

Racing Officials Duties

A. Organizing Your Judge's Stand / Working with Other Racing Officials

1. Unless you are using an electronic timer, you will need to have three timers with stop watches, appointed to time each race.
2. If the races are to be charted, you must have a licensed charter and approved photo finish equipment/operator.
3. All officials including the starter and photo finish operator should be in their positions at least 15 minutes prior to post time for the first race.
4. Medical Assistance – You **MUST** have a licensed paramedic, emergency medical technician, or the equivalent, and an ambulance or other suitable transportation available on the premises beginning 30 minutes before the first post time with direct access to the race track. The ambulance is to be occupied at all times by the medical personnel.
5. In the event the ambulance must leave the fairgrounds for any reason, the races **MUST** be delayed until such time as a replacement ambulance and personnel arrive.

B. Duties to be performed by the judges include:

- Communications with mutuels, starter and announcer.
- Alerting all officials, announcer and mutuels to any scratches or driver's changes.
- Observation of horses warming up and scoring.
- Locking of pari-mutuel machines.
- Verify working order of photo finish equipment prior to the first race.
- Verify that the ambulance and personnel are in place.
- Verify that Public Address System is in working order.

C. Starter/Starting of Horses

1. The starter shall report to the judges' office at least one hour prior to post time for the first race.
2. The starter shall contact the presiding judge to obtain all known program changes prior to each racing program. It shall be the responsibility of the presiding judge to advise the starter of any other program changes as they become known. It shall be the responsibility of the starter to advise the driver of the starting gate of program changes.
3. All starting gates shall be in good working condition and checked on a regular basis for safety by the starter.
4. The starter and driver of the starting gate shall know and practice emergency procedures in the case of any malfunction of the starting gate.
5. The starter and presiding judge shall review the proper procedures to be used in the event of a racing accident. (Accident procedures appear elsewhere in this document.)
6. The starter shall be in communication with the drivers by means of a loud speaker system, volume only loud enough for the driver to hear his/her

instructions.

7. The starter shall be available to communicate with the presiding judge at all times when horses are on the race track for the race. He shall advise the judges of any matter which might affect the racing program.
8. The starter shall advise the presiding judge of any driver with whom a hearing has been scheduled and the presiding judge and associate judges may be present at all starter hearings.
9. Proper notice of a hearing or opportunity for a hearing must be afforded to all drivers before any penalty is imposed.
10. The starter shall discuss all recall procedures with the presiding judge prior to the beginning of the race meeting.
11. After the completion of the requisite number of scores the starter shall see that the horses are brought to the starting gate at the appropriate time to eliminate any unnecessary delay in the start of the race.
12. The starter may carry extra equipment in the starting gate for emergency equipment changes or to aid in the event of an accident.
13. Only the starter, driver of the starting gate, patrol judge, or other authorized official may ride in the starting gate. All others must have proper authorization from the presiding judge.

D. Patrol Judges

1. Patrol judges, if any, shall contact the presiding judge to obtain all known program changes prior to each racing program. It shall be the responsibility of the presiding judge to advise the patrol judges of any other program changes as they become known.
2. All patrol judges shall be in their assigned posts at least 15 minutes prior to the post time for the first race for the purpose of observing the warm-up of horses paying particular attention to the equipment worn by the horses and soundness of horses and advise the presiding judge of anything unusual pertaining to the horses or drivers.
3. Patrol judges shall be placed in strategic locations, preferably in "blind spots" where it is difficult to see the entire track from the judge's stand.
4. Once the horses have arrived on the race track for the post parade, the patrol judges shall advise all other horses and drivers to vacate the track.
5. The patrol judges shall check the post parade for the correct driver, head number and saddle pad and advise the presiding judge of any discrepancy.
6. All patrol judges shall be in direct communication with the judge's stand when the starter calls the horses to the gate and until the conclusion of the race and "all clear" has been given by all patrol judges. In addition, all patrol judges shall be available to communicate with the judges stand at all times when horses are on the race track beginning with the post parade.
7. When taking objections, it is necessary for the patrol judge to note the driver's name and head number along with who the objection is against, what happened and where on the race track the alleged violation occurred. Objections must be given to the patrol judge in the first turn prior to the

driver dismounting from the sulky. The patrol judges shall advise the driver making the objection; and if possible, the other drivers involved to proceed directly to a designated telephonic device to communicate with the presiding judge.

8. If there are no objections or other matters which may directly affect the outcome of the race, the patrol judge shall advise the judges of the "all clear" immediately after the race when horses have passed the objection station and are returning to the paddock. Other matters which are not directly related to the race shall be communicated to the judges after the official sign has been posted.

E. Official Timers

1. The speed superintendent shall be responsible to designate three people to act as timers for all races. One shall be designated as the Chief Timer.
2. The timers shall be responsible for timing each race at each quarter pole marker and the final time of the race. The Chief Timer shall record the official time of the race and report the time of each quarter to the announcer and presiding judge.
3. Each timer should have a split second stop watch able to record times in fifths of seconds and each timer should agree on the times reported.