

Race Line

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Photo: Joanne Colville

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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.

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 or call 416-325-0427.

New Standardbred Urging Rules Rolled Out Across The Province



On May 31, 2019, in response to requests from industry, the AGCO issued **Standardbred Directive No. 3 – 2019 – Revision to Urging Provisions** which amended the rules related to urging in Standardbred racing. **Information Bulletin 71, announced that** the new rules and penalty guidelines would

become effective on June 3 at Woodbine Mohawk Park with the implementation date for other tracks to follow.

Effective August 1, 2019, these provisions came into effect at all Standardbred racetracks in Ontario. Paddock meetings for industry participants and training for Racing Officials were held prior to the implementation of the new rules.

AGCO staff will work with racetrack management and Ontario Racing to assist with getting information about the enhanced urging rules out to the public and potential bettors so that they are aware of what the new product looks like. In addition, performance measures will be developed to monitor the outcome of the rule change and to determine whether any additional supports need to be provided to the industry to meet the intended objectives.

This reform is part of the AGCO's continuing commitment to enhancing the health and safety of horses and participants, and the integrity of racing. Inquiries may be directed to AGCO Race Officials at: <https://www.agco.ca/race-day-contact-list> or submitted online to the AGCO at www.agco.ca/iagco.

AGCO's Equine Medication Use and Awareness Program

The AGCO is currently developing an e-learning program about equine medication use and awareness. In 2017, the AGCO led an industry-based working group on equine drugs that recommended developing education and training for licensees, including introducing an e-learning component that would assist the industry in better understanding their responsibilities associated with equine medication use.

The Equine Medication Use and Awareness Program, currently in development, is an e-learning program that may become a requirement in the future for any individual seeking to be licensed as a trainer in Ontario. The program may also become a requirement for any individual found responsible for a medication violation. The aim is to begin implementing the program in early 2020.

Avise Learning, an organization that has many years of experience developing e-learning programs on a variety of topics, will be designing the program for the AGCO in consultation with various industry stakeholders, including veterinarians and representatives of horsepersons' groups.

Online Training for the Horse Racing Industry

As part of Equine Guelph’s Online Training Pilot Project, holders of an AGCO horse racing licence will be able to reap the benefits of learning the latest in equine healthcare from industry experts in a series of upcoming relevant short online courses. Three of these courses are being developed exclusively for the horse racing industry, in areas identified as priorities from the industry.

Upcoming short online courses include:

FALL 2019
Horse Care & Welfare - September
Sickness Prevention in Horses - October

WINTER 2020
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 courses deliver common sense, practical approaches on key topics for horse racing participants. The courses range from one week to three weeks in length, and being online, are flexible to any schedule. No prior online learning experience is required for these courses. The free courses will be offered on 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 horse racing licence holders.

Equine Guelph thanks the AGCO for providing education, training and awareness project funding in support of AGCO licensees. For more information and to register, visit: www.TheHorsePortal.ca/RacingPilot

Industry Reminder

The industry is reminded that **Out of Competition testing can take place at any time** including qualifying races, as per the AGCO’s *Rules of Racing*:

Standardbred Chapter 37: Out of Competition Program | Thoroughbred Chapter 39: Out of Competition Program

Full-Circle-Responsibility

AN EQUINE WELFARE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE

In partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Equine Guelph is developing an equine welfare educational initiative, “Full-Circle-Responsibility”, which stands to benefit the welfare of horses in both the racing and non-racing sectors.

This project is funded in part through Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of GF2 in Ontario.

Website:

<https://www.equineguelph.ca/education/welfare.php>

QUICK LINKS



FULL-CIRCLE-RESPONSIBILITY



RESOURCE STORE



VIDEOS



HEALTHCARE TOOLS



EMERGENCY EDUCATION



NEWS



SAFETY eWORKSHOP



eNEWS SIGN-UP

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES

Both the *Horse Racing Licence Act, 2015* and the AGCO’s *Rules of Racing* mandate that licensees promptly notify the AGCO if there is a change in their address.

As the AGCO continues development of its online services for the horse racing sector, it is especially important that all licensees’ contact information is up-to-date. If you have moved since your licence was issued or there has been any change to your contact information, please contact us to update your file:

AGCO CUSTOMER SERVICE

Monday to Friday | 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (EST)

Telephone: 416-326-8700 | Toll free in Ontario: 1-800-522-2876

ONLINE RULES OF RACING

The AGCO’s *Rules of Racing* for both Standardbred (including RUS) and Thoroughbred (including Quarter Horse) are now available on the AGCO website in an electronic format:

- Always current and up-to-date
- Fully searchable and printable
- Easily see what has changed
- Rule changes link to corresponding Directives

<https://www.agco.ca/horseracing/rules-thoroughbred-racing>

<https://www.agco.ca/horseracing/rules-standardbred-racing>

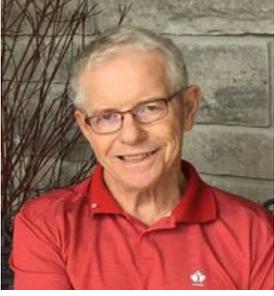
ONLINE INQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS

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 or by clicking the link at the top of the AGCO website homepage at www.agco.ca.

Ontario's Racing Industry Says Goodbye To Dr. Mike Weber



On July 6, Dr. Michael Paul 'Mike' Weber passed away peacefully at St. Mary's Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family.

Mike was well respected professionally for his integrity and expertise in the field of equine research. He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1971 and

spent 34 years with the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency (CPMA) where he was Manager of Veterinary Services, officially retiring in 2013. Dr. Weber was instrumental in developing medication withdrawal guidelines to assist participants in the horse racing industry. These guidelines are still being used worldwide.

Mike had a strong commitment to the racing industry and to providing as much assistance as needed to racing participants and racehorse veterinarians to keep the sport clean.

He also volunteered on the Equine Canada Equine Medication Control Committee and was a key advisor in the development of new rules. He helped Equine Canada to establish an excellent relationship with the testing laboratory and to have reliable guidelines which provided veterinarians with an improved ability

to treat health issues in horses. Dr. Weber received an OAEP Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018.

The AGCO extends its sincerest condolences to Mike's wife Lorna, his family, friends and colleagues. The family has indicated that memorial donations to Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy.

“ Mike was respected and held in high regard by horse people and regulators all across Canada for his integrity and in particular for his friendly attitude. He encouraged everyone in Racing to contact him with their questions and he always responded quickly. He had a great passion for horse racing and for the people involved in it.

I had the pleasure of spending a lot of time with Mike and always enjoyed hearing the stories of his many adventures in racing.

Mike will be sadly missed by many. ”

~ Mike Wilson
Manager of Racing, AGCO

(With files from Standardbred Canada, the Ontario Association of Equine Practitioners and the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home)

2019 Race Season *updated

BREED	TRACK	OPENING DAY	CLOSING DAY
QUARTER HORSE	Ajax Downs	May 5	October 21
STANDARD BRED	Clinton Raceway	May 19	August 25
	Dresden Raceway	May 26	August 5
	Flamboro Downs – Winter/Spring	January 3	May 30
	Flamboro Downs – Fall	September 3	December 31
	Georgian Downs	June 1	August 31
	Grand River Raceway	June 5	September 27
	Hanover Raceway	June 1	September 14
	*Hiawatha Horse Park	May 4	September 21
	*Kawartha Downs	May 11	September 28
	*Leamington Raceway	August 4	October 27
	Rideau Carleton Raceway	February 10	December 29
	The Raceway at Western Fair District – Winter/Spring	January 1	May 31
	The Raceway at Western Fair District – Fall	October 4	December 31
Woodbine Mohawk Park	January 5	December 26	
THOROUGHBRED	Fort Erie Race Track	May 28	October 15
	Woodbine Racetrack	April 20	December 15



Photos: John Watkins

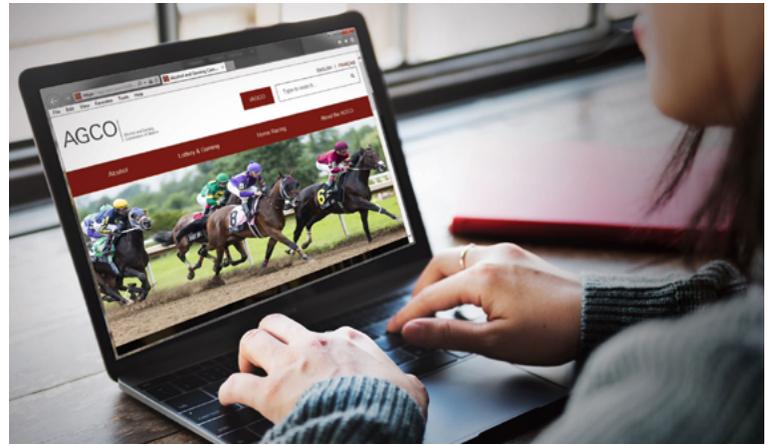
The AGCO would like to recognize and congratulate Ajax Downs on its 50th Anniversary!

Getting Ready For Online Services For Horse Racing Licensees

In spring 2020, online services will be available for the AGCO’s horse racing licensees, through its online service delivery portal called **iAGCO**. iAGCO improves and modernizes the AGCO’s service delivery by offering its customers an easy, convenient and digital way of doing business with the Commission.

By creating an iAGCO account, you will be able to apply for and manage your AGCO-issued licences, certificates and registrations, anytime from anywhere, and view the status of your files.

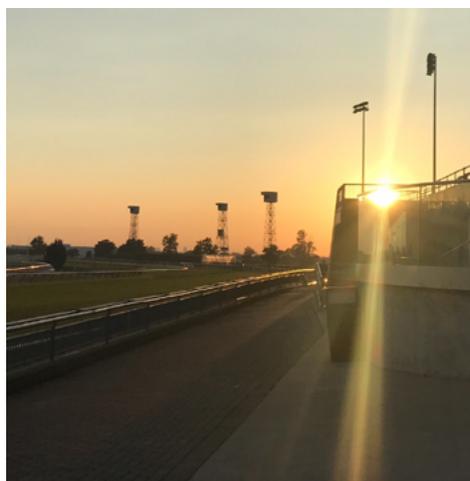
When the service comes online, individuals will no longer need to apply for multiple licences across multiple breeds, rather, licensees will hold one “Horseperson” licence, applicable across all breeds, and will add onto it the appropriate secondary licence(s).



INDIVIDUALS	
Primary Licence Category	Secondary Licence Categories
<h2>Horseperson</h2> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apprentice Jockey 2. Assistant Trainer 3. Association Official 4. Authorized Agent 5. Driver 6. Exercise Person 7. Groom 8. Hot Walker 9. Jockey 10. Jockey Agent 11. Jockey Valet 12. Occupational 13. Owner 14. Pari-Mutuel Ticket Seller 15. Program Breed 16. Rider 17. Spouse of Licensee 18. Stable or Corporate Manager 19. Tradesperson – Employee 20. Tradesperson – Employer 21. Trainer 22. Veterinarian

Photo by Will Wong

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



ADMINISTRATIVE
Primary Licence Categories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claiming Certificate • Estate/Trust Licence • Lease Registration* • Partnership Registration* • Stable Licence <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>.

Stay up to Date! Follow us on Twitter @AGCO_Racing

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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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