



August 14, 2015

NYS Gaming Commission to host forum on August 25 to discuss the policy and practice of Lasix administration

Day-long summit at Empire State College in Saratoga Springs will discuss controversial medication and include renowned academics and researchers from across the world, owners, trainers and industry leaders

The New York State Gaming Commission will host a day-long forum to discuss the policy and practice of furosemide (Lasix) administration in New York State on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 10 a.m. at Empire State College in Saratoga Springs.

The forum was initially proposed by Commissioners John Crotty and Peter Moschetti at the [March 23, 2015 Commission Meeting](#).

“In recent years, no issue has been as divisive in Thoroughbred horse racing than race-day administration of Lasix,” said Commission Executive Director Robert Williams. “Considering limitations in administrations discussed in Kentucky and by the Breeders Cup, the Commissioners have called for an open, objective and informative dialogue to hear the most recent information and research relating to Lasix from parties on both sides of the issue.”

The Commission seeks guidance on the following questions at the forum:

- Is Lasix administration appropriate for the equine athlete?
- What should the Commission consider when evaluating present Lasix administration protocols? Should present medication protocols regarding Lasix be reconsidered?
- What does recent academic research illustrate regarding the utilization of Lasix for the equine athlete?
- What are recent developments in regulatory practice globally regarding Lasix administration?

The day-long presentation will be Web cast live on the [Commission's Web site](#). The forum is free and open to the public. It will be held in room 143 at Empire State College's campus located at 113 West Avenue in Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Expected panels and participants are listed below.

How we got here: A brief presentation on the history of the use of Furosemide and previously permitted race day medications in the U.S.

- Bennett Liebman, Albany Law School, former NYS Deputy Secretary for Gaming & Racing

What does the most recent research indicate regarding Lasix administration for Thoroughbred racehorses? Is Lasix appropriately used now?

- Moderated by NYS Gaming Commission Equine Medical Director Scott E. Palmer, VMD
- Paul Morley, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM, Colorado State University, Department of Clinical Sciences*
- Corinne R. Sweeney, DVM, BS, New Bolton Center, University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine; Professor of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Veterinarians treating horses: Views on furosemide

- Moderated by NYS Gaming Commission Equine Medical Director Scott E. Palmer, VMD
- Jeff Blea, DVM, VonBluecher, Blea, Hunkin Inc., Equine Medicine and Surgery, Sierra Madre, CA; Immediate Past President, AAEP*
- Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, UCal-Davis Veterinary School*
- Scott Hay, DVM, Teigland, Franklin and Brokken, DVMs, P.A.; Chair, AAEP Racing Committee*
- Foster Northrop, DVM, Northrop Equine, Kentucky Horse Racing Commission*
- Gary T. Priest, DVM, Harthill & Priest Equine Surgery, Versailles, KY*
- Christopher M. Riggs, MRCVS, Hong Kong Jockey Club*

The Choice for Trainers and Owners: Why do you use or not use Lasix?

- Moderated by NYS Gaming Commission Executive Director Robert Williams
- Mark Casse, Casse Racing, Ocala, FL & Toronto, ON
- Gary Contessa, Thoroughbred trainer
- Tracy W. Farmer, Thoroughbred owner, Shadowland Farm, Midway, KY
- Maggi Moss, Thoroughbred owner
- Jonathan E. Sheppard, Hall of Fame horse trainer
- Richard A. Violette, Jr., President, New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Industry Leadership: What should the Commission consider?

- Alan Foreman, Chairman & CEO, Thoroughbred Horsemen's Associations, Inc.
- Ed Martin, President of the Association of Racing Commissioners International
- William A. Nader, Executive Director, Hong Kong Jockey Club*
- Alex Waldrop, President & CEO, National Thoroughbred Racing Association

*Participating via video/teleconference

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