



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission

Report of Activities for 2025 Racing Season



Dear Governor Meyer and racing fans:

It is an honor to report on the activities of the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission for 2025.

Delaware Park commenced its 88th season of live racing in 2025, with an initial schedule of 75 live racing days. During the meeting, four full race days were cancelled due to excessive heat or insufficient entries, and one partial race card was cancelled because of inclement weather. These lost race days were rescheduled during the meet, and the racing season was extended by two additional days at the end of the calendar to accommodate the make-up dates.

*Some highlights of the 2025 meet included the \$392,000 **Gr.3 Delaware Handicap**, a 1 1/8-mile event for fillies and mares was dominated by "Regaled" the four-year-old filly won by 6 ¼ lengths over a muddy track. "Regaled" was ridden by jockey Joseph Ramo and trained by D. Whitworth Beckman. DelCap Day featured 10 races for the day with a total handle of \$2,958,254.*

*The \$300,000 **Gr.3 Delaware Oaks** once again attracted competitive field of fillies. "Fondly" trained by H. Graham Motion and ridden by New York based jockey Irad Ortiz Jr, seized the early lead over a field of nine and drew off to win finishing three lengths over the favored runner- up "Margie's Intention".*

*The inaugural running of the \$200,000 **Delaware Derby** was also run on Delaware Oaks Day; a 1 1/16-mile event restricted to 3-year-olds drew a field of eight and was dominated by the colt "Admiral Dennis", ridden by jockey Luan Machado and trained by Brad Cox. Oaks and Derby Day featured 10 races for the day with a total handle of \$6,346,429.*

The Commission continued its participation in the voluntary agreement with the Horseracing Integrity & Safety Act (HISA) and Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit (HIWU) for the 2025 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 authority over equine drug testing or investigations related to any ADMC violation. In addition, all revenues once previously paid to the commission from a violation of the ADMC rules or any rule violation included in HISA 2200-2293 series, are payable to HISA directly.

The information in this report will provide an overview of the various activities and programs that the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission oversees. The Commission is committed to applying the highest standards in the regulation and oversight of this great industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sarah Crane".

*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.

DELAWARE THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION

W. Duncan Patterson, **Chairman**

Edward J. Stegemeier, **Secretary-Commissioner** – *Served until October 2025*

Richard A. Levine, Esquire, **Commissioner**

Richard W. Monkman, **Commissioner**

Andrew C. Slater, **Commissioner**

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Sarah Crane, **Executive Director**

Michelle Whalen, **Commission Counsel**

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Wm. Donald Clifton, II

COMMISSION COMMITTEES

W. Duncan Patterson

ARCI Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee, Chairman

Ex-Officio Chair, ARCI

Mid Atlantic Best Practices Committee

Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit – Adjudication Panel Member

Edward J. Stegemeier – *Served until October 2025*

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
National Racing Compact, Executive Committee

THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION STAFF

*Sarah Crane – **Executive Director**

Rebecca Coyle – **Administrative Assistant**

Lori Silver – **Licensing Specialist**

* 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



Exotic Day at the Races! Featuring Ostrich, Camels and Zebras

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 2025

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.

DELAWARE PARK SEASON OVERVIEW

For its 88th season, Delaware Park scheduled 75 live racing days, maintaining the same total as in 2024. Four days of racing were canceled due to lack of entries or weather-related incidents that rendered racing unsafe for all participants. These days were rescheduled throughout the remaining schedule and added at the end of the racing calendar. The live racing season concluded on October 18th.

In 2025 Delaware Park paid out a total of \$19,680,000.00 in purse money, this is a 14% increase from the 2024 meet (\$17,278,250.00).



2025-Delaware Oaks Grade III Winner "Fondly"

In 2025, 185 horses were claimed at Delaware Park. Of the 185 claims, 168 claims were valid, an increase from 153 valid claims in 2024. The total amount spent on claimed horse for 2025 was \$1,921,500.00 The average claiming price rose slightly to \$11,437 compared to \$11,328, in 2024. As mandated by the Horse Racing Integrity Act (HISA) all claimed horses are required to report to a designated claim barn for one-hour post-race for commission veterinarian examination. Under this mandate, a total of 17 claims were declared void for failed post-race examinations and did not change ownership, this was a decrease from the previous year reported number of 23 voids.

Delaware Park reported an increase in racing activity for 2025, concluding the meet with 613 races and 4,345 horses starting. This is an improvement over 2024, which concluded with 603 races and 4232 horses participating. The average field size also rose slightly to 7.09 starters per race compared to 7.01 in 2024.



DTRC LICENSING REVENUE

**Reported as of December 1, 2025, ~ pending late payments, applications.*

Previous years revised to data through December 31 of reporting year.

Calendar Year	Licenses Issued	Licensing Fees	Fines Collected	Total Revenue
*2025	4099	\$176,530.00	\$20,812.46	\$ 197,342.46
2024	4171	\$180,095.00	\$ 22,019.56	\$ 202,114.56
2023	4147	\$183,841.00	\$ 23,406.42	\$ 207,247.42
2022	3988	\$159,968.00	\$ 45,471.91	\$ 205,439.91

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. Equine drug testing in all forms is now under the direction and authority of HIWU. The DTRC collects blood and urine samples under the direction of HIWU and no longer has a role in investigating potential violations or prosecuting any alleged medication violations. HIWU has indicated it will make testing data public record during the first quarter of 2026 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/>



DELAWARE RACING HANDLE INFORMATION

Information provided by Delaware Park Racetrack and Slots, Simulcast ***As of November 30, 2025*

	2022 87 Days Live Racing	2023 85 Days Live Racing	2024 75 Days Live Racing	**2025 75 Days Live Racing
Live (On Track)	\$ 3,235,780.00	\$ 3,068,572.30	\$ 2,786,007.00	\$ 3,075,294.00
Simulcast Export	\$ 139,038,591.97	\$ 149,230,335.04	\$ 137,868,579.53	\$139,769,922.00
Simulcast Import	\$ 17,983,583.30	\$ 17,670,845.10	\$16,775,364.40	\$ 14,140,768.10
Total Wagering	\$ 160,257,955.27	\$ 169,969,752.44	\$ 157,429,950.93	\$ 156,985,984.10



Morning training workout

DELAWARE CERTIFIED THOROUGHBRED PROGRAM (DCTP)

Year	# Of Starter	# Of Starts	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	25% Certifier Bonus	25% Owner Bonus	Total Bonus Paid for Year
*2025	399	1050	165	138	126	\$ 1,053,337.50	\$ 962,837.50	\$ 2,016,175.00
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

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

**As reported Through November 1, 2025*

DELAWARE CERTIFIED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR WEANLINGS AND YEARLINGS

2025 DCTP Applications – 251 *As of November 1, 2025*

2024 DCTP Applications – 329

2023 DCTP Applications – 370

2022 DCTP Applications – 382

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 building on its success in 2026.



Delaware Park Outriders 4th of July celebration

End of Report