2022
LEGISLATIVE
ANNUAL
REPORT
LETTER FROM NATIONAL THOROUGHBRED RACING ASSOCIATION (NTRA)

Thank you to all who supported the NTRA’s federal legislative efforts in 2022 by making a financial contribution to the Legislative Action Campaign (LAC), an initiative that helps fund the NTRA’s work in Washington, DC, on behalf of the industry. For more than two decades, supporters from all facets of the industry and from all over the world have contributed to LAC and enabled the NTRA’s federal legislative team to advocate in our nation’s capital for horse racing.

For the first time, the NTRA established a Washington, DC, office in 2022. Located near Capitol Hill, the additional NTRA office allows the DC-based team to access our nation’s federal lawmakers and staff, thereby increasing our visibility and that of the horse racing industry. To help announce this new local presence, the NTRA hosted a Kentucky Derby reception in April 2023 that drew 12 members of Congress and more than 400 staffers. We were thrilled with the response and anticipate this becoming a must-attend event each spring.

This 2022 NTRA Legislative Annual Report summarizes federal legislative and regulatory activities that impacted the industry last year, along with any current updates. Last year, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) dominated the headlines, as the HISA racetrack safety program commenced on July 1, 2022. Ongoing litigation as to its constitutionality followed, with mixed results. The HISA anti-doping and medication control program was implemented on May 22, 2023, as the second of the HISA programs. Combined, these programs represent years of work to provide nationwide approaches to important safety and medication measures. Additionally, Farm Bill talks are well underway on Capitol Hill and the NTRA is actively involved with this process. This massive bill in the past has contained certain investment incentives for the Thoroughbred industry, including the now-expired three-year depreciation schedule for all racehorses. Sports betting and immigration issues were other areas of focus for the NTRA federal legislative team and will continue to be throughout 2023.

Supporters of LAC through the ¼% Check-Off Program and other related fundraising programs are critical to the overall success of the NTRA’s federal legislative team. Thank you to these individuals and other entities recognized within this report for their generosity.

With Appreciation,

Joe Bacigalupo
Vice President of Membership Development

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NTRA MISSION STATEMENT

The NTRA is a broad-based coalition of horseplayers, racetrack operators, owners, breeders, trainers and affiliated associations committed to increasing the welfare, integrity and popularity of Thoroughbred racing through consensus-based leadership, safety and integrity initiatives, legislative advocacy, corporate partner development and fan engagement.
Tom Rooney | Horse PAC President | NTRA President and CEO

Tom Rooney served the people of Florida in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2009 to 2019, focusing primarily on economic, agricultural, national security, and military issues. Prior to serving in Congress, Rooney served with the U.S. Army as a lawyer in the JAG Corps. During his tenure, he was Special Assistant U.S Attorney at Fort Hood, Texas, prosecuting all civilian crimes on post in the 1st Cavalry Division. After completing active duty with the rank of captain, Rooney taught constitutional and criminal law at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

He received his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law and became a member of the Florida Bar in 1999. He also has an M.A. in Political Science from the University of Florida. Rooney played football for Syracuse University and Washington & Jefferson College, where he earned a B.A. in English Literature. Rooney is married to his wife, Tara, and they have three sons.

Meghan Rodgers

Meghan Rodgers is the Senior Vice President of Communications for the NTRA. Rodgers is based in the NTRA's Washington, DC office and leads the DC operation via Capitol Hill engagement, Horse PAC strategy and disbursement, and all external communications for Tom Rooney and the greater NTRA.

Prior to joining NTRA, Rodgers spent a decade doing communications for elected officials in both the Executive and Legislative branches of government. She worked for former Congressman Rooney as his communications director and led communications for his successful reelection campaigns. Rodgers also served U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue as his Deputy Communications Director, managing all media interviews and relations, and accompanied the Secretary on all official travel domestically and internationally for the duration of the Trump Administration.

Joe Bacigalupo

Joe Bacigalupo is Vice President of Membership Development for the NTRA. Bacigalupo is based in the NTRA's Lexington, Ky. office and heads the organization's development efforts that support the NTRA's federal legislative advocacy work.

Bacigalupo served as marketing manager for Churchill Downs, Inc., before joining NTRA. In his role with CDI, Bacigalupo created and executed both short term and long-range marketing plans and programs to ensure the profit, growth and expansion of the pari-mutuel wagering product from CDI's family of Thoroughbred racetracks. Bacigalupo began his career in the horse racing industry at TVG Network, now known as FanDuel TV, where he served as field marketing manager when the fledgling television network and advance deposit wagering company launched across the United States. Prior to entering the horse racing industry, Bacigalupo worked for Georgia-Pacific Corp.

Jordan Bonfitto

Jordan Bonfitto is the Director of Government Affairs for the NTRA. Bonfitto is based in the NTRA's Washington, D.C. office and leads the organization's advocacy efforts alongside President and CEO, former U.S. Congressman Tom Rooney.

Prior to joining NTRA, Bonfitto served as director of government affairs for the Global Cold Chain Alliance where he oversaw the legislative portfolio and helped expand the association's advocacy initiatives globally. Bonfitto has also served as a public servant where he was director of external and intergovernmental affairs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture for U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue as well as an Agriculture policy advisor for the National Economic Council at the White House. Prior to the Administration, Bonfitto worked on Capitol Hill.
As the trade association for the Thoroughbred industry, NTRA focuses its lobbying on legislation having a direct and material effect on its members and their business activities as they relate to horse racing, breeding and pari-mutuel wagering. The NTRA also supports Congressional education programs on issues such as agricultural matters and immigration, which affect the horse industry as a whole.

Below is a summary of the major legislative issues for Thoroughbred breeding and racing in the first half of the 118th Congress.

HORSE RACING INTEGRITY AND SAFETY ACT (HISA)

HISA is the culmination of years of industry work to find a consensus approach to nationwide anti-doping and medication control as well as a national approach to racetrack safety. HISA calls for the creation of a private, independent, self-regulatory entity for the purposes of developing and implementing the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and the racetrack safety program known as the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (the "Authority"). The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has oversight of the Authority.

HISA continues to implement their Racetrack Safety program which went into effect on July 1, 2022. However, on Friday, November 18, 2022, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled that the HISA is unconstitutional because it "delegates unsupervised government power to a private entity," and thus "violates the private non-delegation doctrine." As a result, NTRA and industry leaders actively engaged with Congressional leadership to act and provide reinforcement for the HISA in the omnibus appropriations bill, which was passed and signed into law on December 29, 2022. With that technical correction added, the Fifth Circuit remanded the case back to the District Court for further proceedings where it was ruled constitutional on May 4, 2023. Following this decision, the Anti-Doping Medication Control Program (ADMC) went into effect on May 22. The ADMC Program is administered and enforced by the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit. Included in the rules package are the Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Protocol, the Prohibited List, Definitions, Arbitration Procedures, Equine Testing Investigative Standards and Equine Standards for Laboratories and Accreditation.

THREE-YEAR DEPRECIATION OF RACEHORSES – MATCHING DEDUCTIONS WITH INCOME

In the 2008 Farm Bill, NTRA secured a provision that allowed for the uniform and accelerated depreciation of Thoroughbreds. The provision has historically been included in a tax extender package, but unfortunately this expired in 2021, meaning a seven-year schedule would now apply. While Congress did not renew three-year depreciation as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) passed in December 2017, it did include 100% bonus depreciation, which has now been phased down to 80% for 2023, and a $1.1 million Section 179 expense allowance for qualified depreciable property, two important investment incentives that lessened the need for three-year depreciation in many cases.

However, three-year depreciation continued to be a beneficial option for many owners of young racehorses. Three-year depreciation benefits horse owners because many are not eligible for Section 179 expensing due to the net income requirement and choose to elect out of the 80% bonus depreciation. One of the main reasons to elect out of the bonus depreciation is to better match the deductions with corresponding income. A 3-year life (depreciated over a 4-year period) is more realistic for a horse's racing career versus the 7-year life (depreciated over 8 years). Three-year depreciation is valuable to racehorse owners, especially racing partnerships with multiple passive owners, as it better aligns deductions with corresponding income opportunities on an annual basis.

After passage of the TCJA, the horse industry as mentioned before relies upon Congress to extend the three-year depreciation provision as part of a larger package of temporary tax rules, known as tax extenders, which historically is addressed at the end of each year to renew dozens of temporary or expiring tax provisions for individuals and businesses. It is now typical that one of the tax provisions included in this tax extender package is the three-year depreciation of racehorses. While Congress did not act on tax extenders in the 2022, NTRA is continuing to advocate for a retroactive extension of three-year depreciation for all of 2022 and 2023 purchases and will work toward a permanent legislative resolution to this important depreciation treatment of all racehorses.

Recently, Congressman Barr (R-KY) and Congressman McGarvey (D-KY) introduced a bipartisan piece of legislation called The Race Horse Cost Recovery Act of 2023, which would make the three-year depreciation schedule permanent for racehorses, regardless of their age when put into service. In addition, Senator Lankford (R-OK) has introduced the Accelerate Long-Term Investment Growth Now (ALIGN) Act, which would make 100% bonus depreciation permanent.

NTRA will be working tirelessly to get both pieces of legislation to the President’s desk this Congress.
SPORTS BETTING

In May of 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court, by a 7-2 decision, overturned the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA) in the landmark Murphy v. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) decision. Previously, PASPA banned all but four states from legalizing sports gambling. States and sovereign tribal nations can now set their own policies to legalize and regulate sports betting. In less than five years, 36 states and Washington, D.C. have legalized sports betting. While no sports betting legislation has been introduced in the 118th Congress, the NTRA continues to assess the potential threats and opportunities that such legislation would present. The NTRA plans to be at the table as it has been on all previous Internet and sports betting issues for the past 20 years.

On the regulatory front, the NTRA for more than a year has been working with senior executives at credit card companies, advance deposit wagering outlets and sports wagering companies to arrive at a "one wallet" solution to allow customers to bet on horses and other sports by opening a single account. In December of 2022, FanDuel announced to its customers they could access both pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing and traditional sportsbook wagering with a single account, becoming the first sportsbook to do so.

IMMIGRATION

The H-2B visa guest worker program is a nonimmigrant visa program used by many industries that need temporary non-agricultural help when domestic workers are unavailable. For the horse racing industry, trainers rely heavily on the H-2B program to fill various backside positions. Congress has set a cap of 66,000 H-2B visas per fiscal year, with 33,000 available for workers who begin employment in the first half of the fiscal year (October 1 - March 31) and 33,000 for workers who begin employment in the second half of the fiscal year (April 1 - September 30). This allotment often falls short of satisfying employer demand. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of Labor (DOL) typically address this shortfall by providing supplemental visas later in the fiscal year. The H-2B visa program, similar to U.S. immigration policy overall, needs major reform to adequately serve workers and employers. The NTRA supports comprehensive immigration reform while also advocating for improvements to the H-2B visa program through its participation in the H-2B Workforce Coalition.

In 2022, NTRA was supportive of Senator Bennet’s (D-CO) Affordable and Secure Food Act being included in the end of the year spending package. The inclusion of this bill would have moved all the equine industry into the H-2A program so the industry would not be subject to the cap of the H-2B program. While in the end this bill was not included in the end of the year spending package, NTRA will continue to advocate before Congress for passage of permanent solutions to temporary worker issues in the industry.
2022 LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

4 Sons Stables
4M Ranch
5th Street Stable
789 Racing Stable
A & A Equine Inc
A & J Racing Stable
A R Enterprises Inc
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Aaron & Marie Jones
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All In Investors
All My Hart Racing
Allan Schaffer
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Angelo Romeo
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Anthony DiGiovanni
Anthony Fortunato
Anthony Granitz
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Anthony Mastropietro
Anthony Melli
Anthony Spinazzola
AP Stable
Arcadio Escamilla
Arch Bloodstock
Archibald Kingsley
Armonte Craig
Arnold Davidov
Arthur Harmon
Arven Holden
Ashview Farm
Assaf Molq Alsahle
Atlanta Hall Farm
Audley Farm
August Dawn Farm
Avia Pitts
Avram Freedberg
Baccari Bloodstock/Seclusive Farm
Backstreet Stable
Bad Boys Racing
Ballysax Bloodstock
Bansha House Stables
Baoma Corp.
Barak Farm
Barbara Larson
Barbara Minshall
Barry & Carol Conrad
Barry Camarda
Barry Lake
Barry Schwartz
Barry Weisbord
BBA Ireland
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Benjamin Posen
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Beryl Stokes, Jr.
Best A Luck Farm
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Bet Thoroughbreds
BHMFRLLC
Big Doms Racing
Big Easy Racing & Sales
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Bill Roach
Birchwood Farm
Blackridge Stables
Blackstone Farm
Blazing Forest Stable
Bloodstock Thoroughbreds
Blue Diamond Stud Farm LTD
Blue Star Racing
Bluegrass Racing Club
Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services
Bluewater Sales
Boardshorts Stables
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Bob Grayson
Bob Hansan
Bob Roenker Jr.
Bobfeld Bloodstock
Bona Terra Stud
Bona Venture Stables
Bonnie Rye Stable
Borden Farm
Boyd Browning
Brad Gotwals Brook Ledge Inc.
Brad Meister
Braden Selvig
Brady Thoroughbred
Braun & English
Breffni Farm
Brendan Walsh
Brent Davidson
Brett Kelly
Brett Wiener
Brian Brush
Brian Griffin
Brian Gross
Brian Hille
Brian Knippenberg
Brian Thomas
Brian Zars
Briarbrooke Farm
Bridlewood Farm
Brilliant Racing
Bristol Feeney
Britannia Farm
Brookdale Farm
Bruce Lunsford
Bruno De Julio
Bryan & Holley Rice
Bryan Anderson
Buck Pond Farm
Buckland Sales / Millennium Farms
Buddy Jones
Burleson Farms
Burning Daylight Farms
C & G Thoroughbreds
C & S Thoroughbred Sales
C and C Stables
Calvin Johnston
Candyland Farm/ Dreamtime Farm
Cannon Thoroughbreds
Carem Stables
Carla L. Morgan
Carlo Vaccarezza
Carlos Flores
Carlos Perez
Carmine DeSarlo
Carol Casella
Carolyn & Harry Reed
Carlington Holdings
Cary Frommer
Casseen Thoroughbreds
Castle Park Farm
Catherine Stanley
Cathy Denelsbeck
Cedar Dell Racing
Centennial Farms
Chad Anshelewitz
Chad Nims
Champion Racing Stable
Chanceland Farm
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Charles Cuprill
Charles L. Biggs
Charles Lopresti Stable/ Forest Lane Farm
Charles Hovitz
Charlie Allen
Charlie Williams
Chasing the Wind Racing
Cheryl Doyle
Chester Bishop
Chestertown Farm
Chestnut Hill Stable
Cheyenne Stables / Candy Meadows
Chief Horse Futures
China Horse Club International
Choctaw Racing Stable
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Chris Carpenter
Chris Coleman
Chris Grace
Chris Englehart
Chris Johnson
Chris Kinum
Christophe Clement
Christopher J. Trakas
Christopher Larmey
Christopher Olsson
Christopher Podratz
Christopher Province
Chuck Petrunin
Church Farm
Cindy Foss
Claiiborne Farm
Clarkland Farm
Classic Bloodstock
Claude Payne Jr.
Claudio Gonzalez
Clear Creek Stud
Cliff Racing
Clover Hill Farm, Inc.
Cloyd Clark, Jr.
Club 65 Racing
CoCo Ranch
Coldpress Racing
Colin Brennan Bloodstock
Colts Neck Stables
Columbiana Farm
Columbine Stable
Confederacion Hipica de PR Inc.
Conrad Little
Coolmore
Copper Penny Stables
Coteau Grove Farms
Country Life Farm
Covilair
Craig Aguiar
Crane Thoroughbred Services
Crazy Horse Equine Investments
Cres Ran Farms
Crestwood Farm
Cromwell Bloodstock / Hat Creek Racing
Crooked Shamrock Racing Stable
Crown & Thistle Stables
/ Let It Ride Equine Holdings
Holly Spada
Hoolie Racing Stable
Howard Johnson
HRH Prince Saud Bin Salam
Hubert Guy Bloodstock
Hudson River Farms / The Swyer Companies
Hugh Robertson
Hunter Valley Farm
Hurcon Racing Ventures
Imagine
Indian Creek Farm
Integrity Bloodstock
International Equine
Intuition Equine
Irie Thoroughbreds
Isaac Hawkins
Isabelle De Tomaso
Ital-Cal Horse Management Inc.
Ivan Barboza
J. Donald Wells
J. Kirk & Judy Robison
J. Stevens Bloodstock
J. W. Singer
Jack Mandato
Jack Blackburn
Jack Ward-Smith
Jackpot Farm (KY)
Jackpot Farm (TX)
Jaclyn Tillman
JAL Racing
James Shannon Jr.
James and Jane Fraser
James Bernhard
James Carter
James Collins
James Connor
James Fisher
James Glassmeyer
James Hayes
James Herthum
James J. Bakke
James Kopiec
James Lisowski
James Connors
James Marcus
James Michelson
James Rosiles
James Slade
James Wasserson
Jamm Ltd.
Jared Keyes
Jay Donaldson
Jay Galliano
JCE Racing
JDT Racing
Jean Demarzo
Jean Rofe
Jeanne Cumiskey
Jeannie King
Jebel Ali Stables
Jeff Arthur
Jeff Banks
Jeffery Caracci
Jeffrey Kallenberg
Jeffrey Grammer
Jennifer Nichols
Jerry Caroom
Jerry Namy
Jesse Korona
Jim and Susan Hill
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Jim Tilton Jr.
Jim Daniel
Jim Fitzgerald
Jim Meeks
Jim Schmitz
Jim Sebes
Jim Thompson
Jim Volk
Jimmy D Elia
Jimmy Gladwell III
Jimmy Partin
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Joe Hancock
Joe Johnson
Joe Pagan
John A Damicco
John A. Hancock
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John Behneke
John Behrendt
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John Kenworthy
John Oxley
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Joker Racing
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JR Racing
JRTA Young Thoroughbreds
JS Stables
Juan Pablo Larrazabal
Juddmonte Farm
Judy Wagner
Julie Rini
Kadillac Ranch
Karen Mulholland
Karl & Cathy Glassman
Katherine Voss
Kathleen O'Connor Racing Stable
Kathleen Willier
Katie Wright
Katerich Farms
Kaylee Platt
Kaz Hill Farm
Keith Carter
Keith Johnston
Keith Lancaster
Kerry Breckner
Ken Yeager
Kenneth Karlan
Kenneth Kuska
Kenneth McConway
Kenneth Mahan
Kenneth Torres
Kent Friend
Kenwood Racing
Kerry Ryan
Kerry Cauthen
Kevin Bogart
Kevin Dole
Kevin Scatuorcho
Kevin Walsh
Kia-Ora Stud
Kim Valerio
Kindergarten Farm
Kinsman Farm
Kirk Rockwell
Kirkwood Stables / Elser Farms
Klaravich Stables/LRK Racing
Knockgriffin Farm / Chilly Bleak Farm
Korina Stable
Kristen McDermott
Kristi Anglen
Kueber Racing
Kurt Umlauf
Lacigia
Lance Colwell
Lance Russell Martin
Lane's End Farm
Larry Burns
Larry Fugate
Larry Hirsch
Larry Todd
Laura Gill
Laura Gandy
Lawrence Gasaway
Lawrence Rebbechi
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Lazy Lane Farm
LC Racing
Leading Edge Bloodstock
Leake Farms
Leanne Warren
Ledgelands Farm
Lee Einsidler
Lee Lewis
Legacy Bloodstock
Legion Bloodstock
Lester Ellenz
Lexington Ventures
Lianna Stable
Lindsay Hurst IV
Lindsay Schultz
Lisa Parkes
Little Man Farm
Little’s Bloodstock
LNJ Foxwoods
Logan Stark
Lon Wiggins
Longford Farm
Lori Owens
Lorrie Feist
Lothenbach Stables
Lou Arellano
Louis Krychev
Louis Leatherwood
Louis Matrone
Louis Piro
Louisa Lenihan
Lucky Aces Racing
Luis Bouza
Luis Calderin
Lynch Bages Bloodstock Inc
Lynne & Chris Boutte
Lynwood Stable
Maccabee Farm
Madakat Stables
Magic Cap Stables
Magnolia Mares
Mahoney Eden Manor
Main Line Racing Stables
Manganaro
Maple Lane Farm
Maple Run South
Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm
Maplewood Farm
Marblehead Farm
Marc Bates
Marc Infante
Marc McLean
Marc Page
Marc Tacher
NTRA 1/4% CHECK-OFF PROGRAM

What is the NTRA ¼% Check-off Program?
The ¼% Check-off Program is an NTRA fundraising program that empowers participants at sales hosted by NTRA partners to support the NTRA’s federal legislative advocacy services that amplify the horse racing industry’s voice in Washington, DC. Buyers and sellers may participate in the Program by pledging $2.50 for every $1,000 of a horse’s sale price of any or all their horses.

How do I participate?
For Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, CTBA and WTBOA sales, sellers, consignors, and designated agents may “pre-commit” their pledge on sales entry forms for the Check-off Program. Sellers who miss the deadline for pre-commitments may pledge until the close of sale billing. Buyers may include their contribution when submitting payment. For OBS sales, the NTRA contacts buyers and sellers directly with suggested contribution information.

How much can I contribute?
There is no limit on the amount that can be contributed in the Check-off Program. Sale price determines the contribution amount for a particular horse. Individuals who buy or sell multiple horses may contribute on any or all of them.

How can Federal lobbying help make the horse racing industry more competitive?
We will fight to secure legislation that benefit industry stakeholder groups like horse owners, breeders, racetracks, advance deposit wagering service providers and horseplayers. We will address issues that directly impact racing, such as taxation, internet wagering, immigration, sports betting expansion and matters that affect farmers, ranchers and other agricultural producers.

How does the NTRA lobby on Capitol Hill?
NTRA fields a government relations team based in Washington, DC, that is led by former U.S. Congressman and current NTRA President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom Rooney. NTRA also coordinates with the American Horse Council on legislative advocacy issues that affect all equine breeds and disciplines.

Tom Rooney, NTRA President and CEO and former U.S. Congressman

Help Me Help Horse Racing in DC

For more information, contact Joe Bacigalupo joeb@NTRA.com or 859-422-2677.
FASIG-TIPTON SALE DATES

February 6-7  Kentucky Winter Mixed
May 22-23  Midlantic Two-Year-Olds in Training
June 28  Midlantic June Two-Year-Olds in Training
July 10  July Selected Horses of Racing Age
July 11  The July Sale of Selected Yearlings
August 7-8  The Saratoga Sale of Selected Yearlings
August 13-14  New York Bred Yearlings

September 26  California Fall Yearlings & Horses of Racing Age
October 2-3  Midlantic Fall Yearlings
October 17  Saratoga Fall Mixed Sale
October 23-26  Kentucky October Yearlings
November 7  The November Sale of Selected Breeding Stock
December 5  Midlantic Winter Mixed & Horses of Racing Age

*Sale dates subject to change; check website for updates.
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<th>Date Range</th>
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<td>June 13-15</td>
<td>June Two-Year-Olds &amp; Horses of Racing Age</td>
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<td>October 10-11</td>
<td>October Yearlings</td>
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*Sale dates subject to change; check website for updates.*

ocalsales.com

©NTRA Photo
WASHINGTON THOROUGHGRED SALE DATES
washingtonthoroughbred.com

2023
August 22  Summer Yearling & Mixed Sale

*Sale dates subject to change; check website for updates.
CALIFORNIA THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS SALE DATES

ctba.com

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<td>Winter Mixed Sale</td>
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<td>August 15</td>
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*Sale dates subject to change; check website for updates.
The NTRA’s government relations team performs a broad array of legislative advocacy services for the horse racing and breeding industry. Working closely with the NTRA membership and Board of Directors, the team determines the industry’s governmental priorities and then develops a comprehensive legislative strategy to achieve these priorities. The current strategy includes building relationships with members of Congress and their staffs, educating them about industry issues and concerns and introducing lawmakers and staff to industry members in the field.

The government relations team uses a combination of resources to enhance its presence and effectiveness on Capitol Hill. NTRA President and Chief Executive Officer, Tom Rooney, served as a U.S. Congressman for 10 years and has a strong network of federal legislators and their staffers who assist the team. Anchoring the team’s efforts is the formation of a new NTRA office on Capitol Hill that opened in June 2022. Additionally, the team is in daily contact with lobbyists to help move horse racing’s legislative agenda through Congressional processes of meeting with Congressional staffers and members of Congress, bill drafting, committee mark-ups, hearings and votes.

One essential element of maintaining this effective presence in Washington is robust fundraising. The NTRA primarily secures financial support through its Legislative Action Campaign’s ¼% Check-off Program at major Thoroughbred auctions. Industry members who buy and sell at Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, Ocala Breeders’ Sales Company (OBS), California Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association and the Washington Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners Association may contribute one quarter of one percent of each horse’s sale price to help fund the Campaign.

Industry members also support NTRA fundraising through the Foal Program, an annual direct mail effort targeting owners and breeders who may not buy or sell at auction. Contributions start at $50 per foal. Horseplayers who join the NHC Tour at a certain membership level also are considered contributors to the NTRA’s Legislative Action Campaign through their membership.

Campaign finance is also important to NTRA advocacy. The NTRA government relations team organizes and participates in fundraisers on behalf of Horse PAC®, the political action committee of the NTRA. Horse PAC® has disbursed nearly $5 million to upwards of more than 350 federal political candidates and leadership PACs since 2002. Click here to read the 2022 Horse PAC® Annual Report.

Another component of the NTRA’s government advocacy efforts for more than a decade was the NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance. Formed in 2008, the Alliance promoted national uniformity through a national Code of Standards and Accreditation process covering five areas: 1) injury reporting and prevention; 2) a safer racing and training environment; 3) uniform medication, testing, and penalties; 4) jockey safety and welfare; and 5) aftercare and transition of retired racehorses. The Alliance proved to be helpful in the formation and passing of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA), a federal law that creates uniform standards in anti-doping and medication control and racetrack safety. HISA’s racetrack safety program went into effect on July 1, 2022. As of June 30, 2022, 22 racetracks were accredited by the Alliance and HISA extended three-year provisional accreditation to these tracks was implemented on May 22, 2023.

The horse racing industry is part of a $37 billion agri-business that supports half a million jobs touching every state. In 2022, more than $12.1 billion was wagered on horse racing nationwide, the second highest total since 2009. Government regulation and oversight are critical to horse racing’s economic development and long-term survival. For this reason, the NTRA dedicates significant resources to protecting and promoting horse racing on Capitol Hill.

Starting with a landmark 2000 amendment to the Interstate Horseracing Act that paved the way for online betting on pari-mutuel horse racing, the NTRA has built a significant presence on Capitol Hill. The NTRA strengthened its presence even as federal lobbying expenditures by all industries have skyrocketed. The chart below shows the tremendous growth in lobbying expenditures across all industries, including the gambling sector.
### LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN

| Common Names: | “¼ Percent Check-off Program” |
| Contribution Uses: | Contributions are used to support Federal legislative advocacy to benefit the racing and breeding industries. |
| Contribution Limits: | There is no limit on the amount that can be contributed. Individuals and corporate entities like partnerships and farms can participate. |
| Payment Methods: | Thoroughbred buyers and sellers contribute ¼% of the price of a horse sold at public auction to the NTRA’s Legislative Action Campaign.  
*Note these alternative ways to contribute:* Owners/breeders and others who do not participate in auction sales may contribute through the Foal Program or through direct contributions. NHC Tour players may contribute when joining. |
| Deductibility: | Not tax deductible. |
| Added benefits: | Contributors are automatically eligible to receive preferred pricing on products and services from companies like John Deere, Big Ass Fans, Farmers Insurance, Sherwin-Williams and ODP through NTRA Advantage Equine Discounts. Visit our new website [www.EquineDiscounts.com](http://www.EquineDiscounts.com) or call toll free 866-678-4289 for more information. |
| Membership: | Participants automatically become NTRA members and may be PAC-eligible (see column to the right). |
| Citizenship Requirements: | Open to U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. |
| NTRA Contact: | Joe Bacigalupo  
859-422-2677  
joeb@ntra.com |

### POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

| Common Names: | “Horse PAC” or “NTRA PAC” |
| Contribution Uses: | Contributions are not co-mingled with NTRA corporate funds and may only be used to support political candidates and parties at the Federal level. |
| Contribution Limits: | $5,000 per individual, per year. Spouses of individual members may also contribute $5,000 each. Contributions from corporations are not accepted. |
| Payment Methods: | Personal check or credit card (VISA, Discover, MasterCard or American Express), payable to Horse PAC and addressed to:  
Casey Hamilton  
Horse PAC  
401 W. Main Street, Suite #222  
Lexington, KY 40507  
Horse PAC now accepts online contributions |
| Deductibility: | Not tax deductible. |
| Added benefits: | Contributors are automatically eligible to receive preferred pricing on products and services from companies like John Deere, Big Ass Fans, Farmers Insurance, Sherwin-Williams and ODP through NTRA Advantage Equine Discounts. Visit our new website [www.EquineDiscounts.com](http://www.EquineDiscounts.com) or call toll free 866-678-4289 for more information. |
| Membership: | NTRA members and members of NTRA-affiliated organizations are eligible. |
| Citizenship Requirements: | Contributors must be U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens. |
| NTRA Contact: | Tom Rooney  
609-410-3323  
trooney@ntra.com |
As a member of NTRA, you are eligible for these discounts.

**John Deere** offers substantial discounts on everything from mowers and tractors to Gator™ Utility Vehicles, hay and construction equipment.
- The MSRP Program: up to 28% off
- The Cash Bonus Program: up to $2,700 off
- Construction Equipment: up to 26% off

**ODP Business Solutions™** (formerly Office Depot) and Equine Discounts have partnered to provide exclusive benefits and savings on a wide selection of office products and services.

**Farmers Insurance®** has coverage options that you can customize and lots of ways to save with discounts and Policy Perks™. Save an average of $741 with your equine discount at Farmers Insurance today!

**Big Ass Fans** is committed to Energy Efficient Air movement and providing comfort to the equine industry. Equine members will receive up to a 25% discount on qualifying purchases for all Equine Facilities and Personal Residences.

By establishing a Sherwin-Williams account, members are eligible for these great benefits:
- 35% off paints at list price
- 30% off brushes, rollers and associated products at list price

Call 866-678-4289 to start saving! EquineDiscounts.com

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A percentage of every sale is returned to the equine industry!
The NTRA extends its sincere appreciation to the following industry leaders for their generous support of the federal Legislative Action Campaign.

BLOOD-HORSE • BREEDERS’ CUP • DAILY RACING FORM • DEL MAR • THE ECLIPSE AWARDS • FLORIDA THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS’ AND OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION • NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS, INC • NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED HORSEMEN’S ASSOCIATION • NATIONAL HORSEPLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP • THE SARATOGA SPECIAL • THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS • TEXAS HORSEMEN’S PARTNERSHIP • THOROUGHBRED OWNERS OF CALIFORNIA
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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www.SupportHorseRacing.org