



HOT OFF THE TRACK

News and information for the Standardbred Racing Industry

Provided by the Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners' Association

July 2007

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To: All Horsemen

From: Tom Chuckas - Rosecroft

Date: July 5, 2007

Re: Race Day Changes

Starting Tuesday July 24th we will change our live race days from Monday and Saturday to Tuesday and Saturday. There will not be any changes to the post times; we will keep the 5:35 Post on Tuesdays. There will not be any changes to the draw schedule. We will continue to draw on Thursday and scratch on Friday for Tuesday's card.

We will not be racing Monday July 23rd. The draw on Thursday July 19th will be for the Tuesday July 24th race card.

Thank You.

ATTENTION ALL USTA LIENCED DRIVERS / TRAINERS

The USTA offers an extremely inexpensive policy that can supplement the current coverage that the USTA gives you as part of your dues. It provides income if you're seriously injured or killed in an accident of any kind - on or off the track. As part of your driver/trainer dues, all horsemen have a small accident policy that returns \$5,000 to survivors in the event of a fatal accident, whether its on the track or not. It also gives you a weekly check of \$25 if you're seriously disabled. This policy is not sufficient to help by any means but the USTA has worked with the VanGundy Agency to offer you what you probably cannot find on your own - a group accident policy that costs less than a pickup truck fully of hay in most places.

The policy is offered at two levels - \$115 a year and \$288 a year. The \$115 policy returns \$100,000 to your heirs if you are killed in any kind of an accident or \$300 a week if you're unable to work for more than 30 days. The \$288 policy returns \$250,000 in the event of your accidental death and \$500 a week if you are unable to work for more than 30 days. Additionally, if you want increased coverage. For your spouse and children's tuition or care expenses, you can pay a bit more for that coverage too.

DO NOT think you're going to escape serious injury because you're careful or you only drive older horses or you only drive at fairs or whatever your excuse may be. They are called accidents for a reason and can happen to anyone at anytime. Just ask John Campbell, Jeff Gregory, and Dave Palone. The all had one of the policies offered and urge any driver / trainer to take advantage of this opportunity.

Please contact the C.S.O.A. office at 301-567-9636 for a brochure or Vicki Hill at the VanGundy Agency , 309-452-1156. THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST.

Re: Your article in the Baltimore Sun, June 24, 2007 - "Slots fail to keep bettors at track"

In response to the article on the front page of the Sun June 24 regarding the horse racing decline throughout the region, it is important to understand that the "life blood" of the entire horse racing industry -- from the horse breeders and the farmlands they sustain, to the owners and trainers and the horse businesses they maintain, to the racetracks where the racing of horses is conducted, and to all of the citizens who are employed by, and provide services to, these entities -- is the "handle"; i.e., the monies wagered on a horse race. Ever advancing technology (as well as the expansion of other forms of gaming) has dramatically changed the origin of, and competition for, the handle. No longer does the handle come only from the patrons who, on days gone by, crowded into the racetrack with their fedora hats and double-breasted suits in order to watch and bet on, live horse racing. Instead, today 85% or more of the handle comes from those who wager on races simulcast from a multitude of racetracks around the country and the world, as well as those who wager on Maryland races from a multitude of locations around the country and the world; e.g., another racetrack, an OTB or their telephone or personal computer (via an account wagering service). Accordingly, in today's world it is naive to perceive the number of people watching and betting on live racing at a track as a "barometer" of the benefits the legalization of slot machines would bring to horse racing in Maryland.

Certainly, the history, tradition and impact of horse racing in Maryland are far more storied, far richer, and far more entwined in the fabric of our lives than in our contiguous states of Delaware, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Yet, as a result of a portion of the slots handle in those states being allocated to purses (the prize money for which the horses compete) and bred funds (awards based upon the jurisdiction in which a horse is conceived or foaled), breeders, owners and trainers, quite naturally, "follow the money". Thus begins the downward spiral for Maryland racing -- breeders move their operation from a Maryland farm to one of these contiguous states or send their sires or mares to breed there; owners and trainers race their horses in these contiguous states against identical competition for potentially double the prize money rather than in Maryland; resultant smaller fields in Maryland yield a smaller handle (including simulcast wagering). The effect is Maryland racing being denied a "level playing field." It is self-evident that a "level playing field" places Maryland racing where it has been and where it should be -- on the "first tier" of premier horse racing in the country.

Let us not be dissuaded by a narrow perception.

John P. McDaniel

Chairman

Maryland State Racing Commission

Maryland Standardbred Race Fund

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Cheri Stambaugh, Administrator

Important Date Changes

Date: June 25, 2007

To: Owners, Trainers & Drivers of Maryland Stakes Horses

From: Cheri Stambaugh, Administrator

RE: Date Changes!

Starting July 23rd, all **Maryland Standardbred Fund** and **Maryland**

Sire Stake races that are scheduled for Mondays will now be
raced one day later, on Tuesdays. There will not be any change

to the draw schedule. We will draw Thursday for Tuesday races.

This will be in effect for the remainder of the stakes season.

Check Rosecroft's condition sheet!!!!

Save the Date

Saturday, September 29th

SHOWCASE of CHAMPIONS

Eight exciting Maryland Sire Stakes Races

Monday, October 8th

CHESAPEAKE YEARLING SALE

1:00 p.m. in the Rosecroft Paddock

Upcoming Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners' Association Board of Directors Meeting Dates

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| September 27th | 4:30 p.m. |
| October 25th | 4:30 p.m. |
| November 29th | 4:30 p.m. |
| December 20th (if needed) | 4:30 p.m. |



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED