



State of Indiana Indiana Horse Racing Commission

Mitchell E. Daniels, Governor

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DIRECTIVE

June 15, 2012

The Indiana Horse Racing Commission (“IHRC”) staff has completed its investigation of the Indiana Horsemen’s Benevolent & Protective Association’s (“IHBPA”) petition regarding the safety of the Indiana Downs racetrack. The IHRC has concluded the HBPA’s assertion that the racetrack is “dangerous” is uncorroborated and unfounded.

The IHRC Staff, including Senior State Steward Stan Bowker, met with representative groups of the Thoroughbred Horsemen and Jockeys and the Quarter Horse Horsemen and Jockeys. Interviews were also conducted with Indiana Downs’ General Manager, Track Superintendent, and a practicing veterinarian. Not one individual indicated they believe the track to be dangerous or unsafe—including several HBPA members who signed the petition.

The HBPA itself acknowledges that its characterizations of the Indiana Downs Racetrack as “dangerous to the health and well-being of equine athletes” is inaccurate.

Because Commission staff, in consultation with the Senior State Steward, has determined that the HBPA’s petition is unsubstantiated, no further action is required at this time, and training will resume as originally scheduled on Saturday, June 16, 2012. Live racing will resume Monday, June 18, 2012.



Joe Gorajec
Executive Director
Indiana Horse Racing Commission