

April 5, 2019

The weather is starting to act like it should be spring time and ready to train horses to race in May. We have the track cleared and we have been adding base and top to it. We have new track equipment to work the track and we are thinking we should have a very good surface for racing. We are also working to get a float built or borrow the one from Great Falls that hopefully will make it so we will be able to handle a sloppy track better.

Track is open for training. Call Joe Dauben at 406 852-0048 to get stalls. Joe is our new person at the fairgrounds. There have been a lot of changes on the grounds. Most of them don't effect the races as the buildings that were damaged by the enormous amount of snow last year are gone. We changed the finish line on the track so races will finish fifty yards farther back from the first turn. That will affect the distances we run but we will have pretty much the same races.

Ed Birdrattler or his helpers will be in to start schooling horses May 4<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>. We expect to get the starting gate on the track as quickly as we can after the 15<sup>th</sup>. Holly Burrows is our racing secretary this year. Scotty Powell will be the identifier and paddock judge. Ron Reed passed away earlier this year so the chief steward is Raleigh Swensrud. Linda Milhoff will be the bookkeeper and Josie is in charge of programs. We also have asked the quarter horse association to have a tattooer on the grounds Thursday or Friday before the first day of racing. It is getting a little harder to get a tattooer here because we have so few horses to tattoo. If you are going to need a horse tattooed you need to let Holly know as soon as she gets here which should be Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup>. I am also missing an address for Merlin Sharp. If someone knows him, please pass on the information or have him call us with the address. We have some horses with names pending. We need to have names with this payment so we can get the info we need for the programs. Josie works on it in advance.

Once again the number to call for stalls 406 852 0048. Joe Dauben is the man in charge of stalls.

Have a good day!

*Don Richard*