

From Missouri Reining Horse Association

To Mike Boyle, NRHA President

August 21, 2007

Mike,

On behalf of the board and general membership of the Missouri Reining Horse Association, I am writing to ask you to vote against the proposed rule changes involving drug testing and membership dues increases. I believe the vast majority of members do not feel that they will benefit from either of these.

I took over as President of the MRHA at the beginning of this year and a personal goal of mine was to increase participation in the sport of reining within the state of Missouri. In the past year, we have added two additional sanctioned shows and our membership numbers have doubled. Our shows have gone from money losing events to money earning events. This has been done by targeting the grass roots Reiner. We have reduced the amount of added money at our shows and our entries have gone up. When we changed our business plan, we started having fun again and put a few dollars in the bank. I believe we now have a better understanding of who are members are and what they want.

You and I have talked before and we both agree in change through the political process. I hope the NRHA is structured in a way to allow this. If it isn't, I believe the future of the NRHA is bleak. I could ramble on and take up more of your time but I know you have heard it all already. The time when the NRHA board can act independent of its membership is over.

In closing, I want to thank you for your service to the NRHA and its members. I know it's been a stressful job and the pay is not real good.

Thanks.

Robert Sappington

President, Missouri Reining Horse Association