



“You Make The Call”

**Eddie Arroyo, *ROAP Board Member*
& *IRB Steward***

and

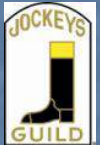
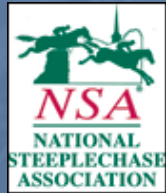
Cathy O’Meara, *ROAP Coordinator*



Racing Officials Accreditation Program

What is ROAP?

- Collaborative effort of industry organizations dedicated to ensuring the integrity of horse racing by educating and training racing officials through an accreditation process



501(c) 6 organization that operates solely on contributions - primary funding and administrative support from The Jockey Club



Racing Officials Accreditation Program

Program Benefits

- Racetracks and racing commissions that employ accredited officials are represented by qualified professionals
- Horsemen and racing fans can be confident the sport is being overseen by qualified experts
- Fulfills the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance employee training requirement for accreditation
- Resources available to all – resource guide and DVD, website with directory and job postings/job wanted ads, weekly e-Newsletter and Facebook page



Racing Officials Accreditation Program

Requirements for Accreditation

Education + Examination + Experience

- 60-hour Full Accreditation Course in either Flat, Harness or Steeplechase discipline
- Successful completion of 5 exams – general, medication, legal, film and oral
- Experience requirement – Level III (225 days), Level II + 50 days in stand, Level I + 200 days in stand and 5 years

Requires 16 hours of continued education every two years to maintain accreditation





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ROAP By the Numbers

- 30 U.S. states have at least one ROAP accredited steward working at each track, which accounts for 99% of the U.S. race days and handle
- In the U.S., 70% of racing days and 75% of handle are officiated by three ROAP accredited stewards
- In the U.S. and Canada, 64% of racing days and 72% of handle are officiated by three ROAP accredited stewards
- All NSA meets are officiated by a ROAP accredited steward
- In the U.S., 72% of Harness meets are officiated by at least one ROAP accredited judge and 50% are officiated by three ROAP accredited judges



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Apprentice Program

- Qualified individual who has met the education and examination sections of accreditation (completed the full school)
- Searching for hands-on training
- 6-8 weeks on job training
- Reimbursement offered to the host track
- Deadline for individuals is Dec 1 of each year



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ROAP Certificate

- Certificate program for specified racing officials including:
 - Clerk of Scales
 - Paddock Judge
 - Starter
 - Placing Judge
 - Horse Identifier
 - Outrider
 - Regulatory Veterinarian*
- Intermediary step toward accreditation
- Two-day training courses held at racetracks





Racing Officials Accreditation Program

Upcoming Events

- Flat Accreditation School – July 15-21 in Davis, CA
- Certificate Programs
 - April 15-16 at Sunland Park
 - October at Emerald Downs
 - New York – TBA
 - Gulf Coast region - TBA



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Resources

- Website → *horseracingofficials.com*
- Facebook and YouTube
- Duties & Responsibilities of Racing Officials DVD
- ROAP Resource Manual
- ROAP Online Directory
- Job postings / help wanted ads



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2013 Points of Emphasis

- Reciprocity: Lists and Licensees
- Protocols for Declaring a Race as No-Contest
- Stewards' Meetings with Racing Officials, Racetrack Staff and Horsemen Prior to Start of the Race Meet
- Protocols for Reciprocity of Suspensions, Summary Suspensions and Restraining Orders

A full description of each can be found on the ROAP website.



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Previous Points of Emphasis

Ensure that clear and concise verbal and written explanations of stewards' decisions and rulings are given to the media and public especially regarding claims of foul or inquiries including non calls



Eddie Arroyo

ROAP Board Member & IRB Steward



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KNOW THE RULES *in your jurisdiction*

Model Rules vs. Jurisdictional Rules

Model Rules → ARCI Document housing a comprehensive compilation of rules and regulations approved by RCI with industry input from all racing organizations



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Typical Duties During the Race

- Watch live race or on TV monitors
- Once horses cross wire – post inquiry if incident was observed
- Barring any emergencies→ review race replay
- Contact jockey or other officials for statement and/or hear any objections
- Determine outcome and post official

Interference Incidents

Model Rule

- (Interference) A jockey shall not ride carelessly or willfully so as to permit his/her mount to interfere with, impede or intimidate any other horse in the race.
- (Maintain a Straight Course) When the way is clear in a race, a horse may be ridden to any part of the course, but if any horse swerves, or is ridden to either side, so as to interfere with, impede or intimidate any other horse, it is a foul.
- **The offending horse may be disqualified, if in the opinion of the stewards, the foul altered the finish of the race, regardless of whether the foul was accidental, willful or the result of careless riding.**



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Horse A is clear of Horse B





Racing Officials Accreditation Program

Horse A is not clear of Horse B



Horse B

Horse A

A horse less than clear must be steady, take back, or alter course.

A horse that has been forced to become steady, take back, or alter course is impeded.

Foul is a Foul???

Did the interference affect the outcome of the race?

■ Jurisdiction A

- The stewards **may** place the offending horse behind the horse or horses that, in their judgment, the offending horse interfered with or they may place the offending horse last.

■ Jurisdiction B

- A horse crossing another so as actually to impede him **is disqualified**, unless the impeded horse was partly in fault, or crossing was wholly caused by the fault of some other horse or jockey.

Model Rule – Start Rules

- If, when the starter dispatches the field, any door at the front of the starting gate stalls should not open properly due to a mechanical failure or malfunction or should any action by any starting personnel directly cause a horse to receive an unfair start, the stewards may declare such a horse a non-starter
- **False Start** is when a horse (s) exits prematurely through the front of the gates prior to the starter officially dispatching the field regardless of cause. This does not include a horse which exits through the front of the gates and is subsequently reloaded. (Approved 7/27/2011)
- If the stewards suspect a false start has occurred, they shall post the inquiry sign and may disqualify the horse (s), declare it a non-starter, or take no action.

Rules relating to the Start

Jurisdiction A

- If the stewards find the horse was precluded from obtaining a fair start, the **stewards shall** rule the horse a nonstarter ...

Jurisdiction B

- No horse entered in any race is classed as a starter unless the starting gate opens in front of him simultaneously with the opening of the gates in front of the other horses at the start of the race. **Refusal of a horse to break with his field shall not deem him a non-starter.**

Interference with a Dead Heat

Jurisdiction A

- When a dead heat is run for second place and an objection is made to the winner of the race, and sustained, the horses which ran a dead heat shall be deemed to have run a dead heat for first place.

Jurisdiction B

- When a dead heat is run for second place and an objection is made to the winner of the race, and sustained, the horses which run the dead heat shall be deemed to have run a dead heat for first place.
However, in any instance in which a dead heat is run, the dead heat may only be split when an objection is made to one or more of the horses involved in a dead heat and sustained.

Multiple Disqualifications

- Multiple Disqualifications. Should the stewards determine that there is more than one incident of interference in a race where disqualification is warranted, the stewards shall deal with the incidents in the order in which the incident occurs during the race from start to finish; except in the case where the same horses are involved in multiple incidents. Once a horse has been disqualified, it should remain placed behind the horse with which it interfered. The stewards shall make a conscious effort to place and maintain as placed, every and all horses placed behind others for interference.



Racing Officials Accreditation Program

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