



Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 19, 2012

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Owners Pledge to Race 2-Year-Olds of 2012 without Race-Day Medications

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) today released a broad-based list of Thoroughbred owners who have pledged to race their 2-year-olds of 2012 without race-day medications. Horses owned by these individuals will race their entire 2-year-old season without race-day furosemide and adjunct bleeder medications.

“The use of race-day medications has grown to the point where nearly every horse in every race is being treated just hours before they go to the saddling paddock,” said TOBA Chairman Peter S. Willmott. “This practice is not in the long-term best interests of the horse, nor is it the proper message we need to communicate with our fans if we wish to increase the popularity of the sport. We should all take steps to reverse the use of race-day medication and at this time the best way is to encourage like-minded owners to race their 2-year-olds medication-free.”

“The original purposes of permitted race day medication were to treat horses that overtly bled from the nose and to provide a larger pool of horses available for entry at a time when racing was proliferating,” said Bill Casner, who has campaigned notable horses such as Super Saver, Well Armed and Colonel John, among others. “Trainers and veterinarians soon recognized that horses that raced on furosemide could have a competitive advantage and now almost all horses are being diagnosed as bleeders. Racing commissions, in an effort to level the playing field and eliminate this advantage, relaxed their rules to allow furosemide for any horse. I believe the pervasive use of furosemide, and the dehydration stress it causes requiring more recovery time, has contributed to horses making fewer starts and has fueled the public’s belief that giving medication to performance horses is abusive and nefarious. Our racing industry thrived in a time prior to permitted race-day medications. Horses raced often and consistently. We are a global industry and we are out of step with the rest of the world. Race day medications are a failed experiment and it is time for us to do what is right for our horses and our industry.”

Dan Metzger, president of TOBA praised the members that have pledged to race their 2-year-olds this year without the use of race-day medication. “TOBA commends the owners listed and we encourage others to add their name to the list.”

Other owners who want to add their names and campaign their 2-year-olds without race-day medication can be added to the list by contacting the TOBA offices.

TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred horse breeders and owners. TOBA’s mission is to “*improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of Thoroughbred owners and breeders.*” Projects managed by TOBA include the American Graded Stakes Committee, The Racing Game, Sales Integrity Program and Claiming Crown. Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA) is the charitable arm of TOBA. TOBA is the owner of The Blood-Horse Inc., and is represented on the Board of Directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association as a founding member.



Owners Who Will Race Their 2-Year-Olds of 2012 the Entire Season Without Race-Day Medications

(updated as of July 20, 2012)

Josephine Abercrombie	John D. Gunther	Michael J. McMahon
Antony Beck	Arthur Hancock	John Nerud
Gary Biszantz	Seth Hancock	Ro Parra
Amy Bondon	Barry Irwin	John W. Phillips
James Bryant	Gretchen and Roy Jackson	Ogden Mills Phipps
Bill Casner	Stuart S. Janney III	Dr. J. David Richardson
Catesby Clay	Corey Johnsen	Fred Seitz
Robert Clay	Juddmonte Farm	Shadwell Stable
Nelson Clemmens	Marc Keller	Bill Shively
Dennis Dale	Jon and Sarah Kelly	George Strawbridge, Jr.
Darley	William Koester	Frank Stronach
Shawn Davis	Sarah Jane Leigh	Valor International
Adele Dilschneider	Magdalena Racing	Waterfalls Stable
Karl and Andrea Donaghy	Magic City Thoroughbreds	Peter S. Willmott
William S. Farish	Helen Masek	Woodford Racing
Carl Gessler, Jr., M.D.	Reiley McDonald	

Note: Horses with fractional ownership may be excluded by prior agreement.