About Thoroughbred Breed Development

Welcome to an exciting time for the horse racing industry in Indiana. In 2007, legislation was passed which approved slot machines at Indiana’s pari-mutuel racetracks. Hoosier Park and Indiana Downs both opened their slot operations in June of 2008. The Thoroughbred Breed Development Fund receives over $11 million annually in revenue. In addition, the tracks contribute funds from the open purse account for the program. With these funds, Indiana offers a lucrative Breed Development Program which includes breeder’s awards, stallion owner awards, a healthy stakes and restricted program, as well as appealing purse supplements for horses competing in open company.

The mission of the Thoroughbred Breed Development Program is the dual goal of stimulating the agri-business sector of the State’s economy while breeding highest quality thoroughbred horses. The program provides incentives to three important elements of the Indiana Thoroughbred industry: the owner, the breeder and the stallion owner.

What is an Indiana Bred?

An Indiana bred, by definition is any duly registered Thoroughbred foaled in Indiana whose dam was registered with the Indiana Horse Racing Commission and entered in Indiana by November 1 of the year prior to foaling. The mare must remain in Indiana continuously until foaling. The resulting foal will then be eligible to be registered as an Indiana bred.

If a mare entered Indiana and was registered after November 1 of the year prior to foaling, the foal must be born in Indiana to be registered as an Indiana bred. In addition, the mare of the foal must also be bred back to a registered Indiana stallion in the year of foaling. The requirement to breed back does not apply to a mare purchased through an advertised public sale prior to December 31st.

Mares which are required to be breed back to an Indiana stallion must remain in Indiana for a period of thirty (30) days from the foaling date. The mare and foal must be inspected prior to leaving the state. Mares that fail to conceive on the breed back must remain open for that breeding season in order to make the mare’s current foal eligible.

Mares registered for the current breeding year will be allowed to leave the state for a public sale, but must return within fourteen (14) days. In addition registered mares may leave Indiana in order to receive emergency medical treatment. The IHRC must be notified in writing and provided proper documentation for any mare and/or foal leaving Indiana.

All mares in foal must be registered every year, even if they never leave the State of Indiana.

Foal Registration

In order to be eligible to register a Thoroughbred foal as an Indiana bred, the foal must be foaled in Indiana and its dam must be registered with the Indiana Horse Racing Commission and fulfill the guidelines for mare registration.
In order to be eligible to register a foal as an Indiana bred with the IHRC, a completed application must be on file with the commission within twelve (12) months of the horse’s foaling date. If the foal is not registered by the required date, a late fee will be assessed in accordance with the following schedule:

- 12 months plus 1 day to December 31 of yearling year - $200
- 2 year old year - $400
- 3 year old year and beyond - $1,000

**Stallion Registration**

In order to be eligible to register a stallion with the Indiana Horse Racing Commission, a completed application must be on file with the IHRC on or before October 15th of each year. Each registered stallion must remain in Indiana the entire breeding season (February 1 through July 1).

New stallions arriving late cannot have covered any mares in another state during the same year. New stallions standing in Indiana for the first time must be registered prior to covering any mares for that year.

A stallion must be registered with the commission the year of the foal’s conception to be eligible for sire races and stallion awards. **Stallions must be registered each year.** A mares bred report must be on file with the commission by December 1 of each year. A copy of lease agreements must accompany the application.

*There will be a $250 late fee for all applications filed after the deadline.* The late fee is waived for new stallions which are standing for the first time in Indiana.

Only those stallions standing in Indiana and properly registered with the IHRC are eligible for stallion breed development awards.

**Incentives**

The incentives offered in the Thoroughbred Breed Development program make breeding, owning or purchasing an Indiana Bred a good investment. The incentives include:

40% **Supplement to Indiana Breds in Open Races** – A 40% purse supplement for any Indiana Bred which finishes 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any open race, except claiming races with a price less than $10,000, will be paid. This supplement rewards Indiana Bred horses that are competing and doing well in open races. In addition, a registered Indiana bred that enters or races in an open race will retain their previous preference date when returning to a restricted Indiana bred races. Such a horse, when entering consecutive open races, shall retain the preference date of its most recent open race.

**Restricted Races for Indiana Breds** – A number of restricted races are written for registered Indiana Bred horses. The purse of the restricted race is equal to the purse of its open race counterpart. In addition, one-third of the restricted races for $10,000 claiming and above are written for Indiana Sired horses (Indiana Bred foals sired by an Indiana registered stallion).

**Stakes Program** – Lucrative stakes program available. Stakes races restricted to registered Indiana Bred horses are currently conducted throughout the race meet at Indiana Downs, including four signature stakes with elevated purses.

**Breeder's Awards** – Breeder awards are paid to the breeder of a registered Indiana bred which wins an award eligible race at a licensed pari-mutuel track located in Indiana.

The amount of the award is 20% of the gross purse (including purse supplement in open races) for all allowance, stakes and claiming races when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to $10,000.

**Stallion Owner Awards** – Stallion owner awards are paid to the owner of a registered Indiana stallion whose progeny have won an award eligible race at a licensed pari-mutuel track located in Indiana.

The amount of the award is 10% of the gross purse (including purse supplement in open races) for all allowance, stakes and claiming races when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to $10,000.

**Out-of-State Breeder's Awards** – Out-of-state breeder's awards are paid to the breeder of a registered Indiana bred which wins a race in another state or Canada.

The amount of the award is Ten percent (10%) of the winner's share of the purse for any race, when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to $10,000. The amount of the award shall not exceed $10,000. This award is applicable only when there is no live Thoroughbred race meet in progress in Indiana (except for stake races and for two-year-olds winning prior to July 1 of the race meet).

*All awards are paid and distributed by the Indiana Horse Racing Commission approximately thirty-five (35) days from the date of the race.*