

Agenda Item #1



State of Indiana Indiana Horse Racing Commission

Michael R. Pence, Governor

www.in.gov/hrc

**For Immediate Release
February 24, 2015**

New Judges to Join Indiana Horse Racing Commission's Team

The Indiana Horse Racing Commission (IHRC) has hired three new judges to officiate its Standardbred racing program. Michael (Mike) Hall joins the IHRC team as presiding judge. He will be joined by Kevin Gumm and David Magee as associate judges.

Mike Hall, relocating from Delaware, brings with him twenty-five years of officiating experience to Hoosier Park's judges stand. He began his career in 1990 as an associate judge at Northfield Park, moving into a presiding judge role for the Ohio Racing Commission. He brings years of experience to this position, from officiating at tracks such as Yonkers Raceway, Pompano Park, and most recently at Harrah's Philadelphia Racetrack for the Pennsylvania Racing Commission. He has also been featured in Hoofbeats' *Ask the Judge* column on several occasions. Mike Hall replaces Tim Schmitz who has served as Indiana's presiding judge with distinction since 1996.

Kevin Gumm, originally from Illinois, has served as an associate judge since 2008. He has worked at several racetracks in the Midwest, including Colonial Downs, Running Aces, Maywood, Balmoral Park and most recently Dayton and Miami Valley Raceway in Ohio.

David Magee rounds out the IHRC judges team, making the transition from race bike to judges stand. Bringing with him years of driving experience, the Hall of Fame inductee, has accumulated 11,868 driving wins and over \$101,000,000 in purse earnings during his driving career. His resume includes driving milestones such as being named 1994 HTA Driver of the Year, representing the United States in the biennial World Driving Championship on two occasions, winning the event in 1995, as well as being inducted into the Living Hall of Fame in 2001. He brings an immense amount of industry knowledge with him to this new role as associate judge.

"Indiana has been fortunate to have many high caliber individuals work in our judges stand over the years, including Tim Schmitz, who has held the presiding judge position since 1996. We are thankful to Tim for his years of service to Indiana. I couldn't be more pleased with our new team and welcome them all to Indiana," stated Joe Gorajec, Executive Director of the Indiana Horse Racing Commission.

Indiana's 2015 standardbred race meet runs 160 days from March 27 through November 14, 2015 at Hoosier Park Racing and Casino. Additional information about the Indiana Horse Racing Commission can be found at www.in.gov/hrc.

Hall of Fame driver Dave Magee to retire

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 - by Tom Kelley, publicity director, Balmoral Park

Crete, IL --- Chicago's leading harness driver for the past 30-plus years, Dave Magee, is retiring after his drives this Saturday night (Feb. 28) at Balmoral Park.

Magee is a Hall of Famer and has been one of the classiest individuals the sport of harness racing has ever known. He has almost 12,000 career victories and more than \$101 million in career earnings during his illustrious career. He is one of only 18 drivers in the history of the sport to eclipse that \$100 million mark in earnings and is the only Illinois based driver to go over \$100 million in earnings.

Magee has had 10 seasons with \$2 million-plus in earnings, 13 more seasons with \$3 million in earnings and a trio of \$4 million seasons. He won a whopping 630 races in 1994, which led all drivers in North America.

Dave also proved victorious in the 1995 World Driving Championship, defeating drivers from Canada, Australia, France, Sweden, Germany, Italy and other European stops.

He was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in 2001.

On the local scene Dave has been dominant throughout his career, winning driving titles at every Illinois racetrack. His 12 Maywood Park driving titles and 11 Sportsman's Park titles are both records. He is also the leader in Super Night victories among drivers.

He has also posted an amazing 36 straight seasons with more than \$1 million in earnings and 38 straight seasons of 100 wins or more.

The 61-year-old Magee is a resident of Big Rock, Ill. He will be moving on to a new career as a State Steward (Judge) at Hoosier Park in Anderson, Ind.

"I'm happy that Dave has found a new challenge for his life," said Balmoral Park racing director and USTA President Phil Langley. "With his experience, integrity and plain old smarts he might well become the best judge ever. The Illinois laws prevented us from hiring him two years ago so Indiana gains him.

"On the other hand it was almost with much sadness that I received an e-mail from him telling me of his decision. I was so choked up telling my wife that she thought something bad had happened. We will always be great friends and I wish the best to Dave and Cathy."



USTA photo

Dave Magee is retiring after his drives this Saturday night at Balmoral Park.

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THE
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AND FAIR WORLD

Dave Magee to become steward at Hoosier

February 25, 2015

| Normal View

Chicago's leading harness driver for the past 30-plus years, Dave Magee, is retiring after his drives this Saturday night (Feb. 28) at Balmoral Park. He was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in 2001. The 61-year-old Magee is moving to Indiana, where he will begin a career as a state steward at Hoosier Park.

Magee is a Hall of Famer and has been one of the classiest individuals the sport of harness racing has ever known. He has almost 12,000 career victories and more than \$101 million in career earnings during his illustrious career. He is one of only 17 drivers in the history of the sport to eclipse that \$100 million mark in earnings and is the only Illinois based driver to go over \$100 million in earnings.

Magee has had 10 seasons with \$2 million-plus in earnings, 13 more seasons with \$3 million in earnings and a trio of \$4 million seasons. He won a whopping 630 races in 1994, which led all drivers in North America. He also proved victorious in the 1995 World Driving Championship, defeating drivers from Canada, Australia, France, Sweden, Germany, Italy and other European stops.

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