



## The Cost of Doing Business

Depending on your budget, you may already know how much you're willing to invest wagering on the Triple Crown races, but do you know how much it costs to enter a horse in each race.

There are three cut-off dates for nominations for the Kentucky Derby and the earlier you nominate the more you save. For 2009, if you nominated in January the fee was \$600 and that was for all three races. If you waited until March the nomination fee jumped to \$6,000 for all three races. Supplementary nominations could still be made after March but you had to ante up a whopping \$200,000 for the three races. If you wait and bypass the Derby, \$100,000 will get you into the Preakness and Belmont Stakes. Looking for just the Belmont? It will cost you the same \$100,000. But wait, for the Derby you still need \$25,000 to enter, \$25,000 to start and a minimum \$500 jockey mount fee. So the smallest investment made for any horse leaving the starting gate for that less than two minute ride is \$51,100.

Of course for the winning horse the Derby payoff is \$1,240,000 plus, all of any fees collected in excess of \$900,000 are added to the winner's purse. When you add on potential future stud fees, that \$51,100 looks like pocket change.

## Handicapping Contest

What do you do on a Saturday afternoon? Huntington resident Joe Simone usually meets up with friends to bet the ponies. Deciding to spend a Saturday playing in the first leg of the SROTb 2009 Handicapping contest proved very profitable for Mr. Simone who finished in first place taking home a trophy and \$9,200 in winnings. Congratulations to Joe who'll go on to play in the Horseplayer World Series in Las Vegas. Guess Joe's philosophy of "bet as little as possible to win as much as possible" really worked this time.

The second leg of Suffolk OTB's 2009 Handicapping Contest Series will be held on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Racing Forum. Call SROTb Operations or check our website for details and *keep watching for a special handicapping contest planned for later in the year!*

## Jockey Reality Part Two



The TV reality show, *Jockeys*, aired on the Animal Planet channel in February and viewer interest was high enough to bring it back for a second season. Filming for season two began in March at Santa Anita and continued through the end of the meet in April. Jockeys Garrett Gomez and Corey Nakatani join this season's cast along with Mike Smith, Alex Solis, Aaron Gryder, Joe Talamo and Kayla Stra. Check TV listings for start date and air time. If you haven't caught the series yet, it's an interesting watch.

**Suffolk OTB generated over a half million dollars**

in non-tax revenue for Suffolk County in the first quarter of 2009.

*Suffolk OTB makes all Suffolk residents winners!*

May 2009



From the President's desk ....

We've come to another Triple Crown series of races and I'm sure each of you are working hard picking your favorites of 2009. Suffolk OTB strives to bring you the best racing available and the best service at our branches and Kwik Bet facilities. We hope the T.C. series brings you success with your bets.

Suffolk OTB continues to work diligently with the other OTB regions in pushing for legislative changes which would allow for a more equitable distribution of revenue thus allowing OTBs to gain a more steady footing in these tough economic times. Communication with state lawmakers has been receptive and we see that as a positive sign for the future although the wheels of government move slowly.

In the meantime, we have some cooperative projects that we're working on in conjunction with the other OTBs; some geared toward management and some toward our customers. We'll keep you posted as details are confirmed and we hope you'll find the ideas as exciting as we do.

Jeffrey A. Casale  
President/CEO

## Equus caballus

They can be grey or bay, roan or dun, dappled, chestnut or white. They have a frog, can have horse feathers or a parrot mouth. There's a whorl on their head, a dock at their tail and some carry a good flag. They see yellow the best and distinguish tones rather than words. They can be bald faced, have stars, snips, strips or blazes. Their height's measured in hands not feet, weigh ½ ton and have a brain the size of a baked potato. They can take our money \$2 at a time and if we're lucky, turn it into a fortune.

## Epona

Worshipped as the goddess of horses, asses, mules and oxen, Epona was the Gaulish Celtic goddess whose authority extended beyond death to accompany the soul on its final journey. Generally depicted sitting side saddle on a horse or with multiple horses around her; she was the only Celtic goddess to be honored by the Romans with a temple. While the Triple Crown races generate great excitement, the Eight Belles Stakes reminds us to pause and reflect on the safety of the beautiful and powerful yet fragile animals that bring us such enjoyment.

### Prayer to Epona

(from Celtic Holiday)

Lady of the fields bless the beasts  
that go on hooved turned paths -  
brown and white, dun and grey sides,  
dappled and brindled, spotted and splashed,  
liquid eyed and sweet grass breath,  
keep them from the bone breaking death,  
Roses I give thee, like Romans of old  
no more than dust now, no matter how bold.  
You who can sing the living to sleep  
and make the dead breathe, I ask you to keep  
the mare and the foal, the cow and her calf  
from all that would harm or hinder their path.

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## Foals & More

The 2007 Belmont Stakes winner, Rags to Riches, has had her first foal, a filly sired by Giant Causeway. Rags to Riches will be bred back to Henrythenavigator. Dreaming of Anna is currently in foal to Street Cry the sire of 2007 Derby winner Street Sense. The mare, La Ville Rouge, has foaled a third, yet unnamed, full brother to Barbaro.

Nicanor, a 3yr old full brother to Barbaro, improved from a tenth place finish in his first race to a respectable second in his second career start at Gulfstream Park. Brother Lentenor is training in Florida & has yet to race.

Barbaro's memorial was unveiled at Churchill Downs on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The bronze statue by Alexa King depicts the 2006 Derby winner in mid stride with jockey Edgar Prado riding high and contains some of the champion's ashes. Prado requested the ride on Nicanor.



The DRF, Thoroughbred Times, [www.horse-races.net](http://www.horse-races.net), [www.web-holidays.com](http://www.web-holidays.com), [www.msn.foxsports.com](http://www.msn.foxsports.com), were sources for some material

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