



THE TEXAS HORSEMEN'S NEWS

Texas Horsemen Support a Constitutional Amendment Allowing Slot Machines at Racetracks and Indian Casinos

The Board of Directors of Texas HORSE, of which the Texas Horsemen's Partnership is a member, met with the Texas tracks and their representative three times since mid-December. It was jointly agreed that the best place to start the 2013 campaign was to introduce a bill calling for a constitutional amendment to permit slot machines at racetracks and the three existing Indian tribes in Texas. The legislation is very similar to HJR #111 and HB #2111, which the Texas horse industry supported in 2011. The proposal calls for a 30 percent state tax, 11 percent to the Equine Development Fund for purses and state-bred programs, one percent to the Performance Horse Development Fund, and 58 percent to the racetracks. Based on projections from the "The Economic and Tax Revenue Impact of Slot Machines at Racetracks in Texas" by THP, Inc. of Austin, Texas, as much as \$3 billion could be generated in total gaming revenues to be divided as indicated.

In early March, Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa (D-District 20) filed Texas State Senate Joint Resolution 36 and enabling Senate Bill 789 that call for a constitutional referendum to allow video lottery games at licensed horse and Greyhound racetracks and by Indian tribes under the regulatory authority of the Texas Lottery Commission and the Texas Racing Commission. Sen. Hinojosa, whose district in South Texas includes Corpus Christi, McAllen, Edinburg and Mission, has been an important and longtime supporter of the horse and Greyhound racing industry in Texas.

"This legislation has very significant implications and substantial benefits that could preserve and prosper the Texas horse racing industry," said Dr. Jacquelyn "Jackie" Rich, an equine veterinarian from Lott who is president of Texas HORSE. "We are currently surrounded by states that have slot machines at the horse racetracks which generate millions in purse money and put Texas racetracks at a severe disadvantage. In 2012, Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma paid over \$214 million in purse monies to racehorse owners while Texas racetracks paid less than

\$24 million. And the majority of the money wagered at the slot machines at these racetracks in surrounding states is wagered by Texans."

To support these measures, Texas HORSE will hold "Horse Week at the Capitol" on April 1-5. Texas HORSE is calling for Texas horse owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys, track employees and racing fans to come to Austin the week of April 1-5 to meet their Texas State



Senators and Representative to tell their story and ask for the legislators' support for video lottery games at Texas racetracks. To make reservations and receive assistance in arranging visits with their elected officials, participants should call one of these organizations: Texas HORSE at (817) 845-2917 or (512) 934-2974; Texas Thoroughbred Association at (512) 458-6133; or Texas Quarter Horse Association

at (512) 458-5202. Online registration is available at http://texashorseweb.com/?page_id=1598.

More than 800 supporters of the Texas racing industry attended Texas Horse Day at the Capitol during the 2011 session.

"After the past two years of horses, owners, breeders, trainers and jockeys continuing to race predominately in other states, we expect even more people to come to give their testimony given they will have more opportunity to arrange visits and more time to spend with legislators and their staff," said Rob Werstler, Director of Racing for the Texas Quarter Horse Association. "This is Texas horse racing's last stand. We have already seen our purses, races, racehorses and wagering in Texas decline 44 percent to 74 percent over the last 10 years."

Now that the constitutional amendment and enabling legislation have been filed, it is crucial that everyone who supports this legislation contact their state senators and representatives, as well as the offices of the governor and lieutenant governor, asking for their support of this initiative. Texas HORSE has developed "Texas HORSE Talking

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M. Jan Haynes
Dr. Tommy Hays, Chair
Dr. Richard Weilburg
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Jerry Durant
Lane Hutchins
Randy Mayfield
Danny Pish
John F. Synowsky
Dr. Richard Weilburg, Vice President
Dan Woods, Arabian Special Director

THE TEXAS THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION HAS YOU COVERED WITH THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW!



Texas Thoroughbred Association

Check out the TTA website for Texas racing and breeding news, TTA registration and race forms, a daily list of entries and results for all Texas-breds running in North America and much more.

Check out www.texasthoroughbred.com

TTA is also on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/texasthoroughbredassociation

The Paddock Foundation

The Paddock Foundation is a non-profit corporation with a mission to support and advance the care of Thoroughbred racehorses after their racing careers by supporting rescue, retirement, rehabilitation, retraining and rehoming.

To learn more about The Paddock Foundation and how to donate, visit
www.facebook.com/thepaddockfoundation



Southern Racehorse Magazine

**SOUTHERN
RACEHORSE**



Southern Racehorse is a new bi-monthly printed magazine that will go to all TTA members as a free member benefit. This publication, which also covers Oklahoma and goes to all members of the Thoroughbred Racing Association of Oklahoma (TRAO), will produce a Stallion Register in December to cover the entire Southwest.

Find out more about *Southern Racehorse* at www.southernracehorse.com or www.facebook.com/southernracehorse



Texas Horsemen's Calendar of Events



Date	Event	Place	Time
Every Sunday	Chapel Services	Chapel, Retama	11:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday	Bible Study and Dinner	Chapel, SHRP	6:00 p.m.
Mar. 11 (Mon.)	Stable Area Opens	Lone Star Park	8:00 a.m.
Mar. 17 (Sun.)	Closing Night of Thoroughbred Meet	Sam Houston Race Park	7:00 p.m.
Mar. 22 (Fri.)	Zero Date for Quarter Horse Papers	Racing Office, SHRP	12:00 p.m.
Mar. 25 (Mon.)	First Entry Date for Quarter Horse Meet	Racing Office, SHRP	8:00 a.m.
Mar. 28 (Thurs.)	Opening Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Sam Houston Race Park	7:00 p.m.
Apr. 1 (Mon.)	Fasig-Tipton Texas Under Tack Show	Lone Star Park	
Apr. 3 (Wed.)	Fasig-Tipton Texas Two-Year-Old Sale	TTA Sales Pavilion, LSP	
Apr. 8 (Mon.)	First Entry Date for Thoroughbred Meet	Racing Office, LSP	8:00 a.m.
	Zero Date for Thoroughbred Papers	Racing Office, LSP	12:00 p.m.
Apr. 11 (Thurs.)	Opening Night of Thoroughbred Meet	Lone Star Park	6:35 p.m.
May 4 (Sat.)	Kentucky Derby	Churchill Downs, KY	
May 18 (Sat.)	Preakness Stakes	Pimlico Race Course, MD	
	Closing Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Sam Houston Race Park	7:00 p.m.
Jun. 3 (Mon.)	Zero Date for Quarter Horse Papers	Racing Office, Retama	12:00 p.m.
Jun. 4 (Tues.)	First Entry Date for Quarter Horse Meet	Racing Office, Retama	8:00 a.m.
Jun. 7 (Fri.)	Opening Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Retama Park	6:45 p.m.
Jun. 8 (Sat.)	Belmont Stakes	Belmont Park, NY	
Jul. 6 (Sat.)	Opening Day of Mixed Meet	Gillespie County Fairgrounds	1:00 p.m.
	Closing Day of Thoroughbred Meet	Lone Star Park	1:35 p.m.
Aug. 10 (Sat.)	Closing Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Retama Park	6:45 p.m.
Aug. 26 (Mon.)	Fasig-Tipton Summer Yearling Sale	TTA Sales Pavilion, LSP	
Sep. 2 (Mon.)	All American Futurity	Ruidoso Downs, NM	
Sep. 16 (Mon.)	Zero Date for Quarter Horse Papers	Racing Office, LSP	12:00 p.m.
Sep. 17 (Tues.)	First Entry Date for Quarter Horse Meet	Racing Office, LSP	8:00 a.m.
Sep. 20 (Fri.)	Opening Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Lone Star Park	6:35 p.m.
Sep. 30 (Mon.)	Zero Date for Thoroughbred Papers	Racing Office, Retama	12:00 p.m.
Oct. 1 (Tues.)	First Entry Date for Thoroughbred Meet	Racing Office, Retama	8:00 a.m.
Oct. 4 (Fri.)	Opening Night of Thoroughbred Meet	Retama Park	6:45 p.m.
Nov. 1 (Fri.)	Breeders' Cup World Championships	Santa Anita Park, Arcadia, CA	
Nov. 2 (Sat.)	Breeders' Cup World Championships	Santa Anita Park, Arcadia, CA	

NOTE: All events subject to change. Please check THP website and track bulletin boards at racetracks for changes.

2013 THP Boards of Directors

Texas HBPA



Ted Abrams
Owner
Vice President



Brad Bolen
Trainer



Manuel B. Gonzalez, Jr.
Owner



Jorge Haddad
Trainer



Dr. Tommy Hays
Owner
President



Guy Hopkins
Trainer



Micah McKinney
Owner



Connie Nobles
Owner



Jerry Windham
Owner

Texas Thoroughbred HBPA



Kathy Stephens-Arnold, Owner
Secretary/Treasurer



W. Bret Calhoun
Trainer



Jerry Durant
Owner



M. Jan Haynes
Owner-Trainer
President



Lane Hutchins
Owner



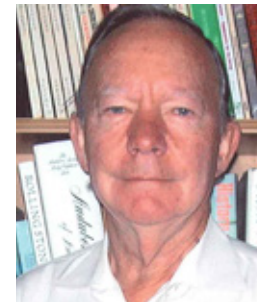
Randy Mayfield
Trainer



Danny Pish
Trainer



John F. Synowsky
Owner



Dr. Richard Weilburg
Owner
Vice President



Dan Woods
Owner, Arabian
Special Director

THBPA and TTHBPA Board Elections Concluded

The process to elect new 2013 board of directors members for the two organizations that comprise the Texas Horsemen's Partnership, LLP, the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (THBPA) and the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc. (TTHBPA), has concluded.

In these difficult economic times while our industry is in decline because of both the overall economy and the fact that Texas racing is handicapped by its lack of alternative gaming compared to all its neighboring states, the THP has been fortunate to have such strong and dedicated horsemen and women serving on both of its boards of directors.

The THBPA (Quarter Horses, Paints, and Appaloosas) was scheduled to elect two (2) owner representatives and one (1) trainer representative. Owner Dr. Tommy Hays and trainer Guy Hopkins were reelected for another term, and owner Micah McKinney of Llano, Texas was elected to the board for the first time.

The THBPA will elect its 2013 officers and appoint its representatives to the THP Management Committee at its first board meeting of the year.



New THBPA Board Member Micah McKinney



Returning TTHBPA Board Member Danny Pish

TTHBPA (Thoroughbreds and Arabians) members were selecting two (2) owner and one (1) trainer representatives. In the owner category, incumbent Secretary/Treasurer Kathy Stephens-Arnold retained her seat, and John F. Synowsky was elected to his first term on the board. Trainer Danny Pish defeated incumbent Eleuterio "Junior" Martinez to take the open spot in that category. Pish has previously served on the TTHBPA Board, and Synowsky replaced Dr. Tommy Bullard.

The TTHBPA will elect its 2013 officers and appoint its representatives to the THP Management Committee at its first board meeting of the year.

The THP would like to thank all the candidates who ran for election to serve and represent their fellow Texas horsemen. The THP would also like to thank outgoing THBPA Director, past president, and former THP Chairman Jim Helzer for his years of leadership and service on behalf of Texas horsemen and women. The THP would also like to thank Eleuterio "Junior" Martinez and Dr. Tommy Bullard for their years of service on behalf of the racing horsemen and women of Texas. 🐾



Texas Horsemen's Bookkeeper Offices

Austin Main Office
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E-mail: tbeck@texashorsemen.com

Sam Houston Race Park
Doris Sims
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Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie
Amber Montgomery
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Phone (pm): (972) 237-4891
Fax (am): (972) 237-1104
E-mail: amontgomery@texashorsemen.com



Horsemen Discussion Drug Violation Penalty Enforcement with Texas Racing Commission



At the request of THP Board Member Lane Hutchins, a discussion airing the concerns of Texas horsemen regarding perceived laxity and delay of drug violation penalty enforcement was held at

the Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) headquarters on February 5, 2013. Present were TxRC Executive Director Chuck Trout, Chief Steward Ricky Walker, Chief Veterinarian Dr. Ken Quirk, Public Information Officer Jean Cook, Director of Investigations Jim Blodgett, and Counsel Mark Fenner, as well as THP Board Members Lane Hutchins and R.D. Weilburg, M.D., active THP member Shreta Martinez, and Texas Thoroughbred Association (TTA) Executive Director Mary Ruyle.

During the meeting, the TxRC staff expressed extreme interest in horsemen's concerns and perspectives, and the staff has already instituted measures to speed due process. The TxRC has hired a new litigator to prosecute cases that are outstanding and to deal in timely fashion with any new restraining orders which may ensue.

There will be no stays issued for penalties in the future, unless there are, "overwhelming mitigating circumstances which might lead to a maximum stay of seven days."

The Commission staff wants to actively work with horsemen to discover and develop tests for new performance-enhancing drugs, and is working with state legislators and the DEA to facilitate measures of defining and controlling the use of forbidden substances. Frequent unannounced sweeps of the racetrack stable areas, veterinarian practice standards, and control of access to horses on race day were other subjects discussed.

Wise Dan Voted 2012 Horse of the Year



Wise Dan, a major stakes winner in the United States and Canada last year, was named the 2012 Horse of the Year at the 42nd Annual Eclipse Awards, presented by *Daily Racing Form*, The Stronach Group and

Breeders' Cup. The Eclipse Awards, held at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Florida, honor excellence in Thoroughbred racing and are voted on by representatives of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, *Daily Racing Form* (DRF) and National Turf Writers And Broadcasters (NTWAB).

Owned and bred by Morton Fink of Northbrook, Illinois, Wise Dan finished first in the balloting with 194 votes, fol-

lowed by Reddam Racing's I'll Have Another, winner of the 2012 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes, with 30 votes, and Mrs. Janis Whitham's Fort Larned, winner of last year's Breeders' Cup Classic, with 12 votes. Fourth was Besilu Stables' Royal Delta, winner of the Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic, with eight votes.

Wise Dan also won the Older Male and Male Turf Eclipse Awards and becomes the first horse since John Henry in 1981 to win those two awards and Horse of the Year in the same year.

As a five-year-old in 2012, Wise Dan—trained by Charles Lopresti—won five races from six starts and competed on synthetic, dirt and turf surfaces. He began the year with a track record setting 10 ½-length victory in the Grade III Ben Ali Stakes at Keeneland on Polytrack in April. After losing the Grade I Stephen Foster Handicap on dirt at Churchill Downs in June by just a head, Wise Dan won four consecutive races on turf: the Grade II Fourstardave at Saratoga; the Grade I Woodbine Mile at Woodbine in suburban Toronto; the Grade I Shadwell Turf Mile at Keeneland, and the Grade I Breeders' Cup Mile at Santa Anita Park in November. In the Breeders' Cup Mile, Wise Dan broke a course record that had stood since 1989. He finished 2012 with \$2,622,037 in total earnings. John Velazquez rode Wise Dan in all of his races during 2012 except for the Shadwell Turf Mile. On that occasion, he was ridden by Jose Lezcano.

Wise Dan is a chestnut Kentucky bred gelded son of Wiseman's Ferry out of Lisa Danielle by Wolf Power. He is expected to begin his 2013 campaign this spring.

The 2012 Eclipse Award winners and results for each category appear below. Horse ages in parenthesis where applicable; Country codes indicate a foreign breeding designation):

- *Two-Year-Old Male*: Shanghai Bobby
- *Two-Year-Old Filly*: Beholder
- *Three-Year-Old Male*: I'll Have Another
- *Three-Year-Old Filly*: Questing (GB)
- *Older Male*: Wise Dan (5)
- *Older Female*: Royal Delta (4)
- *Male Sprinter*: Trinniberg (3)
- *Female Sprinter*: Groupie Doll (4)
- *Male Turf Horse*: Wise Dan (5)
- *Female Turf Horse*: Zagora (FR) (5)
- *Steeplechase Horse*: Pierrot Lunaire (8)
- *Horse of the Year*: Wise Dan (5)
- *Owner*: Godolphin Racing LLC
- *Breeder*: Darley
- *Jockey*: Ramon Dominguez
- *Apprentice Jockey*: Jose Montano
- *Trainer*: Dale Romans

Award of Merit

The winner of the Award of Merit, voted on by a panel of representatives from the three presenting organizations



and previously announced, is Nick Nicholson. The Award of Merit is presented to honor outstanding lifetime achievement in the Thoroughbred industry.

Media Eclipse Awards

Media Eclipse Awards also are given in the categories of photography, audio and multi-media Internet, news/enterprise writing, feature/commentary writing, national television-feature and national television-live racing programming to recognize members of the media for outstanding coverage of Thoroughbred racing. The 2012 Media Eclipse Awards winners, determined by a judges' panel for each category and previously announced, are:

- Photography – Tom Keyser, *Daily Racing Form*; “Start of Brooklyn Handicap,” July 11, 2012.
- Writing – Feature/Commentary: Ryan Goldberg, *Daily Racing Form*; “Keiber Coa Presses on a Year After Father’s Fateful Spill,” July 7, 2012.
- Writing - News/Enterprise – Mary Simon, *Thoroughbred Times*, “Added Obstacle” June 9, 2012.
- Television - Live Racing: NBC Sports, “The Kentucky Derby”; Rob Hyland, Coordinating Producer; May 5, 2012.
- Television - Feature: ESPN, “Notinrwilderstdremz”, Heather Lombardo, Producer; October 30, 2012.
- Audio and Multi-Media Internet – Glenye Cain Oakford, *Daily Racing Form.com* “Zenyatta: Wait for First Foal Combines Science, Art and Anticipation,” February 28, 2012.

Daily Racing Form/NTRA National Handicapping Championship Tour Underway; Players May Now Earn Two Entries to Lucrative NHC Finals



On February 5, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) released the rules for the *Daily Racing Form* National Handicapping Championship 2013 Tour.

Signups for the 2013 NHC Tour are now being accepted

at <http://www.ntra.com/en/nhc/become-a-member/>. The complete rules are posted at <http://www.ntra.com/en/nhc/official-rules/>.

The *Daily Racing Form* NHC Tour is a year-long bonus series offering \$175,000 in additional prize money and qualifying berths to the NHC.

As was the case in 2012, NHC Tour membership is mandatory in order to earn an entry into the NHC Finals—the lucrative culmination of the year’s qualifying schedule. The recently concluded NHC 14 on January 25-26 saw Jim Benes of Countryside, Illinois, emerge with the \$750,000 grand prize and an Eclipse Award as Handicapper of the Year.

Among the changes for the 2013 Tour year is an increase from 10 to a record 20 in the number of NHC berths

to be given out via free, online qualifying tournaments that are restricted to NHC Tour members. Also, the top 150 Tour points leaders at the end of the year (up from 100 in 2012) will be guaranteed entry into the 2014 NHC. Once again in next January’s NHC Finals, the season-ending NHC Tour points leader will be eligible for a \$2 million bonus should he or she capture the 2014 NHC.

NHC Tour prize money this year will be at least \$175,000, including a total of \$25,000 in mid-year payouts to the top eight in the standings as of July 31. End-of-year payouts will total \$150,000, with points based on a member’s top six scores. Again in 2013, bonuses will be paid to those players who win multiple NHC qualifying tournaments. A \$3,000 bonus will be paid for a second qualifying tournament victory. An additional \$4,000 bonus will be paid for a third win. And an additional \$5,000 bonus will be awarded for a fourth win.

Membership in the 2013 *Daily Racing Form* NHC Tour requires a one-time membership fee of \$50. Membership in the 2013 *Daily Racing Form* NHC Tour is mandatory in order for top finishers of sanctioned NHC qualifying events to be eligible to compete in the January 2014 NHC Finals. The NHC Tour membership must be in place prior to the start of any given qualifying tournament in order for one to qualify for the NHC Finals at that qualifying tournament.

The NHC Tour will lead to the January 2014 final that has been a two-day event since its inception, but will be extended to three days in 2014. Another NHC “first” in 2014 will be the opportunity for players to qualify for two entries in the tournament that is again expected to give away \$750,000 to the winner and more than \$1.5 million overall.

The entire field of NHC contestants will compete during the first two days of the tournament, with the top individuals moving on to compete for the grand prize on Day 3. Those with multiple entries among the top scores after Day 2 will only have one of those entries carry into Day 3, with the next highest scorers rounding out the Day 3 field. All those advancing to Day 3 will be guaranteed a cash prize. During the afternoon of Day 3, there will be a cut that yields a “final table” consisting of the tournament’s highest scorers. Those advancing to the final table will battle it out for the NHC’s top cash prizes.

All those not making it into the Day 3 Final will be entered in a free, Day 3 consolation tournament. The complete rules for the 2014 NHC Final are expected to be announced within the next 30-45 days.

Other 2013 *Daily Racing Form* NHC Tour benefits include:

- Minimum twice monthly e-newsletter featuring photos and recaps of previously held tourneys; schedules and links to upcoming tournaments; and tourney tips from previous NHC Champions and qualifiers;
- Special offers from *Daily Racing Form*; and
- Eligibility to receive benefits and discounts from NTRA Advantage partners.



In its 15th year, the *Daily Racing Form*/NTRA National Handicapping Championship is the most important tournament of the year for horseplayers. There are no "buy-in" entries at the NHC. It is the culmination of a year-long series of NTRA-sanctioned local tournaments conducted by race tracks, casino racebooks, off-track betting facilities and horse racing and handicapping websites, each of which sends its top qualifiers to the national finals. Each year, the NHC winner joins other human and equine champions as an honoree at the Eclipse Awards. The 14 NHC Champions since the event's inception, in chronological order, are Steven Walker, Judy Wagner, Herman Miller, Steve Wolfson Jr., Kent Meyer, Jamie Michelson, Ron Rippey, Stanley Bavlisch, Richard Goodall, John Conte, Brian Troop, John Doyle, Michael Beychok and Jim Benes.

Senators Release Framework for Comprehensive Immigration Reform



During the last week of January, a bipartisan group of senators made up of Senators Schumer (D-NY), McCain (R-AZ), Graham (R-SC), Menendez (D-NJ), Rubio (R-FL), Bennet (D-CO), and Flake (R-AZ), released a framework for comprehensive immigration reform. Legislation based on this framework will likely be introduced sometime in the next couple of months.

Comprehensive immigration reform has been a priority of the horse industry for many years. The difficulty horse farms, horse shows, trainers and others have had recruiting American workers has forced many to rely on foreign workers and utilize both the H-2B and H-2A temporary foreign worker programs to meet their labor needs. However, the current system is not reliable and is extremely burdensome to use. A comprehensive overhaul of the U.S. immigration system is needed and could finally fix the immigration issues facing the horse industry and all of American agricultural.

According to the framework, the bill that is eventually introduced will increase border security, provide a path for unauthorized immigrants to remain in the country and eventually apply for citizenship, implement an employment verification system, and fix current or create new temporary worker programs, including a new more workable program for agriculture. A bill based on this framework could be beneficial to the horse industry. Workers who currently lack documentation would receive some form of legal status and would have the ability to continue working. And the H-2B and H-2A programs would either be fixed or replaced. Reforms such as these would allow employers to keep the workers they have now and ensure they will be able to hire guest workers in the future if they cannot find enough American workers.

The details of any bill that is eventually introduced and debated will be very important. However, this is an important first step to addressing the immigration issues facing

the horse industry and the country. It is likely that any legislation that ultimately moves forward in the Congressional process will be based on this framework.

The AHC will be watching this process closely and working to make sure any final bill deals with the needs of horse farms, horse shows, trainers and the entire horse industry.

- Courtesy American Horse Council

Equibase Announces 2013 Yearbook App for iPhone and Android



On January 25, Equibase Company announced the release of the 2013 edition of the Equibase Racing Yearbook application (app)

for iPhone and Android, which now includes the current year plus all previous editions of the Yearbook (2010, 2011 and 2012).

For each year of racing, the app offers video replays provided by Roberts Communications and full charts including pari-mutuel payoffs of all graded stakes races including the Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup.

"With this new edition, fans will be able to follow the 2013 races throughout the year and relive the best of racing from the past three years," said Chris Dawahare, manager of eBusiness and development for Equibase.

The 2013 Equibase Racing Yearbook app can be downloaded at itunes.com and play.google.com for \$1.99. A free web version of the Equibase Racing Yearbook is available at equibase.com.

The Equibase Racing Yearbook app was developed by The Jockey Club Technology Services Inc., which also developed Equibase's Today's Racing™ app and its mobile website, both of which offer fans access to entries, results, and scratches and changes information, plus Virtual Stable®.

Wagering, Purses, Race Days Down Through February

On March 4, Equibase Company released its "Thoroughbred Economic Indicators for February 2013." Compared to the first two months of 2012, wagering is down 4.37 percent (\$1,628,947,204 as compared to \$1,703,381,572 in 2012), purses were down 3.26 percent (\$132,339,562 this year versus \$136,803,180 last year), and race days were down 9.12 percent (588 versus 647).

According to Equibase figures released in early January, wagering for all of 2012 compared to 2011 was up 0.96 percent (\$10,873,709,012 versus \$10,770,246,313), purses were up 6.33 percent (\$1,124,260,862 versus \$1,057,381,289), and race days were up 0.23 percent (5,310 versus 5,298 in 2011).

* Includes worldwide commingled wagering on U. S. races.



USDA Adopts Animal Disease Traceability Program



In a move that many thought would never happen, the U.S. Department of Agriculture instituted its Animal Disease Traceability Program on January 9, 2013. The system, which will become effective March 11, is intended to improve USDA's

and state authorities' ability to trace livestock, including horses, in the event of a disease outbreak. The new system applies to all livestock moving interstate.

Under the new federal regulations, horses moving interstate must be identified and accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI), commonly called a health certificate. "The new system is built on methods of identification and movement documentation that are already employed in the horse industry, e.g., written descriptions, digital photographs, brands, tattoos, electronic identification methods, and interstate certificates of veterinary inspection. The person or entity responsible for moving the horse interstate must ensure that it has an ICVI or other document required by the new rule," said Jay Hickey, president of the American Horse Council.

The ADTP will be administered by the states with federal support. The new rules also apply to movements to and from a Tribal area. In those cases, the Tribal authorities are involved in the system.

The horse industry has been dramatically affected by serious disease outbreaks in the last ten years, which have halted or restricted the movement of horses and the commerce surrounding the horses. The new program is intended to help the Department, state authorities and the horse industry better deal with such disease outbreaks and to minimize disease effects on horses and economic effects on owners and the industry.

This new rule is based on the previous National Animal Identification System (NAIS), which was the original voluntary system proposed by USDA to deal with disease outbreaks and traceability. The NAIS was not supported by much of the livestock industry, requiring USDA to reconsider its approach. "This more limited and simpler system just adopted is the result. The new system does not require the registration of premises housing livestock or the specific reporting of individual movements of horses," noted Hickey.

The new rules will be effective March 11, 2013. "We expect that there will be a transition period during which USDA will not enforce the new rule. This is to give livestock owners time to understand the rules and make any changes necessary to comply. We don't know how long that period might be," said Hickey.

Under the new regulations, horses moving interstate must be identified and accompanied by a health certificate or other state-approved document, such as an EIA test chart or equine passport approved by the animal health officials in the sending and receiving states.

Horses may be identified by methods currently used

in the horse community, such as a description sufficient to identify the individual horse including, name, age, breed, color, gender, distinctive markings, and unique and permanent forms of identification, such as brands, tattoos, scars, cowlicks, blemishes, or biometric measurements. Electronic identification may also be used, as may digital photographs.

"All states now require an ICVI to accompany any horse entering their state. This should make for a smooth transition to the new traceability rule since most horse owners moving their horses interstate for breeding, racing, showing, sale, etc. should already be in compliance with the provisions of the new rule," noted Hickey.

In the event of a disease outbreak, these documents will be used to trace horses that are or have been at the site of the outbreak and horses that have come into contact with them.

The new rule can be reviewed at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-01-09/pdf/2012-31114.pdf>. The AHC recommends that any horse owner moving horses interstate or involved in that process review the new requirements to ensure they are complying with them.

- Courtesy American Horse Council

Thoroughbred Incentive Program Approves More Than 375 Shows, Introduces Number Card

The Jockey Club Thoroughbred Incentive Program (T.I.P.) announced on January 21 that it has approved more than 375 shows from the 268 applications that it received. Applications represented approximately 400 horse shows in 37 states and Canadian provinces.



"We've approved shows in numerous disciplines, including eventing, dressage, Western and English pleasure, and hunter/jumper," said Kristin Werner Leshney, legal associate for The Jockey Club. "We added series year-end awards for associations with multiple shows, and they've been very popular."

Once again, T.I.P. will disburse \$100,000 in prize money, ribbons and prizes, including saddle pads, stall plaques, coolers, halters and tote bags.

"In addition to awards for shows, we have renewed the out-of-competition awards," said Leshney. "Winners of the Thoroughbred of the Year Award and the Young Rider of the Year Award will each receive \$5,000 and other prizes."

Applications for the non-competition awards will be available at tjctip.com in May with a deadline of June 28, 2013.

T.I.P. has also introduced the T.I.P. number card, which distinguishes horse and rider combinations and should be provided to horse shows as proof of eligibility. Owners/riders can apply for a T.I.P. number at tjctip.com. Only Thoroughbreds that have been registered with The Jockey Club or, new for 2013, a foreign Thoroughbred stud book recognized by The Jockey Club are eligible to participate in T.I.P. classes and awards.



Created and announced in October 2011, T.I.P. recognizes and rewards the versatility of the Thoroughbred through sponsorship of Thoroughbred classes and high point awards at sanctioned horse shows. In addition to the complete schedule of T.I.P.-sponsored shows, other information about the program is also available on the T.I.P. website. Those interested in T.I.P. can follow the program at facebook.com/tjctip.

Attention Horsemen: Clenbuterol Withdrawal Time in Texas Changes to 14 Days on March 28th, Additional Medication Rule Changes Announced



The Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) has announced that effective March 28, 2013, clenbuterol will be permitted at a maximum concentration of 140 pg/ml in urine. Although clenbuterol has not

previously been permitted at any concentration, in order to achieve this low concentration level, the suggested withdrawal time has increased from 96 hours to fourteen (14) days.

Effective September 13, 2013, betamethasone will be permitted at a maximum concentration of 10 pg/ml in plasma or serum. Although betamethasone has not previously been permitted at any concentration, in order to achieve this low concentration level, the suggested withdrawal time has increased from 96 hours to seven days.

In addition, the RMTC's suggested withdrawal time for triamcinilone acetonide has increased to seven days, and the suggested withdrawal time for methylprednisolone has increased to 21 days.

Please note that suggested withdrawal times are estimates only; for example, the suggested withdrawal times for betamethasone and triamcinolone are based on a 9 mg injection into one joint. Injections into multiple joints or of different amounts may require longer withdrawal times. The trainer remains the absolute insurer that the resulting concentration levels will not exceed the maximum permissible concentration levels.

On November 13, 2012, the TxRC released of changes to the Commission's list of approved therapeutic medications. On February 26, 2013, the TxRC released a follow-up memo addressing additional changes to that list.

All of these changes are in response to the proposed changes to ARCI's list of approved therapeutics as recommended by ARCI's Task Force on Medication Science, and they all go into effect immediately. The entire memo can be viewed in English and Spanish at http://www.texashorsemen.com/PDFs/02262013-Memo_and_Additional%20Changes-Permissible_Medication_Levels.pdf.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Racing Commission at (512) 833-6699.

USDA Makes Permanent Interim Rules on CEM Testing



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has made final its interim rule on importing certain horses from countries affected by Contagious Equine Metritis. These rules were previously adopted as interim rules in 2012 but then held in abeyance to allow the industry to prepare for the new requirements and to allow USDA to review comments on the changes. USDA has now made the rules final.

APHIS undertook the rulemaking because of the increasing number of cases of CEM in the last few years. The changes are intended to provide additional safeguards and strengthen the testing requirements on imported horses to reduce the chances of a CEM outbreak in the U.S.

Yearlings and weanlings cannot have been bred to other horses, either through artificial insemination or live breeding, from the time they were tested for CEM until export from the CEM country. Test mares, imported mares, and imported stallions above a certain age will be required to undergo an additional CEM test that will help improve the accuracy of final test results. These include:

- Mares over 731 days of age must be given a complement fixation (CF) test at the post-arrival CEM quarantine facility. Mares that test positive will be treated and retested.
- Stallions to be imported will have one set of cultures collected prior to test breeding with negative results. If positive, the stallion will be treated and retested by being test bred to two mares within 21 days of the treatment.
- Test Mares and Mares over 731 Days - Three sets of cultures must be taken but only the third set must include a swab from the distal cervix or endometrium.

The additional requirements are complicated. Those involved in bringing horses into the U.S. from CEM-affected countries should review the new provisions here.

The new rules are effective March 13, 2013.

CEM is a transmissible, exotic venereal disease in horses that causes infertility in mares and can sometimes cause mares to spontaneously abort. Infected stallions exhibit no clinical signs, but can carry the CEM bacteria for years. The disease is commonly transmitted during sexual intercourse, but can also be transmitted indirectly through artificial insemination or contact with contaminated hands or objects. It can be treated with disinfectants and antibiotics.

- Courtesy American Horse Council

The Jockey Club Amends Rule Book with "Retired from Racing" Clause

The Jockey Club has amended Rule 18 of the Principal Rules and Requirements of The American Stud Book from Sold Without Pedigree to Sold as Retired from Racing so that an owner can retire a Thoroughbred from racing without



affecting its breeding privileges, it was announced today.

Under the previous Rule 18, the Certificate of Foal Registration for a horse sold without pedigree was returned to The Jockey Club and cancelled, and the horse was no longer considered a Thoroughbred for breeding or racing purposes.

Under the amended Rule 18, the owner of a Thoroughbred can request that The Jockey Club attach a special notation to the Certificate of Foal Registration to indicate the horse should no longer be considered a Thoroughbred for racing purposes. Unlike the previous Sold Without Pedigree, horses that are Retired from Racing are still considered Thoroughbreds for breeding purposes.

To sell a horse as retired from racing, the owner must send a signed and notarized Sold as Retired from Racing form, a set of photographs of the horse, and the horse's Certificate of Foal Registration to The Jockey Club within 60 days of the sale. The Jockey Club will stamp the certificate "Retired from Racing" and forward it to the purchaser. A copy of such stamped certificates will be made available at registry.jockeyclub.com for interested industry stakeholders.

Bills Introduced to Modify Federal Sports Betting Ban

Two bills have been introduced in Congress to ease the federal ban on betting on professional and amateur sports. One bill would amend the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act to allow all states a four-year window to pass sports betting. The second bill would allow New Jersey to offer sports betting in state.

New Jersey has been at the forefront of initiating sports betting. In 2011, New Jersey voters amended the state constitution to allow sports betting at casinos and race-tracks. The state legislature then passed a law allowing

sports betting; but the federal law still prohibited it. The state has filed a lawsuit in federal court arguing that the current federal ban is unconstitutional. The Department of Justice has responded arguing that the law is constitutional. A decision is expected in the near future. Any decision is likely to be appealed.

Meanwhile, Congressmen Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ) have introduced legislation in the House of Representatives to provide a path for New Jersey and possibly other state to offer sports betting.

Mr. Pallone's bill, the New Jersey Betting and Equal Treatment Act of 2013 (H.R. 626), would amend the federal law to exclude New Jersey from the federal prohibitions and allow that state to offer sports betting, limited to New Jersey, if approved by the state legislature.

Mr. LoBiondo's bill, the Sports Gaming Opportunity Act of 2013 (H.R. 625), would open up a four-year window, from January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2017, during which any state could legalize betting on professional and amateur sports. If a state did not act, the window would close and that state could not offer such wagering.

The Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act was enacted in 1992 and prohibited any state from initiating any new form of sports betting. Nevada, Delaware and Oregon were exempt since they offered forms of such wagering then. Pari-mutuel racing was exempted from the prohibitions on sports betting when the law was passed and still is. These new bills would not impact that exemption.

Both bills were referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

- Courtesy American Horse Council



SAM HOUSTON
RACE PARK

Sam Houston Race Park Thoroughbred Meet Stakes Schedule

Date	Race	Conditions	Distance
February			
Fri., Feb. 22	\$30,000-estimated Texas Six Shooter (GII)	4YO C&G, Arabian	7 Furlongs
	\$30,000-estimated Texas Yellow Rose (GII)	4YO F, Arabian	7 Furlongs
Sat., Feb. 23	\$50,000-guaranteed Jersey Village Stakes	4YO & Up, TX-Bred	1 1/16 Miles (T)
March			
Sat., Mar. 2	Maxxam Gold Cup Racing Festival		
	\$100,000-guaranteed MAXXAM Gold Cup	4YO & Up	1 1/8 Miles
	\$50,000-guaranteed Jersey Lilly Stakes	4YO & Up, F&M	1 1/16 Miles (T)
	\$50,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Sprint Cup	4YO & Up	6 Furlongs
	\$50,000-guaranteed Texas Heritage Stakes	3YO	1 Mile
Sat., Mar. 9	HH Sheikh Zayed Arabian Racing Festival		
	\$30,000-added HH Sheikh Zayed Cup	4YO & Up, Arabian	7 Furlongs
	\$25,000-added Sheikha Mubarak Ladies	4YO & Up, F&M, Arabian	7 Furlongs
Sat., Mar. 16	TBD Pending TxRC Approval	3YO F	1 Mile



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News from TTHBPA Director of Racing Terry Blanton



Terry Blanton

Greetings from a chilly Lone Star Park! Surely spring can't be far off.

Pee Wee, the new track superintendent at Lone Star Park, continues to work the new track surface as he

awaits lab results that will tell him what needs to be added to ensure a consistent track surface. This should be completed by February 18.

The work in the stable area includes clay being added to the stalls, central heating and air added to the dorm rooms, and barn offices and sheet metal installed on the barn ends. No completion date for these improvements are known as of this writing.

The stakes schedule at Lone Star will have 11 stakes races for \$1.1 million in total. Check your condition book

and the track website at www.lonestar-park.com for a complete listing.

Lone Star's management announced a new exclusion policy which is consistent with other race-tracks and The Jockey Club. Lone Star reserves the right not to allocate stalls or accept entries from any horse-men on the suspended list from the American Quarter Horse Association or The Jockey Club.

The spring training center at Lone Star will open on March 11 and continue through March 24, with the track opening for training on March 13 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. with no break. There will also be a summer training center from July 14 through August 25 and a fall center from August 26 through November 16. For more information, you may check the track's website or contact the racing office at (972) 237-1130.

Sam Houston Race Park's meet continues toward the midpoint, with the handle showing some healthy increases to date. The average num-

ber of runners is eight-plus on overnight races. The inaugural Houston Ladies Classic card showed strong handle and set two new track records.

We were pleased to hear that the purchase of Retama Park by Pinnacle Entertainment was finalized as of January 30. This is good news as we all work toward improving our states racing industry.

Be sure to go to www.lettexansdecide.com and sign the petition to show your support for giving Texans the right to vote at the polls on gaming. You will also receive e-mail updates. Let's keep Texans money in Texas.

Be sure to take a look at the calendar on page 5 of this issue and on our website as mentioned above for events that the THP offers. Also, keep an eye on bulletin boards at the tracks for any announcements or changes.

As always, if you should have any questions, concerns or issues that you may need to discuss, you are welcome to contact me at (214) 384-9547 or Tami Hare at (214) 850-6821. 🐾



Sam Houston Race Park Quarter Horse Meet Stakes Schedule

Date	Race	Conditions	Distance
March			
Fri., Mar. 29	\$20,000-guaranteed Harris County Stakes	3YO & Up	550 Yards
April			
Sat., Apr. 6	\$20,000-guaranteed Silestone Stakes	F&M, 3YO & Up, TX-Bred	330 Yards
Fri., Apr. 12	\$15,000-added Sam Houston Maiden Classic	3YO & Up	350 Yards
Sat., Apr. 13	\$100,000-added Sam Houston Futurity (G2)	2YO	330 Yards
	\$35,000-added Sam Houston Derby (G3)	3YO	350 Yards
	\$25,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Juv. S.	2YO	330 Yards
Sat., Apr. 20	\$100,000-added Bank of America Texas Challenge Championship (G1)	3YO & Up	440 Yards
	\$20,000-added Red Cell TX Dist. Chal.	3YO & Up	870 Yards
Fri., Apr. 26	\$15,000-added SHRP Claiming Derby	3YO	350 Yards
Sat., Apr. 27	\$22,000-added Merial Texas Distaff Challenge	F&M, 3YO & Up	400 Yards
	\$18,000-added Pfizer Animal Health Texas Starter Allowance Challenge	3YO & Up	350 Yards
May			
Sat., May 4	\$18,000-added Bank of Amer TX Mdn. Chal.	3YO & Up	350 Yards
	\$15,000-guaranteed Texas Twister Stakes	3YO & Up, TX-Bred	110 Yards
Fri., May 10	\$50,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Classic (G2)	3YO & Up	440 Yards
Sat., May 11	\$25,000-guaranteed Governor's Cup Marathon	3YO & Up	870 Yards
	\$10,000-added Colors of Houston Paint Fut.	2YO	300 Yards
	\$10,000-added Colors of Texas Paint Mat.	3YO & Up	350 Yards
Sat., May 18	\$35,000-added Adequan TX Derby Challenge	3YO	400 Yards
	\$25,000-added John Deere TX Juv. Chal. (G3)	2YO	350 Yards



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When you support the NTRA 1/4% Check-off program, 100% of your contribution goes toward funding the NTRA's federal legislative efforts in Washington, DC. Join us in helping to preserve, protect and advance Thoroughbred interests on Capitol Hill.

Participate in the 1/4% Check-off program the next chance you get.

To learn more about the NTRA's federal legislative efforts, visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org

New Main Track Renovation & Grandstand Improvements Highlight 2013 Spring Thoroughbred Season at Lone Star Park

Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie recently announced that the main racetrack is being completely renovated along with major grandstand improvements to be in place in time for the upcoming 13-week, 2013 Spring Thoroughbred Season beginning Thursday, April 11.



The main track reconditioning is currently underway and will feature a new base and mixture to ensure track safety and consistency.

“During the course of the previous Fall Meeting of Champions for American Quarter Horses, we noticed inconsistencies in the main dirt track that caused some bias during races. A complete investigation by independent, top track and soil experts, found that remnants of the previously used cushion material remained in broad areas of the track. This material caused difficulties grooming the track each day in order to achieve a uniform distribution of cushion from the inner rail to the outside of the racetrack,” said Drew Shubeck, Lone Star Park President & General Manager.

The renovation project includes:

- 1) Removal of all cushion material in order to fully inspect the limestone base.
- 2) Reapplication of the cushion, allowing sub-cushion material to blend with saved cushion material.
- 3) Washed sand, clay and organics will be blended to achieve optimum blend of cushion materials.

“Our first and foremost objective is to have a safe and consistent racetrack surface, and we believe these renovations will do just that for our horsemen,” said Shubeck.

Club House Dining Terraces to Be Renovated

The changes to the main racetrack are not the only improvements being made at Lone Star Park. Returning customers will notice a significant change on the fourth floor of the 280,000 square foot, glass-enclosed, climate controlled grandstand. The main 1,200 seat Silks Dining Terraces are undergoing a dramatic renovation, including new tables and chairs and a completely redesigned television presentation. Additionally, a new menu will be launched just in time for the Spring Thoroughbred season beginning Thursday, April 11 featuring many of the traditional favorites, with an influx of exciting new flavors and a wide variety of offerings for the discriminating horse lovers ever-changing palate.

New Exclusion Policy Announced

Lone Star Park also recently announced a new exclusion policy which is consistent with regulations adopted by other racetracks and a written position issued by the Jockey Club last month: “Lone Star Park is committed to ensuring that the racing programs we conduct reflect the highest standards of safety and integrity. Lone Star Park reserves the right not to allocate stalls or accept entries from any horsemen on the suspended list from either the American Quarter Horse Association or The Jockey Club.”

2013 Stakes Schedule Announced

The track announced its 2013 stakes schedule consisting of 11 stakes races totaling over \$1.1 million. The schedule is highlighted by the \$300,000 Lone Star Park Handicap (Grade III) on Monday, May 27 and the \$200,000 Texas Mile (Grade III) on Saturday, April 27. 🏇



Lone Star Park Thoroughbred Meet Stakes Schedule

Date	Race	Conditions	Distance
April			
Thurs., Apr. 11	\$50,000-guaranteed Premiere Stakes	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	6 1/2 F
Sat., Apr. 13	\$50,000-guaranteed JEH Stallion Station Stakes	3 YO & Up, F&M, TX-Bred	6 1/2 F
Sat., Apr. 27	\$200,000-guaranteed Texas Mile (Gr. III)	3 YO & Up	1 Mile
May			
Sat., May 11	\$75,000-guaranteed Texas Stallion Stakes - Got Koko Division	3 YO F, TX-Bred	1 Mile
	\$75,000-guaranteed Texas Stallion Stakes - Stymie Division	3 YO, C&G, TX-Bred	1 Mile
	\$50,000-guaranteed Lane's End Stallion Scholarship Stakes	3 YO & Up, F&M, TX-Bred	7 1/2 F (T)
Mon., May 27	\$300,000-guaranteed Lone Star Park Handicap (Gr. III)	3 YO & Up	1 1/16 Miles
July			
Sat., Jul. 6	\$100,000-estimated TTA Sales Futurity - Filly Division	2 YO F	5 F
	\$100,000-estimated TTA Sales Futurity - Colt & Gelding Division	2 YO C&G	5 F
	\$50,000-guaranteed Assault Stakes	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	1 Mile
	\$50,000-guaranteed Valor Farm Stakes	3 YO & Up, F&M, TX-Bred	6 F

continued from page 1

Points”, which you can find on page 19 for your use. This document contains the statistics and reasoning you will want to have to justify your position when contacting state officials. However, we also need your testimonials on how your businesses and lives have been adversely affected by the dramatic downturn in the Texas horse industry due to the unlevel playing field on which we compete with surrounding states. These testimonials will carry the most weight with those who have a vote in this issue.

Texas HORSE and the THP encourage you all to contact your legislators and express your opinions. The Texas HORSE website (www.texashorseweb.com) shows you how this can easily be accomplished. We would especially encourage you to visit your state legislators in their Austin offices at the Capitol this session even if you can't make “Horse Week at the Capitol”. To make your visit a memorable occasion, we have assembled “Feed Buckets” at the Texas Quarter Horse Association that will include Texas-based horse magazines; examples of the economic impact of the horse industry such as hay, feed, horse shoe, grooming brush, etc.; and some logo items from the tracks. Please contact our office if you will be in Austin and able to make a personal visit to your district's legislators.

Texas HORSE and the THP also encourage all Texas horse racing participants to go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/KXFBS89 and fill out our on-line survey and share your thoughts. Please also pass along the link to your friends in the industry, as well.

Texas HORSE remains open-minded to other gaming legislative initiatives such as, but not limited to casinos, historic racing, simulcast wagering facilities, poker and

advance deposit wagering as long as the horse industry representatives agree to the distribution of revenues to purses, state-bred incentive programs, the Performance Horse Development Fund and Capital Improvement Accounts; the tax base for all gaming operations are equitable and do not create an unfair level of competition; and that the revenues to the racetracks are sufficient for the racetracks to be economically successful.

Texas HORSE believes that \$2.5 billion is wagered each year by Texans in the surrounding states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

Texas HORSE knows that in the last 10 years, race dates (-41 percent), races (-48 percent) and purses (-47 percent) are down dramatically in Texas due to the introduction of slot machines at racetracks in Louisiana (1994), New Mexico (1997) and Oklahoma (2004).

Texas HORSE believes that the \$5.2 billion annual economic impact of the Texas horse industry, as reported in the 2005 American Horse Council Economic Impact Study of the U.S. Horse Industry, which was #1 in the United States, has declined to less than \$3.5 billion in 2012.

Texas HORSE knows that since 2002 in Texas, the number of stallions standing, mares bred and foals born for racing Thoroughbreds, Quarter Horses, Paint Horses and Arabians has declined between 27 and 68 percent depending on the breed, with the most dramatic reductions in the Texas Thoroughbred industry.

Follow the efforts of Texas HORSE on Facebook (www.facebook.com/texashorse), follow it on Twitter (twitter.com/texashorse), and watch its website (www.texas-horse.com).



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Texas HORSE Talking Points

The following talking points have been gathered to assist Texans as they educate lawmakers and fellow citizens:

The issue at hand is, should Texans be allowed to vote on a constitutional amendment in 2013 to allow slot machines at racetracks? Why not? Recent polls show that a 60-70 percent majority of Texans, across the board demographically, want the right to vote on this issue.

Besides, Texas is already in the gaming business with revenues supporting state government programs. A total of 43 states have lotteries; 38 states have horse and/or dog racing; and 40 states have casinos. Texas has the state lottery, which provided \$1.1 billion in state tax revenues in 2012; and the horse and dog racing industry contributed \$5 million in state tax revenues in 2011. But Texas does not have slot machines at racetracks, which could eventually provide an estimated \$1 billion in additional state tax revenues.

Where is this money going now? An estimated \$2.5 billion leaves Texas when Texans cross the state-line to wager in Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Texans are paying for schools, roads, water projects and health care in these states, when we need this money in Texas for the very same essential programs and projects.

Texas HORSE was formed in 2008 by the Texas-based horse breed registries and horsemen's associations to preserve the \$5.2 billion Texas horse industry which continues to lose horses, breeders, owners, trainers, jobs and billions of dollars to surrounding states. The declining statistics for the Texas horse industry from 2002 to 2011 is dramatic proof:

	2002	2011	Change
Thoroughbred mares bred	3,628	1,168	-68%
Thoroughbred stallions standing	438	188	-57%
Thoroughbred foal crop	1,952	800	-59%
Thoroughbred purses	\$32,601,743	\$15,218,740	-53%
Thoroughbred races	2,075	995	-52%
Thoroughbred starters	4,694	2,506	-47%
Thoroughbred race dates	223	121	-46%
AQH foal crop	21,499	15,796	-27%
AQH owners	140,203	110,771	-21%
AQH purses	\$12,262,440	\$8,584,871	-30%
AQH races	1,352	800	-41%
AQH starters	3,472	2,427	-30%
AQH race dates	132	87	-34%
All-Breeds wagering	\$490,913,650	\$126,574,879	-74%

As for jobs lost, a good indicator is the percentage decline of Texas Racing Commission licensees: a 45 decrease since 2002 from 15,466 to 8,484; and these are just the owners, trainers, jockeys and workers at the tracks. These statistics don't include farm workers.

Expanded gaming has been approved in Louisiana (1994), New Mexico (1997) and Oklahoma (2004), which has exponentially increased purses and established effective equine stimulus programs in these states that border Texas. The American Gaming Association reports that in fiscal year 2011, gaming revenues, jobs and taxes continue to be an important stimulus for the overall economy and horse industry in these states:

Casinos	Jobs	Revenues	Taxes/Fees
New Mexico	29	11,000*	\$972 million/\$132 million
Oklahoma	74	25,000*	\$3.5 billion*/\$124 million
Louisiana	18	17,207	\$2.4 billion/\$573 million

**estimated*

Tribal casinos are not required to report revenues other than those that require a percentage fee to be paid to the state.

The resultant inequities in purse monies offered in Texas versus Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma are very revealing as to why Texas horse owners and trainers are racing out-of-state.

Thoroughbreds ('11)	Days	Races	Purses
Average Daily Purses	Average Purse		
Louisiana	354	3,531	\$86,081,780
\$243,169	\$24,379		
New Mexico	283	1,731	\$31,285,280
\$110,549	\$18,074		
Oklahoma	132	1,102	\$22,864,874
\$173,082	\$20,732		
Texas	121	995	\$15,218,740
\$126,823	\$15,295		

Quarter Horses ('12)	Days	Races	Purses
Average Daily Purses	Average Purse		
Louisiana	148	1,450	\$22,776,050
\$153,892	\$15,708		
New Mexico	287	1,327	\$32,686,316
\$113,890	\$24,632		
Oklahoma	114	950	\$18,338,200
\$160,861	\$19,303		
Texas	83	780	\$ 8,279,232
\$99,749	\$10,614		

Of special note are the significantly less race days and races in Texas due to higher purses in surrounding states. And, these states are much smaller in terms of population and available horse breeders, owners and farms. If Texas had expanded gaming at the racetracks, there would be more than enough available purse monies to significantly increase Texas racing opportunities into a year-around racing season, with the resultant increased impact on the Texas economy in terms of job, expenditures and tax revenues across the horse industry and service providers.

Simply, without expanded gaming in Texas, we cannot count on how many more years the tracks and remaining horse breeders and owners can continue to lose money when the opportunities are so dramatically better in surrounding states. Time is of the essence. The Texas Legislature needs to pass a joint resolution this session to let Texans decide this year on a constitutional amendment to allow slot machines at racetracks

If the Texas horse racing industry does receive economic relief in the form of slot machines at racetracks, Texas could easily again become one of the major racing circuits in this country generating billions of dollars in economic impact to the Texas economy, and state and local tax revenues. 🐾



T E X A S
H O R S E M E N ' S
P A R T N E R S H I P

Benefits of Membership

Every person that starts a racehorse at a licensed Texas racetrack is automatically considered a member of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership for that year and is entitled to membership privileges.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership (THP) is officially recognized by the Texas Racing Commission as the organization representing owners and trainers of horses racing in Texas. The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is a partner-

ship between the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association and the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is an affiliate of the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, as well as a member of Texans Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE). Certain members also may qualify for assistance through a trust fund administered by the THAFI to assist qualified horsemen with certain medical needs. In 2011, the THAFI paid out over \$98,000 in benevolent assistance to horsemen.

Funding for the THP is derived from several sources, including a contractual deduction from the purse accounts at each track, corporate sponsorships, revenue generating programs initiated by the THP and interest from treasury management. Therefore, no direct dues are required from any single member.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership conducts numerous programs and services aimed at improving efficiency and enriching the lives of ALL horsemen at our tracks in Texas. This benefits package is second to no other racing jurisdiction in the country.

Below are some of the benefits that the Texas Horsemen's Partnership provides for its members:

Centralized Horsemen's Bookkeeping System: This revolutionary system was conceived and implemented by the THP and brings a branch-banking approach to our members. Horsemen are now able to consolidate all of their financial activity associated with horse racing at the various Texas tracks on one account and have one comprehensive statement. This allows for easier accounting and simplified tax reporting.

Free subscription to *The Texas Horsemen's News*: Every member who signs up at our website is e-mailed *The Texas Horsemen's News*, the official publication of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership. The THP's goal in producing and distributing this publication is to keep all of our members up to date on the news that affects our industry. We also want to give horsemen a "behind-the-scenes" look into many of the issues and personalities that shape our sport.

Interactive Website (www.texashorsemen.com):

- Latest industry news and information affecting Texas horsemen
- Access to online Horsemen's Bookkeeper account balances
- Organization information such as structure, bylaws, meeting minutes, etc.
- Information on benefits available to members

Chaplaincy Services: The THP and each racetrack cooperatively provide funds for a chaplain at all tracks. The chaplain conducts Sunday church services, weekly bible studies, offers counseling, facilitates drug intervention treatments when necessary and, in some cases, teaches an English/Spanish course. The Chaplain also assists horsemen with obtaining GEDs and gives classes in computer use.

Complimentary Fire, Disaster & Vanning Insurance coverage: \$25,000 per horse fire insurance coverage against death by fire, disaster & vanning for horses currently racing or in training to race at a participating race track in the U.S. or P.R. or in transit between them.

Groom Elite Educational Program: Groundbreaking groom training program offered at all Class One racetracks in Texas to improve the skill level of the people working with racehorses in Texas on a daily basis. Offered in both English and Spanish. The program has been endorsed as the national groom-training program of the National HBPA, and beginning in 2002, it became available in other racing jurisdictions outside of Texas.

Compass Bank Bonus Banking Package: This program offers free checking, discounts on installment loan rates, first check order free, customized THP checks, free online banking for 90 days, and more.

Free subscription to EquineLine.com Portfolio Service: The THP, in cooperation with the Jockey Club Information Systems, offers a free 90-day chance to try this great service that includes access to online condition books, horse tracking, nicking reports, etc. at no risk.

Group rates on Equine Liability Insurance: This is a cost effective group-rate policy to protect your assets in case of an injury or damage to property arising from your equine activities.

Discount at Sheplers Western Wear: All members are eligible to receive a 20% discount at selected Sheplers Western Wear super stores by presenting your TRC license at the checkout stand.

Representation in:

- Purse negotiations with racetracks
- Texas Racing Commission (TxRC)
- National HBPA (NHBPA)
- Legislative matters
- Texas Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE)

Other Member Benefits Include:

- On-track doctor services for trainers, grooms, and stable foremen
- Off-track shuttle services for members living in the stable area
- Continuing education seminars for owner and trainer members
- Outings to special events during live meets
- Horsemen's appreciation dinners

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with TOM CURTIN

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Menus:

- Intro to Tom Curtin and LOPE
- Getting Back to Basics
- Horsemanship Principles I
- Round Pen Sessions
- Horsemanship Principles II
- Arena: Warm-up Exercises
- Arena: Horsemanship Exercises
- Riding Out: Sporthorse Versatility
- Riding Out: Encountering Trouble
- Riding Out: Obstacle Course
- Special Feature

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VIDEO

Created and Produced by LOPE Texas

LOPE Texas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that partners with the Texas racing industry to help find racehorses of all breeds new careers. As part of its mission, LOPE provides ongoing public education on horsemanship techniques.



Retama Park 2012 Thoroughbred Meet Posts Sizable Handle Increase

Retama Park's 2012 Thoroughbred meet that started on October 5 and ended on December 29 posted sizable increases in gross handle compared to the track's 2011 Thoroughbred meet.

The Selma, Texas track reported that total on-track handle for the 26-day meet was up 22 percent over a 2011 meet that ran for 23 days. Export handle, money wagered at off-track locations on Retama Park races, increased a whopping 49 percent. Live handle at Retama was up six percent.

More than \$7.5 million was wagered on-track during the recently completed meet, compared to just under \$6.2 million in 2011. The export handle totaled \$13.1 million this year

compared to last year's total of \$8.8 million. Live handle at Retama was \$2,184,951, which bettered last year's figure of \$2,061,833.

Total attendance was 55,863, up two percent over last year's 54,698.

Purse payouts reached to the highest level since the track's opening season in 1995. An average daily total of \$109,000 went to the track's horsemen.

"It was great for our owners and trainers to see purses climb past the \$100,000 level", said James Leatherman, Retama Park's racing secretary. "It gives us all a positive attitude as we prepare for 2013."



Sam Houston Thoroughbred Meet Underway

Sam Houston Race Park opened its 20th annual live racing season when it kicked off its 2013 Thoroughbred meet on Friday, January 18 with average daily purse amounts in excess of \$165,000, the highest in the track's 19-year history. The 33-day meet will run through March 17.

The meet's revamped stakes schedule is anchored by the richest Thoroughbred race in Texas and in Sam Houston Race Park history - the all new \$400,000 Houston Ladies Classic. The race was run on Saturday, January 26, 2013 and carried on HRTV and locally on Fox Sports Southwest. In total, the meet will feature 23 stakes races, including four new stakes for Texas-breds paying more than \$1.7 million in purses.

The inaugural running of the \$400,000 Houston Ladies Classic, at a distance of a mile and one-sixteenth, attracted a spectacular field of fillies and mares. From an Oklahoma champion to a filly that competed in the elite Kentucky Oaks, the contenders arrived with collective earnings in excess of \$2.3 million.

However, there was no denying the class and determination of Joyful Victory, who took the lead under rider Rosie Napravnik and drew off to a 4 1/4 length score.

"It wasn't necessarily my goal to go to the lead," said Napravnik. "I expected to sit off the pace a little. But, when no one came with us, I said 'we'll take it'. She was on her game today and ran an excellent race."

Trainer Larry Jones had high hopes for Joyful Victory, an Ontario-bred daughter of Tapit owned by Fox Hill Farms, Inc. She won the Grade 3 Honeybee and Grade 2 Fantasy Stakes at Oaklawn Park before running fourth in the 2011 Kentucky Oaks. Her four-year-old campaign was highly respectable, with second and third-place finishes in five graded stakes. Her last win was in February of 2012, and Jones was thrilled with her riveting performance on Saturday evening.

"The plan was to get her to relax; not to fight her and just let her run," said Jones. "I can't take credit for setting

two track records; Rosie had everything to do with that. But if there was one I really wanted, it was this race."

Joyful Victory covered the mile and one-sixteenth feature, over a fast track, in a final time of 1:42.30. The previous track record of 1:42.74 was set on February 13, 1999 by Desert Air.

Brushed by a Star ran a game second for trainer Eddie Kenneally. The well-traveled mare racked up four wins in 2012, with stakes victories in the Grade 2 Molly Pitcher at Monmouth Park and the Chilukki Stakes last November at Churchill Downs. Regular pilot, Corey Lanerie, who was the leading rider at Sam Houston Race Park in 1995 and 1996, finished 1 3/4 lengths ahead of Sisterly Love, who was making her stakes debut for conditioner Mark Casse.

She's All In was next for Donnie K. Von Hemel, followed by Lookinforchange.

Rider Miguel Mena lost his irons aboard Summer Applause, who was making her first start since running in the Kentucky Oaks last May at Churchill Downs.

Through February 26, Tom R. Durant was the meet's leading owner with 10 wins from 36 starts - double the second leading owner, End Zone Athletics, Inc. Leading trainer was Danny Pish with 17 wins, followed by Steve Asmussen with 14 and Jack A. Bruner with 10. Glen Murphy led jockeys with 30 winners. Gerardo Mora was in second place with 27 winners, and Roman Chapa had 14.

The 2013 American Quarter Horse Meet will begin on Thursday, March 28 and will once again be highlighted by the Grade II \$100,000+ Bank of America Challenge Championships and the Grade II \$100,000+ Sam Houston Futurity. New to the Quarter Horse meet this year will be a free concert series where admission to all post-race concerts will be free for all guests arriving before 8:00 p.m. who purchase \$6 live racing admission. The concerts will be \$20 for guests arriving after 8:00 p.m.



Joyful Victory takes the
\$400,000 Houston Ladies Classic

Chaplain's Corner: The Power of Words

by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. Proverbs 18:21

Just before I got to the end of a shedrow on one of my morning rounds a few summers ago, a string of expletives erupted from the other side that would have made a sailor blush. As I rounded the corner stall, the author of the statements – a trainer friend of mine – looked up in surprise. “Gosh, Chap, I’m sorry ... I didn’t know you were around!”

I laughed and replied, “Aw, Frank (fictitious name), that’s okay ... I’m not the one you have to answer to anyhow.” Then I added (with the most non-condemning grin and tone of voice I could muster up), “But Jesus did say one time that from the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks ... so I reckon we sorta know what’s in your heart, don’t we.”

Frank chewed on that for a few moments, then replied, “Man alive, Chap, you’re being pretty hard on me!”

“No, partner, I don’t mean to condemn you at all; I just want to help you,” I said. “You’re exactly the way I was some years back before I began to understand the power of words. You see, that young horse you got upset at over there is not going to have his plight improved by what you said about him; in fact, he’s going to have a lot tougher row to hoe now than before you came down on him ... all because of the power of the words we speak.”

That really got Frank’s attention, and he wanted to know more. I explained to him that God used words – faith-filled words – to form all of creation. In the book of Genesis, we read, “And God said, ‘let there be light’... And God said ... And God said. Then He made man in His image and gave him the power to use words to oversee and run the whole earth. Actually, it was the power to speak that gave Adam dominion over all the other creatures.

The words you and I speak are mighty important. Another Proverb says, “You are snared by the words of your mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth. Not only do our words reflect what we believe, they actually create either an atmosphere of faith, or an atmosphere of doubt. Think about it: your words can create an environment of faith, not only for your life, but also for the lives of others, including your horses!

Words paint pictures – pictures of defeat or pictures of victory. Speak the devil’s words, and doubt, fear and despair result. Speak God’s Word, and the result is faith, hope and love.

Frank decided real quick that he wanted to “tear up the canvas” he had begun to paint of his young racing prospect, then start over with some faith-filled words of blessings. 🙏

Texas Race Track Chaplains

Lone Star Park
Chaplain Sam Ed Spence
Office: (972) 237-4818
Cell: (817) 909-2850

Asst. Chaplain Eddie Rodriguez
Office: (972) 237-1168

Cell: (214) 908-8678

Retama Park
Chaplain Mike Bingaman
Office: (210) 651-7058
Cell: (210) 887-5581

Sam Houston Race Park
Chaplain Bobby Aldridge
Cell: (281) 807-7236

2013 Race Dates for Texas

Gillespie County Fairgrounds
Mixed: July 6, 7, 20, 21,
August 10, 11, 24, 25 (8 days)

Lone Star Park
Thoroughbreds: April 11-July 6 (50 days)
Quarter Horses: September 13-November 9
(26 days)

Retama Park
Quarter Horses: June 7-August 10 (20 days)
Thoroughbreds: October 4-December 28 (26 days)

Sam Houston Race Park
Thoroughbreds: January 18-March 17 (33 days)
Quarter Horses: March 28-May 18 (24 days)

Valle de los Tesoros
Quarter Horses: Aug. 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25 (6 days)

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SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK

2013 THOROUGHBRED & QUARTER HORSE MEET AND CONCERT SCHEDULES

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	30			

*FREE CONCERTS

BLUE OCTOBER	3.30.13
OLD 97'S	4.6.13
TBD	4.13.13
RECKLESS KELLY	4.27.13
ROGER CREAGER	5.3.13
KEVIN FOWLER	5.11.13

EVENTS & RACES

TEXAS CHAMPIONS FRIDAY \$50,000 SAN JACINTO STAKES \$50,000 YELLOW ROSE STAKES \$50,000 BARA LASS STAKES	1.18.13
TEXAS CHAMPIONS SATURDAY \$100,000 STAR OF TEXAS STAKES \$50,000 RICHARD KING STAKES \$50,000 SPIRIT OF TEXAS STAKES \$50,000 GROOVY STAKES	1.19.13
HOUSTON RACING FESTIVAL \$400,000 HOUSTON LADIES CLASSIC \$200,000 CONNALLY TURF CUP - GIII \$75,000 CHAMPION ENERGY STAKES \$50,000 ALLEN'S LANDING STAKES	1.26.13
FOOD TRUCKS \$50,000 BUCHAREST STAKES	2.2.13
WIENER DOG RACES \$50,000 TOMBALL STAKES	2.9.13
DOLLAR DAY TEXAS STALLIONS \$75,000 JIM'S ORBIT STAKES \$75,000 TWO ALTOZANO STAKES	2.16.13
TEXAS SIX SHOOTER - GII TEXAS YELLOW ROSE - GII	2.22.13
LADIES NIGHT \$50,000 JERSEY VILLAGE STAKES	2.23.13
MAXXAM GOLD CUP RACING FESTIVAL \$100,000 MAXXAM GOLD CUP \$50,000 JERSEY LILLY STAKES \$50,000 SAM HOUSTON SPRINT CUP \$50,000 TEXAS HERITAGE STAKES	3.2.13
CAMEL & OSTRICH RACING HH SHEIKH ZAYED RACING FESTIVAL	3.9.13
FAN APPRECIATION NIGHT \$50,000 SPRING DODGE STAKES	3.16.13
\$100,000 SAM HOUSTON FUTURITY	4.13.13
DOLLAR DAY \$100,000 BANK OF AMERICA CHALLENGE CHAMPIONSHIP	4.20.13
KENTUCKY DERBY DAY	5.4.13
\$50,000 SAM HOUSTON CLASSIC	5.10.13
MOTHER'S DAY	5.12.13
PREAKNESS DAY JOHN DEER JUVENILE CHALLENGE	5.18.13

*Concerts are FREE with \$6 general admission before 8 pm. Admission \$20 after 8 pm.

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Special 1pm Post Time: 5/4 Kentucky Derby Day & 5/18 Preakness Day. All dates and times subject to change.

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