



## Indiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Inc.

(317)-903-4382 --- [www.inhbpa.org](http://www.inhbpa.org)

# HBPA News

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## 2017 racing at Indiana Grand: Welcome Back!

Horsemen and women are returning to Indiana Grand and counting down the days until racing begins. The 120-day meet begins Tuesday, April 18 and concludes Saturday, Oct. 28.

The barn area opened Monday, March 13 for preparing stalls, but the temperature will delay horses moving in and working out until the next week. The track kitchen will open April 1.

Racing will be offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2:05 p.m. EST while Saturday night racing will be conducted at 6:05 p.m. EST. Thursday racing will be added to the schedule from July 6 through August 24.

The first condition book is at: <https://indianagrand.com/racing/horsemen-information/>

Indiana HBPA says, Welcome Back!

### Regulators approve rule changes

The Indiana Horse Racing Commission met March 7 and approved several rule changes for the upcoming Indiana Grand meet. Check out the Indiana Horse Racing Commission website, at: <http://www.in.gov/hrc/> .

For new or amended rules, go to: [http://www.in.gov/hrc/files/2017TB\\_QH\\_Amended.pdf](http://www.in.gov/hrc/files/2017TB_QH_Amended.pdf)

### HBPA: Open for Business

With the Indiana Grand backside opening March 13, the Indiana HBPA will also be open for business. The HBPA office and Chaplain's trailer will be open for reduced hours until April 1.

After April 1, we will hold regular office hours at the trailer. By the second week in April, we will be providing benevolence and health services, with Information about our services, benevolence guidelines and all activities can be found at <http://inhbpa.org>.

### 2017 Indiana Derby is July 15

The date for the 23<sup>rd</sup> running of the Grade III \$500,000-added Indiana Derby has been set. Indiana's richest horse race will be held Saturday, July 15 at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino.

The Indiana Derby began during the inaugural season of pari-mutuel Thoroughbred racing in 1995 at Hoosier Park and was moved to Indiana Grand in 2013 when the state established the Shelbyville track as the location for all Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing.

Over the years, the race has grown in status, displaying some of the best three-year-olds in the country. Last year's event was won by Cupid for Hall of Fame Trainer Bob Baffert, who scored his fourth win in the race in the past eight years.

The Grade III \$200,000-added Indiana Oaks will join the Derby on the July 15 racing program that boasts more than one million in purse money each year. Indiana Derby Night will once again be complemented by other activities in the days surrounding the event along with other stakes races, bringing the attention of the horse racing world to Indiana during that time.

## Breed Development Information Now on Social Media

Did you know: you can follow your favorite racing breed on social media. In February, the Quarter Horse, Standardbred and Thoroughbred Breed Development Programs debuted on Facebook and Twitter. They invite you to LIKE and FOLLOW to stay updated:

### Quarter Horses:

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/INQuarterHorse>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianaQuarterHorse>

### Standardbred:

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/IStandardbred>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianaStandardbred>

### Thoroughbred:

Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/IThoroughbred>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndianaThoroughbredBreedDevelopment>

## IHRC institutes online licensing

In addition to applying for a 2017 IHRC license at the Indiana Grand Commission office, you now can apply online. Just create an account and register at the IHRC website:

[https://hrms.hrc.in.gov/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery#/login](https://hrms.hrc.in.gov/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#/login)

## February HBPA Meeting Notes

The Board of Directors of the Indiana HBPA met February 13, at Indiana Grand. After President Joe Davis called the meeting to order, Mike Smith, executive director of the IHRC spoke.

He described several legislative goals for the current General Assembly session, such as establishing responsibility for overseeing the purse account. After a violation, purse redistribution is supposed to occur, sometimes the horseman has left the state, or refuses to give the money back. In those instances, the IHRC will take the lead in recovering the money, in cooperation with the Attorney General's office. Also, Smith would like to see fine revenues diverted to aftercare.

Samples will be sent out two times a week, starting this year, in hopes of accelerating the adjudication process, he said.

The board asked about licensing issues, like three-year license renewal (instead of annual,) and the challenges posed by limited office hours early in a meet when trainers have to be licensed for their workers to get their licenses. Smith said both items will be looked into. And, he said he would initiate changes in the claiming system, to simplify the process.

The IHRC has started online licensing, to help streamline participation in Indiana racing, Smith said. He also said that the Commission has added a communications staffer to help ensure information gets to horsemen in a timely manner.

After the IHRC executive director left, the board discussed the financial report, additional regulatory issues, and ongoing legislative activities. It is increasingly looking like the effort to gain table games at the track casinos will have to wait another year, as will the initiative to put in place ADW in Indiana.

The board also discussed promotions for the upcoming year. Promotions Committee Chair Tianna Richardville reviewed a meeting we had with Tammy Knox, of Indiana Grand. We will do the Saturday Grand Morning promotion again this year, and we will put in place some ongoing recognition for grooms and crews on the backside.

In other board items, the directors were briefed on the upcoming National HBPA Convention. Five people will be attending for Indiana HBPA. And the board voted to accept an increase in National HBPA dues assessment for this affiliate.

The board decided not to commit funds to the American Horse Council's economic impact study and okayed a \$501 contribution to the Indiana Horse Council's Queen Contest for its Horse Fair.

The Indiana HBPA will be taking a look at how we should communicate with horsemen and women – currently through our newsletters, web page,

Facebook -- and examining whether we should add other means of social media. The board wants to hear from some third-party vendors on how to do this.

Directors also want to look into providing some type of health benefits for the organization's employees. Mike Brown will examine options before the next meeting.

After approving the benevolence financial report, and having no cases to discuss, the board set the next meeting for March 21, 2017, and adjourned.

## **2017 HBPA Benevolence Rules**

Because many may not know about eligibility for Indiana HBPA backside benevolence, the Board felt we should include eligibility rules in this news letter. Additional benevolence information can be accessed on the Indiana HBPA website, and also on the National HBPA website.

### **A. Licensure, residence, starts, and employment**

1. Any trainer (a) who is licensed in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission, (b) who is an Indiana resident and has made at least five starts, or a non-Indiana resident who has made at least ten starts, at an Indiana racetrack in either the previous calendar year or the current calendar year, and (c) who in the current calendar year has started at least 50% of his or her horses' starts at an Indiana track during the Indiana live meets. Notwithstanding the definition

- of Eligibility Date, above, eligibility established the previous calendar year is retained until the trainer's first start during an Indiana live meet in the current calendar year, after which the trainer's eligibility will be determined according to clauses (a) through (c) and the Eligibility Date, above. A trainer holding multiple types of racing licenses -- i.e., thoroughbred and quarterhorse, and/or thoroughbred and standardbred licenses at the same time -- is eligible to participate in the percentage of benefits determined by dividing the number of his or her Indiana thoroughbred starts by the total number of his or her Indiana thoroughbred, quarterhorse, and standardbred starts in Indiana races during the preceding or current calendar year, as the case may be.
2. Any owner (a) who is licensed in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission, (b) who owns the equivalent of at least 100% of a thoroughbred horse, (c) who is an Indiana resident and has made at least five starts, or a non-Indiana resident who has made at least ten starts, at an Indiana racetrack in either the previous calendar year or the current calendar year, and (d) who in the current calendar year has started at least 50% of his or her horses' starts at an Indiana track during the Indiana live meets. Notwithstanding the definition of Eligibility Date, above, eligibility established in the previous calendar year is retained until the owner's first start during an Indiana live meet in the current calendar year, after which the owner's eligibility will be determined according to clauses (a) through (d) and the Eligibility Date, above. An owner holding multiple types of racing licenses -- i.e., thoroughbred and quarterhorse, and/or thoroughbred and standardbred licenses at the same time -- is eligible to participate the percentage of benefits determined by dividing the number of his or her Indiana thoroughbred starts by the total number of his or her Indiana thoroughbred, quarterhorse, and standardbred starts in Indiana races during the preceding or current calendar year, as the case may be.
3. Any assistant trainer, groom, hot walker, exercise rider or other stable employee (collectively, "**Stable Employee**") (a) who is licensed in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission, (b) who, as demonstrated by the affidavit of a licensed trainer and by being on a licensed trainer's badge list, is employed by a licensed trainer.
4. Any member of the gate crew, employee of the receiving barn, exercise rider or member of the pony crew (collectively, "**Dual Employee**") (a) who is licensed in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Horse Racing

Commission, and (b) who, as demonstrated by the affidavit of a licensed trainer, is employed by a licensed trainer in addition to their paid participation in the aforementioned activities, during morning training sessions.

5. Any eligible trainer, owner, or Stable Employee who is licensed in the State of Indiana by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission may apply for Benevolence Assistance for (a) his or her spouse, and (b) his or her child who is (i) under the age of 18, (ii) a full time student under the age of 24, or (iii) handicapped, disabled, or in special need.

B. Income and employment requirements and limitations

1. Benevolence Assistance will not be provided to any Stable Employee or Dual Employee who (a) is not employed by an eligible trainer on the Eligibility Date; or (b) does not provide satisfactory documentation (as described below) that, during the calendar week immediately preceding the calendar week in which the Eligibility Date falls, he/she (i) earned at least \$125 from at least one specific eligible trainer, and (b) worked at least twenty (20) hours for a specific eligible trainer. Satisfactory documentation of earnings for the applicable calendar week shall consist of either a copy of the Applicant’s payroll check for that week, if available, or if not, a copy of the Applicant’s payroll stub for that week.

A free-lance exercise rider must provide an affidavit of an eligible trainer demonstrating that, during the calendar week immediately preceding the calendar week in which the Eligibility Date falls, he or she earned at least \$120 from at least one specific trainer and exercised at least twelve (12) horses for that specific trainer.

2. Benevolence Assistance will not be provided to any Applicant if he or she (a) is a single person with an adjusted gross income in excess of \$50,000 in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the Eligibility Date falls, or (b) is a married person who, together with his or her spouse, has an adjusted gross income in excess of \$100,000 in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the Eligibility Date falls. Effective January 1, 2016, the adjusted gross income limitation will be reviewed and adjusted annually in accordance with the Social Security Cost of Living Allowance. Upon request, any Applicant who is an owner or trainer shall provide a true and accurate copy of his or her income tax return, or documentary evidence of his or her exemption from filing an income tax return, for the relevant calendar year.
1. In addition to demonstrating compliance with the

- eligibility requirements above, an Applicant must demonstrate that he or she has fully utilized and exhausted all available insurance coverage and benefits before receiving any Benevolence Assistance.
2. Except as provided below, the maximum Benevolence Assistance that may be granted to any eligible Applicant in any calendar year for medical, dental, optical, podiatric, chiropractic or prescription services is \$6,000. In addition to this amount, the survivors of an eligible Applicant may be granted burial benefits of up to \$3,000 per calendar year. Also, in addition to the aforementioned Benevolence Assistance, the family of an eligible Applicant may be granted child-care assistance for up to \$3,000 per calendar year during the period in which the track is open for racing and/or training, provided that the eligible parent(s) are currently employed at the track. Stable Employees and Dual Employees employed by a trainer who (a) holds Indiana thoroughbred and quarterhorse, and/or Indiana thoroughbred and standardbred licenses at

the same time, and (b) makes less than 50% of his or her starts in Indiana thoroughbred races, are eligible to receive up to (i) 50% of the maximum available benefit for Benevolence Assistance and child-care assistance; and (ii) 100% of the maximum available burial benefit.

### **For IN Grand Information**

Indiana Grand's Horsemen Information Page can be accessed at: <http://indianagrand.com/racing/horsemen-information>

### **For HBPA Information**

Information about Indiana HBPA and our activities can be found at our website at: [www.inhbpa.org](http://www.inhbpa.org) or on the Facebook page, at [www.facebook.com/indianahbpa](http://www.facebook.com/indianahbpa) .

### **Contact Info for IN HBPA**

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