



The Horsemen's Newsletter

April 2013

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Region Commits To Uniform Medication & Drug Testing Policies

For years, horsemen throughout the Mid-Atlantic have been imploring industry regulators and state racing officials to enact a standardized set of clear-cut medication and drug testing rules, regulations and programs. The challenge of organizing and coordinating such a multi-jurisdictional regulatory program, whether regionally or nationally, has been one of racing's most elusive problems.

In a move that has been widely hailed as one of the most significant achievements in racing history, eight States, including the entire Mid-Atlantic, New York and Massachusetts, have agreed to join together in a uniform medication and drug testing program for the region.

The program, called the Mid-Atlantic Uniform Medication and Drug Testing Program, divides medications into two new categories—Controlled Therapeutic Substances and Prohibited Substances. The Controlled Therapeutic Substances category is comprised of 24 medications that have been identified and recognized as appropriate for therapeutic use in racehorses to treat illness or injury. These medications were identified following intensive consultation among the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC), the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) and the industry's chemists and pharmacologists and follows years of RMTC sponsored and international research which was funded in part by the MTHA. These medications will each have a specific published restricted administration time and uniform laboratory detection level which, when combined, will enable the therapeutic treatment of the horse while ensuring that no pharmacologically significant residue of the medication will be

present in the horse during a race. The presence of these and any other medication or drug in a sample collected from a horse will be strictly prohibited.

The 24 Controlled Therapeutic Substances are: Acepromazine, Betamethasone, Butorphanol, Clenbuterol, Dantrolene, Dexamethasone, Diclofenac, DMSO, Firocoxib, Flunixin, Furosemide, Glycopyrrolate, Ketoprofen, Lidocaine, Mepivacaine, Methocarbamol, Methylprednisolone, Omeprazole, Phenylbutazone, Prednisolone, Procaine Penicillin, Triamcinolone acetonide and Xylazine.

Under the Program, furosemide (Salix®) will be the only medication permitted to be administered to a racehorse on race day. The regulators in the participating states have agreed to implement strict controls on the administration of this medication, including the requirement that it be administered uniformly and only by Commission designees.

Additionally, the administration of clenbuterol will not be permitted within 14 days of a race. The intra-articular administration of a corticosteroid will not be permitted within seven days of a race. In this regard, horsemen and veterinarians will be strongly warned cautioned the use of methylprednisolone acetate (DepoMedrol®) within 21 days of a race. The systemic administration of a corticosteroid will not be permitted within 72 hours of a race.

For the first time in the regulation of racing, the testing laboratories of the participating states will uniformly test for these substances utilizing the same state-of-the-art technology and levels of detection. Horsemen can be assured that drug testing will be uniform from state to state and tied to the

Continued on page 3...

MTHA Golf Tournament



**Monday,
April 22, 2013**

Entry Fee \$60 Per Person Includes:

- **18 Hole Tournament with Cart**
- **Two Drink Coupons with Prizes**
- **Team Awards: 1st: \$250, 2nd: \$150, 3rd: \$100**
- **Two \$50 Closest to the Pin Awards (closest to the wire)**
- **One \$50 Longest Drive Award (fastest out of the gate)**
- **Drawing for Orioles and BaySox tickets**

**Walden
Country Club**

**177 Riedel Rd., Crofton, MD 21114
Call Dan Mangum to Register
at 410-802-5798**



Calendar

Live Racing:

Pimlico April 4-June 8



Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Auctions:

Two-Year-Olds in Training May 20-21
Eastern Fall Yearlings Sept. 30
December Mixed Sale Dec. 2

Out of State Auctions:

Keeneland Two-Year-Olds in Training,
Lexington, KY (800) 456-3412... April 8
Ocala Breeders' Sales Company Spring
Sale of Two Year Olds In Training,
Ocala, FL (352) 237-2154..... April 22-25



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The Horsemen's Newsletter
reports on issues and events
of interest to owners and trainers
in Maryland.

Board Actions



MTHA Phone Conference Meeting – March 19, 2013

Members present: Dale Capuano, vice-president, W. Robert Bailes, Howard M. Bender, Christine E. Bricker, Linda S. Gaudet, H. Neil Glasser, Arnold A. Heft, Richard J. Hoffberger, Michael F. Horning, R. Larry Johnson, Timothy L. Keefe, Lawrence E. Murray and Katharine M. Voss.

Claiming Rules - 25% Raise

The Board supported by a vote of 9 to 4 the recommendation of Maryland Racing Commission and Maryland Jockey Club to amend Maryland claiming rules to state: For a period of thirty (30) days after a claim, any claimed horse shall not race in a claiming race unless it is entered for at least 25% more than the price for which it was claimed.

Voting in favor was: Mr. Bender, Ms. Bricker, Mrs. Gaudet, Mr. Heft, Mr. Horning, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Keefe, Mr. Murray and Ms. Voss.

Voting against was: Mr. Bailes, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Glasser and Mr. Hoffberger.

Voiding of Claims

The Board unanimously supported, in concept, the MRC recommendation to void claims in the event that a claimed horse dies during a race or is euthanized on the track following a race pending further discussion and input from the MTHA Board of Directors before implementation.

Medication Reforms

The Board unanimously supported recommending to the Maryland Racing Commission that it not implement the prohibition on adjunct bleeder medications before the Laurel Park 2013 Fall Meet to allow horsemen time to adapt to this change."



Rec Report

*From Dan Mangum,
MTHA Recreation Director*

Softball Leagues

We are still organizing for our spring and summer softball leagues. Anyone wanting to enter a team or any individual who wants to play, please call Dan at (410) 802-5798.

Games will be played on off-days in the evenings at 6:00 p.m. at Bob Griffith Field.

Gold Cup Soccer Tickets at M&T Bank Stadium

The MTHA has secured a block of tickets to the CONCACAF Gold Cup Quarterfinals at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, on Sunday, July 21st 4PM.

Look for details about a ticket raffle in the track kitchens to be announced soon.

Texas Hold'em

Winner of the Texas Hold'em Tournament on March 5th was Tony Aquirre, second was Sam Davis and third was Jay Libertini.

Basketball

The winner of the MTHA Basketball League at Meade High School was J.D. Brown's sponsored Falcons who defeated The Bombers of J.C. Harrington 84-71 in the Championship Game. A great time was had by all participants.

Donations

The following generous people made donations: J.D. Brown, Gene Gilhooley, James Redding, Denise McNiff, Bobby Lillis and Joe Fonte. Thanks to all for their generosity.



Orioles and BaySox tickets have arrived.
Check the Laurel and Bowie track kitch-
ens for raffle sign up information.

Tickets include a parking pass.





New Program Funds Equine Retirement & Purse Protection Activities

The Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Board of Directors recently approved a new program titled the Maryland Purse Protection and Retirement Program. This new program is was created to provide an ongoing mechanism to fund Thoroughbred retirement initiatives, and to help preserve and promote Maryland racing by funding the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Political Action Committee (PAC).

The MTHA has designed the program to uniquely address Maryland horsemen calls to fund equine aftercare programs, while incorporating the best attributes from similar programs across the country.

The specifics of the program include an optional \$10 deduction from owner's Horsemen's Account for each horse that starts a race in Maryland. The \$10 deduction will be specifically allocated for the funding of Thoroughbred retirement

programs (\$6) and the Thoroughbred Horsemen's PAC (\$4).

To offset this deduction for starters finishing beyond sixth place, Bonus Awards for participants will receive a \$10 increase to \$110 total.

The Maryland Purse Protection and Retirement Program will begin April 4th, opening day of the 2013 Pimlico meet.

The MTHA will distribute funds from the program to equine retirement facilities based in Maryland. An application and screening process is currently being developed for non-profits seeking funding from this program. Details will be made available within a few months time.

Owners may opt-out of this program by filling out a form available in the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Racetrack Office any live race day between 9 AM and 4 PM.

Continued from page 1

uniform standards that have been established. To ensure that the laboratories will be working uniformly and to the highest standard, each participating state has committed its laboratory to accreditation to the newly enacted RMTC Code of Standards for Drug Testing Laboratories. The RMTC Code requires laboratories conducting drug testing of equine samples to adhere to even stricter requirements than those mandated by the international drug testing standards currently in place, because it is specifically tailored to laboratories conducting equine drug testing. These laboratories will also begin participation in the RMTC's External Quality Assurance Program as a condition of accreditation. For the past several years, the MTHA has urged the Maryland Racing Commission to get its laboratory accredited or move the testing to an accredited laboratory. Maryland's participation in the Program will require the Commission to meet this requirement, and it has pledged to do so as soon as practicable.

Each participating state will be required to amend its current rules and procedures or enact new or additional statutes, depending upon how medication is regulated in the respective state. Because of the dissimilar requirements from state to state and the need for uniform implementation, regulators have agreed to begin the adoption process immediately following the RMTC and ARCI Board approval of the Controlled Therapeutic Substances list, and have agreed to a uniform implementation date of January 1, 2014. The regulators have pledged to work with the horsemen and veterinarians to ensure compliance when implementation occurs. In addition, work is ongoing on a new penalty system that will discourage initial and repeat violations and identify repeat offenders who fail to comply with medication regulations.

The THA has historically taken a leadership role on these issues. This Program is about the safety and welfare of our horses and the integrity of our sport. Following the recommendations of the New York Task Force on Racehorse Health and Safety and the recent completion of years of scientific research by the RMTC, a unique opportunity for uniformity in medication regulation and testing arose. I am proud that the THA Member organizations seized the opportunity and led the effort at uniformity", said Alan Foreman, Chairman and CEO of the THA.

Speaking on behalf of the regulators, Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission Chairman Duncan Patterson, who is also the current Chairman of ARCI, said, "This is indeed a historic moment for racing and long overdue. It demonstrates that the racing industry has the means and wherewithal to join together to protect the integrity of our sport and the welfare of our horses. We will urge all racing jurisdictions outside the region to immediately join in this effort so that we can achieve long-elusive national medication and drug testing uniformity."



Reminders

Free Tax Assistance

The MHAF is providing FREE HELP preparing backstretch worker's EZ Form tax returns. Call Bill Borchardt at (301) 776-0404 for information.

Injured Jockeys

Jockeys injured during a race at Laurel Park or Pimlico are reminded to see Diana Pinones first in the MTHA Office for help starting a Worker's Compensation claim.

If a rider injury is non-race related, please contact your employer at the time of the accident for Worker's Compensation insurance information.

No Parking

Horsemen are reminded that there is NO PARKING in between the barns at Pimlico.

Backstretch Health Center

Dr. Harry M. Harris continues to see patients during the Pimlico meet at the track kitchen building at Laurel Park on a first-come, first-served basis, on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

Doc Harris will also be available at the Pimlico First Aid Room on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Care is FREE OF CHARGE to all backstretch workers and their families.

MTHA Office Schedule

The MTHA race track office is open on live race days during the Pimlico meet from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. The office is located above the former Pimlico track kitchen.

Call Diana Pinones at (410) 578-4464 for more information.

Backstretch Pension Plan Registration

Pension Plan Registration for the year ended 2012 will take place at the following times and locations.

Bring your MRC Badge and W2, 1099, or tax return for 2012. For more information call the MTHA office at (410) 902-6842.

April 1 through April 5

Laurel Track Kitchen,
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

April 8 through April 12

Pimlico MTHA Office, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



April 15 through April 19

Bowie Track Kitchen, Office Next Door, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

April 22 through April 26

Laurel Track Kitchen,
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

April 29 through May 3

Pimlico MTHA Office, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Failure to register will result in the loss of your 2012 benefit



MTHA

500 Redland Ct. - Suite 105
Owings Mills, MD 21117

April 2013

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Thoughts & Comments

Springtime in Maryland means many things, racing at Pimlico, the Preakness and Black-Eyed Susan Stakes as well as sign-up time for the MTHA's Backstretch Pension Plan.

You won't find a better deal than this one. It comes absolutely free to all licensed backstretch employees—trainers, assistant trainers, stable foremen, exercise riders, grooms and hotwalkers. All you have to do is sign up.

Trainers: Make sure your employees are aware of this program.

Registration is easy, and a representative is always available to help you through the process.

Just be sure to bring the necessary forms: your Maryland Racing Commission Badge and either a W-2, 1099, or tax return for 2012.

The Pension Plan was one of the first—and most important—projects the MTHA launched after this organization was founded in 1986 and this year the contribution has increased significantly so there's no better time to sign up.

Timothy L. Keefe, MTHA Director and Health and Welfare Committee Chairman

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