

New England Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, Inc.

President
Anthony Spadea

A National Organization

Acting Executive Director
Bruce P. Patten

Directors: Owners
Randy Andrews
Susan Clark
Shirley Dullea
Manfred Roos
Paul Umbrello



Directors: Trainers
Jay Bernardini
Matthew Clarke
Alan Lockhart
Kevin McCarthy
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February 11, 2015

Attorney Catherine Blue, General Counsel, Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal Street 23rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Comment on HRC review of RHDF funding allocation between Standardbreds & Thoroughbreds

Dear Attorney Blue:

On behalf of the New England HBPA Board of directors and the owners and trainers of thoroughbred horses racing in Massachusetts, we are hereby offering comment on review of the RHDF funding allocation to health and pension benefits by the HRC.

Once the Commission approves the HRC recommendation for allocations of RHDF between Standardbred and Thoroughbred racing, c23K § 60 (C)(iii) requires that 4% of the funds allocated to each breed shall be deposited within 5 business days of the end of each month into a separate account to be established by each respective horsemen's organization at a banking institution of its choice. There is neither a mission nor an authorization assigned to the HRC or the Gaming Commission within c23K regarding review of the 4% amount of the total allocated to a breed prior to the deposit of the full 4% into the account established by each respective horsemen's organization.

The Commission has a statutory authorization to approve the rules and eligibility requirements of the horsemen's organization regarding health and pension benefits for its members.

The Commission is obligated to determine how much shall be paid annually by the horsemen's organization to the thoroughbred jockeys (or drivers) organization for health insurance, life insurance or other benefits to active and disabled thoroughbred jockeys (or drivers) under the rules and eligibility requirements of that organization.

The NEHBPA suggests that the HRC review (a) the rules and eligibility requirements of the horsemen's organization regarding health and pension benefits for its members and (b) determine how much shall be paid annually by the horsemen's organization to the thoroughbred jockeys (or drivers) organization for health insurance, life insurance or other benefits to active and disabled thoroughbred

jockeys (or drivers) under the rules and eligibility requirements of that organization; and submit recommendations to the Commission for action.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

Anthony Spadea, President

Cc: Stephen Crosby, Chairman, Massachusetts Gaming Commission
Gail Cameron, Commissioner, Massachusetts Gaming Commission
Dr. Jennifer Durenberger, Director of Racing, Massachusetts Gaming Commission