

# Decisions, Decisions

“IN ANY MOMENT OF DECISION, THE BEST THING YOU CAN DO IS THE RIGHT THING. THE WORST THING YOU CAN DO IS NOTHING.”

—THEODORE ROOSEVELT

NRHA PRESIDENT ALLEN MITCHELS



“The most trying decisions for the board are those in which they have to decide a question in which the membership is strongly divided.”

DECISION MAKING IS A LARGE PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE. MUCH OF OUR DAILY THOUGHT PROCESSES are purely decision-making. Some are simple and routine. Some are difficult and trying. Many of our decisions are personal, others impact our business world. Life is, in large part, about decision-making and the effects those decisions create.

Election to the board by the members is an enormous responsibility and one that is taken seriously by our directors. The decisions made by the leadership of NRHA for our association are just as varied as those we make in our personal and business lives. Many, especially for the Executive Committee, are routine and mundane. For example show approvals that require Executive Committee approval can be so routine that they have to be careful to study each one to avoid passing an approval that should not have been allowed. Fortunately, our staff is a tremendous aid in flagging one that needs special consideration. Often the decisions made by the directors are difficult and require lengthy consideration before a conclusion is reached. Whether we agree on the outcome of these tougher questions or not, we have to admire the process and consideration the directors give to each.

The most trying decisions for the board are those in which they have to decide a question in which the membership is strongly divided. These moments seem to create lively debate before the vote and somberness after the vote. It's clear they take their responsibility seriously. Beyond the moment of decision, I feel a prudent board should monitor the effects of the difficult decisions with an eye on improving the outcome of their work. I promise that this is what NRHA will do. When things are difficult it helps to remember what Albert Einstein once said, “In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.” Many of NRHA's best opportunities have come out of difficult decisions.

The decision to hold the NRHA Cowtown Classic in Fort Worth, Texas around the same timeframe as the Ariat® Tulsa Reining Classic had as much debate and somberness as any issue we have dealt with recently. I hope it becomes a wonderful “opportunity” for the reining community. Both the Fort Worth and Tulsa shows can be successful if we work together. The success and effect of the new show will be monitored afterwards. Because we want, “the best thing [we] can do to be the right thing.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen Mitchels". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allen Mitchels