



MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING #306

June 16, 2020
10:00 a.m.

VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293
PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 023 5667



Massachusetts Gaming Commission



**NOTICE OF MEETING and AGENDA
June 16, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.**

PLEASE NOTE: Given the unprecedented circumstances resulting from the global Coronavirus pandemic, Governor Charles Baker issued an order to provide limited relief from certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law to protect the health and safety of individuals interested in attending public meetings. In keeping with the guidance provided, the Commission will conduct a public meeting utilizing remote collaboration technology. If there is any technical problem with our remote connection, an alternative conference line will be noticed immediately on our website: MassGaming.com.

Pursuant to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission. The meeting will take place:

**Thursday, June 16, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

Massachusetts Gaming Commission

VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5293

PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 023 5667

All documents and presentations related to this agenda will be available for your review on the morning of June 16, 2020 by [clicking here](#).

PUBLIC MEETING - #306

1. Call to order
2. Racing Division – Dr. Alex Lightbown, Director of Racing
 - a. Plainridge Park Casino Racing Roundtable Discussion - Dr. Alex Lightbown, Plainridge Park Casino; Harness Horsemen’s Association of New England
 - b. Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel **VOTE**
 - c. Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Waiver of 205 CMR 3.12 (6) – Qualifying Race Requirement **VOTE**
 - d. Standard Owners of Massachusetts (SOM) Recognition Request as Breeder’s Representative Group **VOTE**
3. 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 “Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting” at www.massgaming.com and emailed to: regs@sec.state.ma.us, melissa.andrade@state.ma.us.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

June 12th, 2020

Cathy Judd-Stein, Chair

Date Posted to Website: June 12th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission

101 Federal Street, 12th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 | TEL 617.979.8400 | FAX 617.725.0258 | www.massgaming.com



DRAFT – FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

PROTOCOLS FOR CONDUCT OF LIVE RACING UNDER COVID-19

The conduct of live harness racing in a safe, controlled and sustainable fashion is the paramount and shared goal of stakeholders Plainridge Park Casino (PPC), the Harness Horsemen's Association of New England (HHANE) and the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC.)

The following policies shall be put into effect with the start of live racing at PPC at a date to be determined based on guidance from the State, the MGC and health officials.

The goal of these procedures shall be to meet or exceed the recommended guidelines as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Massachusetts Department of Health, local health officials and shall be consistent with the comprehensive outline for dealing with COVID-19 as set forth in the state's "Reopening Massachusetts" plan published on May 18, 2020.

All of the enclosed procedures are subject to constant review by the stakeholders and outside health experts with any updating or changes being communicated to stakeholders in an expedited fashion.

General Guidelines:

PPC, HHANE and MGC shall develop a communication checklist with contact information of key members of each organization (cell phone/email) to establish and execute procedures in the execution of the attached protocols. Horsemen and PPC employees will be encouraged to sign up for PPC Textcaster system to receive pertinent and up to date information via text messaging.

While on the grounds of PPC all individuals shall wear a suitable face covering or mask. The only exception is for horsemen while racing or training a horse while on the track.

At all times, individuals on the grounds of PPC shall follow appropriate social distancing (maintaining at least a 6-foot clearance from any other individual) whenever physically practical. Individuals should not congregate in groups. Individuals may be removed from PPC grounds for failure to adhere to rules/protocols put in place.

PPC, MGC and individual horsemen shall be responsible for training their employees on COVID-19 best practices including reminders on social distancing requirements, outlining

proper hygiene (including frequent hand washings and regular use of sanitizer) and ensuring the use of face masks at all times.

Horsemen should make themselves aware of potential COVID-19 symptoms and self-check themselves for symptoms prior to their arrival at PPC. Individuals showing signs of symptoms should not attempt to enter the restricted areas if they and should take proper precautions to self-quarantine or seek medical attention.

All individuals entering PPC racing areas shall be temperature checked by Security. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will be logged by Security and shall not be permitted entry and will not be permitted to enter PPC grounds for a minimum of fourteen (14) days.

Employees of PPC and MGC shall follow the published requirements in place by their employers regarding presence of potential COVID-19 symptoms and their ability to work under such conditions.

All horsemen entering PPC grounds shall sign and have on file a COVID-19 release form.

Access to Racing Areas:

Access shall only be through designated points of entry as determined by PPC.

All individuals will be temperature checked at the Security checkpoint.

All individuals must have MGC license visible and will be logged in by security.

Access shall be restricted to essential, MGC licensed personnel required for the conduct of live racing (or qualifiers.) Essential personnel shall be defined as:

- PPC racing officials/staff
- PPC maintenance staff
- MGC racing officials/staff
- Trainers
- Drivers
- Grooms
- Veterinarians
- Farrier
- Outrider
- Medical personnel
- Any other positions or individuals as determined by PPC or MGC

No owners, unless they fall under a category listed above, shall be permitted access any restricted racing areas. No guests shall be permitted entry to restricted areas and no one under the age of 16 shall be permitted in the restricted racing areas.

Only individuals with horses entered to race on that day or have prior approval from MGC and PPC shall be permitted access to the restricted racing areas.

Ship-Ins/Barn Area

Only horses approved by the Racing Secretary shall be approved to ship in. Proper equine health information for each horse arriving at PPC is required.

Parking for ship-in vehicles shall be designated by PPC.

Only horses racing on that day may ship in. No training of horses will be permitted at any time.

All horses shipping onto grounds of PPC will be assigned specific stall stalls by the Racing Secretary and shall be arranged by trainer. Spacing of stalls between trainers shall be done whenever practical.

Horses shall be required to arrive at least X hours prior to scheduled post time of their scheduled race.

Minimum staffing shall accompany each horse brought on the grounds. A trainer with only one (1) horse may not have a groom. A trainer with 2-5 horses may have two (2) grooms. Exceptions shall be made for those individuals that are a driver/trainer with one groom for every two horses entered shall be permitted in such situation.

Individuals in the barn area should exhibit proper social distancing at all times and wear a proper face covering at all times.

Horsemen, Trainers and their contractors/vendors/employees shall be responsible for cleaning frequently touched surfaces (e.g. faucets, door handles etc..) throughout the barn areas where they are assigned and shall be responsible for making sanitizer available for their contractors, vendors, and employees in the areas where they operate.

PPC will clean all common areas of the paddock and barn area and provide sanitizer in those same areas.

Lasix will be administered outside at designated Lasix veterinarian's office no later than four (4) hours prior to scheduled post time of their race.

Identification of horses shall take place at ship in stall.

Horses shall prepare and warm up prior to their races from ship-in stalls. Saddle pads will be left at each stall. Horses should not proceed to the paddock until their race is called.

Individuals may bring their own food and beverages to the barn area but should not share and should dispose of trash in proper receptacles.

Horsemen are required to thoroughly clean their assigned stalls prior to leaving. All trailers and equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. No overnight stabling of horses unless an emergency situation and approved by the Racing Secretary.

Race Paddock

Only individuals associated with horses approved to be in the paddock should be present.

The paddock judge will assign races/horses to the appropriate paddock stalls. Every effort will be made to provide separation between horses and races in paddock and to rotate use of paddock stalls throughout the race card. Paddock stalls will be disinfected daily with approved cleaning solutions.

Horsemen should make efforts to assist in cleaning all common equipment/high touch point items in paddock (cross ties, faucets) and sharing of equipment or tools should be discouraged. Use of work gloves is encouraged.

Saddle pads shall be cleaned and disinfected after each race.

Paddock lounge shall be locked. Individuals shall not congregate in common area of paddock (near TV, etc.) and are encouraged to practice safe distancing including moving outside, weather permitting, whenever possible.

Only the bathrooms shall be utilized in locker room facilities. Driver/Trainers should arrive at track with colors (and a spare or change if needed) and their necessary equipment for the race day.

Individuals should not enter official's office areas.

Proper distancing should be practiced with horses going from paddock to the racetrack and from racetrack to paddock. Weather permitting drivers should get on/off race bike outside of the paddock. Drivers should regularly clean their race bikes.

No winner's circle ceremony shall take place. Horses shall return to the paddock immediately following the finish of a race.

Racing Office

No individuals other than race office staff and MGC shall be permitted in the racing office building.

Office furniture will be arranged to promote proper social distancing.

All entries will be made on-line or via telephone; racing updates shall be communicated via Textcaster.

All draws will be done via conference call or other approved method.

MGC

Regulations/Testing

MGC to provide comments as to any adjustments to current procedures/policies (i.e. Lasix, pre-post race testing; waiving/modification of qualifying standards)

MGC Offices/Licensing

(MGC to provide required information)

Racing Officials/Employees in Main Casino/Racetrack Building

Only essential racing officials and employees and 3rd party vendors shall be permitted in the main building during racing.

All individuals entering the main building should follow the previously outlined requirements for individuals regarding self-checking for COVID-19 symptoms and following the respective policies put in place.

All individuals entering the main building shall be temperature checked.

Individuals in main building should practice social distancing as much as possible.

Racing official office areas will be arranged to separate individuals as much as possible and, if necessary, physical barriers may be added.

Individuals shall make efforts to keep their respective areas clean and sanitized.

PPC/MGC shall take appropriate actions in the event of a positive test for COVID-19 by a horseman or PPC/MGC employee who was in the racing areas or in contact with individuals associated with the conduct of racing. These actions could include access restrictions for certain individuals for a certain period of time, additional cleaning requirements or cessation of racing

for a period of time to take further appropriate measure to ensure the health and safety of all individuals.

A. Off Site and Pre-Race Preparations:

All requirements of the Governor's Orders for reopening will be met.

1. Establish a Racing Committee (Representatives from HHANE, gaming commission, Penn National) to assist with any issues.
2. People seeking to race horses that live and stable in areas considered hot spots will not be permitted to enter their horse in the box.
3. All people with access to the backside or paddock must wear a mask or face covering that covers both their nose and mouth per the Executive order. Anyone not complying with that mandate must leave the paddock. Guidelines for drivers requiring exceptions may be needed.
4. Post conspicuous signs at the entrance of each barn and paddock regarding social distancing, and that a face mask must be worn.
5. The driver changing area and the lounge will be closed.
6. No human food or drink is allowed in the paddock or the barns.
7. Food and drink is BYO and must be secured in the vehicle. Persons will consume their food and drink within the confines of their vehicle where they can safely remove their mask or face covering.
8. Send an email blast to all members that before coming to the track, they must review a video on the proper way to put on and off face masks and gloves. A video providing instructions <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t1lxq2OUy-U>, and a written guide for the correct order of donning and duffing PPE <https://www.aaha.org/aaha-guidelines/infection-control-configuration/protocols/personal-protective-equipment/> will be made available on the HHANE Face Book page. Further instructions on wearing a face mask will be provided to everyone that enters the backside. The HHANE plans on providing two reusable face masks and a paper bag for storage to every individual.
9. Obtain an acknowledgement from everyone entering the paddock that they have viewed the video and are in receipt of two masks, and have reviewed the Backside Procedures. The individuals must also state that they have not been out of the Country or been near someone diagnosed with Covid-19 in the last two weeks.
10. Horsemen must take the temperature of each horse entered prior to loading onto the trailer. Horses with temperatures at or above 102 degrees F will not ship.

11. All participants must maintain social distancing guidelines and strive to remain 6 feet or more away from others while at the track.
12. No person is to touch any other person's horse or equipment unless expressly asked to do so.
13. Gloves may be worn. Disposable gloves must be placed in a trash receptacle after use.
14. Provide multiple hand-washing and hand- sanitizing stations in and around the paddock and barn area to maintain hand hygiene.
15. Post conspicuous guidance signage (from CDC) regarding proper hand washing at each station.
16. Certain states may have similar self-quarantine orders in effect for anyone traveling into the state from another state.
17. All trainers are required to bring all their own equipment, ie; water buckets, shovels, brooms, tack, hobbles, harness bag, boots, poles, towels, grooming supplies, tongue ties, blanket clips, electrical tape, lead rope. No sharing.

B. Stable Gate (Entrance to Barn Area) and Backside Security

1. Only essential licensed personnel are allowed in through the stable or barn area gates. This means no visitors or guests, including those who are accompanied by essential personnel. Owners are only allowed entry if they are grooming their horse.
2. At the trailer entry gate, the driver stops and reports to Security.
3. Security will record the names of people and horses on the conveyance.
4. Security records the date, time in and temperature of each person
5. The driver reports the morning temperature of each horse on the conveyance and it is recorded by Security. (Alternatively, horse name and temperature on index card is handed to Security.) The handler for each horse will be identified.
6. People or horses with unacceptable temperatures will be turned away.
7. People and horses must be checked out and time recorded when they leave the premises.

8. Since the backside is now closed, all horses should be assigned a stall by security upon entering. The stall assignments should be grouped together by trainer to maintain social distancing. Trainers from the same training center should be grouped together to minimize cross contamination. The trailer proceeds to the barn area to unload.
9. Horse handlers arriving independently from the horse must enter through the barn area gate. The person must stop and report to Security. Security will record the date, time in and temperature of each person. Security will record the horse(s) assigned to each handler.
10. Upon unloading, the horse handlers are to report with their assigned horse to the assigned stall or first to the Lasix area and then the assigned stall. The horse is secured in the stall. The appropriate colored latch device is affixed to the stall. No one is to enter the horse's stall until called for Lasix or to enter the paddock. (If an emergency arises track security must be notified immediately.) If someone is found to have entered a horse's stall outside of the allowed times, the horse will be scratched.
11. Establish a color-coded wristband system with a different color representing each day of the week. A colored band must be applied at the health check station and must be worn for the entirety of the day.
12. Access to any and all not wearing a wristband with the corresponding day's color should be denied.
13. Trainers are accountable for all their employees to ensure essential personnel have had their temperature monitored and approved and thus are wearing the correct corresponding colored wrist band.
14. Racetrack management is accountable for all their employees to ensure essential personnel have had their temperature monitored and approved and thus are wearing the correct corresponding colored wrist band.
15. Trainers with only one or two horse(s) must harness and paddock the horse(s) themselves; no groom is permitted. A trainer with more than two horses may have one groom; and if five horses are entered, the trainer may have two grooms. The exception is a driver/trainer who has drives on the daily card may have one groom for every two horses entered.
16. To minimize congestion in the paddock, horses may only warm up before their respective race.
17. The shaft ends and quick hitch attachments to the jog carts should be cleaned between uses.

18. Only three races allowed in the paddock at one time. Horses will be assigned to stalls by race and utilize every other stall in the paddock area.
19. Horsemen must adhere to social distancing when races are viewed on the televisions in the paddock.
21. Drivers will not be required to wear masks during a race. Drivers should leave their masks in a paper bag in the stall of the horse they are assigned to race at time of line up and put on the mask immediately after the race.
22. Hand sanitizer should be made available at the entrance to the paddock and in other areas around the paddock.
23. Horses should return to the assigned stall in the barn area after the race. Horses should be unharnessed, bathed, and cooled out as appropriate.
24. Harness and other equipment may not be washed at the track unless it is being used for another horse that is racing that day. Harness and equipment should be packed after use and cleaned at the home stable.

C. Lasix Call

1. Depending on arrival time, horses arriving at the track that are in the Lasix program can either receive their Lasix at the time of unloading or should be called to the Lasix area at the appropriate time.
2. Security will observe the breaking of the seal on the horse's stall and the application of a new seal when the horse is returned to its assigned stall.
3. The horse handler will move the mane, roll the lip, or present the horse for microchip reading in such a way that the identifier does not need to touch the horse or equipment.
4. The horse handler or trainer will present their badge for ID purposes or alternatively, if signing is required the pen should be placed in a disinfectant wash.

D. Pre-race blood gas testing

1. Horses will be blood tested at x hours after entering the paddock.
2. The horse handler will move the mane, roll the lip, or present the horse for microchip reading in such a way that the identifier does not need to touch the horse or equipment.

3. The horse handler will present their badge for ID or alternatively if signing is required the pen should be placed in a disinfectant wash.

E. Suggested Cleaning and Hygiene Protocols

1. Starting gate should be sanitized after each race to prevent horse disease.
2. All race number saddle pads and head numbers should be left clean and dry at the assigned stall prior to the race. They must be cleaned and sanitized at the end of the day.
3. Increase frequency of cleaning/disinfection of all high-risk surfaces (stable equipment, crossties, handles, and all high-traffic areas).
4. Daily cleaning of restrooms. Restrooms, sink and hose areas should be stocked with soap/sanitizer, clean paper towels
5. Establish designated personnel to disinfect the paddock every morning before training, during breaks, after training, and between every race.
6. Shipping companies' van drivers should disinfect vans and trailers between each and every trip.
7. All track personal and *backside workers* should be encouraged to limit travel. A 14-day mandatory self-quarantine is in effect for all drivers and personnel who have traveled internationally.
8. Stalls will be sanitized between uses, this includes cross ties and door latches.
9. Benches in the stable area should be removed to discourage people from sitting within 6 feet of each other.
10. CDC website has guidance for cleaning and disinfecting

F. Spit box

1. Handlers have to bring their own clean, empty water buckets to the spit box area. The water buckets are to be filled in the spit box with the observation of gaming personnel.
2. Horses will be assigned a wash stall.
3. Hoses and sprayers will be sanitized between uses.

4. Horses will be assigned a urine stall
5. The horse handler will move the mane, roll the lip, or present the horse for microchip reading in such a way that the identifier does not need to touch the horse or equipment.
6. The horse handler will show their badge to officials in the spitbox and have their ID recorded as attending the sampling. Alternatively, if a signature is required, the pen should be used and placed in a disinfectant wash.
7. The horse should return to its assigned stall in the barn area after testing.

G. Farrier Protocol

1. The assigned horse handler will have to secure horse for farrier.
2. The farrier must attempt to maintain social distancing from the handler.
3. The farrier must wash hands between horses.

H. Win pictures

1. The Win picture area should be moved adjacent to the track entrance from the paddock.
The assigned horse handler may hold the head of the horse for a picture. Only the handler and the driver will be allowed in the win picture with the horse.

I. Check out

1. The trailer must check out at Security and identify all persons and horses leaving on the conveyance.
2. Security will record the “out” time for people and animals
3. Persons leaving the track individually must also check out with security and the time of exit recorded.



RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Return to Standardbred Horse Racing at
Plainridge Park Racecourse Without Fans
Plainville MA



Table of Contents:

- I Purpose**
- II Overview**
- III Management Summary**
- IV Social & Economic Impact Considerations**
- V Phase One – Stakeholder Engagement**
 - a. MGC Racing Regulators
 - b. Working with Government
 - c. Public Health Communication Plan
- VI Phase Two - Return to Racing Without Fans at the Track**
 - a. Barn Area – Minimum Internal Controls/Policies & Procedures
 - b. Race Paddock – Minimum Internal Controls/Policies & Procedures
 - c. Grandstand
 - d. Training Centers
 - e. Attestation
- VII Public Relations and Communication Strategy**
 - a. Overall Plan
 - b. Key Messages



1. Purpose:

The Harness Horseman's Association of New England, Inc. (HHANE) has been asked by The Director of Racing of the Racing Division of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) to provide a document to address how the harness racing industry can plan for the return of harness racing at Plainridge Park Racetrack (Racetrack) in Plainville, Massachusetts.

The HHANE has considered all aspects to successfully launch the return of standardbred horse racing in the Commonwealth, spectator free during the Covid-19 crisis.

The overall recommendations are wide in scope including developing a communication strategy for all relevant stakeholders including government (federal and state), public health, horsemen and women, race fans, general public, Penn National Gaming (PNG), Owners of the Racetrack, and the MGC (the five member independent body which oversees the implementation and licensing process). One should note the costs for the operation of the MGC is paid solely by the gaming industry and not by Massachusetts tax dollars.

Other areas of focus include identifying minimum internal controls that industry can implement and provide an outline of policies, procedures, and protocols for best practices and standards going forward.

2. Overview

The HHANE consists of Board Directors (Board), who are horse trainers, drivers, owners, and breeders of standardbred racehorses.

The Board met and discussed the many protocols and blueprints that are in place at other tracks currently racing across the country and around the world. Focusing on the information obtained, these comprehensive procedures were incorporated in our Risk Management Plan (Plan), a comprehensive detailed plan for industry consideration.

3. Management Summary

In creating a comprehensive report that reviews all available considerations and details, the following priorities were identified:

- The importance of getting the standardbred horse racing industry back in operation
- A strong focus and emphasis on risk mitigation to assure the safety of all participants



- Ensure the safety, health, and welfare of standardbreds
- Commitment to work with and follow government and public health advisories

4. Social & Economic Impact Considerations

Every standardbred horse must first be registered with the United States Trotting Association (USTA), by law, before being eligible to race in North America or to subsequently be used in the Standardbred breeding industry.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created critical circumstances for the health and welfare of our equine athletes, as well as the people who work in the horse racing industry across the country. The delayed opening due to the pandemic has put significant stress on the standardbred industry. Horses are not machines that can be turned off and put away.

Trainers, Drivers, Owners, Groom, and Breeders have suffered financial distress more than the public since the Racetrack closed the end of November. Other businesses in the Commonwealth were operating thru March.

Horses require feed, training, and attending to seven days a week. Without purse money, owners and trainers are in an extremely precarious situation as they are responsible for feeding their families and must provide for their horses.

The primary and immediate concern of the HHANE is the welfare of the horse and the fear that as this pandemic continues, we will begin to have racehorses being neglected as owners and trainers are forced to choose between supporting their families and supporting their horses.

The HHANE believes the horse men and women can begin racing upon adoption and implementation of these procedures. This can be done with agreed to minimum internal controls, policies, procedures, and protocols that are widely accepted and practiced by the industry across the country. Through consultation, support, and input from all stakeholders a detailed plan incorporating government and public health guidelines has been created that will support an early return of live standardbred horse racing in Massachusetts without public attendance. HHANE believes this is a win-win for all involved which will:

- Put our horse people and this industry sector of the economy back to work
- Relieve the financial and mental stress of these workers
- Ensure the health and welfare of the equine athletes and the people working with them
- Create a safe, practical, and viable plan that will not put people at risk



- Build confidence within the Commonwealth that business is slowly returning to the “new normal”

The reason the standardbred horse racing industry can reset its business early is due in part to the fact that horse racing does not require a live fan base. This is due to the large percentage of revenue that is generated through broadcasting and video streaming of races and online wagering which occurs seven days a week as well as providing significant needed income to Massachusetts from the taxes generated on every wager that is made. In turn this will provide continued employment resulting in payroll taxes.

Therefore, with no fans allowed at the racetracks, the industry can focus on COVID-19 restrictions for all participants including physical distancing, personal protective equipment, policies and procedures along with protocols for the industry to follow while preparing for and conducting live racing.

The Re-opening Preparation Plan for the return of standardbred horseracing at Plainridge Racetrack provides guidance to the MGC, PNG, HHANE and internal/external stakeholders that will adjust restrictive mitigation measures in a controlled manner to support the safe re-opening of horseracing when appropriate, while supporting standardbred horse people re-entering the industry.

Why Is the Plan Important to the Massachusetts Horse Racing Community?

Returning to Standardbred Racing requires a coordinated effort for all industry stakeholders with consistent accepted policies and procedures for all participants. Because of the nature of the industry, including transportation of horses to the racetracks, and overlap of horse people working at different training centers and farms, it is critical that the industry have a plan that all participants can follow. This Plan facilitates the coordination and execution of a nationwide effort with robust monitoring systems identified that are critical to navigating the COVID-19 pandemic and how it evolves.

Indicators and Thresholds

While we feel that this Plan is comprehensive, we recognize that it may have to be reviewed and monitored and stricter mitigation measures for brief periods may be needed to continue containing the virus. In the future, we would hope to lessen the some of the requirements when government (federal and state) and public health concludes that the risk of the virus has decreased significantly. The HHANE plans on working with all relevant stakeholders when it is concluded that the risk has decreased.

Prioritization and Timing



The priority is to reopen Plainridge to allow the horse men and women to return to work. Other stages will follow with careful monitoring of the public health and health care systems. Throughout this phased reopening, it is critical for everyone to continue to strictly follow the recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions, including handwashing, wearing face coverings in congregate settings, and maintaining physical distancing.

5. Phase One - Stakeholder Engagement

A Framework for Re-Opening Horse Racing

The framework recognizes that the reopening may increase the risk of resurgence of the virus. Reopening is therefore conditional on:

- Confidence that incidence of infection is genuinely low within each horse racing community
- A system process that is well functioning and capable of promptly monitoring any increase in Incidence
- Working with public health officials

Stakeholder Role

- Emphasize continued physical distancing
- Emphasize readiness to HHANE and the horseracing community
- Identify each participant's role in returning to work responsibly
- Establish suggested policies and procedures, minimum internal controls; create educational and awareness tools for all participants
- Criteria for readiness to lift strict mitigation
- Sharing of data and information with HHANE
- Communicate to the industry about the current situation, decisions under consideration and clear guidance for adhering to mitigation levels
- Address violations that place the industry at risk as needed
- Adaption of The Racing Industry Reopening Preparation Plan



HHANE'S Role

- Common messaging, vision, clear guidance for horse people to adhere to mitigation levels
- Tailor mitigation strategies to address unique community characteristics and protect older adults and those at highest risk for severe illness (underlying health conditions)
- Assist in programs, staffing and infrastructure needs as requested
- Technical assistance · coordination of information sharing and decision making as required to the horse racing community
- Assist in any Covid-19 testing, tracking, or procedures as warranted or deemed necessary to protect the horse racing industry

a. MGC Racing Regulators

HHANE recognizes the MGC as having the power to govern, control and oversee the horse racing in any or all its forms throughout the State. HHANE respectfully requests the regulating body work with HHANE, the recognized standardbred horse racing industry association to assist in the return of standardbred horse racing in Massachusetts. The HHANE will work with the MGC to further enhance the Plan by requesting input on what steps can be taken to further enhance compliance and safety measures. It is critical that those within the sport can look forward to and plan for a positive future

This may include but is not limited to:

- Meet with stakeholders to discuss the minimum internal controls being proposed in this document for input and direction
- Work with the racetrack and recognized standardbred horse associations to implement agreed upon protocols that are acceptable to the Advisory Board
- Provide support and assistance to ensure the agreed to protocols are enforced and supported by the regulating body
- Promote and advocate for the return of standardbred horse racing at Plainridge Racetrack
- Notify the jurisdictional racetracks or associations of any concerns with regards to adherence to the minimum internal controls



- Support and discuss the initiative with relevant stakeholders
- Regularly review and revise minimum internal controls and adjust accordingly to mitigate risk of the proposed Plan
- Tests horses to deter the use of prohibited substances
- Provide information on the use of approved medications. HHANE believes that there is an opportunity to work with the MGC and identify agreed upon processes and procedures that will assist in mitigating risk with regards to relaxing processes through the use of physical distancing, personal protective equipment and testing.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Meet to discuss the minimum internal controls being proposed in this document for input and direction
- MGC to work with Racetrack participants to implement an agreed upon protocol deemed acceptable
- Provide support and assistance to ensure the protocols are enforced and supported by PNG
- Notify PNG of any concern with regards to adherence to the minimum internal controls outlined by the MGC
- Support and discuss the initiative with relevant stakeholders
- Regularly review and revise minimum internal controls and adjust accordingly to mitigate risk of the proposed Plan

b. Working with Government

The Harness Horseman's Association of New England (HHANE) has developed a best-in-class public health and safety protocol, based on CDC guidelines and with our workers' and patrons' well-being at top of mind, toward restarting harness racing at Plainridge Park with no fans in attendance. We look forward to working with MGC/RACING Committee and PNG in order to reopen live racing at Plainridge Park Racetrack in an orderly fashion as soon as possible.



Objectives

To provide this Plan to the “Reopening Advisory Board” established by the Governor of Massachusetts and receive approval that harness racing be identified as an industry that can reopen.

Key Messages to the Governor

- The industry has prepared a comprehensive Plan that is endorsed by stakeholders.
- The primary focus is the health and welfare of the horse men and women and horses.
- A phased in approach to the return of standardbred racing will be executed with no fans at The Racetrack to reduce the risk of COVID-19.
- A return to racing will support those working in racing and alleviate some of the financial burden to government from the industry.
- The industry will implement protocols and best practices under the guidelines to protect the health of racing participants.
- Horse racing is currently being conducted successfully around the world and in several major racetracks in the United States without spectators and under strict protocol from their respective Governments and Health agencies.
- The Plan will be flexible and offer a range of options that can be adapted as required, including a contingency plan for stoppage of racing in the event that COVID-19 resurfaces.

c. Public Health Communication Plan

Resuming racing in the Commonwealth successfully is contingent on the racetrack, horse people, and other industry participants abiding by Public Health protocol and guidelines. This Plan uses the protocol and guidelines to assist in evaluating the readiness to resume standardbred horse racing in the Commonwealth.

- Plan for information sharing and risk communication where Covid-19 has been detected
- Consult and Involve local Health Agencies



- Horse racing can be broadcasted / video streamed with online wagering and no spectators on track
- Configuration of activities at the racetrack will be altered for assurances
- As much of the activities as possible will be conducted outside
- There will be restricted point of entrance and exit with staggered placing of horses and horse persons to ensure physical distancing
- Hygiene practices will be followed with easy access to hand sanitizing stations
- Frequency of cleaning will increase on high touch surfaces
- A single designated person will operate each of the water spigot for horse drinking water
- The lounge area will be closed
- Food and drinks are not allowed in the paddock and must remain in your vehicle

Mitigation for Outbreaks

Should a racing participant test positive for COVID-19, the participant should isolate for 14 days. A protocol will be established to determine who the infected participant should notify. There will also be a series of questions asked so the racetrack official can determine any interaction the infected person had with others at the racetrack. Those individuals will also be contacted, requested to conduct self-assessments, and will need to self-quarantine for 14 days.

Racing officials have the authority to close racetracks and discontinue racing for a specific time period, should there be a community outbreak, increased incidence of COVID-19 at the racetrack, or if it is deemed in the best interests of the health and welfare of racing participants to do so.

6. Phase Two – Return to Racing Without Fans at the Track

The Plan proposes that racing resumes, but with no fans allowed at the racetracks. This will allow the industry to focus on COVID-19 preventative measures with the racing participants which will include physical distancing, personal protective equipment, proper hygiene such as hand washing and respiratory etiquette, proper cleaning methods, and travel restrictions in preparation for and during the first phase of racing.

Physical (social) distancing



The spread of COVID-19 can be slowed down by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Physical (social) distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak

a. Barn Area – Minimum Internal Controls / Policies & Procedures

- Ship-in to race only. There will be no overnight stabling allowed
- Face coverings will be mandatory while on the grounds
- Security personnel will log all essential licensed personnel only
- All trainers, drivers, and grooms shall make themselves available for temperature scanning before entering the grounds. Any person with a temperature above 100.4F will be denied entrance to the grounds
- Horses will be assigned stalls and grouped by trainer in the barn area regardless of what race they are in. There will be an empty stall between trainers

b. Race Paddock – Minimum Internal Controls / Policies & Procedures

Communication informing racetrack employees and horse men and women of proper protocol will be distributed in advance of the resumption of racing and posters, flyers, etc. will be posted in prominent and relevant places in the race paddock.

The measures and precautions that will be undertaken by the racing community during the resumption of racing will include:

Physical (social) distancing

The spread of COVID-19 can be slowed down by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Physical (social) distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak and may include the following:

In the Race Paddock



- Physical distancing must be practiced.
- Horse men and women should not congregate or gather in groups.
- Horse men and women are advised to keep a distance of at least 2 arms-lengths (approx. 6 (six) feet from others.
- Minimal number of staff and personnel to run the race card.

Proper Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette

Proper hygiene and respiratory etiquette can help reduce the risk of infection or spreading infection to others. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the washroom

- use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- when coughing or sneezing:
 - cough or sneeze into a tissue or the bend of your arm, not your hand
 - dispose of any tissues you have used as soon as possible in a lined waste basket and wash your hands afterwards
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands

Proper Cleaning & Disinfecting Equipment, etc.

Corona viruses are one of the easiest types of viruses to kill with the appropriate disinfectant product when used according to the label directions. We will publish a list of hard surface disinfectants that are likely to be effective for use against COVID-19.

Surfaces in the Race Paddock that will require constant cleaning will include:

- Crossties
- Door handles, doorknobs



- Light switches
- Faucets & Taps (used to bathe horses)

Wearing Masks or Face Coverings

Wearing a non-medical mask or face covering is an additional measure that horse persons and racing employees can take to protect people around them, even if they have no symptoms. The procedures require all horse men and women to wear face masks upon entering and until leaving the backside.

Key Messages

- The horse racing industry will follow all requirements and guidelines mandated by Government officials to reduce the risk of COVID-19 when racing resumes.
- The Public Health requirements will be communicated in writing to all horse racing participants in advance of the return of horse racing and reinforced on an ongoing basis.
- The harness racing industry will adjust to new, elevated, or relaxed guidelines as mandated by the Federal and Commonwealth Health agencies.
- Horse racing participants will sign a document that confirms they will abide by all precautionary requirements in order to participate in racing.
- Failure to comply with Public Health requirements will result in the removal of a participant from the grounds.

c. Grandstand

In the early stages, this measure should be a serious consideration for every racetrack

At minimum, the closures will affect public areas, allowing employees to work in the building, with strict physical distancing precautions. Non-essential personnel and members of the general public would be strictly prohibited.

At maximum, closures could apply not only to the public, but to the entire Grandstand building, which could also have implications for judges, announcers, security, camera operators etc. If this is the case, alternate arrangements would have to be made to handle certain duties remotely or from external locations around the racetrack

Racing



Policies & Procedures

The following are considerations that must be undertaken by PNG that will provide a safe environment for participants and maintain extremely high standards.

The following list offers several considerations that PNG should consider when developing and refining their respective procedures:

Earlier post time and extra time between races

Because of the logistics of physical distancing, racetracks should consider altering post times and extending the time between races. Getting horse men and women in and out of racetrack facilities and limiting the number of horse men and women that gather at any time would be much easier to achieve if race cards are spread out.

The track may consider implementing unique measures of dividing race cards into two or three mini race cards. This measure is sometimes done during busy qualifying days. It could allow horse men and women time to warm-up, race and leave, and then allow a new group of horse men and women to arrive, warm up, race and leave.

Limiting staff on site

We recommend that Plainridge limit the number of people on site to essential staff required to conduct racing. Some considerations should be made for limiting or reducing any, or all, of the following people from each site:

- No admittance to non-essential personnel
- Maximum 1 person per horse in the paddock
- No extra warm-up personnel in the paddock, trainers, or drivers to warm up horses
- Starting gate staff kept to an absolute minimum
- Paddock staff reduced to the minimum required
- Testing and identification staff reduced to a minimum
- Separate entrances designated for camera operators and any other required personnel

Using off site locations when possible



In these unique circumstances, off site measures may be implemented to reduce the number of individuals on site. PNG and MGC would need to decide how many of the following measures are feasible.

- All registration, eligibility, licensing, and membership activities could take place prior to racing and completed on-line, or by phone/fax with the USTA
- All racing licenses with the MGC could be extended or protocols put in place for single application occupancy in or outside of the MGC building
- The announcer could call races from a remote location, using the video feed
- Judges could adjudicate from a remote location, using video feeds

Using outdoor spaces whenever possible and when feasible

In many cases, certain tasks usually done within the paddock can be accomplished in outdoor areas. Some of the following are potential examples:

- Identification of horses
- Delivery and pickup of saddle pads
- In this case where the barn area exist, horses could avoid being taken to the paddock to warm up and warm up from their assigned stalls in barn area
- Horses could go directly to the assigned stall in the barn area after the race if not being tested

Additional precautions for participants

All those racing will be asked to take extra precautions while on site, including any of the following:

- Participants only allowed into the paddock one hour (or a designated time) prior to their horse's scheduled post time
- Participants could go back to their assigned stalls in the barn area after their race.
- Provide list of questions asked at the stable gate as to the health of participants; each participant will be provided with two face masks



- Temperatures taken at the stable gate. Those with temperatures of 100.4F will not be Admitted
- Mandatory masks or face coverings for all participants when inside the paddock
- A trainer with only one horse may not have a groom. A trainer with 2-5 horses can have 2 grooms. Exception for those that are driver/trainer, one groom for every two horses entered is pretermitted
- All racing participants must sign a document confirming that they agree and will abide by all precautionary policies and procedures

Additional precautions at the facility

The racetrack can take extra steps to ensure the paddock is a safe space. Potential measures include:

- Reorganization of the paddock floor plan which may include assigning paddock stalls by trainer. A diagram of the backside shows that we have enough stalls for that purpose.
- Disinfecting the paddock following each race card and qualifier
- Have horses using every other (or every third) race stall in the Paddock
- Driver changing room and showers closed
- Paddock lounge closed
- Install plexiglass in places needed to separate persons in the racing building
- Limit every work area at the racetrack to under 5 employees (or fewer, if needed)
- Winner's circle procedure simplified or eliminated to prevent additional gathering, and expedite post-race procedures
- Staggering post parades
- Directional signage for traffic flow to limit physical interaction



Alter regulatory procedures at the racetrack

Where feasible, and upon regulatory approval, certain changes would limit the number of individuals at the track and in close proximity to one another. These include:

- Waiving the Lasix program, which could avoid people being on site for 4+ hours or if Lasix testing continues and there is underused backside stalls, this could be used in lieu of the paddock area or Lasix could be given off site by a licensed veterinarian. Slip could be provided
- Temporarily changing testing procedures, which could require only race winners called to test (less test horses possibly fewer test collectors), or a small number of horses chosen to be tested over the duration of the program, and / or test random horses 30 minutes prior to their race and / or after a race
- Waive breathalyzer and conduct a “fit for duty” assessment

Additional considerations:

- Qualifiers held two sessions per week on non-race day and qualifiers for trotters on one day and pacers on another non race day
- Consider changing the qualifying rule to extend the amount of time off a horse need before qualifying to comply at a minimum with the USTA rules
- All horses with a clean charted line as of March 1, 2020 shall be deemed eligible to be entered
- All horses racing for the same claiming price as their last previous start before the COVID-19 shutdown shall not be eligible to be claimed in their first start following their return
- Adjust racing day to alternate days, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- Allow only horses from the six New England States to participate at Plainridge Racetrack

d. Training Centers

The reasons for strict off-site facility management are to accomplish the following:

- The flow of individuals from off-track facilities to one track, back to the facility and then to other tracks will occur. Without strict off-site management if there is a COVID-19 positive at



a single track, it could easily spread to other tracks.

- To ensure a safe working environment for all participants, on and off track.
- To provide confidence to the racetrack and the MGC that every facility is following the same protocols of physical distancing and extreme caution.

Measures to be implemented at training centers and off-track facilities

Any or all of the following measures should be considered

- The banning of unnecessary persons and the public from attending training centers, with only essential personnel; trainers, caretakers, veterinarians, and blacksmiths permitted to be on site.
- Training centers follow strict guidelines pertaining to on-site deliveries, track maintenance, site management etc., to guarantee physical distancing is taking place
- Documentation, signed by every person working at training centers, attesting that they are taking physical distancing measures both off-site and on-site, agreeing that they have read the guidelines provided and will take appropriate measures to comply
- Strict screening of new individuals who are moving onto a site

e. Attestation

The HHANE will require the owner/manager of the training center to sign documentation that would require him or her to attest to the fact that his/her facility is meeting the COVID-19 standards as established.

Prior to racing, the MGC and Plainridge may request that the facility owner/manager has attested that each of the recommended conditions, as described above, has been met and that each person working at the facility has signed off on adhering to the strict measures. Racetracks and regulatory authorities would then have the right to disallow any participant from racing if they have not completed the required paperwork, or if the facility they are located at has not completed the required paperwork and taken the appropriate steps to ensure compliance.



7. Phase Three - Public Relations and Communications Strategy

a. Overall Plan

Public relations are critical for the distribution of consistent information to the government, participants, fans, and the general public. The HHANE will ensure that industry stakeholders and industry participants are aware of the industry's "key messages" to communicate.

The HHANE will distribute information as required through its primary communication vehicle, www.hhane.com and also use other online methods for communicating with the membership, social media, texting, email, etc.

There are two stages to the Public Relations component of The Plan which is dependent on these milestones:

1. Government and Stakeholder engagement for the Return of Standardbred Racing in Massachusetts
2. The resumption of Standardbred Racing

Once the Plan is communicated to Government & Stakeholders, and in advance of the return of racing, there will be communication pieces targeted to:

- Stakeholders
- Participants
- Racing Fans

b. Key Messages

- The HHANE has prepared a comprehensive Plan for the Standardbred industry stakeholders and Government to ensure racing commences and protects the health and safety of everyone.
- The industry supports and protects those working in racing.
- The health and welfare of the horses is a primary focus in the Plan.
- All industry participants have a role to play and can contribute to the successful execution of the Plan.



- Procedures and precautionary practices are taken very seriously for the health and safety of those working in the industry as well as the horses.
- The industry will provide accurate and timely information to audiences inside and outside the sport.
- The Racing Industry Reopening Preparation Plan will be flexible and offers a range of options that can be adapted as required

Communication Vehicles

- Web & Social Media announcements
- E-Blast communications
- Press releases
- Short videos
- Posters for tracks, etc.
- Informational Messages on the USTA Website.
- Text messaging

The Resumption of Racing

Communication to:

- Stakeholders
- Participants
- Racing Fans

a) Key Messages – To Industry

- The success of The Racing Industry Reopening Preparation Plan relies on all industry participants.
- The industry supports and protects those working in racing.
- The health and welfare of the horses is a primary focus. #thehorsecomesfirst



- Everyone has a role to play and is responsible for the successful execution of the plan.
- Procedures and precautionary practices are taken very seriously for the health and safety of those working in the industry as well as the horses.
- The industry will provide accurate and timely information to audiences inside and outside the sport.
- Racing Industry Reopening Preparation Plan will be flexible and offer a range of options that can be adapted as required.

b) Key Messages – External (Race fans and General Public)

- The health and welfare of our horses is the primary focus for the industry.
- Racing participants are taking procedures and precautionary practices very seriously for the health and safety of those working in the industry as well as the horses.
- Racing with no fans in attendance during this time is in the best interest of the public.
- The industry is supporting and protecting those working in racing and managing the public health risk.

Communication Vehicles

- Web & Social Media announcements
- E-Blast communications
- Press releases
- Short videos

- Posters for tracks, etc.
- Informational Messages on the USTA Website.
- Text messaging



Conclusion

It is the hope of the HHANE that this Policy satisfies the overall goals and objectives of a successful return to Standardbred Horse Racing at Plainridge Racetrack in Plainville, MA

The success of the Policy will be determined by industry participants and stakeholders. HHANE will continue to offer assistance and consultation as requested and required to assist in the implementation of an effective overall plan for the return of harness racing. The HHANE Board of Directors wish everyone involved a timely and safe return to racing at Plainridge Racetrack so that the industry can get back to showcasing the passion and thrill of our sport through our equine athletes and champions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Robert J. McHugh', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible script.

Robert McHugh

President Harness Horseman's Association of New England, Inc. (HHANE)



Division of Racing

TO: Cathy Judd-Stein, Chair
Gayle Cameron, Commissioner
Eileen O'Brien, Commissioner
Bruce Stebbins, Commissioner
Enrique Zuniga, Commissioner

FROM: Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing

CC: Karen Wells, Interim Executive Director
Todd Grossman, Acting General Counsel

DATE: March 5, 2020

RE: Plainridge Key Operating Personnel and Racing Officials

Dear Commissioners:

Plainridge Park Casino Director of Racing Steve O'Toole has submitted a request for approval of their Key Operating Personnel and Racing Officials dated March 5, 2020. They were all licensed by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission in 2019. They are in the process of applying for their 2020 licenses. The State police will conduct their background checks.

Recommendation: That the Commission approve the request of Plainridge Park Casino to approve their March 5, 2020 list of Key Operating Personnel and Racing Officials, pending satisfactory completion of licensure by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission Racing Division and satisfactory completion of their background checks by the Massachusetts State Police.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission



PLAINRIDGE PARK
CASINO

March 5, 2020

Alexandra Lightbown
Director of Racing
Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal St.
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Director Lightbown,

Plainridge Park Casino respectfully requests approval of the following operating personnel and racing officials for the 2020 racing season;

OPERATING PERSONNEL

Steve O'Toole	Director of Racing
Lenny Calderone	Racing Services Manager
Jason Savastano	Mutuel Manager
Andrew Tavares	Assistant Racing Services Manager
Diana Figueroa	Assistant Racing Services Manager
James Traester	Assistant Racing Services Manager
Kelly Cavaco	Assistant Racing Services Manager

RACING OFFICIALS

AnnMarie Mancini	Presiding Judge
Paul Verrette	Racing Secretary
John Mattero	Clerk of Course
Gregory Brewster	Paddock Judge
Richard Flanders	Starter / Patrol Judge
Lenny Calderone	Announcer
Edwin Harrop	Track Superintendent
Dr. Jeremy Murdock	Racing Veterinarian
Chrissy Nadeau	Identifier
Kelly Cavaco	Photo Finish / Timing
Thomas Ryan	Marshall / Outrider
Steve O'Toole	Back up Presiding Judge & Starter / Patrol Judge
James Traester	Back up Presiding Judge & Photo Finish / Timing
Andrew Tavares	Back up Photo Finish / Timing
Diana Figueroa	Back up Photo Finish / Timing

Sincerely,

Steve O'Toole
Director of Racing
Plainridge Park Casino
Plainville Gaming and Redevelopment, LLC



Division of Racing

TO: Cathy Judd-Stein, Chair
Gayle Cameron, Commissioner
Eileen O'Brien, Commissioner
Bruce Stebbins, Commissioner
Enrique Zuniga, Commissioner

FROM: Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing

CC: Karen Wells, Interim Executive Director
Todd Grossman, Acting General Counsel

DATE: March 5, 2020

RE: Plainridge Waiver Request of 205 CMR 3:12 (6)

Dear Commissioners:

Plainridge Park Casino Director of Racing Steve O'Toole has submitted a request for approval of a waiver of 205 CMR 3:12 (6) for the 2020 racing season at Plainridge Park Casino.

205 CMR 3:12 (6) reads: The Judges shall require all horses not showing a satisfactory racing line during the previous 30 days to go a qualifying mile in a race before the Judges. The Association may request a waiver of this requirement.

The requested waiver would change the requirement from 30 days to 45 days. Plainridge requested this same waiver in 2018 and 2019 and the Commission approved it. There have been no issues with this waiver.

Recommendation: That the Commission approve the request of Plainridge Park Casino of a waiver for the 2020 racing season with respect to 205 CMR 3:12 (6) which would require all horses not showing a satisfactory racing line during the previous 45 days to go a qualifying mile in a race before the Judges.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission



PLAINRIDGE PARK
CASINO

March 5, 2020

Alexandra Lightbown
Director of Racing
Massachusetts Gaming Commission
101 Federal St.
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Director Lightbown,

Plainridge Park Casino respectfully requests approval of a waiver for the 2020 racing season with respect to 205 CMR 3:12 (6) which would require all horses not showing a satisfactory racing line during the previous 45 days to go a qualifying mile in a race before the Judges.

205 CMR 3:12 (6) reads as follows;

(6) The Judges shall require all horses not showing a satisfactory racing line during the previous 30 days to go a qualifying mile in a race before the Judges. The Association may request a waiver of this requirement.

Sincerely,

Steve O'Toole
Director of Racing
Plainridge Park Casino
Plainville Gaming and Redevelopment, LLC



Division of Racing

TO: Cathy Judd-Stein, Chair
Gayle Cameron, Commissioner
Eileen O'Brien, Commissioner
Bruce Stebbins, Commissioner
Enrique Zuniga, Commissioner

FROM: Alexandra Lightbown, Director of Racing

CC: Karen Wells, Interim Executive Director
Todd Grossman, Acting General Counsel

DATE: March 6, 2020

RE: Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts Recognition

Dear Commissioners:

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 128, Section 2 (j), the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts, Inc. (SOM) has requested they be approved as the group of representative Standardbred breeders to administer the Massachusetts Standardbred breeding program and the Sire Stakes races for 2020.

Recommendation: That the Commission approves the request of the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts, Inc. to be recognized as the group of representative Standardbred breeders to administer the Massachusetts Standardbred breeding program and the Sire Stakes races for 2020.



Massachusetts Gaming Commission



STANDARD BRED OWNERS OF
MASSACHUSETTS, INC.
PO Box 1862
PLAINVILLE, MA 02762

March 5, 2020

Massachusetts Gaming Commission
Racing Division
Alexandra Lightbown
Director of Racing
101 Federal St., 12th Floor
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Director Lightbown,

Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts, Inc. respectfully requests approval to be recognized as the duly organized representative group of standardbred breeders to administer the Massachusetts Standardbred Breeding program and Sire Stake races in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 128, sec. 2(j) for the upcoming 2020 season.

SOM, Inc. is a non-profit Massachusetts Corporation in good standing and has continuously administered the Massachusetts Breeding and Sire Stakes program since 1992.

Sincerely,

Nancy Longobardi

Nancy Longobardi
Secretary / Treasurer

cc: Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources / Standardbred Breeding Program
Plainridge Park Casino / Steve O'Toole – Director of Racing

WWW.SOMINC.NET
508-528-1877
INFO@SOMINC.NET