



# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

**So you would like to become an  
Accredited Steward and/or  
Racing Official?**

**Stan Bowker**

*ROAP Chairman, Senior Accredited Steward*

**Wendy Davis**

*ROAP Secretary, University of Arizona*



# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## What is ROAP?

- Collaborative effort of industry organizations dedicated to ensuring the integrity of horse racing through educating and training racing officials
- Accreditation programs provided through University of Arizona, University of Louisville, USTA, or NSA
- Created in an effort to further enhance the skills and professionalism of officials throughout the pari-mutuel racing industry
- 501(c) 6 organization that operates solely on contributions - Primary funding and administrative support from The Jockey Club and is based in its Lexington, KY office



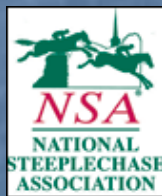


# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Who is ROAP?

- ROAP is composed of 18 industry organization board members and seven at large board members

## Contributors





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Statistics

- More than 1,000 people have participated in ROAP programs since 1991
- To date, there are 218 Accredited Senior Stewards/Judges, 311 Accredited Stewards/Judges, and 65 Accredited Racing Officials representing:
  - United States
  - Canada
  - Puerto Rico
  - United Arab Emirates
  - Caribbean
  - Central America
  - South America
  - Asia
- Currently 30 states employ at least one accredited Steward/Judge; 28 states require accreditation as a condition of employment or give preference to accredited officials





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Program Benefits

- Racetracks and racing commissions that employ accredited officials are represented by qualified professionals
- Racing fans are confident the sport is being overseen by qualified experts
- Horseman able to perform on a level playing field
- Fulfills the NTRA Safety & Integrity Alliance employee training requirement for accreditation
- Provides continual review of previous race incidents through video surveys



# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Program Benefits continued

- Continuing Education enables officials to explore and discuss current trends and issues throughout the country
- Regular Stewards Advisory Committee meetings with Senior Stewards/Judges facilitate communications among racing officials in the dispersal of ROAP policies
- Resource materials: ROAP Database, Resource Guide, Duties and Responsibility DVD, and Race Incident Video Library
- Weekly *e-News* Blast with current events and articles





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Educational Requirements

- Attend a 60-hour accreditation school in one of the three disciplines
- Pass all required exams → General, Legal, Medication, Film, and Oral
- Meet experience requirements based on level of accreditation
- Once accredited, officials are required to maintain 16 credit hours of continuing education every two years



# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Levels of Accreditation

- Fair Circuit Official, Steward or Judge
- Accredited Racing Official
- Accredited Steward or Judge
- Accredited Senior Steward or Judge
- Crossover Accreditation can also be achieved







# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Continuing Education

- Sponsored by the Universities of Louisville and Arizona, or by another group such as a racing commission
- 8-16 credit hours; 16 hours are required every two years to remain in good standing
- Agenda must include ROAP's Points of Emphasis – developed from the Stewards Advisory Committee on current racing issues



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## RACING INTEGRITY

Integrity → “adhere to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty”





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## 2011 Points of Emphasis

- Reciprocity of all lists through the use of the InCompass system
- Review track safety rules, procedures and standards with all track management, officials and horsemen and establish track safety committees
- Stay up to date on current and new rules, policies and directives in your specific jurisdiction and initiate model rule implementation
- Enforcement of the use of the whip and/or racing crop rules and regulations in your jurisdiction (including that the racing crop meets the minimum standards and specifications) and if not adopted in your state, advocate for the model rule ARCI-010-035, A(1) and E(7)
- 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





## Recommendation to Racing Commissions: Stewards/Judges Code of Conduct

1. Stewards/Judges should uphold the integrity and independence of their office at all times, because an independent and uncompromised office is necessary for the effective execution of official duties.
2. Stewards/Judges shall avoid the appearance of any impropriety in their activities in order to maintain the highest standards of conduct so that their office shall not be compromised nor their integrity called into question.
3. Stewards/Judges shall not allow their office to be used to advance their private interests, the interests of others, or to convey the impression that they are able to be influenced or compromised.
4. Stewards/Judges shall attend to all business pending before their office in a prompt, impartial and courteous manner.
5. Stewards/Judges shall be respectful and courteous to all persons who have business before their office.





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6. Stewards/Judges shall disqualify themselves from any business that comes before them where their integrity and fairness may be compromised due to a personal bias or prejudice.
7. All Stewards/Judges shall engage in activities that improve and promote the public confidence and the integrity of racing, to include interaction with other racing officials and racing organizations in the common goal of improving the horse racing industry.
8. Stewards/Judges shall regulate their activities to minimize the risk of a conflict of interest with their office.
9. Stewards/Judges shall not accept a gift or favor from anyone whose interests are likely to come before their office.
10. Stewards/Judges shall at all times maintain a level of professionalism and competence that is acceptable to their peers.
11. Stewards/Judges shall not willfully obstruct or stall any business before their office.





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12. Stewards/Judges shall not make any wager or allow any wager to be made on their behalf on any horse race during their appointment\* to office. (\*Appointment to office defined as: The period of time during which a steward or judge is employed at a specific race meeting including dark days)
13. Stewards/Judges shall not participate in the sale, purchase or ownership of a racehorse, racing supplies or equipment during their appointment.
14. Stewards/Judges shall not sell or solicit horse insurance during their appointment to office.
15. Stewards/Judges shall not be licensed in any other capacity without permission of the commission during their appointment to office.
16. Stewards/Judges shall not consume or be under the influence of alcohol while performing official duties.
17. When interacting with a licensee, be aware of the potential for a conflict of interest or favoritism.





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Mitigating Factors

- No intent to commit the violation
- No previous discipline
- Character reputation
- Youth
- Inexperience
- Violation occurred while under duress
- Intoxication
- Reduced capacity due to mental defect
- Admission of error
- Sincere remorse
- Remedial action taken
- Non-central role
- Little or no financial gain
- No injury to any person or animal
- No effect on a race or purse

## Aggravating Factors

- Intentional conduct
- Previous discipline
- Age
- Experience
- Intoxication
- Central role
- Financial gain
- Serious violation
- Injury to person or animal
- Effect on race or purse



# Racing Officials Accreditation Program







# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## 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.





# Racing Officials Accreditation Program

## Racing Officials Accreditation Program

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