

**Ontario
Racing
Commission**

Suite 400
10 Carlson Court
Toronto, Ontario
M9W 6L2
Tel 416 213-0520
Fax 416 213-7827

**Commission
des courses
de l'Ontario**

Bureau 400
10 Carlson Court
Toronto (Ontario)
M9W 6L2
Tél 416 213-0520
Télé 416 213-7827



December 22, 2010

Notice to the Industry

WEG application for Guaranteed Starter Bonus program circulated for comment

The Ontario Racing Commission (ORC) is circulating an application from Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG) to implement a Guaranteed Starter Bonus program as a pilot project for the 2011 Woodbine Winter/Spring meet.

The application will be considered within the framework of the Ontario Racing Program - 2011. A copy of the WEG letter is attached.

Input, comments or concerns **must be received by 12 noon December 31, 2010** to be considered and can be forwarded to the Ontario Racing Commission as follows:

Facsimile: (416) 213-7827

E-Mail: inquiry@ontarioracingcommission.ca

Mail: ORC, Suite 400, 10 Carlson Court, Toronto, ON M9W 6L2

John L. Blakney
Executive Director

WOODBINE

E N T E R T A I N M E N T

To: Wendy Hoogeveen, ORC
cc: Steve Lehman, ORC
John Blakney, ORC
Bill O'Donnell, COSA

From: Jamie Martin

Date: December 20, 2010

Subject: Guaranteed Starter Bonus

The Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG) requests approval to implement a Guaranteed Starter Bonus program as a pilot project for the 2011 Woodbine Winter/Spring meet.

As outlined in the Framework discussions and the Executive Directors' decision on 2011 Race Dates, the program "should further enhance the attractiveness of racing at WEG – and particularly Woodbine".

The Guaranteed Starter Bonus program, for purposes of the pilot program, would pay all officials starters, as determined by the Judges, that finish 6th place through last, a purse payment of \$300. The purse payment would be paid to the owner, with no other deductions. The payments would not be included with the horses' statistical earnings.

The time period for the trial project would be Thursday January 6 through Monday May 16th, 2011, which is the conclusion of the Woodbine Spring meet. Representing 76 dates, the timeframe will provide a large enough statistical sample to generate meaningful results for further analysis. There is some programming required on the bookkeeping system that may delay when we can start actually making payments, but it should not delay the start date of the pilot program. The intent is to provide the payments in a manner that is consistent with the issuance of regular purse payments.

Based on an assumption of 12 races per card and 9 horses per race, the purse expense for the pilot program will be \$1,094,400. Within 60 days of the conclusion of the pilot program, WEG will provide statistical results for the 2011 period, and comparisons with previous years. WEG will also provide an evaluation on the merits of the program, including the various components such as the amount, how it's paid, and to whom.

WEG produces condition sheets on Thursdays for the following weekends race cards, for the program to begin January 6th notice would need to be given to horse owners on December 30th. Please contact me directly if you require further information.

