

# AgNews



**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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## **Delaware Thoroughbred and Harness Racing Commissions hosted the Racing Officials Accreditation Program (ROAP) at Delaware Park, November 8 and 9, 2010**

On November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, racing industry officials attended a Racing Officials Accreditation Program (ROAP) continuing education meeting at Delaware Park. "There were officials in attendance from , California, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, the National Steeplechase Association, the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium, the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, and international jurisdictions of Jamaica, and Trinidad-Tobago, West Indies." stated John F. Wayne, the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission (DTRC) Executive Director. The two-day, sixteen hour program included a panel of key note speakers that was facilitated by Delaware Harness Racing Commission Executive Director, Hugh J. Gallagher, who is also a board member of ROAP, and Mr. Wayne.

Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission (DTRC) Chairman Bernard Daney welcomed all of the attendees to the First State and said, "Officials that participate in continuing education programs such as this display a commitment to excellence by them personally, and their jurisdictions, that helps ensure the highest quality of officiating in the sport of horse racing." Michael Vild, Senior Vice President and Counsel for Delaware Park also welcomed the officials and gave an overview of the racing industry in Delaware and at large. Delaware Harness Racing Commissioner, Patt Wagner was also on the dais with Chairman Daney and presenters.

On the panel of key note speakers were the following:

- G. Jack Houghton, Chief State Steward, "Points of Emphasis for racing officials."
- Chris Dobbins, Wagering Analyst, Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, discussing wagering anomalies, betting exchanges, and wagering security.
- Alan M. Foreman, Esquire, discussed racing law, case preparations, and aggravating vs. mitigating circumstances in administrative decisions.
- Dr. Scot Waterman, Executive Director of the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium discussed medication updates.
- Drs. John Peters and Kathleen Picciano, Delaware Racing Commission Veterinarians, talked about race-day examinations and the national injury reporting system that tracks horses and medical concerns.

The program also included a review of interesting racing films and discussions that were led by Pennsylvania Steward, Rodney Peters, David Loregnard of Trinidad and Tobago, Carmine Donofrio of New York, and Mike Hall for Pennsylvania Harness.

According to Wayne, "Delaware continues to be an educational hub in hosting yearly 'round tables' where officials can gather to find solutions to common problems that face regulators."

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