



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Delaware
Thoroughbred
Racing
Commission

Report of
Activities for
2024 Racing
Season



Dear Governor Carney and racing fans:

It is an honor to report the activities of the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission for 2024.

Delaware Park entered its 87th season of live racing in 2024. The live racing schedule included 75 days of live racing, a decrease from 85 days in 2023. Delaware Park was forced to cancel four days of racing due to weather related incidents. These cancelations were made up during the meet and the racing meet was extended by two days adding to the end of the racing calendar. Rain and flooding causing poor track conditions lead to the cancelation of three races during two other days.

*The \$500,000 **Gr.2 Delaware Handicap**, the signature event of the summer meet, was held on Sunday, July 07, 2024. "HONOR D LADY" claimed victory cruising to the finish 5 ½ lengths in front of a field of seven rivals. "HONOR D LADY" was ridden by New York based jockey Jose Ortiz Jr. and trained by Saffie Joseph. DelCap Day featured 10 races for the day, total handle was \$4,676,343 an increase from 2023 (\$3,082,091).*

The Delaware Handicap continues to be a major summer focus for fillies and mares on their way to national championships.

*The \$300,000 **Gr.3 Delaware Oaks** was originally scheduled for Saturday July 06, 2024, however due to excessive heat the race card was moved to Monday July 08, 2024. Once again, the Delaware Oaks drew a competitive field of fillies. "POWER SQUEEZE" trained by Jorge Delgado and ridden by New York based jockey Javier Castellano, battled in the stretch against rival and the 3-5 favorite "Sidamara" and prevailed winning by a nose. Oaks Day at Delaware Park featured 10 races and total handle saw a slight increase for 2024 totaling \$3,886,421 from (\$3,318,338) in 2023.*

The Commission once again entered into an agreement with the Horseracing Integrity & Safety Act (HISA) and Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit (HIWU) for the 2024 live racing meet. HISA was created to implement a national uniform set of integrity and safety rules to the industry. HIWU is the enforcement agency for Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC). Under the agreement the Commission no longer has control over drug testing or investigations related to any ADMC violation. Additionally, all revenues once gained by the commission from a violation of the HISA Crop rule or any rule in HISA 2200-2293 series, or any ADMC violation now goes to HISA directly.

The information in this report will give you an overview of the various activities and programs that the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission oversees. As always, the ultimate goal is to provide the best efforts in regulating this great industry.

Sincerely,

*Sarah Crane
Executive Director*

THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT

The Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission regulates and oversees the sport of Thoroughbred Racing in the State.

The Commission's main objectives are to protect and ensure that the health, welfare, and safety of horses and jockeys are held to the highest standards. To eliminate fraudulent activity that would undermine the public trust, bringing violators of commission rules, regulations, and Delaware law to justice; to protect, preserve, and promote agriculture and horse racing by preventing and eliminating corrupt practices; ensure fairness in licensing and patron decisions; and ensure that the State and betting public receive fair percentages of the wagering dollar by overseeing audits.

2024 DELAWARE THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION

W. Duncan Patterson, **Chairman**
Edward J. Stegemeier, **Secretary-Commissioner**
Richard A. Levine, Esquire, **Commissioner**
Richard W. Monkman, **Commissioner**
Andrew C. Slater, **Commissioner**

* * *

Sarah A. Crane, **Executive Director**
Michelle Whalen, **Commission Counsel**

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Michael T. Scuse

2024 COMMISSION COMMITTEES

W. Duncan Patterson

ARCI Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee, Chairman
Ex-Officio Chair, ARCI
Mid Atlantic Best Practices Committee
Horsereading Integrity & Welfare Unit – Adjudication Panel Member

Edward J. Stegemeier

Delaware Jockeys Health and Welfare Benefit Board, Chair
Delaware Commissions Equine Forensics Drug Testing Committee, Chair
ARCI Jockey Health and Safety Committee Member

Sarah Crane

Mid Atlantic Best Practices Committee, Member
Organization of Racing Investigators, Member National
Racing Compact Board, Member

2024 THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION STAFF

*Sarah Crane – **Executive Director**

Rebecca Coyle – **Administrative Assistant**

* William Troilo – **Chief State Steward**

* Robert Colton – **Association State Steward**

* Joelyn Rigione – **Association State Steward**

* Eric Coatrieux – **Association State Steward / Safety Steward**

** Denotes certification through Racing Officials Accreditation Program (ROAP)*

Virginia Gilliam DVM, **Chief Commission Veterinarian**

Robert Calley DVM, **Associate Commission Veterinarian**

Sarah Quatman DVM, **Associate Commission Veterinarian**

Alternate Associate Comm. Veterinarians:

Susan Botts DVM

Nancy Vutz DVM

Liz Nelson DVM



2024 Delaware Handicap GII Winner "Honor D Lady"

DELAWARE THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION ONLINE

In accordance with an initiative on the part of the Delaware Department of Agriculture, the Commission’s transparency was increased to improve data available to the public.

Those initiatives included the posting of the Stewards’ Daily Reports, Veterinarian Scratch Reports, and all Administrative Rulings on disciplinary actions. Also, the navigation pane titled “Trainer’s Shed Row” displays important industry updates and worthwhile links.

A full array of racing related information and links can be accessed by visiting URL:

<http://dda.delaware.gov/thoroughbred/index.shtml>

DTRC BUDGET FY 2024

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Personnel | \$ 1,073,200.00 |
| Travel | \$ 25,000.00 |
| Contractual | \$ 200,400.00 |
| Supplies | \$ 20,100.00 |
| Capital | \$ 86,800.00 |
| Fingerprinting | \$ 110,000.00 |
| Equine Drug Testing | \$ 275,000.00 |
| Research and Development | \$75,000.00 |
| Total | \$ 1,865,500.00 |

All funding for the DTRC comes from the Appropriated Special Fund (ASF) derived from licensing fees and fines.

Cost of regulation (Administration, Stewards, and Veterinarians Salaries, benefits, plus 100% costs of equine drug testing are borne by the Delaware Racing Association – Delaware Park)

No general fund money is used in the operation of the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission.

2024 DELAWARE PARK SEASON OVERVIEW

For the 87th season of live racing, race days were reduced from 85 days in 2023 to a total of 75 scheduled live racing days for 2024. Delaware Park was forced to cancel four (4) day of racing, this was due to a weather-related incident that deemed racing unsafe for all participants. These days were made up throughout the remaining scheduled. Two days were added back to the end of the racing meet and Delaware Park concluded live racing on November 17th .

In 2024 Delaware Park paid out a total of \$17,278,250.00 in purse money for the 75-day meet. A decrease of (\$1,199,749.00) from the previous 85-day meet in 2023.

In 2024 a total of 153 horses were claimed at Delaware Park in comparison to 185 claims for 2023. A total of \$1,733,250.00 was spent on horses purchased via claiming races. The Average claiming price, \$11,328 a slight decrease from (\$12,350) average price in 2023. HISA (Horse Racing Integrity Act) mandated a new claiming rule, which mandates all claimed horses are to report to a designated claim barn for one-hour post-race for commission veterinarian examination. Under this rule, a total of 23 claims were declared void for failed post-race examinations.

There were 603 total races run with a total of 4232 starters, giving Delaware Park an average field size of 7.01 starters per race. The average field size was an improvement from 2023 that had 10 additional days of live racing which averaged a field size of 6.82.



The 2024 Delaware Oaks Grade III Winner "Power Squeeze"



2024 DTRC LICENSING REVENUE

**Reported as of December 1, 2024, ~ pending late payments, applications.
 Previous years revised to data though December 31 of reporting year.*

| Calendar Year | Licenses Issued | Licensing Fees | Fines Collected | Total Revenue |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| *2024 | 4169 | \$178,585.00 | \$ 17,269.56 | \$ 195,854.56 |
| 2023 | 4147 | \$183,841.00 | \$ 23,406.42 | \$ 207,247.42 |
| 2022 | 3988 | \$159,968.00 | \$ 45,471.91 | \$ 205,439.91 |
| 2021 | 4255 | \$191,144.00 | \$ 53,692.06 | \$ 244,836.06 |

2024 EQUINE FORENSIC DRUG TESTING

The Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit, also known as HIWU, is the independent agency that enforces the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority’s (HISA) Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) Program. Drug testing in all forms is now under the direction and control of HIWU. The DTRC collects blood and urine samples at the direction of HIWU and no longer has a role in investigating potential violations or prosecuting any medication violations. HIWU will make testing data public record during the first quarter of 2025 once their annual report is released.

An overview of HIWU activities and quarterly testing statistics and annual reports can be viewed using the link:

<https://www.hiwu.org/about/reports-and-statistics/>



2024 DELAWARE RACING HANDLE INFORMATION

Information 2021-2023 **Revised to reflect data through December 31 of reporting year.

Information provided by Delaware Park Race Track and Slots, Simulcast **As of November 30,2024

| | 2021 77 Days Live Racing | 2022 87 Days Live Racing | 2023 85 Days Live Racing | **2024 75 Days Live Racing |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Live (On Track) | \$ 3,648,090.00 | \$ 3,235,780.00 | *\$ 3,068,572.30 | \$ 2,786,007.00 |
| Simulcast Export | \$ 114,430,200.28 | *\$ 139,038,591.97 | *\$ 149,230,335.04 | \$ 137,868,579.53 |
| Simulcast Import | *\$ 20,071,956.01 | *\$17,983,583.30 | *\$ 17,670,845.10 | \$15,711,157.20 |
| Total Wagering | *\$ 138,150,246.38 | *\$ 160,257,955.27 | *\$ 169,969,752.44 | \$ 156,365,743.73 |



DELAWARE CERTIFIED THOROUGHBRED PROGRAM (DCTP) 2024

| Year | # Of Starters | # Of Starts | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 25% Certifier Bonus | 25% Owner Bonus | Total Bonus Paid for Year |
|------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 2024 | 368 | 942 | 123 | 152 | 125 | \$ 879,829.38 | \$ 726,079.38 | *\$ 1,605,908.76 |
| 2023 | 336 | 927 | 137 | 135 | 125 | \$ 813,741.25 | \$ 660,866.25 | \$ 1,474,607.50 |
| 2022 | 366 | 1052 | 141 | 161 | 157 | \$ 1,056,618.75 | \$ 867,368.75 | \$ 1,953,987.50 |
| 2021 | 318 | 947 | 116 | 154 | 127 | \$ 791,886.25 | \$ 675,368.25 | \$ 1,467,272.50 |

Information provided by the Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (DTHA)

**As reported Through October 17, 2024*

DELAWARE CERTIFIED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR WEANLINGS AND YEARLINGS

2024 DCTP Applications – 249 *As of December 1, 2024, pending late mail.*

2023 DCTP Applications – 370

2022 DCTP Applications – 382

2021 DCTP Applications – 388

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Equibase Company

Delaware Park Race Track and Slots

Delaware Certified Thoroughbred Program (DCTP) Delaware

Horsemen's Association (DTHA)

Photos provided by Hoofprints Inc. www.hoofprintsinc.com and DTRC.

The Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission Looks Forward to Continued Success In 2025



End of Report