



# Race Line

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Photo: John Loper

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*Race Line* is the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO)'s publication for Ontario's horse racing industry. Printed copies are available at open racetracks and industry associations. All issues may be viewed online in both official languages at [www.agco.ca](http://www.agco.ca).

We welcome your ideas and input. If there are topics you would like to see addressed in future publications, or if you wish to receive *Race Line* and other AGCO horse racing-related communications electronically, please email [Racing@agco.ca](mailto:Racing@agco.ca) or call 416-325-0427.

## Online licensing services to roll out next spring

# Coming Soon!

## Online services for Ontario's Horse Racing Licensees



Starting in March 2020, the AGCO will no longer be accepting paper applications for horse racing-related licences and registrations.

After setting up an account, licensees will be required to conduct all of their transactions with the AGCO online.

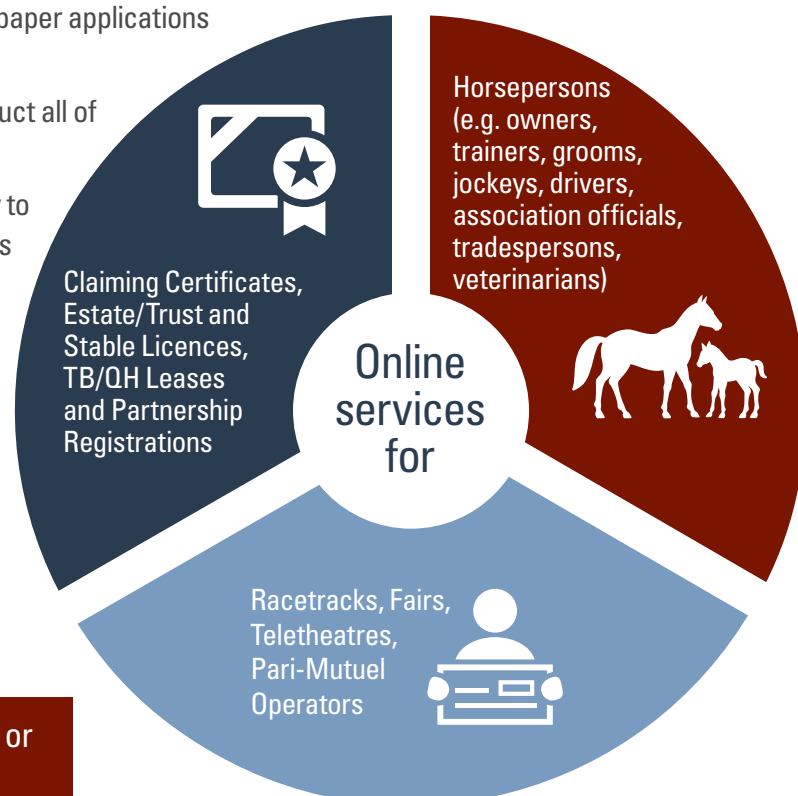
The online portal, iAGCO, will provide an easy, convenient way to apply for, change and renew your horse racing-related licences and registrations anytime from anywhere.

More information on how to set up an account and manage your licences and registrations will be provided closer to the implementation date. You can also learn more about iAGCO Online Services at [www.agco.ca/iagco-information](http://www.agco.ca/iagco-information).

### IMPORTANT: UPDATE YOUR MAILING ADDRESS.

Please make sure the AGCO always has your current mailing address. Important information about setting up your iAGCO account will be sent to you by mail.

For more information, visit us online at [www.agco.ca](http://www.agco.ca) or call 416-326-8700 or toll free 1-800-522-2876



# AGCO Horse Racing Consultation: Interference Rules Adjudication



Photos: John Watkins



The AGCO is assessing the two in-race interference adjudication approaches that currently exist in racing jurisdictions around the world. This assessment is being conducted in consultation with Ontario’s horse racing industry and related stakeholders in all three breeds.

The input provided the AGCO on the different interference classification systems used globally, and any implications if Ontario were to change its regulatory approach to interference, will help to inform any future changes to interference adjudication in Ontario.

This consultation is directed at all horse people, bettors, industry participants and the public.

### SUBMITTING YOUR FEEDBACK

The current phase of this consultation is a request for written submissions in response to a series of questions on the various topics that fall within the scope of interference adjudication.

Submissions will be accepted until January 20, 2020. For complete instructions on the array of submission methods, please visit [www.agco.ca/horse-racing/interference-consultation](http://www.agco.ca/horse-racing/interference-consultation).

### OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION TOPIC

There are currently two different approaches to adjudicating interference used in racing jurisdictions around the world: Category 1 and Category 2.

#### Category 1

Category 1 states that Judges and Stewards may disqualify a horse only if it improved its finishing position because of that interference, or in cases of dangerous riding.

#### Category 2

The Category 2 approach provides Judges and Stewards with the authority to disqualify a horse if, in their opinion, it interfered with another horse regardless of whether the interference was accidental, willful, or the result of careless riding.

In Thoroughbred racing, Category 2 is used exclusively in North America, and Category 1 is used in every other jurisdiction. Several countries have switched from Category 2 to Category 1 in the last decade, including France and Germany who most recently switched in 2018.

In Standardbred racing, several jurisdictions have indicated that they are exploring switching from Category 2 to Category 1, but the majority remain as Category 2, with the exception of Australia and New Zealand who are Category 1.

Quarter Horse racing is predominantly conducted in North America and follows the Category 2 approach. To our knowledge, a switch to Category 1 has not been discussed in Quarter Horse racing.

The AGCO is actively consulting with the horse racing industry on this initiative, and we are committed to keeping industry informed on its status. The AGCO is committed to ensuring integrity, safety and public interest in horse racing, while also taking steps to reduce the administrative burden on industry participants, and contribute to the government’s ongoing effort to support the commercial sustainability of horse racing.

## OVERVIEW OF THE CONSULTATION TOPIC

As announced previously, the AGCO is currently in development of an e-learning program targeted around equine medication use and awareness. The Equine Medication Use and Awareness Program is a three module e-learning program. Each module takes about 20 minutes to complete and includes a short test after each module completion.

The program, currently in development by Avise Learning, may gradually become a requirement for any individual seeking to be licensed as a trainer, and may also become a requirement for any individual found responsible for a medication violation. The program is expected to launch early next year before the next racing season.



## Did you know?

The AGCO reviews and responds to all inquiries and complaints submitted through its online portal, iAGCO. Users have the option of submitting questions and concerns anonymously, or may provide their contact information for follow-up. iAGCO can be accessed at [www.agco.ca/iagco](http://www.agco.ca/iagco) or by clicking the link at the top of the AGCO website homepage at [www.agco.ca](http://www.agco.ca)



AGCO  
Alcohol and Gaming  
Commission of Ontario

## Our Vision

A world-class regulator that is innovative, proactive, and socially responsible.



# Getting to Know: Katie Cunningham

MANAGER, STRATEGIC POLICY, AGCO

With an undergraduate degree in Law and Society from York University and a Master’s of Public Policy from Ryerson University, Katherine (“Katie”) Cunningham has worked in government for the past 8 years, first as a Senior Policy Advisor in the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and more recently as a Special Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. In 2018, she joined the AGCO as Manager of Strategic Policy in the Policy & Planning division, and leads the AGCO’s Racing Reform Team.

Katie grew up around horses and started riding when she was very young, under the mentorship of her aunt, an accomplished horsewoman who specialized in eventing and dressage. With happy summers spent riding together at the farm, their mutual love of the horse formed the foundation of a deep and lasting bond, and Katie rode as often as she could growing up, participating in showing, jumping and dressage. Although not able to ride as much as she would like right now, she is currently looking into part-boarding a horse and has even “test driven” a couple of re-homed race horses. She’s a strong advocate for re-homing, and in fact the opportunity to contribute to policy related to horse welfare and reforms was one of the primary reasons that brought her to the AGCO. In her own words, she says that while she spends time talking with industry leaders, management and horsepersons to glean their different perspectives, “you can’t talk to a horse” and so feels a keen responsibility to bring forward the voice of the horse in all deliberations, especially those relating to welfare initiatives.

“It’s important to bring forward the voice of the horse.”

Although she came to the job understanding the horse culture, horses and riding, horse racing was new to her. She is deeply appreciative of the time her colleagues and those in the horse community have spent teaching her about the industry to help her understand its issues, concerns and different points of view.

Katie is emphatic about how important it is to her to listen to the people who will be affected by her team’s policy reform decisions. With so many diverse groups from government to grooms “each holding a piece of the puzzle” it is her job to try to understand and address everyone’s perspective and put the pieces together to make a complete picture. Incorporating such a wide variety of often competing and opposing viewpoints into policies that will be accepted by the majority is often a challenging if not downright daunting assignment. That said, at the end of the day, she tries to keep top of mind the mandate of the AGCO to make good decisions “in the best interest of racing”. Fulfilling this mandate is, in her mind, made infinitely easier working under Jean Major (AGCO’s CEO and Registrar), because as she says, “He cares. He genuinely cares about the industry and the people in it and that is always reflected in the directions he gives us.”

Katie is extremely attuned to the fact that the horse racing industry is yet again in the midst of some challenging times and is well aware of the need for sound, collaborative and informed policy decisions. Decisions that will continue to move the industry forward and contribute not just to its future sustainability, but to its ability to grow and prosper. And as one of the many that were not born into this industry but fell in love with it anyway, Katie “genuinely cares”, making everyone; stakeholders and colleagues alike, very lucky to have her working on the team.



## INDUSTRY AMBASSADORS ANNOUNCED

In August, Equine Guelph announced that Natalie Elliott, Cameron Lago and Lee-Anne Moffat have been selected as the three Industry Ambassadors to represent Equine Guelph as liaisons and advocates for the horse racing industry during a two-year pilot project. This important training initiative will offer free online courses to AGCO licensees on TheHorsePortal.ca in 2019 and 2020. All three Industry Ambassadors have been active students in Equine Guelph’s education programs and are committed to the welfare and care of racehorses – understanding that when horses are trained to maximum performance levels, it is important that they are given the best possible healthcare.

**Courses starting in Winter 2020 are:**

- Gut Health & Colic Prevention (exclusive to racing) – January
- Equine First Aid - February
- Racehorse Respiratory Health (exclusive to racing) - February
- Lameness/Injury Prevention & Care (exclusive to racing) - March

The free courses will be offered as a first-come-first-served basis to the first 100 participants to register for each course and are open to trainers, assistant trainers, grooms, jockeys, drivers and other current AGCO licence holders.

For more information and to register: [www.TheHorsePortal.ca/RacingPilot](http://www.TheHorsePortal.ca/RacingPilot)

## TUITION AWARDS FOR RACING

Ontario Racing Industry members are invited to apply for Tuition Awards to receive two 12-week online courses from Equine Guelph.


Get the competitive edge with courses like Equine Exercise Physiology and more.

Applications must be received by **December 17**.

Information is available at [https://www.equineguelph.ca/education/tuition\\_awards.php](https://www.equineguelph.ca/education/tuition_awards.php).

# New Licence Categories for Horsepersons, coming in March 2020

### INDIVIDUALS

Primary Licence Category	Secondary Licence Categories																						
<h2>Horseperson</h2> <p>Photo by Will Wong</p> 	<p>You must choose at least one of these categories when applying for a Horseperson licence</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>1. Apprentice Jockey</td><td>12. Occupational</td></tr><tr><td>2. Assistant Trainer</td><td>13. Owner</td></tr><tr><td>3. Association Official</td><td>14. Pari-Mutuel Ticket Seller</td></tr><tr><td>4. Authorized Agent</td><td>15. Program Breed</td></tr><tr><td>5. Driver</td><td>16. Rider</td></tr><tr><td>6. Exercise Person</td><td>17. Spouse of Licensee</td></tr><tr><td>7. Groom</td><td>18. Stable or Corporate Manager</td></tr><tr><td>8. Hot Walker</td><td>19. Tradesperson – Employee</td></tr><tr><td>9. Jockey</td><td>20. Tradesperson – Employer</td></tr><tr><td>10. Jockey Agent</td><td>21. Trainer</td></tr><tr><td>11. Jockey Valet</td><td>22. Veterinarian</td></tr></tbody></table>	1. Apprentice Jockey	12. Occupational	2. Assistant Trainer	13. Owner	3. Association Official	14. Pari-Mutuel Ticket Seller	4. Authorized Agent	15. Program Breed	5. Driver	16. Rider	6. Exercise Person	17. Spouse of Licensee	7. Groom	18. Stable or Corporate Manager	8. Hot Walker	19. Tradesperson – Employee	9. Jockey	20. Tradesperson – Employer	10. Jockey Agent	21. Trainer	11. Jockey Valet	22. Veterinarian
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### RACETRACKS AND TELETHEATRES


Primary Licence Categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Racetrack Operator Licence</li><li>• Racetrack Site Licence</li><li>• Teletheatre Location Registration</li><li>• Fair or Non-Extended Meet Licence</li><li>• Operator - Pari-Mutuel Operations Licence</li><li>• Special Event Teletheatre Registration</li></ul>



### ADMINISTRATIVE

Primary Licence Categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Claiming Certificate</li><li>• Estate/Trust Licence</li><li>• Lease Registration*</li><li>• Partnership Registration*</li><li>• Stable Licence</li></ul> <p><i>*Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse</i></p>

The AGCO will provide assistance to the horse racing community during the transition to online services. Application Guides, online demos and educational material will be provided well in advance of the implementation. For more information about iAGCO, please visit the information page at <https://www.agco.ca/iagco-information>.



## AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario

## iAGCO Online Services

Your AGCO horse racing licensing applications and renewals are moving online!

**As of March 2020, all of your AGCO transactions must be completed online through the iAGCO portal at [www.agco.ca/iAGCO](http://www.agco.ca/iAGCO)**

- iAGCO provides a quicker, easier, more convenient way to conduct all of your horse racing transactions anytime from anywhere
- You can update your profile and manage all of your applications and renewals in one place
- You'll be able to print your licences, registrations and certificates yourself


**Once iAGCO online services launch in March 2020, you will:**

- Create an iAGCO account and link it to your information already on file using an access code the AGCO will provide to you
- Conduct all of your AGCO transactions online, including applying for, changing or renewing your licence and paying outstanding monetary penalties
- Pay fees with Interac Online, Visa or MasterCard (including pre-paid and Debit Visa and MasterCard). Cash and cheques (including USD) will no longer be accepted
- Receive a notice of approval by email once your licence or registration is approved

**What You Need to Do to Get Ready for iAGCO**

- Make sure the mailing address and email you have provided to the AGCO are up to date
- To update your contact information, call AGCO Customer Service at the number below or complete and return a Horse Racing Licensee Contact Form available at [www.agco.ca](http://www.agco.ca)

**For more information, visit [www.agco.ca](http://www.agco.ca), submit your questions online at [www.agco.ca/iAGCO](http://www.agco.ca/iAGCO) or call 416-326-8700 or toll-free 1-800-522-2876**





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## Race Line

This newsletter is published by the **Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario** to provide licensees and interested parties with information regarding horse racing legislation and related issues. Reader comments and content suggestions are welcome.

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Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario

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