



September 4, 2020

**2020 New York Sire Stakes Night of Champions**  
**Yonkers Raceway—September 12, 2020**

Dear Sire Stakes Participants,

Congratulations on an exciting racing season leading to the \$1.8 million New York Sire Stakes Night of Champions at Yonkers Raceway. As a Sire Stakes participant, this packet contains information to help you prepare in advance for this important day of racing, featuring eight New York Sire Stakes finals worth \$225,000 each.

**Horses must be entered for the NYSS Finals before Monday, Sept. 7, at 9:00 a.m. at Yonkers Raceway.** The top eight horses in points will be drawn. The post position **draw will be streamed live at 12 noon** on the New York Sire Stakes Facebook page.

The NYS Gaming Commission will be requiring security protocols for all races (see enclosed racing protocols). The security protocols provide additional safeguards to protect the integrity of the sport and ensure the welfare of the horses. If you have any questions regarding the racing protocols, please contact Daniel Haughney, NYS Gaming Commission Director of Investigations, at 518-949-3707.

**Please be advised that horses racing in any of the NYSS Finals scheduled for Sept. 12 must be in the detention area by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11, at the Yonkers Raceway paddock. The paddock will open at 12:00 noon to begin accepting horses. This rule will be strictly enforced. A NYS license and the required completed veterinary form must accompany the horse into detention.** All horses will be subject to a continuous 24-hour dedicated watch by experienced security personnel leading to post time. During this time, horses will **NOT** be confined to their stalls, but rather will be able to go on to the track during a designated period of time as determined by the Trackman and walk in specific areas of the detention area while maintaining COVID-19 safety protocols.

Also, please be advised that NYSS and Gaming Commission staff will be taking out-of-competition blood samples from participating horses in advance of the Sept. 12 race day. The staff will secure blood samples at locations where the horses are training. If you have any questions regarding the out-of-competition testing, which is provided for in the racing conditions, please contact Kelly Young at 518-388-0224.

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The Yonkers Raceway health protocols must also be followed during detention. All individuals will be required to be masked at all times while in the paddock during detention. Please review the protocols enclosed in this packet.

All trainers with a horse in the Finals must call the NYSS Office in advance to place up to two individuals besides yourself on the Essential Persons list to have access to the horse in detention. Call Kelly at 518-388-0224 no later than 3:00pm on Thursday, Sept. 10. Individuals must be on this list in order to enter the detention barn/paddock on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 11 and 12.

In accordance with COVID-19 restrictions, licensed owners of a horse racing will be permitted to attend the races, but no other spectators. Owners must call the NYSS office to get on the admissions list to attend the Finals in person, no later than Friday, Sept. 11, at 3:00pm. Owners will not be permitted in the paddock. The Champion horses will have a winner's circle presentation and photo while maintaining appropriate social distancing.

Thank you for your continued support of the New York Sire Stakes program and your patience during this very challenging year. We wish you the best of luck leading up to and racing on the Night of Champions, the most exciting night of harness racing in New York!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Kelly Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the word "Young".

M. Kelly Young  
Executive Director