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## Erie County Fair Stakes Race Scheduled For Wednesday, July 10th

Tuesday, July 8, 2018

**HAMBURG, NEW YORK** - The 2019 Erie County Fair Sire Stakes Races will take place at the historic "Hamburg Oval" on Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. This event is free and open to the public. The New York Sire Stakes promote the breeding, buying, and racing of Standardbred horses in New York State, and are administered by the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund.

The Erie County Fair Race is part of a series of non-pari-mutuel betting harness races hosted at county fairs across New York State. The races are open to eligible two and three-year-old New York Standardbreds and are separated into nine divisions based on age and gait. The start of the race is considered the first official event of the 180<sup>th</sup> Erie County Fair that opens its gates on Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

Harness racing at the Erie County Fair is a tradition that dates back to the 1850s when the Fair was held at various racetracks across the County. Racing at the "Hamburg Oval" pre-dates the Erie County Fair's move to its current location at the Hamburg Fairgrounds as the site was originally home to the Hamburg Driving Grounds.

## **About the Erie County Fair**

The Erie County Agricultural Society is a private not-for-profit membership organization. Established in 1819, the Society is the oldest civic organization in western New York. The mission of the Erie County Agricultural Society (ECAS), sponsors of the Erie County Fair, is to preserve and enhance, by educational endeavors, the agricultural and historical legacy of New York State. The Fair strives to fulfill appropriate aspects of the agricultural, educational, entertainment and recreational needs of western New York. The  $180^{th}$  Erie County Fair will be held August  $7^{th} - 18^{th}$ , 2019. (www.ECFair.org).