

Subchapter 1. Standardbred Development Fund Program
General provisions

All rules utilized by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture in the Administration of the Standardbred Development Fund Program shall conform to the latest edition of the United States Trotting Association published in the Racing Guide for Stakes and Futurities. (Copies of the most current regulations are available for inspection by contacting the Division of Markets, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Health-Agriculture Building, John Fitch Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.)

Condition No. 1
Administration

(a) The New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund will be administered as follows:

1. There is hereby established in the State of New Jersey a Standardbred Development Fund Program for Standardbred horses, foaled in the State of New Jersey and to be the product of a registered New Jersey mare, registered with the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund Program as such.

2. Those horses eligible to race under the Standardbred Development Fund Program shall be

a) any foal of any registered New Jersey mare that shall have resided in the State of New Jersey for a minimum of 150 consecutive days including the foaling date of said eligible horse; or

b) any foaled sired by a registered New Jersey based stallion and otherwise eligible to the New Jersey Sire Stakes Program.

3. The Standardbred Development Fund Program shall be administered by the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Sire Stakes.

4. The Board of Trustees of the Sire Stakes Program is authorized to do all that is necessary for the proper administration of the Standardbred Development Fund Program and shall prepare, issue, and promulgate rules providing for:

Classes and division of races, eligibility of horses and owners therefore, and prizes and awards to be awarded;

Nominating, sustaining, and entry fees for horses and races;

Such temporary programs including eligibility of horses, breeding, and other matters as may be necessary to make the Sire Stakes Program operable as soon as possible;

Registration and certification of New Jersey stallions, mares bred to such stallions, and foals produced thereby; and

Such other matters as the Board determine to be necessary and appropriate for the proper administration and implementation of the Standardbred Development Fund program.

5. The funds for the Standardbred Development Fund Program and the nominating, sustaining, and entry fees provided for herein, shall be administered by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and shall be deposited in a trust account entitled Sire Stakes Fund.

6. All disbursements from the Sire Stakes fund for the payment of purses and awards, cost of administration, reimbursement of expenses of members of the Board of Trustees, and any other appropriate expenses, shall be made by the Secretary of Agriculture or his designee.

7. Standardbred Development Fund Races shall be run only at licensed harness tracks in the State of New Jersey. The races, purses and awards awarded therefore shall be pursuant to the rules of the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Sire Stakes hereunder and the New Jersey Racing Commission.

Subchapter 2.
New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund Conditions

Condition No. 2

Qualifying Standards

(a) In order to be eligible for nomination to the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund Program, a foal must be the product of the mating of a Standardbred mare with a resident New Jersey Sire Stakes stallion meeting the requirements of N.J.A.C. 2:32-2.3 or

(b) a foal must be the product of the mating of a Standardbred mare with any standardbred stallion that is registered with the United States Trotting Association or such other generally recognized standardbred breed provided the mare resides in the State of New Jersey for a period of at least 150 days, including the date of foaling. Said mare must register with the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund Program by January 31 of the year of foaling in order for the offspring to be eligible to the Standardbred Development Fund Program. The registration form must be accompanied by a payment of \$100.

Condition No. 3

Fund Policy

(a) All purse money will be allocated as determined by the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey Sire Stakes.

(b) Advertised purse moneys for all New Jersey Sire Stakes and Standardbred Development Fund races are predicated upon the Pari-mutuel handle of New Jersey harness tracks and therefore are subject to change without notice. Starting fees may also be adjusted, but will never be more than originally advertised for the current season.

(c) All horsemen's fees are to follow a horse by sex and gait and the fees are to remain in the respective pools.

Condition No. 4

Transfer Of Race

(a) If for any reason it becomes impractical or undesirable, in the opinion of the New Jersey Sire Stakes Board of Trustees, to hold the race at the advertised track, the New Jersey Sire Stakes Board, while making every effort to adhere as closely as possible to the advertised location, fees, date, and purse, reserves the right to change any of the forgoing or to cancel the event.

(b) Further, it shall not be the responsibility of the New Jersey Sire Stakes Board of Trustees to individually inform Standardbred Development Fund nominators, agents, or trainers of any of the aforementioned changes.

(c) However, the Board shall advertise or publicize changes in racing interest trade magazines such as the various Standardbred related magazines and/or newsletters, and suggests all program participants communicate with the New Jersey Sire Stakes office.

Condition No. 5

Yearling Nominations

All yearlings to be nominated to the Standardbred Development Fund Program must be registered with the United States Trotting Association or any Standardbred Registry recognized by the United States Trotting Association and must hold a certificate of registration dated on or before the time of nomination.

Nominations of yearlings to the Standardbred Development Fund shall be received along with the nomination fee payment, by the office of the New Jersey Sire Stakes, not later than May 15 of each yearling year or, if May 15 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, on the next business day following that date. Nominations received after the closing date will not be accepted.

Condition No. 16**Purse Distribution**

The purse will be distributed as follows:

- 50-25-12-8-5if 5 starters or more
- 55-25-12-8if only 4 starters
- 60-28-12if only 3 starters
- 65-35if only 2 starters
- 100in case of walk over

Condition No. 17**Qualifying Standards**

All starters in the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund must meet all track qualifying standards at the track where the race is being contested and be eligible at time of entry.

Condition No. 18**Splitting Races**

Each race is to be a one mile dash; if it becomes necessary to split an event, the Board reserves the right to adopt one of the methods of division racing then current, including elimination dashes.

Condition No. 19**Number of Starters**

In all Standardbred Development Fund races, the number of starters permitted in the first tier shall be at the discretion of the judges. No more than two trailers will be permitted in the second tier. However, no trailers shall be permitted in the races designated as finals.

Condition No. 20**Splitting and Carrying Over Divisions**

In the event a Standardbred Development Fund event is split into divisions, such Standardbred Development Fund event shall be divided and each division shall race for an equal share of the total purse. All Standardbred Development Fund events shall be advertised added, divided. In the event that a Standardbred Development Fund event splits into more than three divisions, one or more of the divisions in excess of three may be carried over to the following racing day.

Condition No. 21**Final Races**

There will be a two-and three-year-old "Final" race in each Standardbred Development Fund at a licensed facility approved by the New Jersey Racing Commission and as scheduled by the New Jersey Sire Stakes Board of Trustees.

Consolation races may be scheduled at the option of the track and shall be conducted under track rules. Horses eligible to race in the final events must race in the finals and not in the consolation events.

Each Standardbred Development Fund Final will have a \$1,000.00 entry fee and is open to the highest New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund point winners in the series that are declared in and can be drawn to a post position in the first tier. Trailers are not permitted to start in any New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund Finals.

All horses competing in Standardbred Development Fund Finals at all tracks will be determined on a point basis. A horse must start and finish a heat in order to earn points.

The point value will be awarded as follows:

- 50 points for a winning heat
- 25 points for placing second in a heat
- 12 points for placing third in a heat
- 8 points for placing fourth in a heat
- 5 points for placing fifth in a heat
- 4 point for placing sixth in a heat
- 3 points for placing seventh in a heat
- 2 points for placing eighth in a heat
- one point for placing ninth, 10th, 11th, 12th in a heat

In the event of less than five starters, the points shall be awarded in the same fashion as the purse breakdown with less than five starters, as in N.J.A.C.2:32-2.1.

In the event of a dead heat for any position in position in a New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund race, the points shall be split evenly between the two horses as is currently done with the moneys.

In the event of a tie in point standings for Final events, money won in Standardbred Development Fund races in which points were accumulated shall be used to break the tie.

In the event of a tie for the last spot in the top ten or top eight money winners for a Final event, the last spot in the Final will be drawn by lot from among the horses tied in both points and money winnings in the Standardbred Development Fund and having the highest point totals and not already included in the Final.

Judges' "official order of finish" will be used in determining eligibility to Finals exclusive of all appeals yet to be decided at the time of closing of the entry box for Finals.

Condition No. 22**Broadcasting Revenues**

(a) In the event the Sire Stakes Board receives revenues derived from the broadcast of Sire Stakes or Standardbred Development Fund events, any incremental revenues derived from these broadcasts shall be exclusively used by the New Jersey Sire Stakes Program to supplement the purse of Sire Stakes races.

The nominator and/or owner of horses racing in Standardbred Development Fund events expressly and irrevocably assigns to the New Jersey Standardbred Development Fund the ownership rights of any broadcast revenues derived therefrom.

Condition No. 23**Appeal From Decisions of Supervising Race Secretary**

When any decision is made by any person representing the Board of Trustees pursuant to the law of New Jersey or rules of the Board of Trustees, said decision may be appealed to the Board of Trustees and a hearing requested.

Condition No. 24**Right of Appeal**

Any person aggrieved by any action or inaction by the Board of Trustees, or its representatives, may request an informal meeting with the Board to settle any dispute, or seek clarification of the Board's rules and regulations. The board shall respond, in writing, to any such request stating the reasons for its determination.

If any dispute is required by law or regulation to be handled formally, or if a party is dissatisfied with any informal determination, or if the Board determines the matter contested, the matter shall be treated in accordance with the Administrative Code (N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq.), and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Condition No. 25**Nature Of Proceedings**

All hearings before the Board of Trustees will be de novo proceedings and shall be accompanied by notice and an opportunity to be heard.

Condition No. 26**Appeal Procedure**

In the event that an appeal is taken to the Board of Trustees, said appeal and one copy must be filed, in writing, at the office of the Board of Trustees within 20 days of the date of the receipt of the decision by the person representing the Board of Trustees.

Condition No. 27**Hearing; Costs**

The applicant shall be responsible for any costs incurred in connection with any hearing held pursuant to the right of appeal contained in this subchapter and the laws of the State of New Jersey.