

**RESOLUTION: ESTABLISHMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE RACING FAN ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**RESOLVED**, that

**WHEREAS** the New York State Gaming Commission has general jurisdiction over all horse racing and all pari-mutuel betting activities, both on-track and off-track in New York State, and over the corporations, associations, and persons involved therein; and

**WHEREAS** horse racing is a significant element of New York State's economy, including agriculture, entertainment, and tourism; and

**WHEREAS** the preservation and continuation of pari-mutuel horse racing and its rich tradition is vital to the interests of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS** the interests and opinions of the racing fan are important aspects in relation to the ongoing and future conduct of racing; and

**WHEREAS** the New York State Gaming Commission recognizes the significance of the interests and opinions of the racing fans; and

**WHEREAS** in 2011, the former New York State Racing and Wagering Board established, via similar resolution, a Racing Fan Advisory Council that expired August 31, 2016,

**NOW THEREFORE**, the New York State Gaming Commission ("Commission") hereby continues the **RACING FAN ADVISORY COUNCIL** to provide input and advice to the Commission on matters related to horse racing and wagering.

The new **RACING FAN ADVISORY COUNCIL** ("RFAC") shall be established and operate pursuant to the following:

1. The RFAC shall be composed of five members. None of the members of the Council shall be employees or officers of the Commission or be paid employees, lobbyists, or officers of any licensed or franchised racetrack, off-track betting corporation or any non-profit corporation which represents breeders or horsepersons. Members shall be selected based on their long-term involvement, interest, and knowledge of the sport of horse racing as fans. Five persons shall be appointed by the Commission Executive Director, one upon the recommendation of the chair of the Senate Committee on Racing, Wagering and Gaming, and one upon the recommendation of the chair of the Assembly Committee on Racing and Wagering.
2. The chair of the RFAC shall be selected by the Commission Executive Director. A deputy chair may be selected by a majority of RFAC members from among the persons appointed at the recommendation of the chairs of the designated legislative committees.

3. The members of the Council shall serve for a five year term, with all terms beginning September 1, 2016. In the event of a vacancy occurring during the term of appointment by reason of death, resignation, disqualification or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.
4. The RFAC shall request and shall receive the assistance and cooperation of the Commission in regard to receipt of information relating to horse racing and wagering in New York State.
5. The RFAC shall:
  - (a) have as its mission the growth of the fan base related to the sport of horse racing;
  - (b) engage New York State's racing fan population on how to make the sport more appealing;
  - (c) recommend procedures to the Commission to ensure that the opinion of the fan is a central part of the regulation of horse racing;
  - (d) advise the Commission on fan issues related to horse racing and wagering, including the operation of the State's Thoroughbred and Standardbred racetracks and the State's off-track betting corporations;
  - (e) recommend to the Commission further procedures to make Steward and presiding judge actions that impact the betting public more transparent;
  - (f) work with relevant component industries to better educate the casual fan as to significant industry topics;
  - (g) recommend to the Commission appropriate changes to Commission rules affecting horse racing; and
  - (h) perform such other duties as may be increased by order of the Commission.

Enacted by:



Robert Williams  
Executive Director

Date:

September 1, 2016