



Racing Officials Accreditation Program Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 4

December 2009

*Upholding the integrity
of racing is our most
important responsibility*

Special Events

Accreditation Schools

Puerto Rico March 13-20, 2010

Continuing Education

U of A Feb 8-9, 2010
Texas

U of L March 2010
TBA

USTA Oct 2010
Ohio

Message from Stan Bowker



With Breeders' Cup behind us there are many things I have to inform you about. First, I would like to start with the On Call Stewards Program.

The three races we attended went very well; you can read more about our experience inside the newsletter.

I spent two days at the University of Louisville accreditation school this past month. I was very impressed with the caliber of people who attended the school. I also spent time at the Delaware continuing education program which was a refreshing group.

For two years ROAP has conducted video surveys on the website without much success. We are now incorporating these videos into CE curriculum.

The purpose of the film review is not only to analyze uniformity of stewards across North America but to bring up discussion. Results of the survey from each CE can be found on the ROAP website under Videos.

We have an exciting group of speakers lined up for the December 7, 2009, Conference on Officiating Horse Racing. Alan Foreman will be hosting this year's event with topics including prosecuting a drug case, chain of custody, expert witness testimony, case presentation, and much more. I hope many of you take advantage of this event.

I encourage you to interact with ROAP by participating on a committee, sending in videos for our library, or hosting a CE. Don't forget to look at the ROAP directory and to make sure your information is correct and current.

We would love to hear from you. Please send articles, letters, and commentary to be considered for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Best Regards,

Stan Bowker
ROAP Chairman

ROAP
821 Corporate Drive
Lexington, KY 40503

Phone (859) 224-2702
Fax (859) 296-3033

www.horseracingofficials.com



Conference on Officiating Horse Racing

Save the Date
December 7, 2009



Registration forms can be obtained online at
www.horseracingofficials.com

On Call Stewards Program

By: Stan Bowker

ROAP's On Call Stewards Program was utilized for the first time at three championship events this fall.

The program was first utilized at the U.S. Steeplechase Championship in October with races being run at both Far Hills, and at The Plains, for the International Gold Cup, Delaware Harness Racing Commission Executive Director Hugh Gallagher, who is an accredited harness judge, was the on-call steward for that event.

Dennis Oelschlager, long-time executive secretary of the Nebraska Racing Commission and an accredited steward, was the on-call steward for the Bank of America Quarter Horse Challenge Championship day at Los Alamitos in late October.

Frank Lamb, who recently retired as executive director of the Wyoming Racing Commission and is an accredited steward, and I shared on-call stewards' responsibilities at the Breeders' Cup and the Oak Tree meet at Santa Anita.

Nearly \$30 million in purse money was distributed at the three championship events.

While there were no significant incidents in any of the races, the on-call stewards were available to provide information to the media covering the races on the nature of an incident, the application of the rules of racing and the process by which the active stewards were determining the call for the incident in question.

At the Breeders' Cup, National Turf Writers President Tom Law gave us some time during their annual meeting to explain the program to those in attendance, and we went over some of the issues that could come up during the races. It provided a good educational opportunity for the people who cover horse racing, and I believe we can expand it into more of a Stewards 101 program for the media in the future.

If there had been any disqualifications, we had set up a system with the television production team to show the video of the race, and Frank or I would have been available to explain the incident and the reasons for disqualification.

All four of us involved in the first three championship events appreciated the help and cooperation of the stewards at each event. We obviously are intruding on their space on very busy and important race days.

ROAP is very appreciative of the Breeders' Cup and Oak Tree at Santa Anita, the American Quarter Horse Association and Los Alamitos, the National Steeplechase Association, Far Hill and The Plains for allowing us to participate in their championship days.

We hope the On Call Stewards Program can become a valuable asset in terms of educating the public on the rules of racing and helping the industry emphasize the measures in place to protect the integrity of horse racing.



"Strengthening the Integrity of Racing"

For information on important medication and drug testing research funded by RMTC and its industry-wide stakeholders, please visit us at:

www.rmtcnet.com

Announcements



Cast your vote for 'Railbird' Award Akron, NY - Many people have been nominating their favorite horseman for USHWA's newest trophy, the "Railbird Recognition" Award. Horsemen from Michigan to Florida, New York to Toronto have all been named and the votes keep coming in. There is still time for you to cast your ballot for your favorite horseperson and racing moment in the Railbird Recognition Award voting. You can cast your ballot by visiting www.ushwa.org. Vote today!



The American Quarter Horse meet at Hialeah Park, which opens November 28, will be featured on Q-Racing Video. Racing fans with Internet connections anywhere around the world can subscribe to the service by signing up at www.aqha.com/racingstream.

The Los Alamitos Golf Club, which is made up of Los Alamitos horsemen, track officials and friends of the racetrack, will conduct the second annual Sam Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament on Monday, January 25, 2010. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Disabled Jockeys Fund. For more information contact Reese at (714) 470-2003.



RMTC
Racing Medication &
Testing Consortium

RMTC Website Updated:
Recent additions to the
RMTC website

rmctnet.com include an Educational section that features an updated collection of frequently asked questions, useful videos, articles, and documents. In addition, the Research page has been expanded to include published research studies, dissertations and literature review.



Scholarship deadline to apply for 2010-2011 academic year is February 28, 2010. See www.raceforeducation.org

for detailed instructions.



The National HBPA office has the latest version of Equine Drug Testing & Therapeutic Medication Regulation booklet offered for sale for \$10.00+s/h. The book is written by Dr. Thomas Tobin and Kent Sterling. The book gives an overview of national thresholds, testing practices, laboratory standards for accreditation, therapeutic medications, and factors affecting withdrawal times. If you are interested in purchasing the book please contact the NHBPA office at (859)-259-0451 or racing@hbpa.org.



The 36th Annual Symposium on Racing & Gaming, presented by the University of Arizona's Race Track Industry Program, will be held December 7-10 at the Westin La Paloma Resort in Tucson, Arizona. Contact Betty at (520) 621-5660 for more information.



The Jockey Club has announced the election of four new members: Headley Bell, Jons Kelly, Jerry Moss, and Daisy Phipps Pulito.

To send in announcements (appointments, special events, obituaries, special reports, miscellaneous) please e-mail contatus@horseracingofficials.com

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Delaware Thoroughbred and Harness Racing Commissions Host Racing Officials Accreditation Program

By: Anne Fitzgerald

On November 9 and 10, 2009, racing industry officials attended a continuing education (CE) program for stewards, judges, and other racing officials at Delaware Park. There were officials in attendance from all over the country including New Mexico, Texas, West Virginia, New York and representatives from the National Steeplechase Association, The Jockey Club, and the Thoroughbred Racing Association of North America.

The two-day, 16-hour program included a panel of keynote speakers that was facilitated by Stan Bowker, chairman of ROAP, Hugh Gallagher, executive director of the Delaware Harness Racing Commission.

DTRC Chairman Bernard Daney said, "Officials that participate in continuing education programs such as this display a commitment to excellence by them personally, and their jurisdictions, that helps ensure the highest quality of officiating in the sport of horse racing." Daney continued, "John Wayne and Hugh Gallagher put on a good program twice a year that is always well attended. I received a lot of compliments from the attendees that enjoyed the program and the diversity of topics that were covered."



Participants who attended Delaware Racing Accreditation Program



What is the Race For Education?

What does the Race For Education (RFE) have to offer you? RFE is a major resource available to those in the equine industry who are looking to enhance their education. As a national 501 (c)(3) scholarship organization it enables young people of equine industry families as well as those who want to pursue an equine-related or agriculture career. RFE understands the significance in financial need, to obtain a college degree by providing tuition support; financial literacy training to help students minimize their debt load; mentoring services to provide students with emotional support; and permanent jobs upon graduation.

RFE offers a variety of scholarships for those pursuing a degree in an equine-related field and to children of equine industry workers. To view details on the types of scholarships, eligibility requirements, and application instructions please view their website at www.raceforeducation.org.

For those of you thinking of applying for a scholarship please note that the deadline to apply for 2010-2011 academic year is February 28, 2010.

As racing officials you maybe interested to know that the Race for Education works with ROAP in providing two \$500.00 scholarships for those individuals looking to attend the ROAP Accreditation School. Recipients of the 2009 accreditation school include Julie Sornsin-Cardwell, of North Dakota, and Bonnie Cusimano, of Oklahoma, and former RTIP graduate.



The Hoof: Inside and Out

Available for free download at

<http://www.grayson-jockeyclub.org/summitDisplay.asp>

Also available, National Uniform Trainer's Test Study Guide, \$39.99 (plus sales tax in KY & NY)
(859)-224-2728

cmcneeley@jockeyclub.com

ROAP Visits Prince Edward Island

By: Wendy Davis

The Maritime Provinces Harness Racing Commission (MPHRC) hosted a 60-hour harness accreditation program and continuing education session November 8 – 14, 2009, at Slemon Park on Prince Edward Island, Canada.

Many thanks go out to all of the professionals who made presentations in both the long school and CE sessions and a very special thank you to Dr. Paul Hogan, executive director of Maritime Provinces Harness Racing Commission and Dan Williams, Q.C., former Chair and Executive Director of the Manitoba Horse Racing Commission, for taking the lead on the organization of this event.

The curriculum for the Canadian version of the accreditation course mirrors that offered in the U.S. with one exception. Topics dealing with mutuels, photo-finish and drug testing, which are overseen on a federal rather than state (provincial) level, are unique to Canada. The concepts are certainly the same but the details of the process are different from what is presented in the U.S. format.

Having never been any farther east than Saskatoon - and that was in January for a 60-hour accreditation program during which we didn't venture out too far - I really didn't know what to expect.

What a wonderful surprise! Warm sunny days, miles and miles of rolling farmland, beautiful views of the water from almost every direction and racing that is as much a part of the culture as is the sea.

A trip to the Charlotte Town Driving Park and the Red Shores Racetrack and Casino with Mike Brown and Mike Wilson, presenters during the week, was a real treat. Not only did we see 14 races contested on the historic oval but enjoyed a tour of the beautiful new complex that houses the track operations and casino. There's also an event center and ice rink on the same property. It was great to see so many events happening at the track, in between races we even peaked in on hockey practice and a big holiday craft fair.

A big thank you goes out to the faculty who made the week such a success.

Many Thanks to Our Sponsors



Contact Information:

821 Corporate Drive

Lexington, Kentucky 40503

Phone: (859) 224-2702 Fax: (859) 224-2710

E-mail: contactus@horseracingofficials.com

www.horseracingofficials.com