



## **Racing Officials Apprenticeship Program Information Packet**

ROAP is seeking racing commissions and race tracks which are interested in hosting a ROAP apprentice for a racing official training period. The goal of the program is to educate the apprentice in all aspects of the flat racing industry, the race track, all racing official positions, and most importantly, the stewards' stand, through a practical immersion program. This will lead to new, better qualified and more educated steward candidates for race meets and will further ROAP's goal of helping ensure the integrity of the horse racing industry.

All apprentice candidates will have completed the 60-hour Stewards Accreditation course; have passed the oral, written, and race video examinations; and lack only experience to become an accredited racing official or steward. ROAP will allow time spent as a ROAP apprentice to count towards their 225 days as a racing official requirement, and their additional 50 days requirement as a steward or harness judge.

ROAP will pay a stipend to the track for the apprentice. The period and positions worked will be determined on a case by case basis.

### Details of Apprenticeship Program:

Apprentice candidates will be required to submit a written application and resume to ROAP. The ROAP Education Committee will review the applications and conduct personal interviews. Apprentices will be selected based upon factors including, but not limited to, racing background, education, experience, character, and proximity to host track or ability to relocate or travel. The number of apprentices will depend on the number of host race tracks participating in the program.

The program will begin with an instructional period hosted by ROAP. The apprentices will review the basic duties of all racing officials and race track personnel and receive instruction on racing industry issues pertinent to their position as a racing official. The apprentice will then be assigned to a participating race track where they will be directly supervised by a steward and will receive first hand instruction and experience involving all racing official positions and departments.

Upon completion of the apprenticeship program, the ROAP apprentices will continue to seek employment in order to complete their required 225 days as a racing official in order to

become accredited. Tracks are encouraged to employ the apprentice candidate for the duration of their race meet if it is longer than the apprentice program.

By hosting a ROAP apprentice, race tracks will be adding an educated and committed steward candidate to their racetrack employment roster. Through their participation in the ROAP Apprentice Program, tracks will be helping to further the goal of ensuring the integrity of horse racing with more qualified and competent racing officials, stewards and judges.

If your race track or racing commission is interested in participating in the ROAP Apprentice Program, please contact Cathy O'Meara at (859) 224-2702 or [contactus@horseracingofficials.com](mailto:contactus@horseracingofficials.com).