

INDIANA THOROUGHBRED BREED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM **HOOSIER HORSEPOWER**



June 2026
Thoroughbred

Welcome To the Newest member of the ITBBD Advisory Committee



Earlier this year, Governor Braun appointed Maureen Burger to the Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee.

Burger has been an active participant in our meetings and discussions and is a welcome addition to the committee. Burger worked as a nurse for 50 years before retiring in 2025 and has experience in business administration, quality control, and consulting. In 2018, she formed Burger Racing Stables LLC with her husband Greg and now breeds, races, and sells thoroughbreds.

Burger was introduced to horse racing when her husband's colleague invited them to share ownership of a racehorse and took them to the races. Although hesitant at first, it didn't take long for the pair to fall in love with the excitement of horse racing. When the market changed in 2008 and the Burgers were looking for new investment opportunities, they claimed their first horse "Twostep partner" who infamously left his rider in the turf and went for a swim in the pond at Riverside Downs. Once their first filly aged out of racing, they decided to keep her as a broodmare, which began their venture into breeding thoroughbreds.

Burger's favorite part about being in the industry is breeding; seeing foals grow and seeing how different they turn out. "You can have two fillies from the same mare and stallion and get two totally different results..."

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Mare Incentive Program

The Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Development Program is offering up to \$2,000 in incentives for new mares foaling in the state.

For the first \$1,000 incentive:

- ✓ Purchase a mare at a public auction for a minimum purchase price of \$2,500
- ✓ Verify that the mare has not been previously registered as a foaling mare in Indiana
- ✓ Register mare with the IHRC and submit proof of purchase
- ✓ Register foal with the IHRC

For an additional \$1,000:

- ✓ Breed the purchased mare back to an Indiana Sire
- ✓ Register Mare prior to foaling & comply with all requirements of registration
- ✓ Register foal with the IHRC

Incentive payments will be issued once the applicable foal has been registered with the program and eligibility is verified.



The Shelby County



Imagine the Moon
(Ready's Image - Themoonandthestars)
Breeder: Rancho Monarca
Stallion Owner: Michael E Lauer

Imagine the Moon repeated in the 24th running of the Shelby County and ran the second fastest time recorded for the handicap at 1:09.95! This marked her 10th career win in 24 starts and brought her career earnings up to \$479,751.

William Henry Harrison



Hawkeye
(Storm's Eye - Indian Run)
Breeder: Triple D Partners
Stallion Owner: Barefoot Farms

Hawkeye won his first premier race in the 23rd running of the William Henry Harrison. This was his 6th career win in 16 starts and increased his career earnings to \$214,115.

The Swifty Sired Fillies



Spirited Justice
(Lantana Mob - She Fox)
Breeder: Justice Farm
Stallion Owner: Justice Farm

Spirited Justice secured her fourth win after winning the Swifty Sired Fillies handicap, bringing her total career earnings up to \$198,006! The three-year-old filly finished in 1:04.29, the second fastest time recorded for the Handicap.

The Sagamore Sired



JR Shadow Boy
(Unbridled Express - Mildred)
Breeder: Paul King
Stallion Owner: LTB INC

JR Shadow Boy finished first in the Sagamore Sired Handicap in 1:02.29, the fastest time recorded for the race! The three-year-old gelding is now four for four and has amassed \$130,500 in career earnings.

Upcoming Restricted Handicaps

The Nobody Listens
June 24, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs +

The Checkered Flag
June 24, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs + | F/M

The Hoosier Breeders Sophomore
July 11, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs

The Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Fillies
July 11, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs | F

The Snack [T]
August 12, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs

The Ellen's Lucky Star [T]
August 12, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs | F

The Bucchero [T]
August 26, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs +

The Peony [T]
August 26, 2026
\$100,000 | 3 yrs + | F/M

[T] denotes turf race
F denotes fillies only
F/M denotes fillies/mares

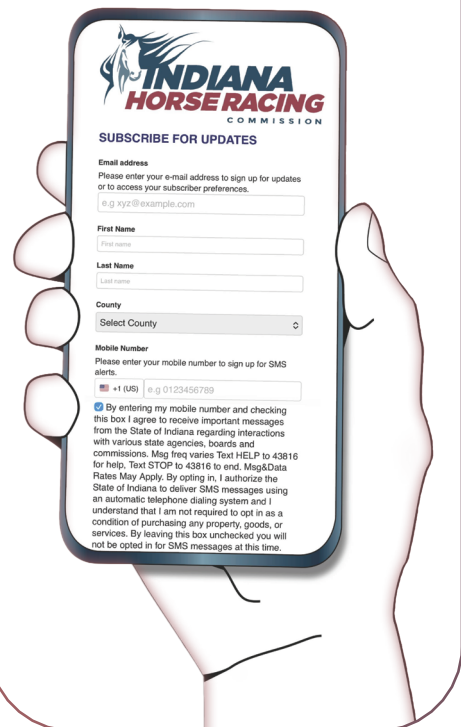


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TOP INDIANA BRED HORSES '26	TOTAL PROGRAM AWARDS '26
JR SHADOW BOY	\$36,800
HARD LUCK PRAYER	\$24,500
HOT MIDDLES	\$20,520
IMAGINE THE MOON	\$20,000
HAWKEYE	\$20,000

TOP INDIANA STALLIONS '26	TOTAL PROGRAM AWARDS '26
UNBRIDLED EXPRESS	\$51,160
PRAYER FOR RELIEF	\$37,250
READY'S IMAGE	\$14,300
STORM'S EYE	\$12,450
FOREVER D'ORO	\$12,250

2026 Awards Tracker

You can now find all awards earned in 2026 on our website's [Awards Tracker](#)!

Simply navigate to our Thoroughbred homepage, open the *Award Information* dropdown, and select *Breeder Awards* to see our 2026 Leaderboard and Awards Tracker. All fields on the Awards Tracker are sortable to help you find what you are looking for. Perform a table search to find specific information or export the full dataset to Excel for further analysis and formatting.

The Awards Tracker is updated regularly to give you the latest information available. If you'd like to know the status of a specific award, navigate to "[Payment Status](#)" under the *Award Information* dropdown.

For any questions or concerns regarding Breed Development Awards, please call or email our Thoroughbred & Quarter Horse Breed Development Coordinator, Megan Eads | 317-234-2543 | MeEads@hrc.in.gov

Welcome To the Newest member of the ITBBD Advisory Committee Continued...

You can't control what you're going to get, you can only breed for the best and hope for the best..." she says.

For someone interested in horse racing, fractional ownership is a low-risk option to enjoy horse racing. The Burgers started with fractional ownership, and they now own 25 horses. Burger says that "if you are willing to learn, everyone is willing to teach," and recommends working with a bloodstock agent to facilitate breeding as they offer expertise in pedigree and market analysis.

Maureen Burger "is thrilled and honored to be appointed to the committee and is looking forward to working together with program members in growing horse racing and breeding in Indiana."

One metric to measure that growth is Indiana Sired horses' success in Indiana Bred races. "Last year, the Indiana Sired horses really dominated and exceeded expectations, which goes to show that the quality of Indiana Stallions and Mares has increased and that Indiana Sired horses are able to compete with Indiana Bred horses and even Open horses," Burger explained. Maureen is excited to see what the future holds for the Indiana program.

Working alongside Maureen Burger will be Chairman Bruce Murphy from Crawfordsville and Tianna Richardville from Shelbyville. The committee is responsible for making annual recommendations regarding the Thoroughbred Breed Development Program to the IHRC. Burger will serve as member until June 30, 2028

Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee Meeting

The Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee will have a meeting on Wednesday, June 24 at 11:00 AM.

The meeting will be held on the 3rd floor of Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4300 N. Michigan Rd, Shelbyville, IN 46176

All are welcome to attend.

Questions regarding the information covered in this newsletter or have a topic you would like covered?

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