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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## New York Sire Stakes and Yonkers Raceway to Live Stream "Night of Champions" Draw

**YONKERS, N.Y. –** The New York Sire Stakes and Yonkers Raceway will be live streaming the draw for the 2018 "Night of Champions," via Facebook on Monday, September 17. The finals for New York State's premier harness racing program for 2 and 3-year-olds, known as the "Night of Champions," is set to take place the following Saturday, September 22. The eight race event will hand out \$1.8 million in purse money.

Monday's draw will begin at 5:00 p.m. and can be accessed through <u>Yonkers Raceway</u> and <u>New York Sire</u> Stakes' Facebook pages.

"There has been so much excitement around New York-breds this year with some big wins in the Grand Circuit. We want to capture this excitement and are happy to give owners the opportunity to see first-hand how their horses draw in real time," said M. Kelly Young, executive director, Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund. "With the level of talent we've seen on the track this season, the 'Night of Champions' promises to be another memorable night for our program and we look forward to kicking it off with the live draw event."

Owners, breeders, trainers and other horseman are also welcome to attend the live draw and reception in person at Yonkers Raceway starting at 4:00PM in the Red Room. Reservations are required to attend in person and can be made via email to: amcgrath@caphill.com no later than 12:00PM on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

The New York Sire Stakes program promotes the breeding, buying, and racing of Standardbred horses in New York State, and is administered by the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund. It was the first program of is kind, featuring 2 and 3-year old colts and fillies, and has become the model for state-bred racing programs in North America.

## About the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund:

The Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund is a public benefit corporation established in 1965 by the Laverne Law (Laws of New York, Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1965). The mission of the fund is to promote agriculture through the breeding of Standardbred horses and the conduct of equine research within the state. To carry out its legislative mission, the Fund administers the New York Sire Stakes races, Excelsior/State Fair Series races, and County Fair Races. Additionally, the Fund provides assistance to county agriculture societies and contributes to the statewide 4-H program and to the Harry M. Zweig Fund for Equine Research.