New Faces at the IHRC

Breed Development Residency Coordinator

Joyse Banister joined the IHRC team in February as its Breed Development Residency Coordinator. She registers stallions, mares and foals for the Standardbred Breed Development Program, and works with the IHRC Field Inspector in coordinating and maintaining the inspection records for the Standardbred, Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse.

Breed Development Programs. Joyse, a graduate of Purdue University’s Animal Science Program, was previously the acting CEO of the National Pony of the Americas Organization, which is based in Indianapolis. There she was involved in program development, promotion, and organizing their National Congress show, and their National Futurity and Sale each year. She is no stranger to the horse racing industry; her family owned and raced Standardbreds for several years. Once her two daughters were old enough to ride, the family changed its focus and began to show horses across the country. A true animal lover, Joyse currently spends much of her time helping on the family farm in Fairland, Indiana, enjoying her grandchildren, showing Miniature Horses and donkeys, and serving as the current President of the Indiana Miniature Equine Club.

Breed Development Clerk

Lorelei Masshardt obtained her degree in Equine Business Management from Purdue University Calumet in May of 2015. While attending college, she served as President of the Boots and Bridles horse club for three years and was also involved in the horse industry through several internships. In the summer of 2013, she was introduced to the exciting world of horse racing when she was an intern aiding in the management of the speed barns at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Her love of the sport grew from there! From 2014-2015, she worked as an intern with the Horse Racing Commission. She assisted with the drug testing program at the county fairs, Hoosier Park, and Indiana Grand. Shortly after her 2015 internship ended she was hired full time as the Breed Development Clerk for the IHRC. In this role she performs various accounting functions, including processing all payments made from all three of the Breed Development Funds. Her responsibilities also include ensuring that award recipients and vendors have the proper paperwork (W-9 and vendor forms) submitted to the Auditor of State’s office, and assists horsemen in this process.
In order to provide horsemen and veterinarians with the most up to date information, IHRC’s website (www.in.gov/hrc/2589.htm) will include a link to the Racing Medication & Testing Consortium’s (RMTC) Withdrawal Times Database.

The RMTC is an organization with both scientific and educational purposes, governed by a board of directors representing 23 racing industry stakeholders. Their mission is to strive to develop and promote uniform rules, policies and testing standards at the national level; coordinate research and educational programs that seek to ensure the integrity of racing and the health and welfare of racehorses and participants; and protect interests of the racing public.

You can directly access the RMTC’s Withdrawal Times Database at www.rmtc.net and click on the link for Withdrawal Times Database. From there, you will be taken to a disclaimer that the withdrawal times listed are only recommendations. Reliance on the recommendations at the dosage and times listed does not guarantee that their use will not result in a positive post-race test. After agreeing to this disclaimer you will be taken to the withdrawal database where you can filter to see those medications relevant to Indiana.

Owners, trainers and any other persons responsible for the care of a racehorse are strongly advised to consult a veterinarian for guidance and advice on the use of any medication in a racehorse. There are many factors that can cause a medication to remain longer than indicated by the withdrawal times, including but not limited to the horse’s weight, sex and other medications being used. Repeated or long-term administrations of a drug can greatly extend the withdrawal time. Some studies show dramatically different withdrawal times between horses and differences when other drugs such as Salix are being used.

**Recommended Withdrawal Guidelines**

2016 Rule Changes

Each year the IHRC considers proposed rule changes for the upcoming race meet. Proposed changes generally come to the IHRC through the following sources:

- Proposals made by IHRC staff (including judges): IHRC staff and judges conduct periodic reviews of our rules and make recommendations on rules which should be clarified or modified.
- Requests from outside organizations: The racetracks and horsemen’s organizations may make requests to modify IHRC rules.
- Re-adoption of rules that are scheduled to expire.

Upon consideration and IHRC approval of a rule change, the IHRC may chose to adopt the change as an emergency rule, which makes it effective upon the date it is filed with the State or send the rule through the regular rule making process.

At the IHRC’s March meeting there were five emergency rule changes that were passed, and two rules that will be adopted through the longer rule making process. You can find a list of the rules changed during the March 2016 meeting on our website at http://www.in.gov/hrc/2332.htm, as well as a link to the IHRC’s entire rulebook.

You can find most recent rule changes and the IHRC rules on our website at www.in.gov/hrc.

**Breed Development On-line Registration Now Available**

NEW FOR 2016...You can now register your mares, stallions, and foals for the Standardbred Breed Development Program online through our website! Just visit the Standardbred Breed Development portion of our website at www.in.gov/hrc/sb.htm. Please remember that in order for your foal to be Indiana Sired and Bred, you must register the mare by August 1st, prior to foaling. After registering, the mare must remain in Indiana from August 1st until foaling, and a foal registration must be completed within 30 days of foaling. Late registrations may be submitted with a late fee. Contact our office for details.
**Did you know?**

**How the IHRC’s Due Process Works with Equine Positives**

When the lab reports a drug positive to the commission, the judges will let the trainer know as soon as possible. After that notification, the trainer has up to 96 hours to decide whether he or she wants to have the split sample tested. If the split is tested, it can take another few weeks for those results to come back.

If a trainer declines a split or the split confirms the positive, the matter is heard by the judges. The trainer can have a lawyer present for the hearing. The judges will generally issue a ruling within a few days of a hearing. After the ruling is issued, the trainer has 15 days to decide if he or she wants to file an appeal of the ruling. If the trainer doesn’t appeal, the ruling stands, and all suspensions will be served immediately (or in accordance with the terms of the ruling), and any fine must be paid in full before the trainer can race again.

If a trainer appeals a ruling, the matter is referred to an Administrative Law Judge. The penalties contemplated by the judges ruling can be stayed upon trainer request (and assuming the Commission Staff does not object). Typically that means the trainer will not have to serve his or her time until the ALJ can hear the matter. A hearing before an ALJ will be scheduled. While the matter is pending before the ALJ, both Commission Staff and the trainer have the opportunity to gather information relating to the case in order to prepare for the hearing. The ALJ’s recommended order must be considered by the Commission during an IHRC meeting. Up until this time, the Commission members are prohibited from discussing the details of any case with any of the parties involved. The Commission may affirm, modify, or dissolve the ALJ’s recommended order. Once the IHRC makes its decision, the trainer can appeal the IHRC order to a trial court. Matters can pend before a trial court for many months.

**Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) - a judge and trier of fact who both presides over trials and adjudicates the claims or disputes (in other words, ALJ-controlled proceedings are bench trials) involving administrative law.**

**New Faces at the IHRC Continued…**

**Executive Director**

**Mike Smith**

Michael (Mike) Smith was recently hired by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission (IHRC) to serve as its Executive Director. Mike began his role with the IHRC on February 1, 2016. Mike is excited to return to the industry, having been involved in horse racing during the 1960’s. He and his father first owned thoroughbreds before then moving onto owning, training and driving standardbreds. He has maintained his qualifying drivers and trainers licenses with the USTA since that time. He also brings strong business and management experiences; he owns and operates a successful insurance and investment firm; he is Past President and CEO of the Casino Association of Indiana; and he served as a member of the Indiana House of Representatives from 1993-2002 (he served as Republican Floor Leader).

In his role as Executive Director, Mike will further the IHRC’s commitment to maintaining the highest integrity for Indiana’s racing, and will foster and promote an environment that encourages investment and growth of horse racing in Indiana.

Since his appointment, Mike has been busy meeting with the representatives of horsemen’s associations, racetrack management and IHRC staff to identify areas that the horse racing industry may be improved.
Pursuant to the Trainer Responsibility Rule, 71 IAC 5-3-2, all licensed trainers are responsible for the presence of any prohibited drug, medication, or other substance, including permitted medication in excess of the maximum allowable level, in horses he or she trains. This includes any new horses you bring into your stable that you start under your name.

For example:
A trainer might get a new horse in their stable eight days prior to making its first start for that trainer. When the horse races and subsequently is tested, any medication violations that occur are that trainer’s responsibility even if the medication was administered by a prior trainer.

Trainers should remember that they have the option to send blood samples from any horse in their stable to the lab. Industrial Laboratories, the IHRC’s primary testing laboratory has instituted a therapeutic medication research program. This program provides a resource for veterinarians and horsemen to obtain clearance time information for controlled therapeutic medications that is dose-specific, administration-specific, and horse-specific. At this time, there is no charge for the testing; however, please keep in mind that the lab cannot guarantee any set turn-around time. You can find additional information about this program and cobalt testing on our website at www.in.gov/hrc under Medication Information. Additionally, if you have any questions about either of these programs, please contact our offices and one of our Test Barn Administrators will be happy to assist you.

Upcoming Initiatives

Executive Director Mike Smith announced several upcoming initiatives during the March 15, 2016 IHRC meeting. These initiatives include:

- Increasing the number of horses being sent to the test barn to be tested. Horsemen might see additional horses being “specialed” on race nights.

- The IHRC is working to retain drug testing samples for a longer period of time. This will enable the IHRC to go back and retest samples as testing procedures advance to allow the industry the ability to test for new drugs. The IHRC will be working on a policy regarding this.

- Increasing the number of horses tested through the IHRC’s Out Of Competition Program. Out of Competition testing rules can be found on our website at www.in.gov/hrc by clicking on Medication Information.

- Modifying the Integrity Program check-in time for horses stabled on the grounds.

- Increased marketing and promotions. The IHRC is in the process of implementing social media pages for their Breed Development Programs. These same venues will be utilized to increase communication with horsemen as well as the use of newsletters and e-mail correspondence. Additionally, we will be working with the racetracks and horsemen’s organizations to increase shared promotions of Indiana’s racing product.