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*Maine State
Harness Racing Commission*



ANNUAL REPORT

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1998

1998

GOVERNOR
ANGUS S. KING, JR.

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COMMISSIONER
ROBERT W. SPEAR

HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
RICHARD CRABTREE, CHAIR
HENRY JACKSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RALPH CANNEY, PROGRAM MANAGER
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0028
TEL: (207) 287-3221
FAX: (207) 287-5576

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES

May 5, 1999

Members, Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Dear Senator Daggett and Representative Tuttle, Jr.:
Dear Senator Nutting and Representative Pieh:

Pursuant to Title 8 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, §267.2 and 275.D.9, I am pleased to submit to you the Maine Harness Racing Commission 1998 ANNUAL REPORT. Included in this report is the annual reporting on the effect of off-track betting facilities on the local economy and the integrity of live racing. I am incorporating the off-track betting information as a cost saving measure and for simplifying the annual reporting process.

You will find the information on the off-track betting facilities in Part III of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. W. Jackson".

Henry W. Jackson
Executive Director

ENC.: Maine Harness Racing Commission ANNUAL REPORT for 1998

cc: The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor
Robert W. Spear, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture Food and Rural Resources

SEP 23 1999

GOVERNOR
ANGUS S. KING, JR.

COMMISSIONER
ROBERT W. SPEAR



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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES

May 5, 1999

Robert W. Spear, Commissioner
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Commissioner Spear:

Pursuant to Title 8 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, §267, subsection 2, I am please to submit to you the Maine Harness Racing Commission ANNUAL REPORT for 1998. Included in this report is the information regarding the off-track betting facilities. I have combined the two reports as a cost saving measure and to simplify the reporting process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. W. Jackson".

Henry W. Jackson
Executive Director

ENC.: Maine Harness Racing Commission ANNUAL REPORT

cc: The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor
The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
The Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs
Sarah C. Tubbesing, Executive Director of the Legislative Council

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PART I

The Maine Harness Racing Commission

Report of the Chair

Report of the Executive Director

Duties of the Commission

Commission Members

Commission Members

Commission Staff

Commission Meetings and Offices

Commission Budget

GOVERNOR
ANGUS S. KING, JR.

DIRECTOR

COMMISSIONER
ROBERT W. SPEAR



HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
RICHARD CRABTREE, CHAIR
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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES

May 5, 1999

As Paul Verrette recently said "We are doing as well in Maine as anywhere". The stake's program is flourishing; the Promotional Board is beginning an industry outreach effort; our horses are fast and our races competitive; yet, we remain an industry that lives on the passion of its participants, the fall ritual of agricultural fairs and the stubborn Yankee stick-to-itiveness not on our positive economics. The harsh realities of our economics are that only a few horses pay their way in Maine; only a few owners break even; and, only a couple of tracks make any money.

How then do we persist? Have we discovered an economic activity unaffected by the principle of risk and reward? NO! We simply believe that if we hold on long enough things will miraculously get better and in the meantime we eat our economic seed corn. An activity which will eventually lead to starvation is not healthy for any industry.

The time has passed to imply hang on. It is time to reach out in unprecedented cooperation and expend more resources in the conference room than in the courtroom. It is time to conceive a well thought out reconstruction of the industry rather than hang on with one more ill-conceived piece of legislation. It is time to define new goals; to plan strategies; and, to implement new programs to meet the challenges of the next millennium.

A few of those strategies would include merging the competing horse persons associations, Maine has no need nor room for more than one. The parties need to negotiate meaningful contracts where commitments are made and value received on both sides of the table. We need to heal old wounds and if past transgressions cannot be forgiven admit that and step aside for the sake of the industry.

We must recognize and support the need for a strong commercial track in Southern Maine and the vital market role of a smaller commercial operation in Northern Maine. We also should be supporting and encouraging the expansion of Off Track Betting operations where economically feasible.

We must reassess the race date allocation criteria and prioritize the industry's interests using sound economic principles when making decisions. There is a need to reevaluate the allocation of stipends to verify that they are really working to further the interests of the industry. And, most importantly, we must engage a consultant to facilitate a congress of all interested parties. The stipulations for participating in the congress are as follows: 1) leave any baggage at the door; 2) set self interests aside; 3) look for the industry's best interests; and, 4) look for ways to merge your self interest with the overall objective.

The questions posed here and the suggested corrective actions are difficult and the process of developing answers undoubtedly painful. But, unless we come together and unless we try we are left with no course but to continue eating our seed corn and we know where that will lead us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard A. Crabtree".

Richard A. Crabtree
Commission Chair

GOVERNOR
ANGUS S. KING, JR.

DIRECTOR

COMMISSIONER
ROBERT W. SPEAR



HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
RICHARD CRABTREE, CHAIR
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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES

May 6, 1999

The 1998 racing year was filled with many positives. The racing was more competitive and the weather cooperated most of the year. However, I had my suspicions to the contrary following the "Storm of the Decade" in January. We had a very successful Sire Stakes Program with an increase in the number of divisions and an increase in the revenue from the handle. Also, there was an increase in the Purse Supplement per day average.

It was ironic that the total handle decreased 2.7% in 1998 from 1997, yet there was an increase in the revenues for each account. The reason for this phenomenon was due to an increase in the exotic and a decrease in the straight wagers. More money is deducted from the exotic than the straight wagers.

One of the unfortunate truths that arose was a shortage of race worthy horses to compete for the total number of days and dashes awarded during the 1998 Race Date Assignment Hearings. The County Raceway was unable to attract enough horses to conduct its meet and Scarborough Downs was unable to race 64 days of the 207 that were awarded. Additionally, Bangor and some of the fairs were unable to race all the dashes awarded and in some cases double dashes were required to fill the race card. This problem seems to be one shared by many other racing jurisdictions which should be of great concern to all live racing operations.

In 1998 two of Maine's Off Track Betting Facilities closed. Both operations cited reduced wagering and an associated increase in overhead as reasons for closing.

As we enter the new millennium we need to look to the past to determine how we are to enter the future. We need to determine where we are and where we want to go then implement a program to get there. The industry representatives need to work together throughout this process. Let us leave our egos and our self interests on the shelf and work together to this end.

On behalf of the Department and the Commission staff I wish each track and horse person a very successful 1999 and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. W. Jackson".

Henry W. Jackson
Executive Director

Duties of the Commission

The Maine Harness Racing Commission was created by the Maine legislature to exercise and maintain a proper control over harness racing in Maine for the good of the sport and all persons involved in it and for the good of the state. The Commission's duties include building public trust and maintaining a high level of integrity in all aspects of harness racing.

The Commission is empowered by the State of Maine to establish and enforce rules of conduct for harness horse races, race tracks, wagering and off-track betting. The Commission is required by law to protect the health, safety and welfare of all race participants, of standardbred horses, of spectators and the wagering public.

The work is the basis for the betterment and promotion of harness racing in Maine and for the continued development of Maine's standardbred horses program.

The Commission derives its statutory authority from Maine's harness Racing Laws, contained in Title 8, Chapter 11 of the Maine Revised Statutes. The commission's principal responsibilities include oversight of harness racing, simulcast racing and off-track betting and support of the Maine standardbred horse program.

To accomplish these responsibilities, the Commission has licensing, enforcement and supervisory authority and the duty to establish rules of conduct for the holding, conducting and operating of race tracks on which any such race or meet is held and for the conduct on the race track of all persons participating in harness horse racing [8 MRSA §§ 268 and 279-A.]

The Commission may license any person, association or corporation desiring to hold a harness horse race or meet for public exhibition, including the issuance of race dates (with or without pari-mutuel pools); interstate simulcast racing at a licensee's race track during any regular meeting; pari-mutuel wagering at an off-

track betting facility; and owners, trainers, drivers, grooms and all other persons participating in harness horse racing, including pari-mutuel employees and race officials. [8 MRSA §§ 268, 269, 270, 271, 274-A & 279A.]

The Commission has the power and authority to regulate, supervise and check the making of pari-mutuel pools and the distribution therefrom; to investigate the ownership and control of any licensee; to investigate any suspected violations of the law or rules; and to supervise and regulate all medication administered to horses entered to race. [8 MRSA §279-B.]

The Commission is authorized to establish a schedule for fines and suspensions and to levy fines and suspensions for violations of the harness racing laws or rules. [8 MRSA §279-B.]

The Commission also has the responsibility to encourage and promote the breeding of a strain of Maine standardbred horses and make provision to encourage donations of the same by licensees or others to persons or institutions within the State for breeding purposes. The Commission has the authority to establish fees and maintain a fund, the Sire Stakes Fund, for establishment of a Maine Standardbred horses program. [8 MRSA §281.]

The Commission Members

The Maine Harness Racing Commission consists of five members appointed by the governor to provide broad geographic representation. The appointments are subject to review by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture and to confirmation by the Maine Legislature.

One of the Commission's members is appointed as Chair, a full-time, unclassified position. The other four members serve three-year terms, but remain in the post until

their successors are appointed. One must be affiliated with an agricultural society that conducts an annual agriculture fair. Three members must be persons with a knowledge of harness racing.

Persons appointed to fill any vacancies that occur serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacancy.

Following are brief biographies of the 1998 members of the Commission in alphabetical order.

Charmaine ("Charlie") Brown, D.V.M., of Monmouth

Dr. Brown attended high school in Franklin, Nebraska and went on to Nebraska's Chadron State College to earn a bachelor's degree in science. She then obtained a degree in Veterinary Medicine in 1986 from Iowa State University. Dr. Brown is interested in the Standardbred Racing Program and is especially concerned about animal welfare. Her term will expire in June of 2000.

Richard Crabtree of Readfield

Mr. Crabtree has been active in harness racing for over two decades. He has been employed by Central Maine Power since 1971. A 1964 graduate of Waldoboro High School, he served in the U. S. Army before going on to Husson College. Mr. Crabtree is the chair of the Commission. His term will expire in July of 2000.

Goodwin Gilman of Newport

Mr. Gilman graduated from Dartmouth College in 1959. He has been active in Harness Racing as an owner and spectator for over 40 years. He is a division manager for Consolidated Distributors and the former owner of Gilman Electrical Supply, Inc. His term will expire in June of 2000.

Frederick B. Lunt, Jr. of Clinton

Mr. Lunt has been active in Maine's Agriculture fairs and currently is the President of the Maine Agriculture Fairs. He graduated from Husson College with a degree in Business Administration. He was the General Manager of the Skowhegan State Fair and has been the treasurer of the Clinton for 30 years. Mr. Lunt has been employed in the insurance business for nearly 30 years. His term will expire in June of 2000.

Willis Lord of Waterboro

Mr. Lord has been active in Agriculture all his life. He graduated from Saugus High School in Massachusetts. He has held many positions in Local Government as well as being a State Representative for 10 years in Maine serving on a variety of Committies dealing with Agriculture, Natural Resources, and low level Nuclear Waste Problems. His term will expire in June of 2000.

Susan Sparaco, Esq.

Ms. Sparaco is the legal counsel for the Harness Racing Commission. She is a graduate of Deering High School, the University of Maine at Orono and the University of Maine Law School in Portland. She has been with the Attorney General's Office since 1988 and has been counsel for the Harness Racing Commission since 1994.

The Commission Staff

The Maine Harness Racing Commission is represented in its Augusta office and in the field by a well-qualified, hard-working staff of employees and contractors. These people are the key to the success of harness racing in Maine. They conduct the Commission's daily business,

perform tests at tracks, oversee races and the implementation of harness racing's rules, among other duties. The Commission extends its thanks to them for a great year in 1998.

COMMISSION STAFF

Henry Jackson, Executive Director
Ralph Canney, Program Manager

Roger Smith, Sr. State Steward
Dennis May, State Steward
Dana Croy, Pari-Mutuel Supervisor
Chris Fraser, Veterinarian

Stanley Bubier, Paddock Supervisor
Bruce Hastey, Asst Paddock Supervisor
Carol Gauthier, Secretary
Christy Nelson, Secretary

CONTRACTED PERSONNEL

Veterinarians

Dr. Jean Ennis
Dr. Denise McNitt
Dr. Lowell Pease
Dr. Timothy Powers
Dr. Neal Watson
Dr. Myron Lindey

Veterinary Technicians

Megan Wellman
Christy Gifford
Annette Gardner
Michelle Maloney

Blood/Gas Technicians

John Martha
Jim Eaton
Tom Contolini
Phil Luedee

Testing Services

Health & Environmental Testing Lab

Tom Dwyer, Chief Chemist
Edward Collins Chief Racing Chemist
Robert Morgnar Associate Chemist
Steve Pierce, Associate Chemist

Special Services

Dana Delisle
Peggy Nelson

MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission is required by statute to meet at least monthly. Three of the five members of the Commission constitute a quorum to do business. A record is kept of all proceedings of the Commission.

A majority of the Commission meetings involve hearings on violations of the medication or banned substances rules and hearings of appeals from judges; decisions regarding racing violations. The Chair of the Commission, acting as a sole hearing authority, conducts hearings on minor violations of the rules. The remainder of the Commission's meetings are used for planning and strategizing improvements to racing, for formulating legislative and budget proposals, for fuel-making activities and for licensing issues.

Although only twelve monthly meetings are required by statute, the Commission has found it necessary to hold

several meetings each month in order to meet the expanding work load. Increasingly complex adjudicatory hearings and licensing hearings, both for live racing and for off-track betting facilities, have created a demanding work schedule for the Commission. The commission met a total of 25 times during calendar year 1998.

The majority of the Commission meetings are held in Augusta, either at the State Office Building or at another location by announcement. Occasionally the Commission will meet in Scarborough or in Bangor to facilitate attendance of people from those areas who might otherwise not be able to attend Commission meetings.

A published agenda of all Commission meetings is available ten days prior to each meeting. You may obtain a copy by contacting the Commission office in Augusta or by requesting to be placed on the agenda mailing list.

Commission Offices

The Commission is required by statute to maintain an office in Augusta. during the time in which racing is conducted in the state, the Commission is authorized to maintain branch offices throughout the state.

The Commission office in Augusta is located in the Deering Building, Rooms 303, 307, 308 and 310. The Deering Building is in the State House AMHI complex on Hospital Street. The phone number is (207) 287-3221. The Mailing Address is:
Maine State Harness Racing Commission
28 State House Station, Augusta, Maine
04333-0028

During 1998, the Commission maintained branch offices at the Bangor Raceway and at Scarborough Downs and the Agricultural fairs in Blue Hill (Blue Hill Fair), Cumberland (Cumberland Fair), Farmington (Farmington Fair), Fryeburg (Fryeburg Fair), Presque Isle (The County Raceways and Northern Maine Fair), Skowhegan (Skowhegan Fair), Topsham (Topsham Fair), Union (Union Fair), and Windsor (Windsor Fair).

Commission Operating Budget
State Fiscal Year 1998 - July 1, 1997 thru June 30, 1998

EXPENDITURES

3100	Perm. Reg	126,315.44
3200	Lim Perm Reg	6,996.00
3300	Seasonal	35,183.38
3600	Differential	6,164.03
3800	Unemp PD	7,311.04
3900	Benefits	71,068.48

TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES **253,038.37**

4000	Services Not By State	154,526.24
4100	Services By State	198,873.17
4200	Mileage, Meal & Lodging, In State	15,879.60
4300	Mileage, Meal & Lodging, Out of State	5.00
4500	Utility	5,761.98
4600	Rents	16,021.80
4700	Repairs & Maintenance	2,065.00
4800	Insurances	515.23
4900	General Operating Expenses	18,285.34
5300	Misc Supplies, tangible	1,859.82
5500	Minor Equipment, TV, VCR, Camera, etc	2,170.00
5600	Other Supplies, lab, household, educational, et	19,646.22
6400	Grants to Pub and Priv Orgns	395,303.84
8000	Interest and late fees	172.70

TOTAL ALL OTHER EXPENSES **831,085.94**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,084,124.31
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REVENUE

1221	Licenses Harness Horse Racing	3,530.00
1301	Comm Pari Mutuels Harness	854,301.86
1303	Track Reimburse Judges	94,961.00
1448	Special Licenses & Leases	46,687.93
2001	Miscellaneous Fines	22,952.12
2690	Recovered Cost	708.86
2953	Adj To All Other Balance Forward	(225.75)

TOTAL REVENUE	1,022,916.02
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PART II

Commission Operations and Activities

Rulemaking

Granting Licenses and Awarding Race Dates

Licensing of Racing Personnel

Medication/Testing Program

Violations

Summary of Fines and Suspensions

Promotional Board

Rulemaking

The Commission is authorized by statute to promulgate the rules necessary to carry out and enforce Maine's harness racing laws. In addition it has authority to establish rules of practice governing the conduct of adjudicatory proceedings, licensing proceedings and the rendering of advisory rulings. Agency rule-making is governed by the Maine Administrative Procedures Act found in Title 5, Chapter 375 of the Maine Revised Statutes. The text of that Act is reproduced in Appendix B of the Maine Harness Racing Commission rule book.

Maine law requires that the Commission "provide a booklet containing harness racing laws and rules and relevant portions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act to every initial licensee and a fee not to exceed \$10.00 must be included in the license fee to cover the cost of this publication. The Commission shall provide necessary revisions of this booklet to those

persons renewing licenses at the time of renewal and shall include the cost of revisions, not to exceed \$10.00, in the renewal fee."

In 1993, the Commission completed a recodification of the rules. During 1994, the Commission has worked diligently on a significant revision of those rules, further updating the rules and refining the language for clarity and consistency. A major focus of the 1997 effort has been to update the rules concerning the medications and banned substances contained in Chapter 11. Another round of rulemaking is currently underway in 1999. Plans are for a new rule book to be issued early in 2000.

The Commission acknowledges the support and contribution of many members of the harness racing community and offers heart-felt thanks for their assistance.

GRANTING LICENSES AND AWARDING RACE DATES

The Commission is authorized to issue annual licenses to any person, association or corporation desiring to hold a harness horse race or meet for public exhibition, including the issuance of race dates (with or without pari-mutuel pools); interstate simulcast racing at a licensee's race track during any regular meeting; pari-mutuel wagering at an off-track betting

facility; and owners, trainers, drivers, grooms and all other persons participating in harness horse racing, including pari-mutuel employees and race officials.

During the 1998 racing year, race days were awarded in the months of January through December as follows:

1998 PARI-MUTUEL HARNESS RACING DATES

	Days Granted	Days Raced	Days Not Raced
Scarborough Downs Scarborough, Maine	207	143	64
Bangor Raceway Bangor, Maine	26	26	0
The County Raceways Presque Isle, Maine	7	0	7
Skowhegan Extended Skowhegan, Maine	6	6	0
Topsham Fair Topsham, Maine	5	5	0
Northern Maine Fair Presque Isle, Maine	6	5	1
Skowhegan Fair Skowhegan, Maine	7	6	1
Union Fair Union, Maine	7	7	0
Windsor Fair Windsor, Maine	9	9	0
Farmington Fair Farmington, Maine	8	8	0
Cumberland Farmers Club Cumberland, Maine	8	8	0

Fryeburg Fair Fryeburg, Maine	6	6	0
Blue Hill Fair (NPM) Blue Hill, Maine	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	304	231	73

Off-Track Betting Facilities

Champs Teletheatre & OTB 364
Presque Isle, Maine

Millers OTB 364
Bangor, Maine

Martin's Manor 364
Waterville, Maine

Spare Time Recreation 364
Lewiston, Maine

The Atrium, Winners OTB 364
Brunswick, Maine

Bath House of Pizza & Seafood 364
Bath, Maine

Inter-Track Simulcasting Facility 363
Scarborough, Maine

Licensing of Racing Personnel

1998 LICENSES ISSUED

TYPE OF LICENSE	NO. ISSUED	AMOUNT PAID
Owner	567 @ \$25.	\$14,150.00
Trainer	38 @ \$25.	950.00
Driver	31 @ \$25.	775.00
Owner/Driver/Trainer	210 @ \$60.	12,600.00
Owner/Driver	12 @ \$40.	480.00
Owner/Trainer	140 @ \$40.	5,600.00
Owner/Limited Trainer	83 @ \$40.	3,320.00
Driver/Trainer	51 @ \$40.	2,025.00
Groom	498 @ \$10.	4,980.00
Officials	80 @ various prices	1,785.00
Pari-Mutuel Clerks	164 @ \$10.	1,640.00
Misc Combinations	12 @ various prices	<u>585.00</u>
Total Amount Received for License Fees		\$49,340.00

Medication/Testing Program

1. Urine Program:

Test samples were analyzed by the State of Maine Health & Environmental Laboratory located in Augusta, Maine. In some cases the State Lab did use the Maryland Public Health Laboratory and Cornell University Laboratory were used to supplement testing of urine samples and/or to accommodate split samples requests by licensees.

Each blood and urine sample received by the laboratory is screened by specialized tests to comply with the ARCI-QAP guidelines for drug detection. These tests include specific extraction procedures, Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC), and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assays (ELISA).

If screening tests indicate the presence of a drug or unknown foreign substance in a sample, additional specialized testing is performed on that individual sample to prove or disprove the initial findings. All findings are unequivocally confirmed by the use of such techniques as Gas Chromatography, Mass Spectrometry as well as High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC).

Maine allows the use of phenylbutazone (bute) and furosemide (lasix) in horses under direction for the Controlled Medication Program. The Laboratory monitors these two drugs in all equine samples received.

During the 1998 racing year, 3,019 equine urine samples and 260 blood samples were taken. Of the total 3,285 tests taken, 14 were in violation of the medication rules.

Also in the 1998 racing year, 170 human urine samples were taken. Of the total tests taken, 1 sample were found to be positive with Cannabinoids.

Violations

Positive Tests

Caffeine - 1

2. Blood Gas Program

The Blood Gas Testing Program was established in 1993 at the request of the Commission. The program is an on-site program using the Nova Stat Two Profile Instrument and is operated by Licensed Technicians under the direction of the Commission Veterinarian.

The blood gas testing results indicated the following, of the 2,773 horses tested 2,767 tested within acceptable limits, 6 horses tested positive for violation of a banned substance.

3. Controlled Medication Program

The Controlled Medication Program was established in 1992 by Statute and allows tolerances for Horses who use Phenylbutazone and Lasix. The program is an on site program and is under the direction of the Commission Veterinarian.

Horses on Bute and/or lasix for 1998

808 horses participated in the program	
74 horse withdrew from the program at various times during the year	

Summary of Fines and Suspensions

During the 1998 racing year, there were 206 violations of racing laws and rules.
The distribution of the fines and suspensions are as follows:

FINES AND SUSPENSIONS FOR 1998: ALL TRACKS

Excessive whipping.....	12
Failure to have Eligibility Papers on file.....	6
Foot out of the SIRRUP.....	19
Failure to follow the Judges Orders.....	1
Interference.....	14
Kicking.....	19
Late Driver Changes.....	46
Pace not comparable to the Class/Slow the Field.....	36
Not coming to the Gate/Delay the Start.....	9
Warming up a Horse before being Tested.....	8
Late to Lasix.....	8
Go thru the Post Parade.....	11
Miscellaneous.....	17
TOTALS.....	206

COMMISSION ACTION ON 1998 RULE VIOLATIONS

Appeals	8	Upheld	6	Overtured	2
Positive Tests	1	Upheld	1	Overtured	0

Promotional Board

This new Board was set up as an independent agency effective 11/1/97. The implementation of promotional projects was materially impeded by three facts: (1) The budget is only \$160,000 as opposed to the \$205,000 reported to me upon contracting my services, (2) the Board inherited a debt in excess of \$40,000 from the prior board, and (3) a Board of Directors appointed until four months after the legislation was enacted.

In spite of these deterrents and the lack of funds to effectively finance the transition, we instituted a marketing plan, a mission statement, operating policies and brought finances into balance by year end. We did not have the financial resources to venture into the mass media markets of television and or/radio.

During the 1998 racing year, we presented the following promotional activities:

1. Ricky Craven Day at Bangor Raceway.
2. Six of the worlds leading drivers appeared at Scarborough for a Charity Benefit.
3. A \$50,000 dollar giveaway.
4. A picnic/breakfast for the Shriners Parade and Trot at Bangor Raceway.
5. An Off-Track betting contest where five Maine couples received a free week-end in Florida.
6. Sponsored Valerie Grondin to the International Trot at the Meadowlands and a race where she was competing against other top female drivers in the world
7. Provided and distributed 10,000 Harness Racing Calendars.
8. Sponsored the Billings Amatuer Trot
9. Sponsored a photo contest to the Industry Magazine, Hoofbeats.
10. Instituted an accredited program to provide training for people who wish to become trainers, where presently two interns are currently working with trainers under the University of Maine curriculum.

In addition, the Board provided a family oriented activity using Winnie, the boards mascot, at the fairs in the State. Winnie was a great hit. Winnie distributed balloons and trinkets and gave away pictures that children had taken with Winnie. Winnie also appeared in parades and festivals throughout the State.

Plans for 1999 include a scholarship fund, new contests, new major national sponsorships, a documentary, updating of and expanding our new website, a quarterly newspaper, new ownership programs and projects designed to upgrade the industry's image and to market the industry's economic value to the State.

The members to the Board are:

Robert Tourangeau	President/Public Member
John Lohnes	Standardbred Breeders and Owner
Robert Tardy	Scarborough Downs
Fred Nichols	Bangor Raceway
Ronald Ralph	Fairs
Nathan King	Public Member
Kathy Alexander	Off-Track Betting
Greg Tulloch	Harness Horseman
Al Skofield	Public Member

By: Thomas Cole, Executive Director

PART III

Wagering Profile And Distribution of Funds

Wagering Distribution by Tracks

Wagering Distribution by Inter-State Simulcasting Facilities

Distribution of Wagers to the Various Funds

Off-Track Betting Simulcast Fund Distribution

Purse Supplement Distribution

Extended Meet Stipend Fund

Commercial Meet Stipend Meet

1998 WAGERING DISTRIBUTION BY TRACKS

LIVE RACING

TRACK	TOTAL	EXOTIC	STRAIGHT
Scarborough Downs	4,545,191	3,173,118	1,372,073
Bangor Raceway	1,069,755	692,961	376,794
County Raceway	0	0	0
Skowhegan Ext.	244,050	165,225	78,825
Northern Maine Fair	117,164	66,754	50,410
Topsham Fair	171,218	109,450	61,768
Skowhegan Fair	339,559	230,909	108,650
Union Fair	285,039	187,720	97,319
Windsor Fair	927,522	652,974	274,548
Farmington Ext.	63,894	46,305	17,589
Farmington Fair	304,842	219,774	85,068
Cumberland Ext.	59,356	42,377	16,979
Cumberland Fair	325,676	213,855	111,821
Fryeburg Fair	751,690	489,573	262,117
TOTALS	9,204,956	6,290,995	2,913,961

INTRA-STATE SIMULCAST

Spare Time Recreation	730,350	540,897	189,453
Martin's Manor Rest.	550,266	393,933	156,333
Post Time at Millers	594,318	428,103	166,215
Champ's Teletheatre	12,931	10,153	2,778
Lower Deck OTB	106,791	76,467	30,324
Winners--OTB	386,718	296,935	89,783
Scarborough Downs	132,974	90,834	42,140
TOTALS	2,514,348	1,837,322	677,026

GRAND TOTAL	11,719,304	8,128,317	3,590,987
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Distribution to the various funds is based on handle for live racing and simulcasts originating in Maine

1998 WAGERING DISTRIBUTION BY INTER-STATE SIMULCASTING FACILITIES

INTER-STATE SIMULCAST

FACILITY	TOTAL		STRAIGHT		TOTAL		EXOTIC		STRAIGHT	
	HANDLE	EXOTIC HANDLE	HANDLE	HANDLE	COMMISSIONS	COMMISSIONS	COMMISSIONS	COMMISSIONS	COMMISSIONS	COMMISSIONS
Spare Time Rec.	9,424,730	5,974,530	3,450,200	3,450,200	1,987,725.00	1,396,964.23	590,761.27			
Martin's Manor	7,789,022	5,258,163	2,530,859	2,530,859	1,617,443.64	1,176,747.76	440,695.88			
Miller's Rest.	9,025,691	6,039,731	2,985,960	2,985,960	1,881,482.98	1,372,695.82	508,787.16			
Champ's Telet.	266,406	207,748	58,658	58,658	55,864.67	46,083.23	9,781.44			
Lower Deck	985,013	650,379	334,634	334,634	216,070.97	156,391.99	59,678.98			
Winners--OTB	7,064,865	4,973,809	2,091,056	2,091,056	1,494,845.52	1,136,852.41	357,993.11			
TOTALS	34,555,727	23,104,360	11,451,367	11,451,367	7,253,432.78	5,285,735.44	1,967,697.84			
Scarborough Downs	24,093,274	15,813,842	8,279,432	8,279,432	4,917,936.00	3,516,790.71	1,401,176.07			
GRAND TOTALS	58,649,001	38,918,202	19,730,799	19,730,799	12,171,368.78	8,802,526.15	3,368,873.91			

Distribution to the various funds is based on commissions for inter-state wagers at Off Track Betting facilities and commercial race tracks in Maine.

DISTRIBUTION OF WAGERS TO THE VARIOUS FUNDS

GENERAL FUND	1,084,114.97
AGRICULTURAL FAIR STIPEND	754,926.08
FAIR STIPEND FUND	57,036.39
SIRE STAKES FUND	665,435.60
PROMOTIONAL BOARD FUND	160,772.22
PURSE SUPPLEMENT	1,345,143.40
OFF TRACK BETTING SIMULCAST	<u>1,052,257.04</u>
TOTALS	5,119,685.70

The above funds are collected in the Harness Racing Commission office and are deposited in the appropriate accounts in compliance with Title 8 Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Section 286.

General Fund monies are used to support the activities of the Commission. The amount of money credited to the General Fund from wagers that exceed \$35 million are credited to the Commercial Meet Stipend Fund. Seventy-two (72) percent of these funds are distributed to the licensed commercial tracks of which one-half is used to supplement purses and the other one-half is used to reimburse facilities for capital expenditures approved by the Commission.

Agricultural Fair Stipend Fund monies are distributed to those fairs licensed by the Department in accordance with Title 7 Maine Revised Statutes Annotated Section 62. Eighty (80) percent of any funds that exceed the \$400,000.00 cap are distributed to those licensed tracks that conduct a race meet not in conjunction with an agricultural fair.

Fair Stipend Fund monies are generated by deducting five (5) percent of those monies credited to the General Fund. These contributions are used to supplement the premiums paid by agricultural fairs during their annual exhibition.

Sire Stakes Fund monies are used to support purses for the Sire Stakes Program (Maine Standardbred Breeders Stakes) and to cover any expenses incurred in managing this program.

Promotional Board Fund monies are used to support the activities of the Maine Harness Racing Promotional Board. This organization is an independent instrumentality of the State which hires its own executive director and is responsible for its own budget.

Purse Supplement Fund monies are used to supplement purses at all licensed live racing facilities. The funds are distributed based on the number of live days raced by a licensee in proportion to the total number of days raced by all licensees.

Off Track Betting Simulcast Fund monies are distributed to those licensed commercial and agricultural fair tracks that provide a simulcast signal of their race programs to those licensed off track betting facilities in Maine. The funds are distributed based on a licensee's wagers at the off track betting facilities in proportion to the total of all licensees' wagers at the off track betting facilities.

1998 OFF-TRACK BETTING SIMULCAST FUND DISTRIBUTION
January 1 through December 31, 1998

TRACK	AMOUNT WAGERED	PERCENT WAGERED	AMOUNT DUE
Scarborough	2,149,493.00	85.489%	899,564.87
Bangor	216,568.00	8.613%	90,633.91
Farmington	70,529.00	2.805%	29,516.45
Cumberland	77,758.00	3.093%	32,541.80
TOTALS	2,514,348.00	100.000%	1,052,257.04
Available	1,052,257.04		

1998 PURSE SUPPLEMENT DISTRIBUTION
January 1 through December 31, 1998

TRACK	DAYS RACED	AMOUNT DUE
SCARBOROUGH	143	836,328.29
BANGOR	26	152,059.69
THE COUNTY	0	0.00
SKOWHEGAN EXT.	6	35,090.70
NO. ME. EXTENDED	1	5,848.45
NO. ME. FAIR	5	29,242.25
TOPSHAM FAIR	5	29,242.25
SKOWHEGAN FAIR	6	35,090.70
UNION FAIR	7	40,939.15
WINDSOR FAIR	9	52,636.05
FARMINGTON EXT.	1	5,848.45
FARMINGTON FAIR	7	40,939.15
CUMBERLAND FAIR	7	40,939.15
CUMBERLAND EXT.	1	5,848.45
FRYEBURG FAIR	6	35,090.70
TOTALS	230	1,345,143.40
AMOUNT AVAILABLE		1,345,143.40
Per Day Average		5,848.4496

1998 COMMERCIAL MEET STIPEND FUND

HANDLE:	70,368,305.00	
CAP:	35,000,000.00	
EXCESS OF CAP	35,368,305.00	
Credited to the General Fund		1,084,114.97
Average Percentage		0.015406
Less CAP Share:		539,210.00
AVAILABLE:		544,904.97
General Fund 10%		54,490.50
Agricultural Fairs 9%		49,041.45
Sire Stakes 9%		49,041.45
Commercial Meet 72%		392,331.58

Track	Live Wagers	%	Share
Scarborough Downs	4,545,191.00	0.8095	317,584.88
Bangor Raceway	1,069,755.00	0.1905	74,746.70
TOTALS	5,614,946.00	1.00	392,331.58

PART IV

Off-Track

Betting Report

Off-Track Betting Report

1998

OFF TRACK BETTING REPORT

In 1991 the Maine Legislature enacted enabling legislation to allow for the operation of off track betting facilities. These facilities were to be licensed and operated by a licensed commercial race track. In 1993 the restriction for licensing and operation was removed which allowed any Class A restaurant to apply and be licensed by the Maine Harness Racing Commission. The first Off Track Betting (OTB) facility was licensed in July, 1993 with two more following that year. In 1994 another was added with two more added in 1996.

There were six (6) OTBs licensed for calendar year 1998; Miller's Restaurant of Bangor, John Martin's Manor of Waterville, Spare Time Recreation of Lewiston, Winner's OTB of Brunswick, Champs Teletheatre of Presque Isle, and Bath House of Pizza and Seafood Restaurant of Bath.

On February 22 Champs Teletheatre OTB was closed for the remainder of the year. On August 25 Bath House of Pizza and Seafood Restaurant closed its OTB operation for the remainder of the agricultural fair season with hopes of opening in October. However, Bath's operation remained closed for the remainder of the year.

The total interstate simulcast wagers at the OTBs was \$34,555,727 or a 2.2% increase over 1997. The intrastate simulcast wagers at the OTBs was \$2,514,348 or a 12.5% decrease from 1997. The individual wagering information can be found in Part III of the ANNUAL REPORT. The amount of revenue to the various funds from wagers placed at OTBs in 1998 are as follows:

	<u>INTRA</u>	<u>INTER</u>
General Fund	\$48,288.32	\$580,414.72
Agricultural Fair Stipend	27,946.19	367,212.24
Sire Stakes Program	27,545.15	323,164.91
Promotional Board	5,953.44	78,180.10
Purse Supplement Fund		1,040,479.02
Horsemen's Purse Supplement	169,604.00	

When these contributions are compared to the total made from all wagering facilities one can determine that off track betting generates a majority of monies to the various funds. This trend continues each year with fewer dollars being wagered on Maine's live racing product.

One remaining issue in the Governor's Task Force Report that needs to be implemented is the number of monitors which must carry the "local" product at off track betting facilities. The Legislature granted authority to the Commission to adopt rules to govern the number of monitors which must carry the "local" product. The Commission has spent a great deal of time this past year reviewing proposed wording for rule making including the number of monitors issue.

There were no legislative initiatives required as of December 31, 1998.

PART V

Maine Sires Stakes Program

Overview of 1998

Financial Report

Participation Statistics

Purses Paid

Final Point Standings

Racing Schedule

**MAINE
SIRE STAKES PROGRAM
ANNUAL REPORT**

1998

Prepared by:
Henry W. Jackson, Executive Director
Maine Harness Racing Commission
Division of Quality Assurance and
Regulations
Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and
Rural Resources

The 1998 Annual Report of the Maine Sire Stakes Program consists of an overview prepared by the Executive Director, Maine Harness Racing Commission. The Report consists of financial information, purses paid, statistical information of the eligible's, and final point standings.

The 1998 stakes program was very successful for all those who participated. The total purses paid continues to grow; however, the total handle was down from 1997. The amount of money available increased due the larger share of the handle being made on exotic wagers. Again our program was showcased throughout Maine at the six operating Off Track Betting establishments.

The total handle for 1998 was 70,368,305 down 2.70% from 1997. This generated an additional \$ 17,178.94 or 1.03% for the Stakes Program. This additional money was used to support the program .

There were more divisions contested in 1998 than in 1997; however, with an increased exotic wager we ended the year with a surplus. I consulted with members of the Advisory Board about what to do with the surplus and was advised to carry the amount forward to 1999.

As in years past, the Sire Stakes Advisory Committee recommended to the Commission that each entrant to a sire stakes event be tested to determine if an alkalinizing agent had been administered. The Committee recommended that up to \$10,000.00 of the funds available to the Sire Stakes Program be used to defray the costs of testing for the alkalinizing agent. The Commission approved the Committee's recommendation.

All of the great things accomplished this past year could not have occurred without the support of many individuals and associations. Each hosting track made an effort to promote and provide assistance to showcase our program. A special thank you goes to each track for their cooperation. Special thanks go to the breeders, owners, Advisory Board members and the MSBOA Board of Directors for all the support and help given me in carrying out my responsibilities.

I look forward to working with all of you again and hoping we continue to make the program better. On behalf of the Commission and the Department I wish each of you success and good racing.

1998 STANDARD BRED BREEDERS SIRE STAKES FINANCIAL REPORT

TOTAL HANDLE: 70,368,305.00

REVENUES:

Percent from the handle	\$664,436.72
1997 Commercial Meet Fund	49,412.98
Fees	<u>42,200.00</u>
TOTAL	\$756,049.70

EXPENSES:

Total legs	\$558,239.00
Finals	121,303.00
MSBOA Promotion Contract	33,271.78
Security for Finals	1,154.48
Printing and Postage	361.52
Blood Testing Program (55 days @ 160/day)	<u>8,800.00</u>
TOTAL	\$723,129.78

BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD TO 1999: 32,919.92

1998 PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

Stallions Registered	62
Yearlings Nominated	208
Two Year Old Continued	201
Two Year Old Sustained	184
Colts: 67	
Fillies: 68	
Trotters: 49	
Three Year Old Continued	112
Three Year Old Sustained	105
Colts: 35	
Fillies: 39	
Trotters: 31	

1998 PURSES PAID FOR SIRE STAKES RACES

LEG#	TRACK	# of DIVISIONS	STATE'S SHARE	TRACK SHARE	TOTAL
1	Bangor	6	24,425	8,290	32,715
2	Scarborough	7	27,950	12,040	39,990
3	Scarborough	5	19,364	6,500	25,864
4	Bangor	10	40,139	14,550	54,689
5	Bangor	5	19,965	7,000	26,965
6	Scarborough	11	43,438	15,990	59,428
7	Bangor	9	36,690	12,670	49,360
8	Scarborough	5	19,765	7,900	27,665
9	Scarborough	8	31,753	12,750	44,503
10	Topsham Fair	8	31,143	9,570	40,713
11	Northern Maine Fair	5	20,025	5,950	25,975
12	Skowhegan Fair	13	51,653	13,690	65,343
13	Union	6	23,426	8,730	32,156
14	Windsor	13	51,350	18,640	69,990
15	Scarborough	6	24,453	8,400	32,853
16	Scarborough	6	23,675	8,870	32,545
17	2 Year Finals Scar.		49,653	5,400	55,053
18	Farmington	6	23,176	8,090	31,266
19	Cumberland	6	23,301	9,860	33,161
20	Fryeburg	6	22,548	2,240	24,788
21	3 Year Finals Scar		<u>71,650</u>	<u>6,600</u>	<u>78,250</u>
TOTALS		141	679,542	203,730	883,272

**1998
2 YEAR OLD FILLY PACE**

PLACE	HORSE	POINTS
1.	Gypsy	350
2.	Marianna's Trench	312
3.	People's Ruler	211
4.	Glamour's Brenda	188
5.	Crash Test Bunny	182
6.	Country Wedding	157
7.	All Mighty Mary	127
8.	Happy Jessie	116
9.	Bitofasnit	86
10.	Trevor's Girl	75
11.	My Radiant Ruler	74
12.	Sweet Anita	33
13.	Cranmeadow Kalie	31
14.	Patti's Soulmate	28
15.	J's Lunar Eclipse	26
16.	Sinamon Sweetheart	26
17.	Brimstone Hill	21
18.	Franela	16
19.	Frigate Bay	13
20.	Nina's Diamond	11
21.	Jessey Blue	7
22.	Linda Long	6
23.	Easter Sundae	6
24.	Screaming Lady	6
25.	Little Miss Ruler	5
26.	Spencer's Princess	5
27.	The Red Witch	2
28.	Powah Glo	1
29.	Minsome	0

**1998
2 YEAR OLD TROT**

PLACE	HORSE	POINTS
1.	Mic Mac Jack	400
2.	Ichiban	232
3.	Goblin Girl	166
4.	Will Forward	155
5.	Miss K G B	118
6.	Exquisite Dream	93
7.	T D's Strutter	83
8.	Murphy Is Moving	82
9.	Jane Jetson	78
10.	Race ME Smart Alec	65
11.	Shock Wave	48
12.	Wizard Of Trot	37
13.	Shadow Fax	18
14.	Snow Flake	15
15.	Here Comes Charlie	9
16.	Garcia	9
17.	Honey's Brother	7
18.	Suitcase Annie	1

1998
2 YEAR OLD COLT PACERS

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>HORSE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
1.	K V'S Dragon	350
2.	Long Tall Curly	326
3.	Marianne's Big Boy	244
4.	Tom Foolery	207
5.	Lindons King Arthur	168
6.	Red Hot Ruler	162
7.	Lakeness	121
8.	Diversity Troy	109
9.	Youcancallmeforest	95
10.	Roll-Along Rick	87
11.	Shurfine Fella	56
12.	R-Dragon Heart	56
13.	Radiant Rocket	48
14.	M A Atomic	45
15.	I'M Andy	44
16.	Race ME Razor	35
17.	Somerset Awestruck	34
18.	Alaska Dude	32
19.	Christian Avery	28
20.	Ryanarda	26
21.	Jemtland Road	25
22.	Spunky	22
23.	Boyd's Bobcat	21
24.	Superman Can	20
25.	Bet He's A Jet	16
26.	Moses	16
27.	Colonel Ahearn	9
28.	Francis O	8
29.	Jimba-Joe	6
30.	Wind Fire	5
31.	I'M Amos	2
32.	Trusty's Last Dream	1

1998

3 YEAR OLD TROTTERS

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>HORSE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
1.	Reach For Victory	476
2.	Mic Mac Express	338
3.	Affaire Du Coer	335
4.	Raven's Pomme	233
5.	Thunder Abby	213
6.	Reaching For Glory	200
7.	Bray Hill Babe	139
8.	Stina Lisa	135
9.	Long Hill Emerald	101
10.	Captain E P	94
11.	Our Speedy Return	81
12.	Miss Caroline Hayes	73
13.	Grandpa's Advice	57
14.	Kelvin's Katie	55
15.	Race ME Prodigy	47
16.	RaceAlong J R	36
17.	Ready's Second	3
18.	Scipio's Queen	1

1998

3 YEAR OLD FILLY PACERS

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>HORSE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
1.	Sunander	520
2.	Hare Rollers	373
3.	Hannah Lorraine	335
4.	What About Laura	299
5.	Diversity Serigny	264.5
6.	Honeymoon Heart	223
7.	Rosie's On A Roll	219
8.	L C-W	162
9.	Avalon Rose	98
10.	Triple A Pace	83
11.	Jonza	83
12.	Gypsy Michele	72
13.	Venus Of Milo	62.5
14.	Lolly	55
15.	Stone Hollow Hazie	31
16.	Lindon's Out Of Money	30
17.	Race ME Hot Ticket	29
18.	Miss Venture	22
19.	MS Pineholm	22
20.	Bing Bang Bunny	15
21.	Justarina	11
22.	Wanton Proposal	11
23.	Ballou's Special	2
24.	Bill's Tigress	2
25.	Squeak Along	1
26.	Winsong Krystlisa	0

1998

3 YEAR OLD COLT PACERS

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>HORSE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
1.	Branchbrook Mystic	551
2.	John David	423
3.	Past Due Bill	275
4.	Spike O'Hara	250
5.	Mimi's Demon	192
6.	Malo Modo	158
7.	Exeter Exclusive	103
8.	ChooChoo Charlie Q	96
9.	Casco Bay	87
10.	Race ME Wheeler	78
11.	Pine Point Jake	63
12.	Mr. Deep Pockets	52
13.	Cadence Shadow	41
14.	Teddy Humphrey	39
15.	Johnny Go	6
16.	Rolling Along	1
17.	Mightnite Eagle	1

MAINE STANDARDBRED BREEDERS STAKES
1998 APPROVED RACING SCHEDULE

TRACK	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN
<u>JUNE</u>							
Bangor Raceway					26: 3T	27: 3FP	28: 3CP
<u>JULY</u>							
Scarborough Downs					3: 3T	4: 3FP	5: 3CP
Bangor Raceway		7: 2CP			10: 3T	11: 3FP	12: 3CP
Scarborough Downs			2T				
Scarborough Downs			8: 2FP				
Bangor Raceway		2T					
Bangor Raceway		14: 2FP					
Scarborough Downs			15: 2CP		17: 3T	18: 3FP	19: 3CP
Bangor Raceway		21: 2CP			24: 3T	25: 3FP	26: 3CP
Scarborough Downs			2T				
Scarborough Downs			22: 2FP				
Scarborough Downs					31: 2T	1: 2FP	2: 2CP
<u>AUGUST</u>							
Topsham Fair		2T					
Topsham Fair	9: 2FP	10: 2CP					
Northern Maine Fair				3T			
Northern Maine Fair				13: 3FP	14: 3CP		
Skowhegan Fair	17: 2T	18: 2FP	19: 2CP	20: 3T	21: 3FP & 3CP		
Union Fair			26: 3T	27: 3FP	28: 3CP		
Windsor Fair	2FP						
Windsor Fair	30: 2T	31: 2CP	2: 3T	3: 3FP	4: 3CP		
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>							
Scarborough Downs						2T	
Scarborough Downs						2FP	
Scarborough Downs						5: 2CP	
Scarborough Downs					3CP		
Scarborough Downs			9: 3T		11: 3FP		
Scarborough Downs	SUNDAY, 13TH, 2 YEAR OLD FINALS						
Farmington Fair			23: 3T	24: 3FP	25: 3CP		
<u>OCTOBER</u>							
Cumberland Fair			30: 3T	1: 3FP	2: 3CP		
Fryeburg Fair			7: 3T	8: 3FP	9: 3CP		
Scarborough Downs	SUNDAY, 18TH 3 YEAR OLD FINALS						

T= TROTTERS

FP= FILLY PACERS

CP= COLT PACE