



July 9, 2007

Dear ITHA Member,

The Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association and all trainers /owners, who have raced at Arlington since May 1, 2007, are currently under suit by Earlie Fires and the Jockey Guild Incorporated, who represents all jockeys, over mount fees. The ITHA has hired Alan Foreman, Attorney and President of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, and others to defend the ITHA and all trainers/owners who have raced at Arlington Park since May 1, 2007.

Please read the enclosed notice to trainers and owners as well as the mount fee schedules presented by the jockeys and their representatives.

You should contact your trainer to discuss the old fee schedule and any mount fee that a jockey may request because the ITHA does not enter into contracts or working arrangements with service providers on behalf of its members.

The ITHA will continue to monitor and defend this issue and inform its members when new information becomes available. Please feel free to contact the office at anytime to discuss or inquire about the status of this issue. The Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association will continue to voice its position on this and other issues in the best interest of thoroughbred racing in northern Illinois.

Please remember to attend the general membership meeting on Saturday, September 8, 2007 at 10:45 a.m. at the Arlington Park apron.

A further reminder this is an election year. There are 4 three year terms available—two for trainers and two for owners. Call the office for details.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Kirby
ITHA President

2 enclosures



Notice To Trainers & Owners

The ITHA cannot enter into a fixed mount fee schedule for the jockeys on behalf of the membership.

The situation is as follows:

In Illinois, jockeys are independent contractors. Each jockey must communicate his fee for his services to the trainer/owner when the agreement for the mount is made. It can be written or oral, but the agent must clearly communicate the fee structure to the trainer. If the trainer then hires the rider, he is obligated to the fees as communicated to him. The trainer can reject the jockey's fee offer and tell the agent that he will only pay the rider under the current fee structure, negotiate some other fee, or seek the services of another rider. If he cannot find a rider willing to ride under the current fee arrangement, then the trainer can decide not to enter, in which case the jockey may get no mount at all. Regardless of whether the Guild attempts to force its own fee structure on the trainers/owners, the trainer/owner has the right to reject the proposed fees, offer the mount to the rider under the existing fees or not enter. No jockey gets paid if he has no mount.

Alan

THE JOCKEY OR HIS AGENT MUST INFORM YOU INDIVIDUALLY OF THEIR NEW MOUNT FEE SCHEDULE YOU MUST ACCEPT OR REJECT IT AND IF YOU PUT THE JOCKEY ON THE HORSE IT IS UNDER THE FEE SCHEDULE YOU AGREED TO.

Suggested procedure

1. Each owner and trainer must confirm verbally or in writing what mount fee the individual jockey or his agent is accepting.
2. The HGCA, which is the horsemen's bookkeeper, is under no contractual obligation to collect and distribute the mount fees on behalf of each individual owner and trainer. Should a mount fee other than the current generally accepted be agreed upon, please contact the HGCA and inform them of your individual change.

Current Jockey Schedule Accepted Nationally

Purse	Winning	Second Place	Third Place	Fourth Place	Fifth Place	Other
\$5000 to \$9,999	10%	5%	5%	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00
\$10,000 to \$14,999	10%	5%	5%	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10%	5%	5%	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
\$25,000 to \$49,999	10%	5%	5%	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
\$50,000 to \$99,999	10%	5%	5%	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
\$100,000 and up	10%	5%	5%	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00

Jockey Schedule Presented May 1st Current Suit

Purse	Winning	Second Place	Third Place	Fourth Place	Fifth Place	Other
\$5000 to \$9,999	10% plus \$90	5% plus \$90	5% plus \$90	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00
\$10,000 to \$14,999	10% Plus \$100	5% plus \$100	5% plus \$100	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10% plus \$110	5% plus \$110	5% plus \$110	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$110.00
\$25,000 to \$49,999	10% plus \$130	5% plus \$130	5% plus \$130	\$130.00	\$130.00	\$130.00
\$50,000 to \$99,999	10% plus \$160	5% plus \$160	5% plus \$160	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$160.00
\$100,000 and up	10% plus \$210	5% plus \$210	5% plus \$210	\$210.00	\$210.00	\$210.00

Alternate Jockey Schedule Presented May 25th

Purse	Winning	Second Place	Third Place	Fourth Place	Fifth Place	Other
\$5000 to \$9,999	10%	5%	5%	\$75 plus 2%	\$75 plus 2%	\$75.00
\$10,000 to \$14,999	10%	5%	5%	\$80 plus 2%	\$80 plus 2%	\$80.00
\$15,000 to \$19,999	10%	5%	5%	\$85 plus 2%	\$85 plus 2%	\$85.00
\$2,000 to \$24,999	10%	5%	5%	\$90 plus 2%	\$90 plus 2%	\$90.00
\$25,000 to \$49,999	10%	5%	5%	\$95 plus 2%	\$95 plus 2%	\$95.00
\$50,000 to \$99,999	10%	5%	5%	\$110 plus 2%	\$110 plus 2%	\$110.00
\$100,000 and up	10%	5%	5%	\$135 plus 2%	\$135 plus 2%	\$135.00