

# MQHRA NEWSLETTER

MINNESOTA QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION



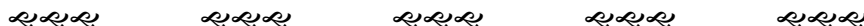
## MQHRA Hires Executive Director



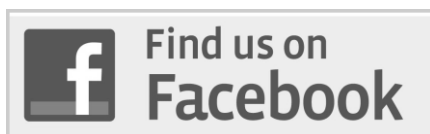
In February, the MQHRA hired Jennifer Perkins to be the organization's executive director. The purpose of the MQHRA Executive Director is to provide support to the Board of Directors in fulfilling the Mission Statement of MQHRA and to assist Quarter Horsemen during the live meet. Key duties of the position include coordinating Board meetings, driving membership, promoting the organization locally and nationally, assisting with events, and continuing to grow our relationships with Canterbury Park, the Minnesota Racing Commission, and the American Quarter Horse Association.

Jen's family has owned horses for six generations in Utah and she and her family breed and race Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds. She completed her Master's degree in the Race Track Industry Program at the University of Arizona, and earned her Master's of Business Administration from the University of St. Thomas. She has also completed the Racing Officials Accreditation Program through the University of Louisville. As a student in the RTIP, she interned in the racing office and simulcast department at Sam Houston Race Park during their Quarter Horse meet. Jen began working with AQHA in 2009 to assist in research projects for the racing committee and was an original member of the Q-Racing Aces fan education team until she joined the AQHA headquarters full-time as Director of Racing. Currently, she is a marketing manager for an online racing and sports company and lives in Chaska, MN.

Jen looks forward to bringing her industry experience and perspective to the organization. "It has been exciting to watch the racing programs develop and the fan base continue to grow since I've been following the racing at Canterbury. My work in the industry has given me the opportunity to visit tracks across the country, and I can honestly say that what is happening here is unlike most tracks. I am honored to be invited to work with the MQHRA and help us further promote Quarter Horse racing in Minnesota and beyond."



### Look for us on the Internet



Our Facebook page name is:  
Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing  
Association

[www.mqhra.com](http://www.mqhra.com)

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### MQHRA Board

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- Interim President /Vice President--  
Bob Petersen 320-286-6269  
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- Executive Secretary-----  
Cindy Besser 320-266-4558  
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NA  
Jodi Wilking 612-701-0056  
[jawilking@msn.com](mailto:jawilking@msn.com)

## 2017 Calendar of Events

Date	Day	Description
3/1/2017	Wednesday	CLOSING, Canterbury Park Derby
3/1/2017	Wednesday	CLOSING, Mystic Lake Northlands' Futurity
3/1/2017	Wednesday	CLOSING, North Central Quarter Horse Futurity
3/11/2017	Saturday	MQHRA Annual Meeting, Canterbury Park, Triple Crown Suite, 3:00 PM
3/12/2017	Sunday	MSBF last day to acquire stallion service
4/1/2017	Saturday	Next Payment, 2017 Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Futurity
4/1/2017	Saturday	CLOSING, Gopher State Derby
4/15/2017	Saturday	CLOSING, Merial Canterbury Park Distaff Challenge
4/15/2017	Saturday	CLOSING, Bank of America Canterbury Park Championship Challenge
04/28/2017- 04/30/2017	Friday-Sunday	MN Horse Expo
5/5/2017	Friday	LIVE Racing begins at Canterbury Park
5/27/2017	Saturday	First Day of LIVE QH Racing at Canterbury Park; Gopher State Derby Trails
6/9/2017	Friday	CLOSING, Skip Zimmerman Stakes
6/10/2017	Saturday	Gopher State Derby
06/16/2017- 06/18/2017	Friday-Sunday	4H Boot Camp with Racing Presentation
6/16/2017	Friday	CLOSING, Bob Morehouse Stakes
6/18/2017	Sunday	Skip Zimmerman Stakes
6/24/2017	Saturday	Youth Day at the Races
6/24/2017	Saturday	MN Quarter Horse Futurity
7/2/2017	Sunday	Mystic Lake Northlands' Futurity
7/2/2017	Sunday	Minnesota Stallion Breeders QH Futurity
7/4/2017	Tuesday	Merial Canterbury Park Distaff Challenge
7/4/2017	Tuesday	Bank of America Canterbury Park Championship Challenge
7/7/2017	Friday	CLOSING, Dash in a Flash Stakes/Extreme Day
7/15/2017	Saturday	Dash in a Flash Stakes/Extreme Day
7/16/2017	Sunday	Canterbury Park Derby
7/21/2017	Friday	CLOSING, Cash Caravan Stakes
7/29/2017	Saturday	Cash Caravan Stakes
8/6/2017	Sunday	North Central Quarter Horse Futurity
8/20/2017	Sunday	MN Quarter Horse Derby
8/20/2017	Sunday	MN Quarter Horse Futurity
TBD		Youth Day Application Deadline
TBD		Leg Up for Jockeys Day
TBD		MQHRA/MTA Joint Backside Appreciation BBQ

### MQHRA President Rosemary Higgins Moves

MQHRA President Rosemary Higgins has relocated to Colorado to be closer to her family and thus she has stepped down from her position on the Board. Rosemary served on the MQHRA Board of Directors for over five years, including two years as Vice President and most recently as President. She said, "I will miss all my friends at Canterbury Park and plan to visit often." Thanks Rosemary for your service and dedication to MQHRA.

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## Successful MSBF Stallion Auction

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The MSBF Stallion Service Auction has closed, and we are happy to report that this year's auction is our best to date. Last year, we listed 50 stallions and sold fees for 24; this year, we listed 71 stallions and sold 41. Our gross amount nearly tripled from \$12,500 in 2016 to \$31,725 this year.

Though we had many talented and accomplished sires available in the auction, two topped the bids at \$3,500 each: One Sweet Jess and EC Jet One.

The remaining stallions will be available through Sunday, March 12 on a first come, first served basis: if your bid meets the reserve, you will buy it immediately when bidding. There are still many great stallions available at bargain prices!

Thank you to everyone who donated, bid and participated in this year's MSBF Stallion Service Auction. We look forward to seeing the eligible foals run in 2020!

2017 Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Futurity Reminder:

Next payment due for the 2017 MSBF: April 1st-\$125.00 or late pay \$1,000.00. Checks should be made to Canterbury Park. Mail to Canterbury Park Nominations, 1100 Canterbury Road, Shakopee, MN 55379.

Payment reminders will be sent out 2 weeks prior to the due date.

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## 2017 Racing and Stakes Schedule

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Mark your calendars: live racing at Canterbury begins May 5<sup>th</sup>! The stakes schedule and first condition book is available now. The first scheduled Quarter Horse races are trials for the Gopher State Derby on Saturday, May 27. There are 13 stakes on the schedule worth over \$500,000, including the Mystic Lake Northlands Futurity and the Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Futurity on July 2.

Canterbury Park will participate in the Challenge Championship series again this year, hosting two regional qualifiers to the AQHA Bank of America Challenge Championships: the Bank of America Canterbury Park Championship Challenge and the Merial Canterbury Park Distaff Challenge. The winner from each race will be invited to participate in the Challenge Championships, held this year at Prairie Meadows. All Challenge-enrolled horses are eligible to compete in regional qualifiers. The first payment for the Canterbury Park regional qualifiers is \$200, due to AQHA before April 15. To enroll, nominate, or for more information, call the Challenge hotline at (877) 222-7223.

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## 2017 MQHRA Volunteer Opportunities

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- 4-H Boot Camp
- Leg Up for Jockeys
- Quarter Horse Celebration Party



- Youth Day at the Races
- Backside Appreciation Party
- Trainer of the Week/Month & Year

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## Communication Team

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The MQHRA Communication Team is working diligently to provide members with regular updates regarding issues and events concerning the Minnesota Quarter Horse racing industry via its newsletter, website ([www.mqhra.com](http://www.mqhra.com)) and Facebook page (Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing Association). While the information contained within these communication tools is believed to be accurate, we will not be responsible for errors. If we are notified about an error in writing, we will gladly publish a correction. All PAID members will receive the MQHRA Newsletter.

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### Contributors to this edition of the newsletter:

- ⇒ Jennifer Perkins
- ⇒ Lori Locken



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### Photo to credit to:

- ⇒ Jennifer Perkins





1100 Canterbury Road  
Shakopee, MN 55379

YOUR NAME HERE

2017 MQHRA Annual Meeting  
March 11, 2017  
Canterbury Park Triple Crown Room, 3:00 PM

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
MINNESOTA QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION**

- RENEW MEMBERSHIP
- \$25 SINGLE

- NEW MEMBER
- \$40 FAMILY (does not include adult children over the age of 18)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (Include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**Send membership dues to: Tom Pouliot, MQHRA Treasurer, 23425 County Road 117, Rogers, MN 55374**