NYS GAMING COMMISSION OFFERS EXTENSION FOR 2017 TRAINER & ASSISTANT TRAINER CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Failure to Notify Commission of Completion of Continuing Education Requirement Will Result in Fines/Inability to Renew Licenses

The New York State Gaming Commission’s Thoroughbred Trainer Continuing Education program went into effect January 1, 2017. This regulation requires Thoroughbred trainers and assistant trainers to obtain 4 hours of approved continuing education credit each calendar year. Continuing education credit hours do not carry over from year to year. It exempts, subject to the permission of the State Steward, trainers who rarely participate in New York racing. The deadline for completion of this year’s Thoroughbred Trainer Continuing Education requirement is December 31, 2017. Completion of this requirement is a condition of a trainer’s licensure to participate in New York racing.

A review of the Commission Trainer Continuing Education database indicates many New York licensed trainers and assistant trainers have not notified the Commission of completing the approved continuing education credits for the 2017 calendar year.

Since this is the inaugural year of the continuing education program, the Commission has anticipated granting a single 45-day extension to New York-licensed Thoroughbred trainers and/or assistant trainers to facilitate meeting the requirement for 2017. To maintain valid licensure and avoid fines/penalties, all New York-licensed Thoroughbred trainers and assistant trainers must submit proof of completion of the four hours of continuing education to the Commission by February 15, 2018.

There are multiple convenient ways for trainers and assistant trainers to meet this requirement:

- **The Jockey Club Online Courses**: The Commission has approved eight separate continuing education modules available on The Jockey Club Advanced Horsemanship Program website: http://courses.Grayson-jockeyclub.org/course-index. Once completed, the licensee will be asked to designate a racing jurisdiction to be notified. The licensee should indicate that The Jockey Club should advise the New York State Gaming Commission of completion of the training course.

- **NYS Gaming Commission Continuing Education Seminars on YouTube**: The Commission has created four individual hour-long continuing education seminars available for free on YouTube:
  - “Findings of the NYS Thoroughbred Post-Mortem Examination Program” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQSiRPfoUeA&t=29s
  - “Risk & Protective Factors—How Can We Use Them to Prevent Injury?” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8d63u_MvBA
  - “Fetlock CT To Assess Proximal Sesamoid Bone Fracture Risk” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B72gbyVHki8
• “Challenges Specific to the Saratoga Meet”
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IjW7WLO1PU&t=6s

Once a licensee has viewed these videos in their entirety, he/she must complete and submit a “Trainer Continuing Record of Participation” form, available at

Live Continuing Education Events Throughout 2017: The New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (NYTHA), Cornell University and other veterinary colleges sponsored pre-approved live continuing education events throughout 2017. Licensees who participated in any of these seminars may complete and submit the “Continuing Education Certificate of Attendance” form, available at

New York-licensed Thoroughbred trainers and assistant trainers who have not submitted documentation of completion of four hours of continuing education before February 15, 2018 may be subject to fines for each month that they are in violation after February 15, 2018. Thoroughbred trainers or assistant trainers who have not met this requirement will not be able to renew their New York State Gaming Commission licenses.

If you have additional questions regarding this continuing education requirement, or the administrative details of the program, please do not hesitate to contact New York State Gaming Commission Equine Medical Director Scott E. Palmer, V.M.D., Dipl. A.B.V.P., Eq. Practice at 518-441-7916 / Scott.Palmer@gaming.ny.gov.

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