

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 NYS 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 Development Fund (the Fund), the public benefit corporation that administers the New York



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
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Albany, NY 12207
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www.nysirestakes.com

Important Dates:

January 1:
Stallion enrollment
deadline

February 15:
Continuation pay-
ments due

April 1:
Late registration
deadline for new
Stallions

April 15:
Final sustaining
payments due

May 15:
Yearling nomina-
tions 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?



Courtesy USTA

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 raced 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.

State Fair Series

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

Late Closers Series

A 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.

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 earn an average of \$150,000 annually.

For forms and more information, please visit: www.nysirestakes.com



Courtesy USTA

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, State Fair Series

races, Late Closers Series events, and County Fair Series 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.