

NYSS History

The New York Sire Stakes was the first program of its kind developed in North America and later became the model for state-bred racing programs in nearly all of the major harness racing states and provinces on the continent.

Sponsored by New York State harness racing industry organizations, the first NYSS events were held in 1961. The official New York Sire Stakes program was inaugurated in 1965 when the state's harness tracks and breeding industry leaders who sought to spur the breeding industry successfully lobbied the State Legislature for support of their endeavor.

The group was led by the late Dr. Harry M. Zweig, a distinguished veterinarian from Nassau, NY. Dr. Zweig's tireless efforts proved successful when the Laverne Law was enacted.

The legislation created the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding De-



velopment Fund (the Fund), the public benefit corporation that administers the New York NYSS History Sire Stakes program. The law mandates the Fund to receive a percentage of the industry's betting handle to manage the NYSS program and to perpetuate its mission.

The New York horse racing industry came together once again in 2001 to advance the sport of harness racing in the state through the addition of video lottery terminals at each race track. With harness racing's late Bruce Hamilton leading the way, the industry again ran a successful campaign and the NYS legislature amended the pari-mutuel

law, allowing video lottery terminals at the state's harness racetracks.

The first Racino opened at Saratoga Raceway in 2004, paving the way for racinos at the remaining six race tracks statewide.

Since the inception of racinos at harness tracks, New York Sire Stakes purses have more than doubled and continue to increase!

Agriculture & NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund

90 State Street
Albany, NY 12207
518.436.8713 (p)
518.426.1490 (f)
www.nysirestakes.com

Important Dates:

January 1:
Stallion enrollment deadline

February 15:
Continuation payments due

April 1:
Late registration deadline for new Stallions

April 15:
Final sustaining payments due

May 15:
Yearling nominations due

July 31:
Semen transport forms due

September 1:
Mares Bred list due

November 15:
Stallion registration begins for next season

Breed the best. Be the best. Breed in New York State.

New York Sire Stakes



**The Premier Racing Program
for New York Bred Standardbreds**

For more
information
visit:

www.nysirestakes.com

NY Sire Stakes
Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund



Why Race in the New York Sire Stakes?

Seven Tracks Statewide

New York State is home to seven pari-mutuel harness tracks that host the NYSS, giving you more opportunities to race and win!

Located in nearly every region of the state the tracks are: Batavia, Buffalo, Monticello, Saratoga, Tioga, Vernon, and Yonkers.

Additionally, non-pari-mutuel meets are held at Goshen Historic Track and 22 New York State County Fairs.



A Fit for Every Horse

The New York Sire Stakes (NYSS) offers a three-tiered racing program that gives you the opportunity to earn top dollar regardless of your horse's ability. The following is more information on each racing level.

NYSS Series

The most talented New York bred two and three-year-olds vie for enhanced purses at pari-mutuel tracks throughout the state.

Excelsior Series

A second tier program designed for late blooming two and three-year-olds, with multiple legs leading to a lucrative final for the leading point earners in the series.

State Fair Series

Part of the Excelsior series, the State Fair pari-mutuel meet features two and three year old races for New York bred trotters and pacers. Additionally, three year-old races are held at Goshen Historic Track.



County Fair Series

Championship races at each age and gait give New York State's local summer fairs a unique twist. It's the best "earn as you learn" program in Sire Stakes racing with non-pari-mutuel racing at 22 agricultural fairs throughout New York State.

New York's remarkable program gives everyone the opportunity to own, breed and race!

Tremendous Earnings

All seven of New York's pari-mutuel harness tracks have racinos with video lottery terminals that fuel New York Sire Sakes (NYSS) purses. Since their installation, purses have more than doubled!

The top horses competing in the New York Sire Stakes series can earn in excess of \$200,000 annually.



About the Fund

The Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund (the Fund) is a public benefit corporation established in 1965 by the Laverne Law (Laws of New

York, Chapter 567 of the Laws of 1965). The mission of the Fund is to promote agriculture through the breeding of standardbred horses and the conduct of equine research within the State. To carry out its legislative mission, the Fund administers the New York Sire Stakes

races, Excelsior/State Fair Series races, and County Fair Races. Additionally, the Fund provides assistance to county agriculture societies and contributes to the statewide 4-H program and to the Harry M. Zweig Fund for Equine Research.