



## HORSE RACING COMMITTEE

### NOTICE OF MEETING and AGENDA

May 3, 2016

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25,  
notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Horse Racing Committee.

The meeting will take place on:

**Tuesday, May 3, 2016**

**2:00 p.m.**

**at the Massachusetts Gaming Commission  
101 Federal Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts**

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes – March 29, 2016
3. Review of pending legislation with respect to horse racing in Massachusetts
4. Review of Report from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission with respect to funds overseen by the Horse Racing Committee and industry revenues/status.
5. Other business – reserved for matters the Chair did not reasonably anticipate at the time of posting

I certify that on this date, this Notice was posted as “Horse Racing Committee Meeting” at [www.massgaming.com](http://www.massgaming.com) and emailed to: [regs@sec.state.ma.us](mailto:regs@sec.state.ma.us), and [melissa.andrade@state.ma.us](mailto:melissa.andrade@state.ma.us).

DATE

4/25/16

  
Stephen M. Reilly, Jr., Chairman

**Date Posted to Website:**

4/25/16



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

101 Federal Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 | TEL 617.979.8400 | FAX 617.725.0258 | [www.massgaming.com](http://www.massgaming.com)



Division of Racing

## Massachusetts Horse Racing Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time:** March 29, 2016 - 1:00 p.m.

**Place:** Massachusetts Gaming Commission  
101 Federal Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Present:** Stephen M. Reilly, Jr., Chairman  
Commissioner Gayle Cameron, Member  
Shawn Collins, Member  
Frank Frisoli, Member  
Peter Goldberg, Member  
Catherine Blue, General Counsel  
Dr. Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing  
Cecelia Porché, Paralegal  
Ellen Cassidy, Secretary

### Call to Order

Chairman Stephen Reilly called to order the meeting at 1:01 p.m. He introduced himself and Shawn Collins as new members.

### Approval of Minutes

*Frank Frisoli moved for the approval of the September 2, 2014 minutes. Motion seconded by Peter Goldberg. Shawn Collins and Stephen Reilly abstained from the vote because they were not present for the meeting. The motion passed 3-0 with 2 abstentions.*

### Review of Committee Responsibilities

Members were in agreement that they were comfortable with the responsibilities outlined in the statute and regulations.

### Review of 2014 Committee Decision/Pending Request from Harness Horseman's Association of New England (HHANE)

Chairman Reilly stated that the Horse Racing Committee ("HRC") received a request from HHANE to reconsider the split and asked the members for their thoughts.



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Commissioner Gayle Cameron provided a summary of the work that was done for the HRC Decision and Report (“Report”). She stated that it’s been almost two years since the Report was created and she believes that HHANE has a legitimate request to revisit the split. She stated that we need to decide what mechanisms to use.

Peter Goldberg stated that the HRC spent over two years on the Report and we should not try to recreate the wheel. He stated that October was chosen to do the report because it was the end of the racing season and we could look at the data. He also stated that we could look at new data annually.

Frank Frisoli stated that the HRC spent a considerable amount of time looking at the criteria in the statute. He stated that he was the only one who agreed with Dr. Margaret Ray’s report that the thoroughbred industry was the only viable industry. He stated he expects a bill and a study to be completed to build a facility for a racetrack and other horse activities.

Chairman Reilly asked the members how we should procedurally proceed.

Mr. Frisoli recommended a two-step process: we should review what’s changed on the standardbred side and what has changed on the thoroughbred side.

Commissioner Cameron stated we should look at the criteria and that should guide our information gathering. She noted that we have a full committee to go forward and our racing division has the data for criteria #6. She also noted that the data received from the farm survey was exhaustive work and provided limited value. Mr. Goldberg agreed that it was a difficult process to gather information.

Chairman Reilly inquired about the value of having and funding another report. Commissioner Cameron stated that the HRC wouldn’t have the benefit of student labor. Mr. Goldberg inquired about obtaining data for criteria #5. Dr. Alexandra Lightbown suggested looking at the Department of Food and Agriculture data. Chairman Cameron stated that their records were not complete but we could reach back out to them. Mr. Frisoli stated that the number of farms hasn’t changed. Mr. Goldberg stated that the obligation of the Committee is to look at the new numbers and plug into the statute. Commissioner Cameron stated that they could get a report on criteria # 5 (*number of breeding and training farms of each industry in the Commonwealth*) out to committee members to review by the next meeting.

Chairman Reilly suggested receiving position papers from each industry. Commissioner Cameron stated that it was a legitimate request to help understand their perspectives. Mr. Frisoli stated he would be happy to supply one but he would need about six weeks. Mr. Goldberg stated that any decision we make be retroactive to the start of racing – April 11<sup>th</sup>. He stated that it is not fair if we take six months to make a decision. Commissioner



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

Cameron noted that the request from HHANE is over a year old. Mr. Fisoli stated that we don't have the statutory authority to make something retroactive.

Chairman Reilly suggested a framework to get work done. Commissioner Cameron stated that it may be difficult to meet in April and suggested May. Shawn Collins suggested accepting written comments on the split. Chairman Reilly suggested the following schedule: May 3<sup>rd</sup> - meeting to discuss matters before the legislature and MGC report; May 18<sup>th</sup> - position papers and written public comments due; and June 7<sup>th</sup> - meeting to discuss position papers and comments received. General Counsel Catherine Blue explained the process for posting the letter and request for public comments.

#### **Other Business Not Reasonably Anticipated**

*A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Gayle Cameron. Motion seconded by Peter Goldberg. Motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

#### **List of documents and other items used at the meeting:**

1. Draft Horse Racing Committee Meeting Minutes dated September 2, 2014
2. M.G.L. 23K § 60 - Race Horse Development Fund
3. 205 CMR 149.00 - Race Horse Development Fund
4. Decision and Report of the Horse Racing Committee, dated October 27, 2014
5. Letter from Michael Perpall (Harness Horseman's Association of New England) to General Counsel Catherine Blue (Massachusetts Gaming Commission), dated February 7, 2015, regarding Horse Racing Committee/Race Horse Development Fund

/s/ Ellen Cassidy

Ellen Cassidy  
Secretary



Massachusetts Gaming Commission



*Division of Racing*

**TO:** Stephen Reilly, Jr., Chairman  
Gayle Cameron, Commissioner, Member  
Shawn Collins, Member  
Frank Frisoli, Member  
Peter Goldberg, Member

**FROM:** Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing  
Doug O'Donnell, Senior Financial Analyst

**CC:** Edward Bedrosian, Executive Director  
Catherine Blue, General Counsel

**DATE:** April 29, 2016

**RE:** Information

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Dear Horse Racing Committee,

Information regarding purses distributed by Thoroughbred tracks in 2015 compiled by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) can be accessed at:  
<https://www.ownerview.com/race-tracks/purses> for a complete list.

Information regarding purses distributed by Harness tracks in 2014 compiled by the United States Trotting Association can be accessed at:  
[http://www.ustrotting.com/trackside/tpg/pdf/2015/TP2015\\_6-60\\_TheTracks.pdf](http://www.ustrotting.com/trackside/tpg/pdf/2015/TP2015_6-60_TheTracks.pdf) for a complete list.

We are compiling information on Capital Expenditures and the number of breeders and horses in Massachusetts in 2015.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

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## 2015 Horse Racing in Massachusetts

	Suffolk	Plainridge
<b>Number of Race Days</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Number of Races</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>949</b>
<b>Number of Starts</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>6417</b>
<b>Average Field Size</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Total Purses</b>	<b>\$1,620,200</b>	<b>\$4,134,400</b>
<b>Average Daily Purse</b>	<b>\$540,000</b>	<b>\$4,357</b>
<b>Number MassBred/Sire Stakes Races</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Number of MassBred/Sire Stakes Starters</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Number of MassBred/Sire Stakes Starts</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>Average Field Size MassBred/S. Stakes</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.44</b>
<b>Purses MassBred/Sire Stakes Races*</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$562,300</b>
<b>Live Handle</b>	<b>\$746,497</b>	<b>\$1,253,511</b>
<b>Number of W2 Employees</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>1099 Employees</b>	<b>12 (track workers)</b>	<b>409 (horseowners)</b>
<b>Number of Occupational Licenses</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>1060</b>

**\*In addition, breeder bonuses etc. and purse money for races at Finger Lakes were paid out**



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# Handle Comparison

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
<b>Live</b>		
Raynham	0	0
Wonderland	0	0
Plainridge	1,108,715	1,253,511
Suffolk	4,789,715	746,497
<b>Total Live</b>	<b>\$ 5,898,430</b>	<b>2,000,008</b>
<b>Import Simulcast</b>		
Raynham	29,865,263	33,141,148
Wonderland	5,193,404	4,527,122
Plainridge	32,281,638	29,083,654
Suffolk	129,787,130	125,843,071
<b>Total Import</b>	<b>\$ 197,127,435</b>	<b>192,594,995</b>
<b>Export Simulcast</b>		
Raynham	0	0
Wonderland	0	0
Plainridge	6,576,620	12,685,198
Suffolk	38,686,944	1,692,292
<b>Total Export</b>	<b>\$ 45,263,564</b>	<b>\$ 14,377,490</b>
<b>TOTAL HANDLE</b>	<b>\$ 248,289,429</b>	<b>\$ 208,972,495</b>



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

Appropriation Budget Summary

Budget Code

BFY : 2018

Department : MGC

Appropriation : 10500005

Object Class :

Fund : 1103

Detail :

Sub Fund :

Summary Lines

Appropriation Fund	Sub Fund	Department	Object Class	Commitment	Expenditure	Pre Encumbered	Encumbered	Total Expenses	Uncommitted	Unexpended
2018	10500005	1103	MGC	\$19,059,704.66	\$19,059,704.66	\$0.00	\$1,250,669.05	\$7,532,637.59	\$10,276,398.02	\$11,527,067.07

First Prev Next Last

Central Expense Detail Summary

Appropriation Fund	Appropriation Name	Fund	Sub Fund	Department	Object Class	Commitment	Expenditure	Pre Encumbered	Encumbered	Total Expenses	Uncommitted	Unexpended
2018	10500005	Race Horse Dev	1103	MGC		\$19,059,704.66	\$19,059,704.66	\$0.00	\$1,250,669.05	\$7,532,637.59	\$10,276,398.02	\$11,527,067.07

First Prev Next Last

CE Budget Inquiry Page

Central Subsidiary Expense Detail Summary

Appropriation Fund	Appropriation Name	Fund	Sub Fund	Department	Object Class	Commitment	Expenditure	Pre Encumbered	Encumbered	Total Expenses	Uncommitted	Unexpended
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\$10,276,398.02  
 \$11,527,067.07  
 \$21,803,465.09 Reflects MMARS CR's processed but not yet on the spreadsheet



Fiscal year	fund	Payment	Revenue	Prior Balance not allocated on March 5 2015	Legal name
		amount March 5 2015 thru April 4 2016	Allocation March 5 2015 thru April 23 2016		
2015	1103	\$74,411.60	\$74,411.60		HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
2016	1103	\$112,690.95	\$117,881.48		HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
		<u>\$187,102.55</u>	<u>\$192,293.08</u>		
2015	1103	\$1,102,939.23	\$1,102,939.23		MASSACHUSETTS THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSN
2016	1103	\$1,352,291.27	\$1,414,577.78		MASSACHUSETTS THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSN
		<u>\$2,455,230.50</u>	<u>\$2,517,517.01</u>		
2015	1103	\$223,234.81	\$223,234.81		NEW ENGLAND HORSEMEN'S BENEVOLENT
2016	1103	\$338,072.82	\$353,644.45		NEW ENGLAND HORSEMEN'S BENEVOLENT
		<u>\$561,307.63</u>	<u>\$576,879.26</u>		
2015	1103	\$88,232.05	\$88,232.05		PLAINVILLE GAMING AND REDEVELOPMENT LLC
2016	1103	\$4,028,537.11	\$4,107,629.64		PLAINVILLE GAMING AND REDEVELOPMENT LLC
		<u>\$4,116,769.16</u>	<u>\$4,195,861.69</u>		
2015	1103	\$367,646.41	\$367,646.41		STANDARD BRED OWNERS OF MASSACHUSETTS
2016	1103	\$450,763.76	\$471,525.93		STANDARD BRED OWNERS OF MASSACHUSETTS
		<u>\$818,410.17</u>	<u>\$839,172.34</u>		
			\$264,696.16		
2016	1103	\$1,275,000.00	\$7,072,888.91		STERLING SUFFOLK
			<u>\$7,337,585.07</u>		
		<b>\$9,413,820.01</b>			<b>Grand Total Payments</b>
			\$1,767,500.00		
			\$3,552,500.00		
		\$15,659,308.45	<u>\$5,320,000.00</u>		
			<b>\$20,979,308.45</b>		<b>Grand Total Revenue</b>

Track Name	Abbrev.	State/Prov	Purses	Ave_Purse	Country
NORTHLANDS PARK RACEWAY	NP	AB	1043957	5043	CANADA
CENTURY DOWNS RACETRACK AND CASINO	CnD	AB	5051311	6093	CANADA
FRASER DOWNS	FrD	BC	3504415	5199	CANADA
CAL EXPO	CalX	CA	2391090	3491	UNITED STATES
DOVER DOWNS	DD	DE	16164326	11399	UNITED STATES
HARRINGTON RACEWAY	Har	DE	9073697	8576	UNITED STATES
POMPANO PARK	PPk	FL	9212935	7125	UNITED STATES
MAYWOOD PARK	May	IL	3109658	3820	UNITED STATES
BALMORAL PARK	BmlP	IL	7822927	7332	UNITED STATES
BALMORAL PARK	BmlP	IL	7822927	7332	UNITED STATES
HOOSIER PARK	HoP	IN	27974168	12862	UNITED STATES
THUNDER RIDGE RACING	TRR	KY	187790	1739	UNITED STATES
PLAYERS BLUEGRASS DOWNS	BgD	KY	195322	1934	UNITED STATES
THE RED MILE	Lex	KY	7892498	20715	UNITED STATES
PLAINRIDGE PARK	PRc	MA	4210636	4437	UNITED STATES
OCEAN DOWNS	OD	MD	3361052	6122	UNITED STATES
ROSECROFT RACEWAY	RcR	MD	4173315	6304	UNITED STATES
ROSECROFT RACEWAY	RcR	MD	4173315	6304	UNITED STATES
PRESQUE ISLE FAIRGROUNDS	Pres	ME	254449	4893	UNITED STATES
NO MAINE FAIR ASSOCIATION	Pres	ME	254449	4893	UNITED STATES
SCARBOROUGH DOWNS	Scar	ME	3834798	4209	UNITED STATES
BANGOR RACEWAY	Bang	ME	1727380	3614	UNITED STATES
NORTHVILLE DOWNS	Nor	MI	4483218	5153	UNITED STATES
Running Aces Casino & Racetrack	Aces	MN	2515958	5286	UNITED STATES
FREDERICTON	Frdtn	NB	75163	989	CANADA
EXHIBITION PARK	EPR	NB	19463	2433	CANADA
MEADOWLANDS	M	NJ	26529156	25028	UNITED STATES
FREEHOLD RACEWAY	Fhld	NJ	5684863	4706	UNITED STATES
ST JOHN'S RACING & ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE	StJns	NL	21060	324	CANADA

TRURO	Truro	NS	586852	1362	CANADA
INVERNESS RACEWAY	Invrn	NS	256003	1041	CANADA
BATAVIA DOWNS	Btva	NY	5463431	6590	UNITED STATES
VERNON DOWNS	VD	NY	7931703	7980	UNITED STATES
YONKERS RACEWAY	YR	NY	61968074	22100	UNITED STATES
TIOGA DOWNS	TgDn	NY	6654309	10365	UNITED STATES
BUFFALO RACEWAY	BR	NY	7248726	6560	UNITED STATES
MONTICELLO RACEWAY	MR	NY	9284641	4292	UNITED STATES
SARATOGA HARNESS	Stga	NY	18112972	8971	UNITED STATES
VERNON DOWNS	VD	NY	7931703	7980	UNITED STATES
LEBANON RACEWAY	Leb	OH	69929	4371	UNITED STATES
NORTHFIELD PARK	Nfid	OH	20847389	6444	UNITED STATES
HOLLYWOOD GAMING DAYTON RACEWAY	Dtn	OH	5248917	5578	UNITED STATES
SCIOTO DOWNS	ScD	OH	15710404	13685	UNITED STATES
MIAMI VALLEY RACEWAY	MVR	OH	8367079	7437	UNITED STATES
DRESDEN RACEWAY	Dres	ON	384776	3436	CANADA
FLAMBORO DOWNS	FlmD	ON	7258052	5133	CANADA
CLINTON RACEWAY	Clntn	ON	746840	4850	CANADA
HANOVER RACEWAY	Hnvr	ON	714254	4409	CANADA
MOHAWK RACEWAY	Moh	ON	28351686	21742	CANADA
HIAWATHA HORSE PARK	Sar	ON	619615	2937	CANADA
RIDEAU CARLETON	RidC	ON	4008986	4013	CANADA
MOHAWK RACEWAY	Moh	ON	28351686	21742	CANADA
GRAND RIVER RACEWAY	GRvr	ON	3691464	7252	CANADA
GEORGIAN DOWNS	GeoD	ON	3338523	8367	CANADA
WOODBINE RACEWAY	Wdb	ON	21513147	20050	CANADA
WESTERN FAIR RACEWAY	Lon	ON	6609195	5127	CANADA
LEAMINGTON RACEWAY	Leam	ON	370556	2470	CANADA
KAWARTHA DOWNS	KD	ON	658459	3106	CANADA
The Downs at Mohegan Sun Pocono	PcD	PA	33295950	17270	UNITED STATES
HARRAH'S PHILADELPHIA	Phi	PA	30079137	14337	UNITED STATES
THE MEADOWS	Mea	PA	35232796	12896	UNITED STATES
CHARLOTTETOWN DRIVING PARK	Chrtn	PE	1681518	1675	CANADA
SUMMERSIDE	Summ	PE	728332	1953	CANADA
HIPPODROME TROIS RIVIERES	TrRvs	QC	1919584	4728	CANADA
OAKRIDGE RACECOURSE	Oak	VA	533317	11851	UNITED STATES

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Arlene <arlbrown@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2016 2:19 PM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Race Horse Development Fund Split

Dear Racing Committee Members,

As chairman of the Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association (M.T.B.A.) I urge you to maintain the current "split" between the thoroughbred breed and the standardbred breed. The availability of these funds will be the life blood of attracting and maintaining a viable equine and racing program in Massachusetts.

Additionally, I request that you, under all circumstances, maintain the current formula used to determine the thoroughbred breeders portion of the race horse development fund. The breeders program is alive and growing. We are seeing renewed interest in breeding thoroughbreds and we are actively racing both in Massachusetts and in other states.

To reduce our portion of the race horse development fund at this crucial time of growth for the thoroughbred breeding program would be devastating.

I thank you for considering our position on this matter.

Sincerely,

George Brown  
Chairman  
Massachusetts Thoroughbred Breeders Association

## **Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Arlene <arlbrown@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 10:04 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Race Horse Development Fund Split

Dear Commissioners ,

I am disappointed that the Commission is considering changing the split again. I was led to believe the the Thoroughbred share of the fund would be left in escrow for 3 years to allow us time to establish a new place to race our horses. Through no fault of our own are we in this position. But it makes it more and more difficult for us to regain a position if the money is continually taken away. If memory serves me, Standardbreds were given free simulcasting while we were still racing. A little support from them now would be appreciated.

Arlene Brown

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** MGC Website <website@massgaming.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2016 2:48 PM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Contact the Commissioner Form Submission

**Name**

Richard Polizzi

**Email**

[mpol@comcast.net](mailto:mpol@comcast.net)

**Phone**

(781) 718-0638

**Subject**

Race horse development Fund split

**Questions or Comments**

Please honor the 3 year commitment for the Race Horse development Fund. There have been so many hardships to overcome. Thank you for hearing our concerns and support.

Richard Polizzi  
Craig Stable

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Doug Weaver <dataminer@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 01, 2016 7:55 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Draft Regulations Comment

I support the NEHBPA as the only organization that represents the MAJORITY of New England Horseman and that I support our plans for the development of an Equine Horse Park. This multi-event oriented Equine Horse Park will help to provide jobs (both during construction and ongoing) and a means of stimulating equine related businesses across the region.

Douglas Weaver  
88 Chestnut St.  
Rehoboth, MA 02769

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Jennifer Thomas <thomasjenn072010@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 10:41 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Draft Regulations Comment

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Jennifer Thomas, support the NEHBPA as the only organization that represents the MAJORITY of New England Horseman and that I support their plans for the development of a Equine Horse Park.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Thomas



**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** ram110953 <ram110953@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 7:58 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Horse park at Suffolk downs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Please allow the horse park to continue

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Allison Hayduk <thehayduks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 7:18 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** DRAFT REGULATIONS COMMENT

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I am writing to the Commission to let you know I support the NEHBPA as the organization that represents the MAJORITY of New England Horseman and I am in complete support their plans for the development of an Equine Horse Park.

We do eventing with our horse and we travel overnight to VT, NH, NY, MA and the horse park down in NJ and to have a horse park like this in Massachusetts would be wonderful for the equestrian community. It would keep people here in Massachusetts versus traveling to other states.

Allison Hayduk  
Norton, MA

**Blue, Catherine (MGC)**

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**From:** Cynthia W. <opalorama@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 31, 2016 5:35 AM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** NEHBPA

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To The Gaming Commission:

As a longtime horse racing fan and Suffolk Downs goer, I strongly support the NEHBPA as the only organization that represents the MAJORITY of New England Horseman and that I support their plans for the development of a Equine Horse Park.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Walsh  
Wales, MA

*From the Law Office of Robert G. Scarano*  
1147 Main Street Suite 106 Tewksbury, MA 01876  
Phone (978) 640-0163 Fax (978) 858-0901

**FAX**

This is page 1 of 4 pages

To: Stephen Reilly, Jr., and Members  
Horse Racing Committee

From: Robert G. Scarano, Esq.

Date: 5/2/16

Fax Number: (617) 643-9624 and (617) 725-0258

RE: MassTHA  
This correspondence will be sent by:

Fax Only  Fax and Overnight Mail

This correspondence requires:

Immediate Response  Response  
 Acknowledgement of Receipt

If you do not receive all pages of this fax, please call me at the above number.

..... CONFIDENTIALLY NOTICE .....

The document accompanying this FAX transmission contains information from the Law Office of Robert G. Scarano, which is confidential and/or privileged. The information is intended for the individual or entity named on this transmission sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this FAX information is prohibited. If you have received this FAX in error, please notify this office by telephone immediately.



**Robert G. Scarano**  
Attorney at Law

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1147 Main Street, Suite 106, Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876  
Telephone (978) 640-0163 / (978) 640-1636 • Fax (978) 858-0901  
E-mail: scaranoesq@comcast.net

May 2, 2016

Horse Racing Committee  
Stephen M. Reilly Jr., Chairman  
101 Federal Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor  
Boston, MA 02110

VIA: Facsimile (508) 643-9624, (617) 725-0258 and overnight mailing

Dear Committee Members,

The Massachusetts Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association ("MassTHA") wish to extend its congratulations to each new Committee members and welcome back returning members as you convene to discuss and deliberate the initial c. 23K race horse development fund purse allocation between Standardbred and Thoroughbred industries. Your task as a committee is crucial to the existing and future viability and sustainability of equine competition in the Commonwealth.

In the opinion of the horsemen represented by the MassTHA, such an important undertaking. deliberation and final decision, if any, should proceed with an overabundance of information and due diligence by the Committee in light of historical needs and contributions rather than opportunity based upon a temporary lull in thoroughbred racing occasioned by facility and organizational changes.

Respectfully, Committee consideration and application of statutory criteria should not be overshadowed by unsupported or opportunistic plea, nor assumption, that a temporary reduction in thoroughbred racing days supports reallocation as proposed.

As you may be aware the MassTHA has entered into a purse agreement conducted under the regular contractual process with the Middleborough Agricultural Society to race at the Brockton Fair Grounds in 2016 with a realistic possibility of establishing a first class race track facility at the former Raynham / Taunton Greyhound location in 2017.

The establishment of such a facility would be a sea change to the Massachusetts thoroughbred industry and negate necessity to re-allocate the current well-reasoned 2014 allocation decision of this Committee.

Accordingly, the MassTHA has attached its corporate resolution formally opposing a change to the current allocation between Standardbreds and Thoroughbred industries.

The MassTHA respectfully requests formal consideration and decision be tabled until such time as the Committee is in possession of information and study to make an informed decision on the proposition before it.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Scarano, Esq.  
Corporate Counsel

Cc: William Lagorio

Encl.

**MASSACHUSETTS THOROUGHBRED HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

**Corporate Resolution**

Resolution No. 3  
Dated : May 2, 2016

At a meeting conducted May 2, 2016, with all voting members present, the Secretary, Janet Seifert, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Officers present were: President: William Lagorio  
Treasurer: Philip Corbett  
Secretary: Janet Seifert

WHEREAS the MassTHA has entered into a Recognition and Purse Agreement for the years 2016-2017 with the Middleborough Agricultural Society.

AND

WHEREAS the Purse Agreement anticipates the conduct of Live Thoroughbred Racing at the Brockton Fairgrounds in 2016 and the transition to a new race track facility at the former Taunton/Raynham Greyhound Track.

AND

WHEREAS a Standardbred Proposal to re-allocate purse monies between Standardbred and Thoroughbred industries rests with the Horse Racing Committee established pursuant to Section 60 of c. 23K.

AND

WHEREAS the MassTHA has resolved and opposes the Standardbred Proposal as premature and unwarranted.

The corporation is authorized to direct Corporate Counsel prepare and deliver a correspondence of opposition and information to the Horse Racing Committee prior to the May 3, 2016 public meeting of said committee outlining the reasoning for said oppositions or to do anything in relation thereto to effectuate the purpose.

So voted and acknowledged this 2nd day of May, 2016.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Lagorio, President

## Porche, Cecelia (MGC)

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**From:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 03, 2016 9:18 AM  
**To:** Porche, Cecelia (MGC)  
**Subject:** FW: Standardbred/ Thoroughbred split

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Here is another comment on the split. I have one more that maybe didn't make it into the pack](#)

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**From:** Billy [<mailto:wfran133@charter.net>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 30, 2016 5:01 PM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Standardbred/ Thoroughbred split

Dear Chairman Reilly,

I am an owner, trainer and driver of standardbred horses and for thirty one years I taught school in Worcester. During my teaching career I emphasized many important things to my students and "fairness" was at the top of that list. The current split between the thoroughbreds and the standardbreds is anything but. In light of the significant changes in the Massachusetts horse racing industry, the split is not in line with the criteria set forth in the expanded gaming legislation of 2011. A close friend and lawyer once told me that cases are won and lost based on two very important things, THE LAW and THE FACTS. We, the standardbred industry in Massachusetts, have followed the letter of the law and have provided the facts to warrant a change in the current split between the standardbreds and thoroughbreds. The harness industry here in Massachusetts is moving forward and on the verge of a highly successful rebirth. We are growing as an industry and in doing so we are adding jobs all of which benefits the commonwealth.

In light of the afore mentioned and other significant changes we, respectfully request the Race Horse Committee give their full attention to this matter.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Respectfully,  
Bill Abdelnour  
3 Ida Rd.  
Worcester, MA 01604



## Porche, Cecelia (MGC)

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**From:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 03, 2016 9:19 AM  
**To:** Porche, Cecelia (MGC)  
**Subject:** FW: Split

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

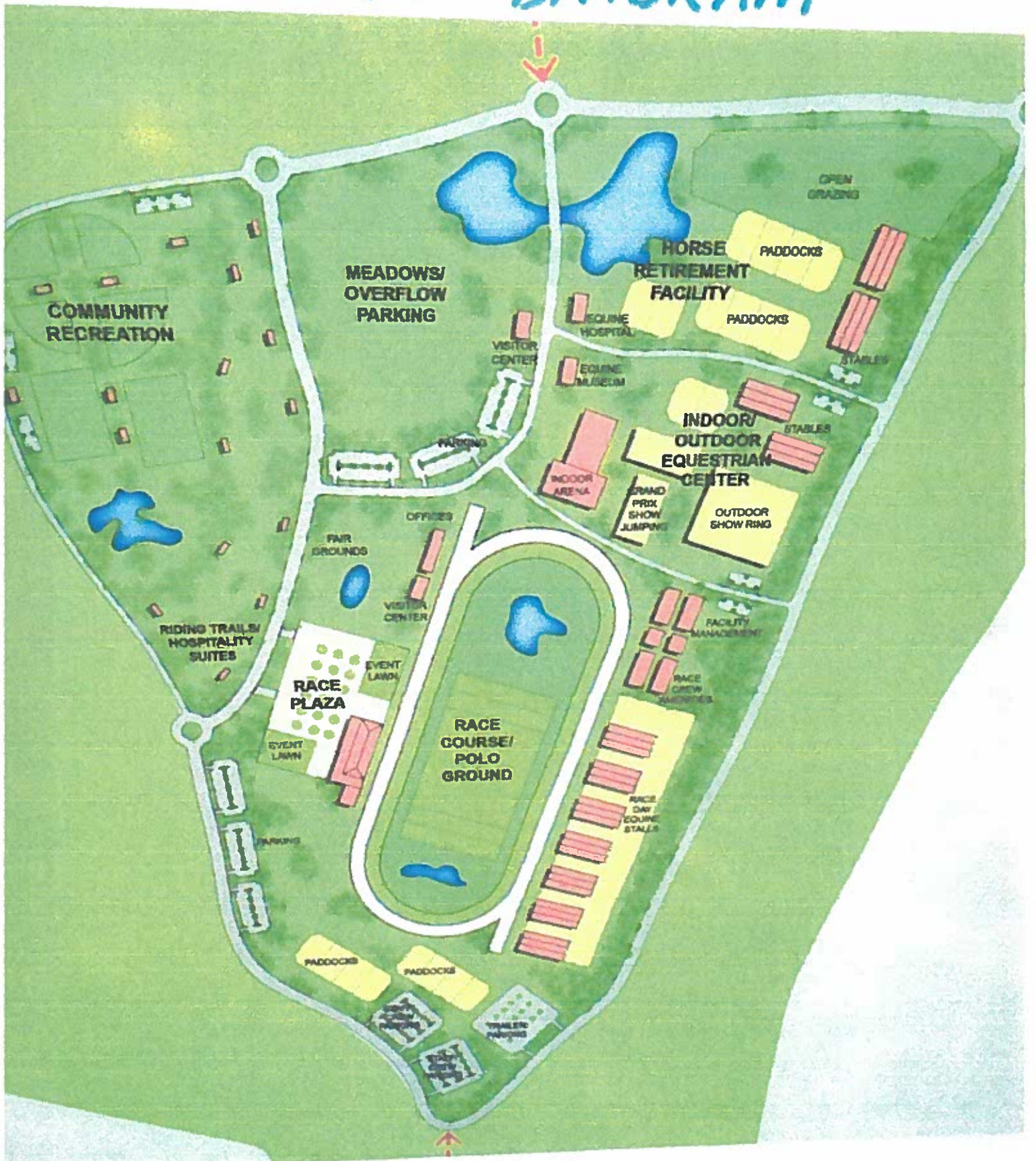
Here is the other comment

**From:** lionspring1 [<mailto:lionspring1@verizon.net>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 24, 2016 6:18 PM  
**To:** MGCcomments (MGC)  
**Subject:** Split

Please leave the split as is. we were told we had three years to become a full track.

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Tablet  
Lee loebelenz  
Lionspring farm  
Dover,ma 02030

# CONCEPT DIAGRAM



## WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT THE MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL EQUINE CORPORATION (MAEC) BILL

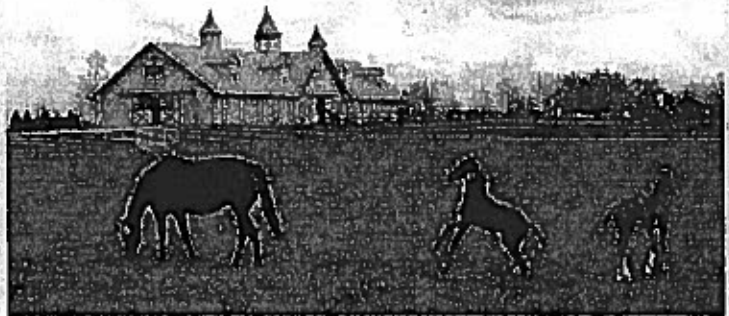
# FACTS ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS THOROUGHBRED EQUINE INDUSTRY

The Massachusetts Thoroughbred equine industry is comprised of over 120 farms devoted to either Thoroughbred breeding or affiliated with Thoroughbreds, collectively accounting for more than 6,500 acres of open green space in the Commonwealth.

The current employment generated by the industry totals approximately 1,500 jobs, and the total annual output of the Thoroughbred industry is over \$116.5 million dollars.

Some of the jobs created are:

- Grooms — every 1 groom tends to 5 horses
- 3 on-track veterinarians — not including assistants and interns from local universities
- Chiropractors
- 5 blacksmiths plus assistants
- Suppliers for hay and feed
- Suppliers for racing silks
- Suppliers for racing tacks/products
- Multiple equine dentists
- Transportation to and from the track
- Independent track photographer
- Jockeys, exercise riders, and hot walkers
- Trainers and assistant trainers



The support of our bill will preserve and increase agricultural green space for the Commonwealth.



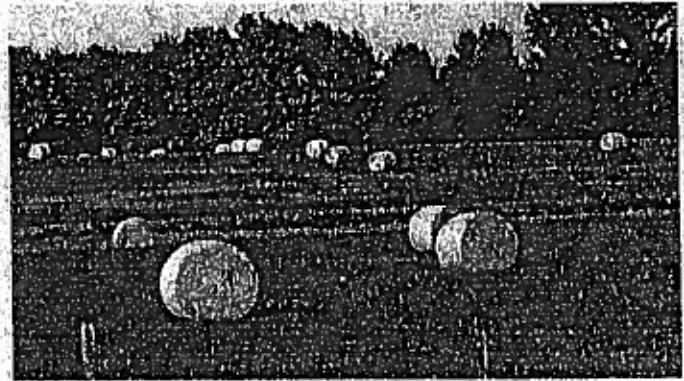
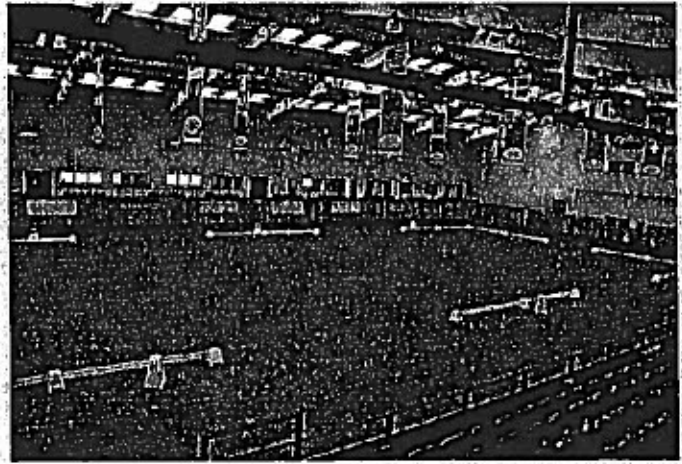
Supporting our bill will allow for rigorous job growth in the thoroughbred and equine industries. One horse alone supports eight jobs! These critical roles are not only paramount to the overall Commonwealth, but ensure enhanced revenue from patrons visiting our race tracks from neighboring states.

The Commonwealth indirectly benefits from the contribution of the Thoroughbred industry; In addition to creating thousands of jobs, the industry further contributes to the economy by preserving the green space of the Commonwealth. This includes maintaining existing farms and devoting additional acreage to Thoroughbred breeding/farms. Thoroughbred racehorses bred in the Commonwealth could result in an additional 4,500 or more acres being devoted to Thoroughbred breeding in Massachusetts. By maintaining existing farms and increasing acreage, more jobs are created, many of which are similar to jobs found at racetracks. These jobs are:

- Veterinarians
- Hay and feed suppliers
- Exercise riders
- Grooms
- The Mass Breeding program

**Our new bill will also create a new racetrack, retirement facility for racehorses, an equestrian facility, showhorse arena, along with a veterinarian medical facility.**

**Ultimately, by supporting our bill the Commonwealth will continue to benefit; from the increase of open space for farms — which will beautify the community — to the creations of thousands of jobs, both on-track and off.**

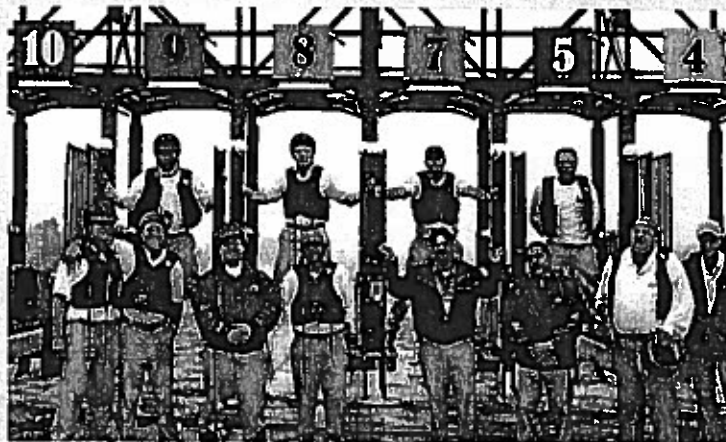


These jobs in turn create additional jobs and revenue which include:

- Food vendors and suppliers
- Building maintenance
- Cooks and kitchen help
- TV production & camera operators
- Racing office staff
- Administrative jobs (executive, financial, marketing & publicity, community relations, group sales, admissions, administrative support, etc.)
- Track and State Stewards
- Wait and bar staff
- Union workers (tellers)
- Track maintenance and gate crew
- Track officials: including racing office and track announcer
- Jockey valets
- Security
- State jobs - State Police, State Vet, Mass License Office
- On-site Ambulance Staff

And even more additional off-track jobs and revenue:

- Accounting and bookkeeping for taxes
- Mechanics and gas suppliers
- State taxes



The gate crew is another 12 jobs the Thoroughbred industry is supporting.

