

# **The Buckeye Harness Horseman**



**November 2015  
Volume 45, Number 4**

# The Buckeye Harness Horseman

The Official Publication of the  
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association

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### Cover photo:

Real Hanover at New Vocations.

Photo by S.F. Johnson Photos

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# From Your Executive Director

Renée Mancino



## Preferences and Condition Restrictions

Ohio has two Administrative Code provisions that provide the minimum guidelines for sorting and drawing horses into overnight races when there are too many in the box for one condition, Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) §§ 3769-15-30 and 15-31. This system is commonly referred to as, “Preferences”.

## Preferences

The pertinent portion of those Preferences provisions follows. O.A.C. § 3769-15-30(I) Declaration to start and drawing horses says, “For all overnight events, starters and also eligibles shall be drawn by lot from those properly declared in, except that a race secretary must establish a preference system for races as not more than one conditioned race per day may be divided into not more than two divisions after preference has been applied and the divisions may be selected by the race secretary.”

O.A.C. § 3769-15-31(B) Preference, provides “Preference shall be given in all overnight events according to a horse’s last previous purse race during the current year. The “preference date” on a horse that has drawn to race and had been scratched is the date of the race from which he was scratched.”

When the VLT Racino legislation was enacted in June 2012, relying upon § 3769-15-30(I) that a race secretary must establish a preference system for races, the OHHA Board of Directors considered, debated, and decided upon a, “Preference System”, that would be pursued throughout contract negotiations and applied by Race Secretaries as provided for under that code provision. The goal was statewide uniformity for standard-bred racing with the system mandated and referred to in § 3769-15-30, for all the Final Agreements being negotiated.

In all Horsemen’s Agreements executed since the adoption of a Preference

System by the OHHA Board, the Permit Holders have agreed to effectively the following Preferences provision:

Except for stake races, throughout the term of this Agreement, if more horses are entered in a race than can be accommodated, preferences in drawing horses into the race shall be given in accordance with the system of preferences adopted by the OHHA, as such system may be revised from time to time. As of the Effective Date those preferences are as follows: first, to horses sired by stallions that were registered for breeding in Ohio at the time of conception of such race horses; second, to horses that are trained by Ohio-resident trainers who have supported Ohio racing during the preceding two calendar years (with such residency established by the holding of an Ohio driver’s license); and third, to horses that are owned exclusively by residents of Ohio.

There are some minor deviations with this contractual provision at Northfield Park, where there is a preference for longtime Ohio Resident Trainers stabled at Northfield Park, but those minor deviations end December 31, 2015.

Each Horseman’s Agreement also includes a provision that the OHHA has the ability to change the preferences at the OHHA Board’s discretion and to promptly notify Permit Holder for implementation if the preferences are changed in the future. Since January 2014 when the first Horsemen’s Agreement was Final at Scioto Downs, the provision above has appeared in and been provided to the Racing Commission after execution on each subsequent Agreement. The intent of the OHHA in drafting this provision was that date referenced in § 3769-15-31 would be applied after the Contractual Preferences created pursuant to § 3769-15-30. At the Fairs where the OHHA does not have a Horsemen’s

Agreement, date preference applies to overnights, the minimum required by the State Code. That occurs if the Fair had applied for and given a waiver on § 3769-15-31(2) to sort and eliminate horses entered from the draw.

## Restricted Conditions:

Prior to VLT enactment in Ohio in 2012, Ohioan’s opportunities to race in neighboring gaming enhanced states within reasonable shipping distance were severely constrained due to those other states implementing Restricted Conditions. The restricted conditions and actions in neighboring states served to exclude out-of-state participants. In Pennsylvania they implemented Pennsylvania Sired or Owned only condition restrictions, and at the Meadows a Committee had to pre-approve any out-of-state horses to race there before they could enter the box to race. In Indiana their conditions were restricted to Indiana Sired Preferred.

In Ohio the O.A.C. provides that restricted conditions can be put into place by race offices, under O.A.C. 3769-15-01, racing secretary. “The racing secretary shall prepare the books or sheets of conditions for the races to be contested during the meeting and he/she and his/her assistants shall take entries for all races.” With this provision and historical precedence with the Thoroughbreds in Ohio, restrictions can be placed on conditions for Ohio Sired and Owned horses.

**Ohio State Racing Commission Directive 10-2-2015** (available for download at the OHHA Website)

October 2, 2015 the Ohio State Racing Commission issued a Directive in their words in part because, “it has been brought to my attention that permit

holders may need some clarity on rule 3769-15-31(B)". In the Directive they said, "date preference cannot be superseded by any other preference established by the permit holder." That Directive solely and completely references 3769-15-31(B) to say that dates must be applied first before contractually agreed-to preferences. The Directive made no reference whatsoever to O.A.C. § 3769-15-30(I) and, "the race secretary must establish a preference system for races."

Immediately upon being notified October 2nd, the OHHA contacted the Racing Commission and attended a meeting October 8th providing this information and more (i.e., the fact that one permit holder reads the State Code to permit them to triple date before applying contractual preferences) to the Racing Commission and their Assistant Attorney General. The Racing Commission represented that they have no preference for how the code should be applied, they are tasked with enforcing the code and contractual provisions cannot supersede the State Code. They further opined that O.A.C. §§ 3769-15-30 and 15-31 would need to be amended to reflect the OHHA's interpretation in light of the OSRC's Directive Position. The Racing Commission also said the use of Condition Restrictions was not prohibited under the State Code, and set forth historical precedence in the Ohio Thoroughbred industry as permitting them.

In response to that meeting, the OHHA submitted two different proposed rules amendments. During the October 8th meeting they provided a revision to both §§ 3769-15-30 and 15-31. October 9th a second revision eliminating § 3769-15-30, and amending and incorporating the necessary provisions into § 3769-15-31 was provided.

As applied the October 2nd Directive effected contractual preferences that were painstakingly researched, voted on, and uniformly put into place by the OHHA over the last two years in three final Horsemen's Agreements, and one final ratified Two-Party Agreement for 2015. Effectively the Directive results in all out-

of-state horses entered on a level playing field with Ohio Sired, Ohio Owned, and Ohio Horsemen by permitting the application of date before contractual preferences.

As applied this also resulted in the OHHA having to scramble to re-work a system to put Ohio based restrictions into place for some modicum of protection for Ohio Sired and Owned horses. This included a re-negotiation on the last remaining Horsemen's Agreement (which was effectively final), re-negotiation on a final and ratified Two-Party Agreement with Miami Valley Raceway for 2015, and pending Two-Party Agreement with Scioto Downs.

At that time the OHHA approached the permit holders to have them apply Condition Restrictions. The pending Final Agreement was re-worked in its entirety on that provision to include Condition Restrictions and the Scioto Downs and Miami Valley Two-Party Agreements were re-negotiated to include Condition Restrictions. The Restricted Conditions currently in place provide for Ohio-sired and/or Ohio-owned (the "Ohio-restricted conditions") which will apply. The OHHA was able to place these condition restrictions in place on a very short timeframe due to an high degree of cooperation with the Permit Holders, but at this time they will not apply to all conditions at all racetracks. Watch the condition sheets at each respective racetrack for the races each permit holder has agreed to apply Ohio based restrictions to. In the meantime the OHHA will proceed on the State Code Rule Amendment. An Amendment will take approximately four to six months to effectuate without opposition. During that time the OHHA will continue to provide details and update the membership as this issue progresses, while continuing to monitor and adjust the Restricted Conditions as necessary.

## October Ohio Racing Commission Meeting Recap

*from Tuesday, October 27, 2015*

In normal business, the Executive Director's Report items included two with Northfield Park. Northfield Park applied to move Thursday evening live race cards to Sunday evening. Moving, October 22nd to November 1st, October 29th to November 8th, November 5th to November 15th, November 12th to November 22nd, November 19th to November 29th, December 3rd to December 6th, December 10th to December 13th, and December 17th to December 20th. The second item concerned the Racing Commission's Executive Director's October 14, 2015 Response to Northfield Park's Formal Objection over the OHHA's Belmont Stakes Full Card Special Event denial. In the response, to qualify for special racing event status, Northfield has the burden to demonstrate all of the following elements for each individual race (1) the customary and regular fee for simulcast races, (2) the fee for an individual race in the proposed special racing event simulcast was higher than the customary and regular fee for simulcast races, and (3) the higher fee was based on the status or popularity of the individual races. *Heartland Jockey Club, Ltd v. Ohio State Racing Comm'n, 2002 WL 31894943 (2002)*. The Racing Commission set forth that unless all the races on a card being requested passed all elements of the above test they did not qualify for special event status to be expensed out at a higher special event rate. In the case of Belmont Day that eliminated any race not a Grade III with a \$300,000 purse or higher. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified both items.

The final two Permit Holders' applications and information on 2016 Race Dates were ratified and approved. Hollywood at Dayton requested 75 live racing days. Scioto Downs requested 90 live racing days. The Racing Commission issued a mandate at the September meeting that there be no overlap in the southern half of the state between the Hollywood at Dayton, Miami Valley, and Scioto Downs live schedules. In September's Commission meeting overlap was disclosed in the applications for Dayton, and Scioto Downs, which carried over their approvals to this month's meeting. Scioto Downs and the OHHA negotiated over their reduction in dates below the R.C. 3769.089(B)(2) minimum and entered into a Two-party Agreement, which was finalized

***continued on page 6***

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## Commission Meeting continued from page 5

October 22, 2015 and submitted to the Racing Commission shortly thereafter for review. At the Commission hearing that two-party was ratified and Scioto Downs' dates were finalized. The Scioto Downs schedule will run 90 live days from Tuesday, May 10, 2016 to September 10, 2016. The regular schedule runs Tuesday through Saturdays with post times on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. and evening post times at 6:00 p.m. with a Monday July 4th live 2:00 p.m. afternoon card. With Scioto Downs planning to continue their summer concert series in 2016, one Friday night a month's live racing is moved to the Monday during that week with a 2:00 p.m. post, that includes Monday, May 30th, June 20th, July 18th, August 15th, and September 5th. With the overlap removed, Dayton Raceway was approved for 75 live days (which is their statutory minimum necessitating no two-party). Their schedule runs from Monday, September 12, 2016 to Friday, December 30, 2016, Live cards on Monday, and Wednesday through Saturday evenings 6:05 p.m. post time. They have two minor deviations from that basic schedule. They will be dark for the week of the Delaware County Fair, Sunday, September 18th to the 22nd with racing returning on Friday the 23rd of that week and Tuesday November 22, 2016 swapping that day to be dark on Thanksgiving Day.

The Racing Commission also approved Resolution 2015-12 a VLT Discretionary Money allocation request which included: (A) \$50,000 for Richards Communications, which is the initial money for a full-service marketing and communications agency to initiate the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association's marketing plans; (B) \$500,000 to Harness Horsemen's Health and Retirement, Inc., money for administration and distribution to the Horsemen's Retirement plan; and (C) \$10,000 to support a Capital Improvements Partnership Expenditure with Miami Valley Raceway to consist of an outside covered awning for race bikes and jog carts. In the monthly status update on Permit Holder and Horsemen's Agreement Negotiations, the Racing Commission represented that Belterra Park and the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (OHBPA) continue to request that the Racing Commission set the rate for the R.C. § 3769.087, 9-11% revenue share lottery commission division and no further progress has been made towards agreement. The Racing Commission set forth that the

various governmental agencies with authority over that issue are considering what direction to take on the issue.

The OHHA and Penn Gaming provided an update on the Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway Agreement negotiations. The Parties represented that a Final 10-year Agreement was reached on October 23rd and final signature occurred October 25, 2015. A final, signed copy of the Horsemen's Agreement was provided to the Racing Commission in conjunction with the update.

An update on the horse racing fatalities was provided for October, the Thoroughbred fatalities were 5 at ThistleDowns, no fatalities at Belterra, and no Standardbred fatalities. The year to date totals are, 25 thoroughbred fatalities and 7 standardbred fatalities, for a total of 32 fatalities statewide. Comparing from 2014, which was 47, the number is lower.

The final matter heard was the appeal of Trainer John Wedge III on two Phenylbutazone ("bute") overages. As the Trainer of Record Mr. Wedge had two charges for excessive Phenylbutazone in post-race samples from two winning horses on April 25, 2015 in the 6th and 8th races. On that date the 6th race overage was recorded as 4.4 micrograms per milliliter or twice the legal limit, and the eighth race-recorded overage was 10.3 micrograms per milliliter or five times the legal limit. The ruling was made on June 12, 2015, which Mr. Wedge appealed, requesting a split sample test. The split sample test was sent to the University of California Davis for testing, the split re-test confirmed the Ohio lab's findings. Mr. Wedge received notice of the appeal hearing, but did not appear at the hearing. The Hearing Officer recommended a \$250 fine for the first offense in the 6th race and a \$1,000 fine and return of the purse for the second offense. The Racing Commission moved to approve the Hearing Officer's recommendations. In lieu of voting to ratify the recommendation the Racing Commission adjourned to an Executive Session.

Upon the conclusion of the Executive Session there would be no further business so the Motion and Vote was taken to adjourn into Executive Session and conclude the meeting.

For a transcript of the meeting contact the State Racing Commission. The next scheduled Racing Commission meeting date has not yet been set, but will be held at the Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Columbus, Ohio.

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# Ohio Track Updates

## Northfield Park Review

Ayers Ratliff

November begins a change in Northfield Park's racing schedule to five nights per week (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) with a 6:00 p.m. first race post time.

Congratulations to Tabitha Canarr for winning the Pace for the Cure on Friday, October 16. The race was a huge success and will be expanded into an even larger event next year. Northfield horsemen did a fantastic job of dressing their horses in pink and helped to promote the race on social media.

The Ghost of Northfield Pace was the other novelty race scheduled in October at the Flying Turns. The race will feature nine gray horses and will be raced on Halloween night (the race has not happened at time of this writing but will be over by publication time).

Ronnie Wrenn Jr continues to lead in the local driving ranks. As of the time of this writing, Wrenn has posted 517 wins so far this year and has local purse earnings of \$2,447,178 over the Flying Turns. Following Ronnie is Aaron Merriman (436, \$2,269,481), Jason Merriman (217, \$1,329,733), Ryan Stahl (169, \$1,035,997) and Kurt Sugg (158, \$1,145,349).

Brian Loney has scored the most training wins so far this year. He has 107 victories to his credit and leads Sam Schillaci (69), Michael Dowdall (63), Jessica Millner (57) and John Kina (53).

The race for the National Dash Title has become extremely heated with two months left in the year. George Napolitano Jr. has narrowly passed Aaron Merriman and Ronnie Wrenn Jr. Napolitano has 699 wins so far in 2015. Merriman has posted 691 and Wrenn has 663 wins to his credit. Northfield wishes the best to Merriman and Wrenn as they chase this title and keep it in the Buckeye State.

November 27 will be the Courageous Lady at Northfield Park. The race is a Grand Circuit event for the top three year-old filly pacers in North America. The Northfield race office is also writing claiming series to be raced this winter.



Northfield Park's Pace for the Cure, October 16, 2015, Photos by JJ Zamaiko.

**Special Thank You to Northfield Park for Hosting "Pace for the Cure"** as part of their Pinktober Campaign! "The Pace for the Cure" featured all lady drivers. Northfield Park generously donated flowers and a buffet for two to each of the lady drivers. A special thank you to the ladies as well for their donation to Northfield Park's Pinktober Campaign, an event that Northfield Park holds every day in October to support local cancer fighting efforts, with money being raised to benefit the Susan G. Komen Northeast Ohio.

*Photo by Emily Hay*



## Hollywood at Dayton Raceway Hosts the 2015 Ohio Fairs Championship Races

Regina Mayhugh

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association (OHHA) and Hollywood at Dayton Raceway celebrated the completion of the Ohio fair racing season with eight final fair championship races on October 1. The evening began with a social pre-party as horsemen and others involved in fair racing prepared for an evening of cheering and celebrating the eight Ohio Fairs Championship races.

Throughout the summer, these champions raced and accumulated points to make them eligible for the finals. There were 545 horses originally nominated in for the Ohio Fairs Championship. Once horses were entered, the top nine were determined for each class by their number of points. T-shirts were designed and distributed to those entered into the races. Each race winner also took home an engraved glass trophy and satin blanket. The purse amount for each race was \$15,000.

It was a nice evening enjoyed by many. OHHA would like to send out a special Thank You to Hollywood at Dayton Raceway for making the event possible! We are looking forward to the 2016 Ohio Fairs Season!



# 2015 Ohio Fair Championships Winners



Dr: Chris Page

Tr: Steve Carter

2CP **Canada's Bakin** 1:56.2



Dr: Kayne Kauffman

Tr: Mark Winters Sr.

2FP **Naked By Nine** 1:57.3



Dr: Kyle Ater

Tr: Jim Mulinix

2CT **Need A Winner** 2:01.2



Dr: Roy Burns

Tr: Ronald Wulber

2FT **Dominating Dora** 2:02.3



Dr: Kurt Sugg

Tr: Kurt Sugg

3CP **Nobles Finesse** 1:56.2



Dr: Jason Thompson

Tr: Joseph Kramp

3FP **Ut Oh Spakiddio** 1:57.3



Dr: Christ Hershberger

Tr: Christ Hershberger

3CT **Jojo's Journey** 1:59.2



Dr: Jason Thompson

Tr: Dee Holton

3FT **Lofty Chip** 1:59.2

# County Fair Memories in the Buckeye State

Regina Mayhugh

As the fall leaves drop, it is hard to believe we are into another season here in Ohio and that autumn has reached us. Autumn brings pumpkins, colorful trees and the end of fair racing for the year here in the Buckeye State. This summer, sixty-five counties have hosted fair racing for Ohio horsemen and the fans. While this is a great number, there is always the hope we can expand this even more.

Each fair traveled has its own unique experiences and something of its own to offer. Some fairs are known for their rich agricultural heritage and displays while others are more urban based and present different experiences. Regardless of each fair's specialty, people love to go to the fair and be entertained, which is exactly why the presence of harness racing is so important.

To many horsemen, county fair harness racing is an important aspect of the business and to others it is family time. Many spend the entire summer traveling the state to showcase their horses. This is a great way to experience the fair culture in all corners of the Buckeye state and experience the uniqueness that each one brings.

These unique experiences can leave impressions in horsemen's minds when you ask them to name their favorite fair traveled. Washington Courthouse's Lisa Schwartz's favorite fairs are Darke and Fairfield. "Darke County is like an old fashioned fair with lots of agricultural entries and lots of harness racing while Fairfield County is an old historic fairgrounds with tons of cool buildings and has the movie connection", comments Schwartz.

For horsemen it's the racing program experience that leaves an impression when debating their favorite. Dawn Hamman, from Portage, says "Oak Harbor is probably my favorite to race at. Everything is convenient to the horsemen." Mt. Gilead horseman Jimmy Lupton comments that his favorite fairs are Delaware and Mt. Vernon. "Mt. Vernon usually has a good track, plenty of stalls and a beautiful view from the hill to watch the races. It is also close to home", states Lupton.

Horsemen are not the only ones following the fair schedule, many of the various track officials travel from fair to fair as well. Photographer Brad Conrad, Conrad Photo, comments "the thing I like about fairs is the same thing that I like about this business in general. There are so many great people in this business and the people I get to deal with at the fairs are among the best. Among my favorites are Greenville and Hartford. The fair in Greenville is so big and so well done. They have a big racing program that draws a lot of people. The Hartford fair is another good stop on my schedule. They always get a lot of comments about how nice and clean the

grounds are. You can really tell. It is a great place to visit and the racing program is good," replies Conrad.

Many times when discussing a fair, food comes up in conversation. These fairs have the ability to share not only their culture but their food as well. After a hard day of racing, many partake in the various food options the fairs have to offer before getting back on the road. One way to help make that decision of what to eat is to ask the locals what they recommend. It is interesting to see what the response will be with all the different palates. At the Darke County Fair the Farmer Brown sandwich came highly recommended and for good reason. Suanne Kochilla, of North Royalton says her favorite fair food depends on the fair. "My favorite food is individual to



Clinton County Fair, Ladies Pace

each fair; pork sandwich at Wayne County, ice cream at Knox County and fish sandwich at Stark County. I have one for just about every fair," explains Kochilla. Schwartz narrowed her favorite fairs foods down to a specific fair as well. "I am a secret corn dog hound but when it comes to the Fairfield County Fair it's all about the candy apples because their fair is at a time of year when the

vendors can get local apples that are perfectly ripe, commented Schwartz".

Conrad commented on his food favorites, "I like the small independent food stands instead of the same Italian sausage you can get everywhere. Hartford has a stand run by the athletic boosters of a local school. They have something called a Trojan Burger that is probably the best hamburger I have ever eaten. I look forward to it all year. Greenville has multiple local places. The pizza and subs under the grandstand are fabulous. Also, a sandwich called a Farmer Brown from a place in Arcanum that sets up at the fair. Pretty famous in the area, I guess, and well deserved. Finally a spot that is familiar to many who go to Delaware for the week, the stand that serves the Walleye Sandwich and the fried Bologna. I used to see them at about 4 fairs throughout the summer and always got my food there. I think they are slowing down as I only saw them at Richwood and Delaware." Hamman is more general in her statement, "My favorite food would have to be funnel cakes." For Lupton, it's about the Italian sausage.

Racing at Ohio fairs have produced many memorable moments for horsemen. Some moments have been as grand as winning the race while others are more personal moments such as getting back into fair racing and even in the bike after being out of the business a few years. Schwartz shared that her most memorable 2015 fair moment was, "When I saw Meredith Noble warming a horse up and then racing for the

first time in her dad Chip's colors. I cried."

Meredith Noble comes from a family where horse racing is a tradition and this year was a big year for her when she decided to carry on that tradition. Fair racing opened up this opportunity. Noble always planned to race with her father Chip and her brother Dan, and even after her dad's passing, she decided she still wanted to carry on the tradition. "I had planned to race with Dad and my brother. I spent a year with Dad training. After Dad passed I didn't know if I still wanted to get my license, but Dan talked to me and told me that with all the time I spent that I needed to do this for me." She recalls one day asking her father if she could someday wear his colors, "I knew he would allow me to but out of respect to him I wanted to ask, due to all of his accomplishments. When I asked, he realized I was serious." One of her most memorable moments of the 2015 fair season was the opportunity that she was able to use her dad's bike, wear his colors and continue the family tradition. Then the icing on the cake were her first wins at Eaton and Greene County, her home town. She was touched by the fans cheering as she raced through the final turn at the track that was named after her father. "I have never heard a crowd cheer like that except at the Little Brown Jug," recalls Noble.

One of Ohio's younger drivers, Kacey Burns, of Milford Center, describes her most memorable moment when she won at the Richwood Independent Fair. "I learned that winning can sometimes be a double edged sword. It was an exciting win, but after the race I saw how important it could have been for 86-year old Richard Kirby and his family. It's amazing to me how gender and age are not a factor in the harness racing industry," states Burns.

Fair racing has become even more impressive this year with such a large number of horses available to race, creating fuller fields. Some fairs seemed to have "horses everywhere" with their large turnouts. With that being the situation, even though some were chaotic, the racing went well. As with everything, there is always room for improvement. From having new people on speed committees and just having new ideas on how to run the programs, education is always needed and suggestions are always welcome.

Kochilla shares improvements that she saw this year as well as gave some suggestions. "An improved attitude from fairs toward the horsemen was evident this year. I would like to see more promotions to get folks to watch and bet on races," says Kochilla. Hamman suggests "make overnight races Ohio bred or trained preferred and have two days of racing for those who currently only race one day."

Conrad notes that there are less people running some of the services that fairs need and fair dates can be a little tight. "Scheduling can be a little tricky. It might get even worse as fairs add some days. There are only a few of us doing photos, starting gates and betting. It can get a little hairy sometimes," comments Conrad. That is something to think about, how do we not only get more people in the business as owners and more fans in the grandstand, but how do we get more people

involved in the service side of harness racing?

Burns shared her industry improvement suggestion, "exciting the fans and getting more people to fill the grandstand has to start with education. I talk to many people who have never heard of harness racing. Being young, I think the harness racing industry could have ambassadors who go out to promote and inform about the industry. They could visit agriculture



86 year old Richard Kirby and 18 year old Kacey Burns lined up together for the 8th race. Photo by Conrad Photo

programs in high schools and colleges. This is just one of many routes they could take to get the word out." Think of how this idea could benefit the industry all the way around, from creating a stronger fan base to getting more participants into the business, and all of these also contribute to increasing the job market in the industry.

One example of a new promotion this year was the Ladies Pace, which was a thrill for both fans and the ladies racing. Noble recalls how promoting women in harness racing was a special moment for her when she won at Eaton with a horse that was owned, trained and driven by a woman. Just think of how adding one more aspect to fair racing can have an impact on fan base.

Fair racing is the grassroots of the harness racing industry and it is important to continue to carry on the tradition. The industry had a nice boom at the fairs this year. The OHHA is always looking for ideas and people interested in educating others as well as people interested in helping and working the fairs. The possibilities of promotion for the harness racing industry is endless with Ohio county fair racing. We are looking forward to an even better 2016 season!



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# Standardbred Versatility on Display at 2015 World Show

## Dot Morgan

The 2015 Standardbred World Show was held October 16-18 at Eden Park Equestrian Center in Sunbury, Ohio. With over 900 entries showing from nine states and Canada, this show does a tremendous job of offering retired Standardbreds a chance to demonstrate their new skills beyond the track. Classes were offered in halter, trail, Western, English, speed racking, dressage, jumping, contesting, and driving. The show even had two International competitors that came from Israel and Africa. Ohio Standardbred and Friends put on the event that was widely sponsored by the Standardbred industry. Co-show manager, Chris Glover stated, "We could not do this without the support of our sponsors. We try to put on a show where the versatility of the Standardbred is highlighted and celebrated."

New Vocations was the main title sponsor and Executive Director Dot Morgan was especially moved by the War Horse Halter class. "Look at these warriors," Morgan said as she gazed over the 11 horses in the ring. "Each raced over 100 times and/or earned over \$100,000. They excelled at what they were bred to do. How do you pick a winner? They are all winners!" The class champion was 17-year-old Silver Match that raced 287 times over 10 consecutive years earning \$161,238. Reserve champion was 19-year-old Distinctiv Skeeter that raced 320 times over 11 consecutive years earning \$541,657. The combined earnings of the war horse entries were \$3,575,000.

Racehorse adoption programs have been promoting the versatility of the Standardbred for nearly two decades. As a result of growing awareness, there are now Standardbred show circuits in Ontario, New York, and Ohio. New Jersey holds the National Standardbred Show, and Standardbred classes have been added to shows at the Delaware Country Fair, the Maryland State Fair, and a series near Anderson, Indiana. Throughout the south, Standardbreds reign in the racking horse and roadster classes.

"This World Show attracted horses from all of these places," Morgan said. "I was especially pleased that racking horse trainer Scotty Horne brought two New Vocation adoptees from Virginia. His Western Terror mare, Guns and Roses (registered as Yoursuchasweetart), had just won at the World Racking Horse Show in Decatur, Alabama. She put on a speed racking demonstration that had everybody on their feet shouting!"

New Vocations was represented by 19 graduates, with 14 earning 1st or 2nd place awards.

### World Standardbred Show Championship Class Results

#### English Pleasure 2-Gait

**Champion:** Allamerican Legacy

**Reserve:** Distinctiv Skeeter

#### English Pleasure 3-Gait

**Champion:** Heavymetalthunder

**Reserve:** Call To Dance

#### Saddleseat 2-Gait

**Champion:** Allamerican Legacy

**Reserve:** Bella Americana

#### Gaited

**Champion:** C Me Shine

**Reserve:** Bella Americana

#### Racking

**Champion:** Guns and Roses

**Reserve:** Full Throttle

#### Halter

**Champion:** Dapper Baron Two

**Reserve:** C Me Shine

#### Driving

**Champion:** Thank You Sam

**Reserve:** Investor

#### Western Pleasure 2-Gait

**Champion:** Allamerican Legacy

**Reserve:** C Me Shine

#### Western Pleasure 3-Gait

**Champion:** Heavymetalthunder

**Reserve:** Call To Dance

### Division Champions

#### Trail - Youth

**Champion:** Contrary Motion

**Reserve:** Moonlight Arty

#### Trail - Adult

**Champion:** Heavymetalthunder

**Reserve:** Investor

#### Contesting - Youth

**Champion:** I've Got The Power

**Co-Reserve:** Call To Dance & Far Out Hall

#### Contesting - Adult

**Champion:** Joshua Tree N

**Reserve:** Far Out Hall

#### Contesting - Elite

**Champion:** Hugo

**Reserve:** Armbrors Revenge A

#### Classical Dressage

**Champion:** Investor

**Reserve:** Today's Success

#### Western Dressage

**Champion:** Heavymetalthunder

**Reserve:** Just Jate

#### Gaited Dressage

**Champion:** Bella Americana

**Reserve:** Dinn's Ghost

#### Driving

**Champion:** Feelin' Shady;

**Reserve:** Diamondsartforever

#### Jumper

**Champion:** Call To Dance

**Reserve:** Stud's Hooligan

#### Hunter

**Champion:** Stud's Hooligan

### Special Award Winners

#### Fresh OFF the Track

**Champion:** Feeling Shady

**Reserve:** Uncle Pat

#### Warhorse

**Champion:** Silver Match

**Reserve:** Investor

#### High Point Adopted Horse

**Champion:** Allamerican Legacy

**Reserve:** Silver Match

#### Heart of Dragon High Point Contesting Horse

**Champion:** Far Out Hall

**Reserve:** Armbrors Revenge A

#### Overall High Point Horse

**Champion:** Allamerican Legacy

**Reserve:** C Me Shine



Allamerican Legacy was 2-Gait English, Western, and Saddleseat Pleasure Champion as well as High Point Adopted Horse and Overall High Point Horse. Owned by Debbie Schiff of Ohio, the versatile Dragon Again son was shown by five different family members. Photo courtesy of bmathphoto.com

# Notice of OHHA Election

Members planning to seek election to the OHHA Board of Directors or run for President should examine the following information, which includes director representation, OHHA members eligible to vote, and requirements to become a candidate.

---

**Breeder Section:** Directors are elected at large. All Breeders Section members vote in elections. A petition containing the signatures of at least 20 active OHHA Breeder Section members is required. Candidate's principal residence must be in Ohio.

**Owner Section:** Directors are elected by OHHA district Owner members (see below). A petition containing the signatures of at least ten OHHA Owner Section members residing within the district is required. Candidates must reside within the district.

**Trainer/Driver:** Directors are elected at large. All Trainer/Driver members vote in elections. A petition containing the signatures of at least 20 active OHHA Trainer/Driver members is required. Candidate's principal residence must be in Ohio.

**President:** All members vote. Candidates for the office must be Ohio residents and submit a petition containing at least 140 signature of OHHA active members in 2015.

---

Members can obtain printed petitions by calling (800) 353 - 6442 or by writing to the OHHA office. Completed petitions must be filed with the OHHA Executive Director by Friday, December 18, 2015 to participate in 2016 elections held during the OHHA Annual Meeting on January 23, 2016. If an election for any position is required, printed ballots will be mailed to members. Ballots may be returned by mail or in person to the OHHA office or at the OHHA Annual Meeting on January 23, 2016.

---

Individuals nominated by the OHHA Board of Directors Nominating Committee on October 20, 2015:

**Breeder Section:** John Poppe, Scott Hagemeyer, and Dr. Randy Hutchison.  
(At Large)

**Owner Section:** Mary Jo Bross, District 3: Owner Members residing in Athens, Fairfield, Fayette, Gallia, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Ross, Pickaway, Pike, Perry, Scioto, & Vinton Counties are eligible to vote.

Randy Leopard, District 6: Owner Members residing in Champaign, Clark, Hardin, Logan, Madison, & Union Counties are eligible to vote.

Steve Sexton, District 9: Owner Members residing in Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Montgomery, Preble, & Warren Counties are eligible to vote.

**Trainer/Driver:** Roy Burns, Jim Arledge, Jr., and Kent Sherman.  
(At Large)

**President:** Kevin Greenfield  
(At Large)

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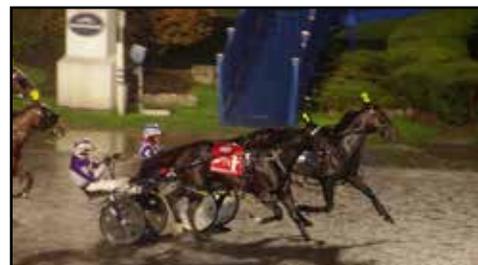
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 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (See instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

# Congratulations to Emerald Highlands Farm and Brian Brown Stable for their Breeders Crown Mare Pace win with Colors A Virgin!



Top: Colors A Virgin and Dave Miller edge by Ellimony winner, photo by Norm Files. Middle: Colors of Virgin winning the Breeders Crown, photo by Mark Hall. Bottom: Trophy presentation, photo by Mark Hall.

13. Publication Title		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	
The Buckeye Harness Horseman		9/15/15	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation			
Membership Publication		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		2200	2034
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distributor above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1908	2198
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	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		2033	2317
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	238	231
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	27	27
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		2350	2623
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 page K33)		30	27
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		2380	2650
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		87%	88%

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I certify that 85% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership

If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the **November 2015** issue of this publication.  Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner

Date: **10/6/15**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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# Advertising For 2016 Ohio Stallion Directory

Now accepting advertising for the upcoming 2016 Ohio Stallion Directory and other upcoming OHHA publications.

Deadline for both pedigree and advertising pages has been moved up to **December 1st** so that the publication can be in circulation sooner.

## Pricing:

Stallion Pedigree Page	\$350
Full Page Premium 4-color, Bleed	\$650
Full Page 4-Color	\$500
Full Page 1-Color	\$375
Full Page Black & White	\$350
Half Page 4-Color	\$300
Half Page Black & White	\$250
One-Quarter Page Color	\$200
One-Quarter Page Black & White	\$150

Classified ads also available

Also collecting advertising for the February 2016 issue of the Buckeye Harness Horseman.

Visit the website  
[www.ohha.com](http://www.ohha.com) for the complete reservation forms or request copy via phone 614-221-3650 or email [rmayhugh@ohha.com](mailto:rmayhugh@ohha.com).

## 2015 Director Meeting

1/23/2015 1/24/2015 4/21/2015 6/4/2015 10/20/2015

### Attendance

	1/23/2015	1/24/2015	4/21/2015	6/4/2015	10/20/2015
Jim Arledge, Jr	√	√	√	√	√
Dan Ater	√	√	√	EX	√
Steve Bateson	√	√	√	√	√
Hugh Beatty, Jr	√	√	√	√	√
Richard Brandt	√	√	EX	√	√
MaryJo Bross	√	√	√	√	√
Brian Brown	√	√	√	√	EX
Roy Burns	√	√	√	√	√
Scott Cox	√	√	EX	EX	√
Senena Esty	√	√	√	√	EX
Kevin Greenfield	√	√	√	√	√
Randy Haines	√	√	√	√	√
Scott Hagemeyer	√	√	√	√	√
Emily Hay	√	√	√	√	√
Amy Hollar	√	√	√	√	√
Don "Skip" Hoovler	√	√	√	√	√
Dr. Randy Hutchison	—	—	—	—	√
Cheri Johnson	—	—	—	—	√
Jerry Knappenberger	√	√	√	√	√
Suanne Kochilla	√	√	√	A	√
John Konesky, III	√	√	√	EX	EX
Randy Leopard	—	—	√	√	√
Renee Mancino	√	√	√	√	√
Rick Martindale	√	√	√	√	√
Regina Mayhugh	√	√	√	√	√
Steve McCoy	√	√	√	√	√
Joe Mclead	√	√	√	√	√
John Melsheimer	√	A	√	EX	√
Brett Merkle	√	√	√	√	√
Scott Mogan	√	√	√	√	√
Virgil Morgan Jr.	√	A	A	√	√
Dr. John Mossbarger	√	√	√	√	√
Linda Nance	√	√	√	√	√
Dan Noble	—	—	√	A	√
Michael Polhamus	—	—	—	—	√
John Poppe	√	A	√	√	√
Ayers Ratliff	√	√	EX	√	√
Dayle Roof	EX	EX	√	√	√
Betty Shaw	A	√	A	EX	A
Daryl Sherman	√	√	√	√	EX
Kent Sherman	√	A	EX	EX	EX
Robert Sidley	√	√	A	A	√
Sue Stockwell	—	—	√	EX	√
Brad Wallace	√	√	√	√	√
Carl Wick	√	√	√	√	√
Mark Winters	√	A	√	√	√

√ Present  
A Absent  
EX Excused  
— Not in Position



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## Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association

### 2016 Annual Meeting & Banquet

January 23, 2016

at



If staying over, make room reservations via this link

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## Upcoming Events & Meetings

### OHHA Regional Meetings 7:00 pm

**Thursday, 11/12 Canton, OH**  
Stark County Fairgrounds, 305 Wertz Ave NW  
Fair Office Board Room, directly in back of the  
grandstand

**Tuesday, 11/17 Lima, OH**  
Allen County Fairgrounds, 2750 Harding Hwy  
Youth Activity Building

**Tuesday, 12/1 Delaware, OH**  
Delaware County Fair, 236 Pennsylvania Ave  
Log Cabin

**Tuesday, 12/8 Lebanon, OH**  
Warren County Fairgrounds, 665 N. Broadway  
Building A

**OHHA 1st Quarter Board Meeting**  
**1/22/16 Dublin, OH**  
Marriott Columbus Northwest  
5606 Blazer Parkway

**2016 OHHA Annual Meeting & Banquet**  
**1/23/16 Dublin, OH**  
Marriott Columbus Northwest

## Regional OHHA Meetings

The 2015 regional OHHA meetings have been scheduled throughout the state. The dates and locations are listed on the back of this publication and on the OHHA website.

This will be a review of issues concerning Ohio's harness racing industry as well as a discussion on Ohio fair racing. There will be opportunities to share and learn from each other as well. Horsemen as well as fairboard members are encouraged to attend.

## 2016 P.A.C.E.R Stallion Service Auction January 22 & 23, 2016

Make plans now to donate a stallion service to the OHHA Stallion Service Auction during the OHHA General Membership & USTA meetings. Proceeds go to **P.A.C.E.R.**, which goes into the State Legislators campaign funds. To donate a breeding, contact the OHHA office at 1-800-353-6442. Stallions will be posted on the OHHA website as well as more details as it becomes available.

## Membership Renewal

Thank you for your continued membership & support. Your OHHA membership will expire on January 31, 2016. Active Membership fee is \$65.00 for 2016. An Associate membership fee is \$25.00 (which does not include third-party liability insurance, sulky insurance, voting or Board participation).

Anyone who owns horses in training can not afford to be without the third party liability insurance which provides coverage of up to five million dollars (General Aggregate) and up to \$4,000 sulky insurance.

Membership renewals and Horse of the Year ballots have gone out. Watch your mail! Ballots are due **POSTMARKED by December 4.**

## Thank You to our 2015 P.A.C.E.R. Contributors

### OHHA Pacesetters *(in alphabetical order)*

Tony & Jo Anderson	Dennis Fisher; USTA	Bill Lowe	Julia Schwartz
Jim Arledge, Jr.	Dr. Albert Gabel	Rick & Marlene Martindale	Dr. Robert & Lisa Schwartz
Keith R Balch	Michael Goldberg	Dr. Rick Mather	Jeff Shafer
Philip Baldauf	Solon & Verla Graham	Richard & Joyce McClelland	Daryl & Betty Jo Sherman
Stephen Bateson	Anthony & Rebecca Greco	Kevin Meade	Robert & Paulann Sidley
Donald Bean	Kevin Greenfield	Bret Merkle	Thomas Smith
Hugh "Sandy" Beatty, Jr.	Charles Guiler	Daniel Miller	Janet L Sollars
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Doyle & Mary Jo Bross	Timothy Hershberger	Harold J Moore	Jeffrey Stover
Brian Brown	Calvin "Buck" & Amy Hollar	Steve Moore	Michael Swatzel
Jim Buchy	Don "Skip" & Tamara Hoovler	Dot & Charles Morgan	Jan Sweiger
Henry Burkholder	Dr. John & Norma Hubbell	Jay & Brenda Mossbarger	Sherry K Thomson
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Senena Esty	Michael Lee	Bret Schwartz	
John & Tena Fairchild	Randy Leopard		

**P.A.C.E.R.:** Ohio horse racing received great support from Governor Kasich and Ohio legislators with the enactment of House Bill #386 (HB386). We must support those legislators who support us.

Donate by sending a personal check, LLC check\*, or money order to:

**P.A.C.E.R 850 Michigan Ave  
Suite 100 Columbus, OH 43215-1920**

*(\*Corporate checks are not acceptable for PAC donations-  
LLC checks only are acceptable for PAC donations)*

Include employer information and type of business.

All P.A.C.E.R. donations go to a candidate's campaign funds.

The OHHA offices receive calls every week from state legislators asking for campaign donations as they attempt to raise campaign financing throughout the year.

**A special Thank You to those who donate!**