

Oregon Racing Commission Annual Report

1996-97 FISCAL YEAR ACTIVITIES

RACES AND PURSES FOR HORSES AND GREYHOUNDS

During the 1996-97 fiscal year there were 2817 live pari-mutuel races run in the state of Oregon. Of these races 1,422 were for greyhounds and 1,395 were for horses. In addition to the races which were run live in Oregon, there were an additional 37,725 simulcast races brought in from other states. 21,869 of these races were greyhound races and 15,856 were horse races. Of the simulcast races Multnomah Greyhound Park brought in 14,520 of the races (7,704 greyhound and 6,816 horse); Portland Meadows brought in 20,581 of the races (14,165 greyhound and 6,416 horse); Lone Oak racing brought in the remaining 2,624 horse races.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

There were twelve regularly scheduled commission meetings during the fiscal year 1996-97. Eleven of these meetings were held in the Portland area with the remaining meeting held in Grants Pass.

CONFERENCES AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

During the 1996-97 fiscal year commissioners and/or the executive director attended the 63rd annual meeting of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) held in Boston, Massachusetts.

Commissioner Rankins served as the past chairman of the ARCI. The executive director chaired the Executive Director's Committee of the ARCI.

In January a meeting of interested jurisdictions was called by the executive director to begin the development process for a new organization to meet the reformational needs of racing regulators. The first meeting was held in Vancouver, BC with additional meetings held in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Phoenix, Arizona. The formal organizational meeting took place in June in Kansas City, Missouri. The new organization's name is the North American Racing Regulators Association (NAPRA). NAPRA was incorporated in June 1997. Oregon is one of the 13 founding jurisdictions.

LEGISLATION RELATED TO RACING

In addition to the agency budget for the 1997-99 biennium, the Oregon Racing Commission authored one bill which was pre-session filed for the 1997 session (HB 2104). This bill was amended by the racing industry to include account wagering. HB 2104 passed and was signed by the governor.

HB 280 was a bill submitted by the racing industry which would have allowed the expenditure of up to \$4.8 million to support racing in the state of Oregon. The funding was to have come from excess revenues of the Oregon Racing Commission and Economic Development Funds. While the bill passed the legislature, it was vetoed by the governor.

HB 3009 was amended by the racing industry to provide the Oregon Racing Commission the regulatory authority over multi-jurisdictional simulcasting and any wagering hub located in Oregon. This bill passed and was signed by the governor.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The statistical information is presented in two sections: 1) Statewide Totals; and 2) Track Related.

Answers to questions regarding this report or requests for additional information maybe obtained by writing to OREGON RACING COMMISSION, SUITE 310, 800 N.E. OREGON STREET # 11, PORTLAND, OREGON 97232.