



June 30, 2015

Christopher Kay
President and CEO
The New York Racing Association, Inc. (NYRA)
2150 Hempstead Turnpike Elmont, NY 11003

Dear President Kay:

As representatives of New York's diverse array of racing fans, we write to forward our comments regarding the 2015 Belmont Stakes Day experience. In sum, the fans who witnessed history being made with American Pharoah capturing the first Triple Crown in 37 years had a significantly better overall experience than on the 2014 Belmont Stakes Day. We greatly appreciate that you met with us to discuss our concerns after the 2014 Belmont Stakes and that NYRA took many of our suggestions seriously and implemented several of them.

Last year, we had an obligation to share the substantial feedback we were hearing from New York's fans in relation to the 2014 Belmont Stakes experience. It is evident that NYRA listened to those concerns and put in place measures to ensure guests visiting Belmont Park on June 6, 2015 had an improved fan experience. We are encouraged by the responsiveness and attention to detail that NYRA brought to this year's event in comparison with the 2014 experience. Most notably, the ingress and egress to Belmont Park was well-managed. Crowd and traffic control were well coordinated and public transportation operated far more efficiently than in 2014. Additionally, the Council was pleased to see an increased number of amenities and concessions. We realize that these things did not improve by chance, and that the improvements to the fan experience were a direct result on NYRA's increased planning and attention.

As we have noted previously, Belmont Stakes Day is, for many fans, their first visit to a racetrack, or only visit during the year. It is an excellent opportunity to highlight and showcase so many positive aspects of horse racing in New York to entice fans to return to a race track at a future date. To that end, the Racing Fan Advisory Council has several ideas it would like to share with you regarding how to make next year's Belmont Stakes an even better experience for racing fans. We would appreciate the opportunity to address these with you in person at some point during the 2015 Saratoga meet. Chairman Patrick Connors will contact your office in the coming weeks in order to schedule a meeting at your convenience. You should also feel free to contact him at 518-445-2322.

Congratulations again on helping to make Belmont Stakes Day 2015 a part of New York's storied horse racing legacy.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Patrick Connors in black ink.

Patrick Connors, Chairman

Handwritten signature of Michael Amo in black ink.

Michael Amo, Vice Chairman

Handwritten signature of Michael Mills in black ink.

Michael Mills

S/Allan Carter

Allan Carter

Handwritten signature of M. Kelly Young in blue ink.

M. Kelly Young



**Racing Fan
Advisory Council**

cc:

NYRA Board of Directors

Members of the Franchise Oversight Board

Members of the New York State Gaming Commission

Brendan Fitzgerald, Assistant Secretary for Financial Services

Senator John Bonacic, Chair of NY Senate Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee

Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow, Chair of NY Assembly Racing and Wagering Committee