any additional shavings will need to be added to your show bill. This will hopefully make record keeping easier for everyone and allow you to get shavings to stalls ahead of time to facilitate an easier transition from trailer to stall.

#### Stall Fees (March and May Show)

Adults \$140.00

Youth \$115

Tack stalls \$100

Fees for the MARC will be different than the above listed prices since the show itself

runs longer. More details to follow, as we get closer to August.

Another change for 2017 will be Rookie Day. Based on feedback from participants and trainers, we are moving Rookie Day take place in May. Our hope is that the warmer temperatures may make it more appealing to participate. Rookie Day is undergoing a transformation, not only in our date, but also nationally in the format in which the information will be delivered. This was based on information gathered by NRHA. Stay tuned for more details in the Spring newsletter. Our focus for the March show is still the green reiner, and more showing incentives will be added. Don't forget that Green Reiner eligibility has changed for 2017 and some riders who may have pointed out of Green previously may now be eligible to ride Green again. Details on the NRHA site. Make sure to check your own points to make sure you are eligible.

### **A Message from our President**

First I would like to say thank you to our sponsors and membership for a wonderful, exciting and successful 2016 show season. Thank you to our board members who work constantly, both at home and at the shows, to make them run smoothly. And thank you to those folks who volunteer some time at the shows, whether it is running an errand or filling the water cooler, or helping with banners, it does not go unnoticed and it is greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to the upcoming year and have some exciting changes coming to you for the 2017 season. With your continued support, we are looking to have bigger and better shows, with more money, prizes and fun.

Happy New Year and Thanks,

Chris Wiley