



Individual Highlights:

2007 Awards Banquet

Horse Racing
Strategic Review

2007 Election

President's Message

The Ontario Racing Commission has reported that significant progress has been made in a comprehensive review and restructuring of the Horse Improvement Program.

Foremost in the minds of the Advisory Group was the need to return the program to its roots as a breed development program that rewards excellence and further increases economic benefit to the Province of Ontario.

To develop these goals and objectives for the Horse Improvement Program the following priority goals were identified:

- ✦ Strengthen the quality (and size) of the Ontario broodmare band to support a strong market for Ontario stallions and profitable markets for offspring of Ontario breeding programs.
- ✦ Encourage an expanded fan base and enhance wagering.
- ✦ Encourage investment in the Ontario industry

The Advisory Group recognized that the current revenue model, which funds the Horse Improvement Program, is not sufficiently stable to meet the above objectives. It is highly dependant on wagering which is on a downward trend. The Advisory Group

identified as the #1 recommendation that a new stable funding model be developed to meet those objectives. Until such time the Advisory Group recommended that a short term planning model be considered for re-structuring the Standardbred program.

It would include enhancements to the very successful Ontario Sires Stakes program and a substantial Breeders Awards program. The major recommended enhancements are:

- ✦ A new mare residency program as a foundation for the Breeders Awards Program. A Registered Ontario-Bred will be defined as a horse "foaled in Ontario out of an Ontario Resident Mare".
- ✦ Breeders Awards equivalent to 15% of Ontario Sires Stakes purses [\$3.5 Million annually] would start in 2008. During 2008-2010 Ontario breeders would receive premium Awards. Starting in 2011 only Registered Ontario-breds would be eligible for Breeders Awards.
- ✦ Gold Finals worth \$175,000
- ✦ Gold Eliminations worth \$40,000 guaranteed
- ✦ NEW Gold Consolations worth \$40,000 guaranteed
- ✦ Grassroots Division worth \$20,000 minimum guaranteed

The ORC Governing Board is cognizant of the issues and problems of the breeding industry and is committed to a healthy breeding sector which is considered a core requirement to the sustainability of the Ontario racing industry.

The approval process is underway and here is the current status:

- ✦ The ORC Governing Board has received the recommendations from the Advisory Group
- ✦ Copies of the final recommendations were sent mid-October to executives and board members of the various industry associations for their review.
- ✦ All associations are expected to submit written submissions and comments to the ORC by Friday, November 16, 2007
- ✦ A Public Forum will be held by the ORC Governing Board on Tuesday, November 27, 2007
- ✦ The ORC will hold a Board meeting by mid December to consider all the recommendations and other input and comments.

Horse Racing Strategic Review

This past summer, the Ontario Government announced it had appointed a three person Panel, chaired by Mr. Stanley Sadinsky, to conduct a broad strategic review of the horse racing industry within Ontario. The Panel has asked horse racing industry participants to provide written and oral submissions as an important component of its industry review.

In this regard, the SBOA filed a written brief to the Panel in mid September and the SBOA Board has been asked by the Panel to meet for further discussions in early November.

As this Panel will receive a number of submissions from various industry organizations and individuals, the SBOA focused its written brief on four major areas of direct concern to the breeding sector and the SBOA. Briefly, these can be summarized as follows:

- ✦ At the time slot revenues became available to racing, there was no specific direct funding allocated to the breeding industry. It was felt breeders would benefit from the “trickle down” effect of increased purse revenues resulting in horses generally becoming more valuable. This simply hasn’t worked. Therefore we asked the Panel to
- ✦ endorse the need to recognize a larger portion of total purse funding needs to be paid directly into the Horse Improvement Program (HIP) and this increased funding be used to support Ontario bred racing and Ontario breeders awards rewarding excellence. HIP funding needs to be stable and growing. It should be approximately 20% of the total slot revenues, across the Province, devoted to purse monies.
- ✦ The regulatory framework for the racing industry needs to be reexamined and perhaps changed. The SBOA suggests some modifications to the bylaws of the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association (OHRIA) to allow constructive consensus to occur and the industry to speak with “one voice”. Perhaps it’s time to allow a reconstituted OHRIA to directly participate in Ontario Racing Commission appointments and the overall direction of the ORC. It has been several years since the Government established direct industry funding for the ORC and with the proper safeguards of integrity, its time for the industry to play a more active direct role in its own regulation.
- ✦ We urged the Panel to attach the highest priority to take whatever steps it can to ensure absolute integrity in our racing product. As breeders, we deplore the apparent proliferation of non therapeutic drugs being deployed by a few individuals. The SBOA asked the Panel to advocate stronger penalties for offenders including owners being held responsible for the actions of their trainers.
- ✦ The SBOA asked the panel to review and comment on the current level, effectiveness and equity of organizational funding for OHHA out of purse accounts. While we recognize and support that a significant portion of these funds are horsemen pension related, operational funding of virtually all other industry groups is through membership dues and independent fund raising.

The deliberations and ultimate report of this Panel to the Ontario Government will have a substantial influence on the future directions of the horse industry. The SBOA is committed to actively participate in the Panel’s review process.

SBOA Banquet and Awards Ceremony

Annual Awards Banquet

January 19, 2008

at the Country Heritage Park, Milton Ontario

Cost: \$60.00/person

An outstanding cuisine, a Silent Auction, and the popular Stallion Service Auction will once again be offered.

Tickets may be purchased by contacting a Director.

2008 SBOA Election

The SBOA Board is comprised of twelve members and, to ensure continuity, four directors are elected every year for a three-year term. In turn, the Officers of the Board are elected by the Directors at the first meeting following the election. There are monthly

meetings held the second Wednesday of every month. In order to be eligible to run for the position of director, you must be a voting member in good standing with the SBOA. This year Larry Morrison, Dr. Brett Anderson, Anna Demarchi-Meyers and Dan Boers

all complete their three year terms. While one or more of these individuals may stand for re-election, the nomination form follows for your consideration. It outlines the election procedure and timing.

STANDARD BRED BREEDERS OF ONTARIO ASSOCIATION PO BOX 580, Campbellville Ontario L0P 1B0

Nomination Form – Election of Directors Term – Three Years

We, the undersigned, respectfully submit the name of:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Business Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

We, the undersigned, certify that each of us is a member in good standing and are entitled to vote at the election.

NOTE:

- There are three Directorships open
- All nominations require six signatures (improper or insufficient signore may invalidate nomination)
- Each Nominee must co-sign in agreement to validate this nomination

Nominations must be received by the Association, Box 580, Campbellville Ontario L0P 1B0 no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 1, 2007.

Name (please print)	Signature
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

I, the undersigned, accept the nomination. I certify that I am a member in good standing of the Standardbred Breeders Association of Ontario.

Signed this _____ day of _____ 2007.

Signature of Nominee

This form may be copied to nominate more than one Director.

President's Message

Hello Fellow Breeders,

I am sure many of you are busy with the yearling Sales and preliminary reports indicate that the sales are up and that there seems to be a renewed "excitement" around the sales. This is very exciting news and let us hope this trend continues.

The board of the SBOA has been very busy with several important initiatives, most notably the HIP Review. Months of meetings and discussions have gone into the HIP Review process and the SBOA has played a key role in bringing to the table issues directly impacting the breeding sector. The process is still ongoing, however, we are confident changes will be made to the program that will directly benefit the breeding sector and the industry as a whole.

We have been successful in putting together another new owners syndicate for this season thus introducing another nine new owners to the sport. A special thank you to Jim Bullock and Tammy McNiven who spend countless hours ensuring that this very important endeavour remains a success.

Planning for the January 19, 2008 SBOA Banquet and Awards ceremony is underway and is sure to be an even bigger success than last year.

Wishing everyone a successful year and hope to see you at our Banquet.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brett C. Anderson
SBOA President

Who we are...

The SBOA endeavours to maintain and improve the racing program for Ontario's breeders through representation on various committees and boards including the Ontario Sires Stakes Publicity & Promotion Committee, the Standardbred Review Committee, the Horse Improvement Program and as the Breeders' representative on the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association Board of Directors (OHRIA).

2007 SBOA Directors

	Home	Business	Fax
Brett Anderson	905-885-0934	905-885-9577	
Dan Boers	519-761-0266		
Jim Bullock	905-681-9119	905-854-9991	905-854-0650
Anna Demarchi-Meyers	519-822-8999	519-855-9898	519-826-9996
Larry Drysdale	519-940-8582	905-838-2145	905-838-3814
Ken Grant	519-443 -4912		519-443-5827
David Heffering		905-985-7770	905-985-7440
Tammy McNiven	519-475-4276		519-475-6551
Larry Morrison	905-729-4122	416-417-3447	905-729-0410
Walter Parkinson	519-461-9061	519-227-4294	519-227-1366
Laurie Poole	519-678-3637		519-678-3637
Harry Rutherford	519-484-2929	519-484-2929	519-484-2928

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