

John Bel Edwards
Governor

Bob F. Wright
Chairman

Judy W. Wagner
First Vice Chairperson



Commissioners
Dr. Patrick Bernard
Thomas B. Calvert
Donald "Don" Cravins
R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.
Eric G. Johnson
Mike R. McHalfey
Louis Reine
Kenneth "Kenu" Romero
Mike Shelton

Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director

LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY MEETING

Friday, March 20, 2020 at 2:00 pm

The Louisiana State Racing Commission shall conduct an emergency public meeting at 2:00pm on Friday, March 20, 2020 to address the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on licensed tracks and training facilities and to issue all emergency orders necessary to protect the health and welfare of all license holders. All interested parties and the public may participate in the tele-conference meeting by calling **(877) 411-9748** and entering code **4439846**. All persons calling in must place their phone on mute unless and until such time as comment is requested by the Chairman and you wish to be identified and allowed to comment.

+[**Emergency Order Of The Louisiana State Racing Commission 03-20-2020**](#)

Disclaimer: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and subsequent closure of State Offices, this emergency notice was posted unsigned with the above wording on the website of the Louisiana State Racing Commission and sent out via email to all who requested to receive email notifications of LSRC Meetings on Friday, March 20, 2020 by 12:00PM. The March 20, 2020 LSRC Emergency Order was also posted on the website and emailed.

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LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

To All Louisiana Licensed Racing Facilities:

EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 4:141 et seq., created the Louisiana State Racing Commission ("The Commission") within the office of the Governor of the State of Louisiana to "encourage forceful and honest statewide control of horse racing for the public health, safety, and welfare by safeguarding the people of this state against corrupt, incompetent, dishonest and unprincipled horse racing practices" and thereafter vested it with "the powers and duties specified" by statute and "all other powers necessary and proper to enable it to execute fully and effectually all of the objects, purposes, duties, and policies" outlined under La. R.S. Title 4:141 et seq.

WHEREAS, following Hurricane Katrina, the Legislature granted "Additional powers of commission" regarding "force majeure" pursuant to LA. R.S. 4:147.2 wherein it granted additional powers to the Commission which "include but not be limited to" the provision "whenever an eligible facility is prevented from live racing as a result of a natural disaster, an act of God, force majeure, a catastrophe, or such other occurrence over which the licensee has no control."

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 4:159-160 outlines the Commission's "[c]riteria for licensing associations" that includes "[t]he public interest" and "[t]he adequacy of facilities of the track" and allows the Commission to "fine, refuse, suspend, or withdraw licenses, permits, and privileges granted by or terminate racing privileges for just cause" with among "[t]hose things constituting just cause" being "[a]ny actions by a licensed or permittee contrary to the provisions of this Part and the Rules of Racing" and "[f]ailure to meet criteria for licensing as provided in R.S. 4:159."

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana did issue an Executive Order #25 on the 11th day of March, 2020, declaring a statewide public health emergency in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by the coronavirus disease 2019 (hereinafter abbreviated "COVID-19") which has created emergency conditions that threaten the lives and health of the citizens of the State.¹

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana did issue an Executive Order #27 on the 13th day of March, 2020, wherein he declared a state of emergency extending from March 13, 2020 to April 9, 2020, wherein he asserted the emergency powers granted onto him pursuant to LA. R.S.29:724 to deal with emergencies and disasters and to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters, and to preserve the lives and property of the citizens of the State of Louisiana, including he authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulation of any state agency.² The governor also requested that the Louisiana Legislature "consider a suspension resolution which would allow for the suspension of any legal requirements to ensure the continued operation of state and local government, including such issues as legal deadlines and quorum requirements for open meetings."

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Louisiana did issue an Executive Order #30 on the 16th day of March, 2020, wherein he continued to assert the emergency powers granted onto him pursuant to LA. R.S.29:72 to deal with emergencies and disasters and issued additional emergency declarations extending from March 17, 2020 to April 13, 2020 wherein he suspended in-part the laws allowing for evictions and declared in-part that "some business establishments are unable to continue current operations without unacceptable risks to the health and safety of the public", but

¹ Attached as Exhibit "A", please find Governor John Bell Edwards Executive Order #25 of March 11, 2020.

² Attached as Exhibit "B", please find Governor John Bell Edwards Executive Order # 27 of March 13, 2020.

proclaimed that “[r]ace tracks may remain open but no members of the public may be allowed therein.”³

WHEREAS, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association issued the following recommendations on March 18, 2020, as relates to the coronavirus pandemic: (1) It is imperative that extraordinary precautions be taken to protect your employees, stable area workers, racing officials, jockeys, backstretch suppliers and horses; (2) Take all necessary actions to reduce physical interactions by limiting facility access to only essential personnel; (3) Educate all personnel on proper social distancing, hand hygiene and other measures to prevent the spread of the virus at your facility; (4) Stay current on all relevant guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and stay in close contact with your state and local health department officials for information specific to your community; (5) Keep all policies and protocols under constant review as things evolve; and (6) Finally, with or without live racing, horses stabled on your grounds must be taken care of and monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week.⁴

In furtherance of these goals, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association has recommended, in-part, mandatory: (1) essential personnel restrictions that allow only licensed and necessary personnel on the backside; (2) creation and maintenance of security access logs (name, Commission license number, in/out times, license place number); (3) security access symptom questionnaire with risk level assessment and clearance review; (4) clearance sticker or identification program; (5) safe temperature testing before access allowed; (6) travel restrictions providing that those licensees who have traveled internationally shall not be admitted until a 14 day self-quarantine has concluded; (7) daily monitoring, screening, and risk mitigation reviews; (8) designated areas of for quarantine; (9) carry out only backside food operations; (10) security team, health and safety teams to be briefed and trained on new procedures, monitoring and reporting and be supplied with all necessary safety equipment (thermometer, etc.); (11) increased frequency of cleaning/disinfection of high-risk surfaces; and (12) increased access to waterless hand sanitation stations.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission, through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III, received correspondence from its Equine Medical Director, Dr. Bernard M. Cooley, on March 16, 2020, where Dr. Cooley advised as follows:

I have just learned that Boyd Gaming has issued an unprecedented directive requiring all horses and horsemen to vacate the racing facilities at Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs by Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in light of COVID-19, while Caesars Entertainment (Louisiana Downs Racetrack) and Churchill Downs (Fair Grounds Racetrack) have agreed to allow horses and horsemen to remain lodged at their racing facilities in order to prevent an even greater humanitarian and equine crisis. Forcing an unplanned and immediate eviction upon hundreds of horses and horsemen who committed to Boyd’s race meets and are reliant upon Boyd’s facilities for lodging will create a massive homeless and displacement crisis for horses and horsemen in the midst of the overall crisis situation that has been created by COVID-19 and I fear that this eviction will place all involved at a much greater health risk than that already posed by COVID-19. I am strongly recommending that action be taken by the Racing Commission to prevent Boyd Gaming from evicting hundreds of horses and horsemen in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁵

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission, through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III, received correspondence from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Dr. Mike Strain, on March 16, 2020, where Comm. Strain advised as follows:

It is my understanding that Boyd Gaming has given the horsemen at Delta and Evangeline Downs 48 hours to move all horses from the premises. There is no capacity for these 500 horses to be moved anywhere in the state. It is further my understanding that the Opelousas Training Center is almost full. Therefore, we are strongly asking for your assistance in requesting that Boyd Gaming allow the horses to stay on the premises until racing commences. I have also contacted the office of

³ Attached as Exhibit “C”, please find Governor John Bell Edwards Executive Order Number 30 of March 16, 2020.

⁴ Attached as Exhibit “D”, please find Letter from the National Thoroughbred Racing Association on COVID-19 dated March 18, 2020.

⁵ Attached as Exhibit “E”, please find correspondence from Equine Medical Director, Dr. Bernard M. Cooley, of March 16, 2020, addressed to the Louisiana Racing Commission through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III.

Governor John Bel Edwards for assistance in this matter. Any support you can provide would be greatly appreciated.⁶

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission, through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III, received correspondence from the President of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Bernard K. Chatters, on March 20, 2020, where President Chatters advised as follows:

On behalf of the Louisiana Horsemen, and in order to continue to care for the well-being and safety of the horses and those that take care of them, the following is required to continue and are hereby requested by the Louisiana HBPA: 1. Horsemen be allowed to stable their horses at the specific race tracks as per their specific allotted stalls. 2. Horsemen be allowed to use the race track surface for training on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, with no gate work, but timed works every Saturday. 3. Training hours will be from 7AM to 10AM without a break. 4. Backside is to be maintained with Security and Maintenance as required. 5. Outside contractors allowed access to the backside to allow for the care of horses. 6. All employees of the trainers with allocated stalls will be able to continue to use the rooms assigned on behalf of the trainer.

The Louisiana HBPA will work closely with all race tracks to ensure that all horsemen follow all rules and guidelines. Accordingly, the Louisiana HBPA requests that the Louisiana State Racing Commission to exercise its full authority to ensure that the items outlined above are performed by each race track without exception. Finally, by enforcing the above, our Horsemen will be in a position to resume racing as soon as each facility resumes operations. We sincerely appreciate the support of the Commission for our Horsemen during this unique time.⁷

This correspondence was followed up with an email from the Executive Director of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Edwin J. Fenasci, on March 20, 2020, advising further:

As requested, the total number of horses currently stabled is 3,082 with supporting personnel of 899. These individuals, like the horses they care for, have no place to go other than the race track facility that are provided. The race tracks are their homes. Without accommodations at the race tracks, they are homeless and on the street. Time is of the essence. If you need anything further, please advise.⁸

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission has determined that the threat of COVID-19 is an extraordinary catastrophe and force majeure requiring immediate and emergency action to protect the health, safety, welfare, and interests of the State of Louisiana, its citizens, and their property.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Racing Commission has further determined that any licensed track or training facilities' threat to evict of hundreds of horsemen and horses who currently are housed and sheltered at racetracks within the State of Louisiana in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of whom do not have permanent homes and simply travel from one track to another based on predetermined schedule of race meets, poses an immediate health, safety, welfare, threat to the horsemen and their horses, especially in light of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry advising the Commission that there is no capacity for the horses to be moved anywhere in the state.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Louisiana State Racing Commission that effective immediately and extending for thirty days, all licensed racetracks and training facilities in the State of Louisiana shall: (1) allow horsemen and horses to shelter in place without threat of eviction; (2) shall allow adequate access to their tracks and exercise facilities at least every other day to ensure the wellbeing of the horses; (3) shall allow the customary movement of horsemen and

⁶ Attached as Exhibit "F", please find correspondence from the Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Dr. Mike Strain, of March 16, 2020, addressed to the Louisiana Racing Commission through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III.

⁷ Attached as Exhibit "G", please find correspondence from the President of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Bernard K. Chatters, on March 20, 2020, addressed to the Louisiana Racing Commission through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III.

⁸ Attached as Exhibit "H", please find email correspondence from the Executive Director of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Edwin J. Fenasci, on March 20, 2020, addressed to the Louisiana Racing Commission through its Executive Director, Charles A. Gardiner, III.

horses in accordance with meet and training schedules, regardless of whether or not meets are being conducted; and (4) shall implement the National Thoroughbred Racing Association’s recommendations in response to COVID-19 that were issued on March 18, 2020, excepting those recommendations for which a waiver can be obtained from The Louisiana Racing Commission because their application is deemed by the Commission to not be feasible under the particular circumstances.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, THIS 20th DAY OF MARCH, 2020.

BOB F. WRIGHT, CHAIRMAN
LOUISIANA RACING COMMISSION



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 25 JBE 2020

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY - COVID-19

- WHEREAS,** the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760, et seq., confers upon the Governor of the State of Louisiana emergency powers to deal with public health emergencies, including an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition that is believed to be caused by the appearance of a novel or previously controlled or eradicated infectious agent or biological toxin, in order to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters and to preserve the health and lives of the people of the State of Louisiana;
- WHEREAS,** when the Governor after consultation with the public health authority determines that a public health emergency has occurred, or the threat thereof is imminent, La. R.S. 29:766(A) empowers him to declare a state of emergency by executive order or proclamation;
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in many other countries, including in the United States. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19");
- WHEREAS,** according to the CDC's website, person-to-person spread has been subsequently reported in countries outside China, including in the United States. Some international destinations now have apparent community spread with the virus that causes COVID-19, as do some parts of the United States. Community spread means some people have been infected and it is not known how or where they became exposed;
- WHEREAS,** on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** a World Health Organization statement released March 7, 2020 stated that the global number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has surpassed 100,000;
- WHEREAS,** as of March 11, 2020, the CDC's website reports that 38 states, including the District of Columbia, have reported cases of COVID-19 to CDC, for a total of 938 confirmed cases, and that states have reported 29 deaths resulting from COVID-19;

EXHIBIT "A"

- WHEREAS,** on March, 11, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the COVID-19 outbreak as a worldwide pandemic;
- WHEREAS,** on March, 9, 2020, a Louisiana resident, pursuant to CDC protocol, was tested for COVID-19, with the test being presumptively positive;
- WHEREAS,** in the last two days, several more Louisiana residents have tested presumptively positive for COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** the State of Louisiana has reason to believe that COVID-19 may be spread amongst the population by various means of exposure, therefore posing a high probability of widespread exposure and a significant risk of substantial future harm to a large number of Louisiana citizens;
- WHEREAS,** the Governor of the State of Louisiana has consulted with the public health authority regarding COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** the Governor, after such consultation, finds that a threat of a public health emergency is imminent;
- WHEREAS,** a declaration of public health emergency is necessary to allow state agencies to thoroughly prepare for any eventuality related to public health needs and deploy additional resources to assist local authorities, if necessary; and
- WHEREAS,** the Secretary of the Department of Health and the State Health Officer have requested that a public health emergency be declared.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the state of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

- SECTION 1:** Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760, et seq., a statewide public health emergency is declared to exist in the State of Louisiana as a result of the imminent threat posed to Louisiana citizens by COVID-19, which has created emergency conditions that threaten the lives and health of the citizens of the State.
- SECTION 2:** The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and Secretary of the Department of Health are hereby expressly empowered to take any and all actions authorized under the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, La. R.S. 29:760 et seq. in relation to this public health emergency.
- SECTION 3:** The Secretary of the Department of Health and/or the State Health Officer are hereby expressly empowered to take any and all actions authorized thereto under Titles 29 and 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes and under the State Sanitary Code (LAC Title 51) in relation to this public health emergency.
- SECTION 4:** Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:724(D)(1), the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551, *et seq.*) and Louisiana Public Bid Law (La. R.S. 38:2211, *et seq.*) and their corresponding rules and regulations are hereby suspended for the purpose of the procurement of any good or services necessary to respond to this emergency.
- SECTION 5:** Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:732(A), prices charged or value received for goods and services sold may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at or immediately before the time of the state of emergency, unless the price by the seller is attributable to fluctuations in applicable commodity markets, fluctuations in applicable regional or national market trends, or to reasonable expenses and charges and attendant business risk

incurred in procuring or selling the goods or services during the state of emergency.

SECTION 6: In addition to any authority conferred generally herein or by law, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, through consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Health, shall have the primary jurisdiction, responsibility and authority for:

1. Planning and executing public health emergency assessment, mitigation, preparedness response, and recovery for the state;
2. Coordinating public health emergency response between state and local authorities;
3. Collaborating with relevant federal government authorities, elected officials of other states, private organizations or companies;
4. Coordinating recovery operations and mitigation initiatives subsequent to public health emergencies;
5. Organizing public information activities regarding public health emergency response operations; and
6. Taking any other measures deemed necessary and proper, as authorized by law.

SECTION 7: The following travel restrictions will apply to all state employees:

- A. All state employees intending to travel beyond the continental United States shall review the CDC's website at <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> to determine if the country to be visited has been identified as posing a threat of contracting COVID-19;
- B. All state employees traveling on state business to areas designated as Warning Level 2 or Level 3 or above by the CDC are hereby directed to cancel or postpone these trips; all employees traveling internationally to other countries are hereby required to obtain specific authorization from the Commissioner of Administration;
- C. All state employees intending to travel internationally for non-official reasons are hereby directed to notify their supervisor and Human Resources Director of the travel as soon as possible, but in no event later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to travel, and immediately upon return to the United States;
- D. All state employees with household members who intend to travel or have traveled to areas designated as Warning Level 2 or Level 3 or above by the CDC are hereby directed to notify their supervisor and Human Resources Director of the travel as soon as possible, but in no event later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the household member's departure, to state the household member's expected date of return, and to notify their supervisor and Human Resources Director immediately upon the household member's actual return to the United States; and
- E. All state employees shall notify their supervisor and Human Resources Director if the employee or a household member develops symptoms associated with COVID-19.

SECTION 8: The Civil Service Commission and the Division of Administration are hereby directed to develop a set of guidelines for state employees who are infected with COVID-19 or under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19. Such guidelines shall include direction for the management of sick leave by state

employees and provide for direction, if possible, for the employee to work remotely. The guidelines developed by the Civil Service Commission and the Division of Administration shall be put into effect by this order.

SECTION 9: All orders allowing for visitation by the parent of a foster child that resides in a home that is quarantined or isolated due to COVID-19 are hereby suspended. The Department of Child and Family Services is hereby ordered to make all reasonable efforts to allow for alternative visitation.

SECTION 10: This Proclamation shall be disseminated promptly by means reasonably calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public. The Proclamation shall also be promptly filed with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, with the Department of Health, Office of Public Health, and with the Secretary of State.

SECTION 11: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this event.

SECTION 12: This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect from Wednesday, March 11, 2020 to Thursday, April 9, 2020, unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 11th day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "John Bel Edwards", is written over a horizontal line.
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "B. Kelly", is written over a horizontal line.
SECRETARY OF STATE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER JBE 2020 – 27

***ADDITIONAL MEASURES FOR COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY***

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, the Governor declared a Public Health emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020;

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout the United States and Louisiana significantly threatens the safety, health, and security of the citizens of the state, along with public facilities, including, but not limited to schools, workplaces, nursing homes, hospitals, etc.;

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic suggests aggressive measures for limiting the possible interaction of the public with individuals exposed to or infected with COVID-19, including limiting large public gatherings;

WHEREAS, limitations in interactions between members of the public includes school age children, who may be in a position to pass COVID-19 to vulnerable populations, including the elderly or those with underlying medical conditions;

WHEREAS, CDC guidance also encourages social distancing and prevention of unnecessary personal interactions;

WHEREAS, in only a matter of weeks, COVID-19 has had an economic impact on thousands of workers in the State of Louisiana, and will likely result in impacts to many more;

WHEREAS, individuals who are impacted by COVID-19 may not be able to report to work, they may need to be isolated or quarantined, they may have to care for a sick family member care for a child whose school is closed or be forced to quit their jobs;

WHEREAS, in addition, COVID-19 may cause businesses to shut down due to a slow down or lack of demand, institute temporary or partial layoffs;

WHEREAS, an individuals' inability to report to work due to a COVID-19 diagnosis, an individual being isolated or quarantined, caring for a sick family member, caring for a child whose school is closed and the extraordinary volume of resulting unemployment claims pose serious challenges to the effective and timely administration of the unemployment compensation system;

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana intends to proactively address the significant emotional and economic impact upon Louisiana workers;

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute 29:724 confers upon the Governor emergency powers to deal with emergencies and disasters and to ensure that preparations of this state will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters, and to preserve the lives and property of the citizens of the State of Louisiana, including the authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule, or regulation would

EXHIBIT "B"

in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency;
and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission has requested the Governor, due to the extreme volume of claims to be processed, suspend the application of La. R.S. 23:1533, 1552, 1600(2) and (3), and 1601(1), (2) and (7)(a), (b) and (d) for emergency-related claims, so as to allow the timely and fair administration of the unemployment insurance program.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: In an effort to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana, and to preserve the health and safety of all members of the public, all gatherings of 250 people or more between Friday, March 13, 2020 and Monday, April 13, 2020 shall be postponed or cancelled. This applies only to gatherings in a single space at the same time where individuals will be in close proximity to one another. It does not apply to normal operations at locations like airports, medical facilities, shopping centers or malls, office buildings, factories or manufacturing facilities, or grocery or department stores. This provision may be extended beyond Monday, April 13, 2020 by further order.

SECTION 2: All public schools in the State of Louisiana shall close facilities to students until April 13, 2020. Schools may offer complete distance learning, as capabilities exist. With appropriate social distancing measures, schools shall, if able, continue to provide meals or other essential services with applicable staff. Instructional minute requirements shall be temporarily suspended for distance education courses and for curriculum delivery. The required 63,720 instructional minute requirement per year shall also be suspended. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall report to the Governor and the Legislature any further actions necessary to ensure that eligible students achieve successful student grading, promotion, and graduation.

SECTION 3: To reduce the burden on members of the public and to limit the interactions of individuals with state employees in governmental offices, the following regulatory statutes are hereby suspended as follows:

A. Department of Public Safety

1. The deadlines for the period to request an administrative hearing pursuant to La. R.S. 15:542.1.3(B)(4) which expired on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 10, 2020 is suspended and extended until June 9, 2020.
2. Further, with regard to Concealed Handgun Permits, the rules related to expiration of permits at LAC 55:1.1307(D) and LAC 55: 1.1309(F) shall be suspended until May 10, 2020.

B. Office of Motor Vehicles

1. Late fees for driver's license which would be charged beginning on March 9, 2020 through May 10, 2020, are suspended until May 20, 2020.
2. The three-day period mandated in La. R.S. 32:863.1 to appear at an Office of Motor Vehicle field office for a notice of violation served on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 10, 2020, are suspended until May 13, 2020.
3. The expiration date of temporary registration plates issued pursuant to La. R.S. 47:519 and La. R.S. 47:519.2 which expired on or before March 9, 2020 is suspended until May 10, 2020.
4. The expiration date of license plates issued pursuant to La. R.S. 47:462, *et seq.*, which expired on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 10, 2020 is suspended until May 10, 2020.

5. The notice of default issued pursuant to La. R.S. 32:429.4 that would be issued on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 15, 2020 is suspended, and the notices will not be issued until after May 15, 2020.
6. The expiration date of an apportioned registration issued under the International Registration Plan which expires March 31, 2020 is suspended and the expiration date is extended to May 31, 2020.
7. The period to request an administrative hearing submitted to the Department pursuant to La. R.S. 32:667, La. R.S. 32:863, La. R.S. 863.1 and LAC Title 55, Part III, Chapter 1, §159 which expired on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 10, 2020 are suspended and extended until June 10, 2020.
8. The sixty-day delay for the Department to submit the administrative hearing record to the Division of Administrative Law pursuant to La. R.S. 32:667(D)(1) for an arrest which occurred on or after March 9, 2020 but before May 10, 2020 is extended until August 8, 2020
9. Office of Motor Vehicles may offer services by remote customer services agent interaction in current Office of Motor Vehicles office locations.

SECTION 4: Any state department or agency or political subdivision is hereby granted authority to extend any non-essential deadline for a period of no longer than 30 days if deemed necessary to respond to the threat of COVID-19.

SECTION 5: The Louisiana Legislature is hereby requested to consider a suspension resolution which would allow for the suspension of any legal requirements to ensure the continued operation of state and local government, including such issues as legal deadlines and quorum requirements for open meetings.

SECTION 6: For the purpose of this executive order, "emergency-related claims" shall mean claims for unemployment compensation filed by persons whose unemployment is directly due to the impact of COVID-19 or due to their inability to get to their job or worksite because they are sick, isolated or quarantined, caring for a sick family member, or when an employees' child's school is closed as determined by the administrator of the state's unemployment compensation program, i.e., the executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Emergency-related claims will not necessarily include all claims in all parishes included in COVID-19 proclamations, declarations or orders.

SECTION 7: The following statutes relative to unemployment insurance are hereby suspended to the extent and in the manner described below:

- A. La. R.S. 23:1533, which provides for claimants' benefits to be charged against base period employers for purposes of employers' tax experience rating and the protesting of such charges by employers, shall be suspended for emergency-related claims made during the effective period of this Order.
- B. La. R.S. 23:1552, which provides for the charging of claimants' benefits to certain employers, shall be suspended for emergency-related claims made during the effective period of this Order.
- C. La. R.S. 23:1600(2) and (3) shall be suspended while this Order is in effect for emergency-related claims to the extent that they require claimants to register and search for work, but the requirements in La. R.S. 23:1600(2) that claimants continue to report at an employment office in the manner prescribed by the administrator, and in La. R.S. 23:1600(3) that claimants be able to work and be available for work, are not waived. The requirement to continue to report at an employment office, which is accomplished through either an automated telephone system or the Internet, is not impractical and avoids overpayments, which claimants would be liable to repay. Such activities are not practical by an individual who is impacted by COVID-19.

SECTION 8: Any organization licensed by the Louisiana Department of Revenue Office of Charitable Gaming to conduct games of chance pursuant to the Charitable Raffles, Bingo and Keno Licensing Law shall not be authorized to hold or conduct any sessions as defined in La. R.S. 4:740 for the period beginning Friday, March 13, 2020 and ending on Sunday, April 12, 2020.

SECTION 9: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this event.

SECTION 10: This state of emergency extends from Friday, March 13, 2020 to Thursday, April 9, 2020, unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 13th day of March, 2020.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE



SECRETARY OF STATE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION NUMBER JBE 2020 – 30

***ADDITIONAL MEASURES FOR COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY***

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Louisiana Homeland Security and Emergency Assistance and Disaster Act, La. R.S. 29:721, *et seq.*, the Governor declared a Public Health emergency in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, in emergency proclamation 27 JBE 2020, the Governor supplemented the measures taken in his declaration of a Public Health Emergency with additional restrictions and suspensions of deadlines and regulations in order to protect the health and safety of the public from the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the order was further supplemented on March 14, 2020 with additional measures necessary to ensure that goods and supplies can be delivered within the State of Louisiana; that health care providers can be available for treatment of those affected with COVID-19; that certain fees and fines for the Department of Health for those affected by the disaster are waived; that certain insurance regulations may be lifted by the Commissioner of Insurance; and that workers who lose employment because of this emergency are able to obtain unemployment benefits in a timely manner;

WHEREAS, in the days since the declaration of public health emergency, the COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana has expanded significantly;

WHEREAS, additional measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public;

WHEREAS, these measures are in line with the best guidance and direction from the White House, the Centers for Disease Control, and state health officials;

WHEREAS, these measures relating to gaming establishments, restaurants, bars, cafes, and coffee shops are necessary because of the ability of the COVID-19 virus to spread via personal interactions and because of physical contamination of property due to its propensity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time; and

WHEREAS, all of these additional restrictions and suspensions will run concurrent with the term of the initial emergency declaration; however, such term shall be extended or shortened as circumstances dictate.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: In an effort to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana, and to preserve the health and safety of all members of the public, all gatherings of 50 people or more between 12:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and Monday, April 13, 2020 shall be postponed or cancelled. This applies only to gatherings in a single space at the same time where individuals will be in close proximity to one another. It does not apply to normal operations at locations like airports, medical facilities, shopping centers or malls, office buildings, factories or manufacturing facilities, or grocery or department stores. This order does not limit the ability of a local jurisdiction or political subdivision from enacting more restrictive limitations.

EXHIBIT "C"

SECTION 2: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:766 et seq. the Governor has determined that some business establishments are unable to continue current operations without unacceptable risks to the health and safety of the public. Therefore, at 12:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all casinos, video poker establishments, movie theaters, bars, bowling alleys, and fitness centers and gyms, statewide, shall cease operations completely. Any truck stop may remain in operation but shall cease all gaming operations. Race tracks may remain open but no members of the public may be allowed therein and no gaming operations shall be allowed. These restrictions shall remain in place until 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2020, unless terminated earlier.

SECTION 3: Pursuant to La. R.S. 29:766 et seq. the Governor has determined that some business establishments are unable to continue current operations without unacceptable risks to the health and safety of the public. Therefore, at 12:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all restaurants, cafes, and coffee shops, statewide, shall cease allowing for any on premises consumption of food or beverages. Any establishment affected by this order may continue take out, drive-thru, and delivery services, however, in no circumstance shall the food or beverages purchased be consumed on premises. Hotel restaurants may continue operations, but only for the service of registered hotel guests via room service. These restrictions shall remain in place until 11:59 p.m. on April 12, 2020, unless terminated earlier.

SECTION 4: All state agencies, boards and commissions, and local political subdivisions of the state shall provide for attendance at essential governmental meetings via teleconference or video conference and such attendance shall be allowed during the pendency of this emergency. All efforts shall be made to provide for observation and input by members of the public. Before any meeting conducted pursuant to this section, the state agency, boards and commission, or local political subdivision of the state shall first provide a written certification that it will otherwise be unable to operate due to quorum requirements. Such certification shall be posted at the same time and in the same manner as the agenda for the meeting. Nothing in this order shall be interpreted to waive any notice requirements.

SECTION 5: A. Legal deadlines, including liberative prescription and peremptive periods applicable to legal proceedings in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards, are hereby suspended until at least Monday, April 13, 2020, including, but not limited to, any such deadlines set forth by law within the following:

1. Louisiana Civil Code;
2. Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure;
3. Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure;
4. Louisiana Children's Code;
5. Title 9 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Civil Code Ancillaries;
6. Title 13 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Courts and Judicial Procedure;
7. Title 14 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Criminal Law;
8. Title 15 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Criminal Procedure;
9. Title 18 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Louisiana Election Code;
10. Title 23 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Labor and Worker's Compensation;
11. Title 32 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulations;
12. Title 40 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Public Health and Safety;
13. Title 47 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Revenue and Taxation;

14. Title 49 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, State Administration; and

15. Title 56 of Louisiana Revised Statutes, Wildlife and Fisheries.

- B.** In addition, all other deadlines in legal proceedings in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards shall be suspended until Monday, April 13, 2020.
- C.** Courts, administrative agencies and boards statewide shall use due diligence in communicating with attorneys, parties to proceedings with pending deadlines, and the public how the court, agency or board will implement and interpret the provisions of this Order.
- D.** Paragraph B of this Section shall not be interpreted so as to prohibit an owner of immovable property from reclaiming leased property if abandoned as provided by law, or entering leased property to make necessary repairs as provided by law.

SECTION 6: Pursuant to La. R.S. 14:329.6, a state of emergency is declared to exist statewide for the purposes of allowing the chief law enforcement officer of any political subdivision to, in order to protect life and property and to bring the emergency situation under control, promulgate orders for any provision therein, including a local curfew from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

SECTION 7: The following additional provisions relating to the Office of Motor Vehicles are hereby suspended:

- A.** The expiration date of driver's licenses which expire on or after March 9, 2020, but on or before May 10, 2020, is suspended and the expiration date is extended to May 20, 2020.
- B.** The expiration of a temporary driver's license issued pursuant La R.S. 32:667(A) which were issued on or after March 9, 2020 through May 10th, 2020 is suspended until June 9, 2020.
- C.** All students who enroll in a driver's education course after March 9, 2020 shall be allowed to begin the driver's education course without the issuance of the temporary instructional permit until May 10, 2020.
- D.** Any suspension for which the official notice of withdrawal was issued on or after Feb 17, 2020, but before May 10, 2020, shall remain pending until June 9, 2020.

SECTION 8: For procurement and contracting, strict compliance with the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551, *et seq.*), Telecommunications Procurement (La. R.S. 39:1751-1755), and Information Technology Procurement (La. R.S. 39:196-200), shall not be required. However, all state agencies should comply with the following conditions:

- A.** An appointed official within the agency, or the equivalent for officials in higher education, must determine that the failure to strictly comply with the statutory restriction is necessary due to the emergency.
- B.** A centralized point of contact for each agency must monitor all transactions conducted without strict statutory compliance, maintaining copies of all documentation. Documentation should specify whether the purchase falls into the "emergency" or "permanent" category and whether the purchase relates to the COVID-19 event referenced in Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020 and all documentation must be maintained and available for audit and FEMA reimbursement purposes.
- C.** Written competitive quotes and/or offers must be obtained whenever possible and agencies must take the necessary steps to assess that fair and equitable pricing is being offered.

- D. Performance-based contracting should be used where practical.
- E. Statewide contracts should be used where practical.
- F. To the maximum extent possible, such emergency contracts should be only for the duration of the emergency or to allow the agency time to comply with normal competitive bidding requirements if the goods or services will be required for an extended period of time.
- G. Copies of contracts which would otherwise require approval by the Office of State Procurement and the supporting documentation discussed above must be provided to the Office of State Procurement within thirty (30) days or sooner, if practical. Additionally, LaGov agencies should enter small purchases into the LaGov system as soon as practical. The Office of State Procurement shall review the contracts and documentation to determine compliance with this Executive Order
- H. Payments to contractors should be made only after verification that all goods and services meet contract requirements.
- I. All Public Bid Openings shall be suspended. Bid openings will continue, however public openings will not occur in order to limit the potential for exposure. Bid openings will be made available via phone conference or web conference.
- J. All required Procurement Support Team meetings will be held via phone conference or web conference.

SECTION 9: All departments, commissions, boards, agencies and officers of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in actions the State may take in response to the effects of this event.

SECTION 10: These provisions extend from 12:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 to Monday, April 13, 2020, unless terminated sooner.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 16th day of March, 2020.



GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

SECRETARY OF STATE



**NATIONAL THOROUGHBRED
RACING ASSOCIATION**
Advocacy | Integrity | Leadership

[National Horseplayers Championship](#) [Member Discounts](#) [Safety & Integrity Alliance](#) [Legislative](#)

[Eclipse Awards](#) [Racing](#) [News & Media](#) [About](#) [+](#)

COVID-19

Letter from NTRA President and CEO on COVID-19

March 18, 2020

Industry Stakeholders,

This is an uncertain time for people around the world as we all cope with the fears of the coronavirus pandemic. We are living with the daily reality of serious illness and even death in ways that none of us imagined just a few short weeks ago.

The horse racing industry, like just about every sports business, is reeling from the effects of the virus. However, we enjoy certain uniquenesses – our horses are not carriers of the virus, as far as we know from the science, and we rely upon a robust online business model that fans can access from the comfort and safety of their homes. These facts make for exciting opportunities but only if we act responsibly and do our part to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

EXHIBIT "D"

So, as tracks and horsemen prepare to continue racing without live audiences, please remember the following:

- It is imperative that extraordinary precautions be taken to protect your employees, stable area workers, racing officials, jockeys, backstretch suppliers and horses.
- Take all necessary actions to reduce physical interactions by limiting facility access to only essential personnel.
- Educate all personnel on proper social distancing, hand hygiene and other measures to prevent the spread of the virus at your facility.
- Stay current on all relevant guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and stay in close contact with your state and local health department officials for information specific to your community.
- Keep all policies and protocols under constant review as things evolve.
- Finally, with or without live racing, horses stabled on your grounds must be taken care of and monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more information on all of these points, go to NTRA.com where we have posted information to assist racetracks and horsemen in coping with the coronavirus.

Please be safe and remain vigilant in fighting the spread of this pandemic.

Best regards,

Alex Waldrop
NTRA

Important links from Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

**SCHOOLS,
WORKPLACES
& COMMUNITY
LOCATIONS**

**COMMUNITY
MITIGATION
STRATEGY**

**INTERIM
GUIDANCE
FOR
BUSINESS
AND
EMPLOYERS**

SECURITY ACCESS QUESTIONNAIRE

INSPECTION INFORMATION

DATE:	TIME:	SECURITY STAFF:
NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ACCESS:		BADGE/CREDENTIAL NUMBER:

CIRCLE THE ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION BELOW

1. Can you provide a current regulatory license or relevant credentials to access the backstretch?	YES	NO
2. Have you, or someone you have come in contact with, travelled or returned from any international travel in the past 21 days?	YES	NO
3. Are you experiencing, or have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 7 days: • Fever • Cough • Muscle Aches and Tiredness • Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
4. Have you been in contact with anyone who is or has experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 7 days: • Fever • Cough • Muscle Aches and Tiredness • Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
5. Are you aware that washing your hands multiple times per day and before eating is the most important way to stop the spread of the Coronavirus? Please use our hand washing stations upon entering the cafeteria areas, dorms and at every opportunity through any of the washrooms located throughout the backstretch.	YES	NO
ADDITIONAL/ COMMENTS		

INSPECTION INFORMATION

SECURITY ACCESS QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE:	TIME:	SECURITY STAFF:
NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ACCESS:		BADGE/CREDENTIAL NUMBER:

CIRCULE LA RESPUESTA PARA CADA PREGUNTA ABAJO

1. ¿Puede proporcionar una licencia regulatoria actual o credenciales relevantes para acceder al estiramiento de?	SI	NO
2. ¿Usted o alguien con quien ha entrado en contacto ha viajado o regresado de algún viaje internacional en los últimos 21 días?	SI	NO
3. ¿Está experimentando o ha experimentado alguno de los siguientes síntomas en los últimos 7 días: • Fiebre • Tos • Dolores musculares y cansancio • Respiración dificultosa	SI	NO
4. ¿Ha estado en contacto con alguien que tenga o haya experimentado alguno de los siguientes síntomas en los últimos 7 días? • Fiebre • Tos • Dolores musculares y cansancio • Respiración dificultosa	SI	NO
5. ¿Sabe que lavarse las manos varias veces al día y antes de comer es la forma más importante de detener la propagación del coronavirus? Por favor utilice nuestras estaciones de lavado de manos al ingresar a las áreas de la cafetería, dormitorios y en cada oportunidad a través de cualquiera de los baños ubicados.	SI	NO

COMENTARIOS
ADICIONALES

COVID-19 PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES CHECK LIST

○ Staff Directory of Key Contacts

- Include cell phone numbers and emails.
- Chain of Command and Key Decision Makers

○ Monitoring of Stable Areas

- Monitoring of Backstretch dormitory areas will require regular daily monitoring performed by security team members and assigned racing personnel to provide support and screening of those stakeholders who are domiciled in the backstretch dorms.
- Designated quarantine rooms should be set aside for the sole purpose of providing dormitory residents a safe area to be quarantined, if required. Security team members will ensure these rooms are always kept fully secured.

○ Cleaning Protocols

- Cleaning protocols will include:
 - Increased frequency cleaning/disinfection of high-risk surfaces.
 - Focused cleaning/disinfection (door handles, elevator buttons, handrails, counter tops, etc.).
 - Provide additional hand washing stations and hand sanitizers (as available).

○ **Security Training and Procedures**

- Security Lead and Safety Lead will develop and brief all security team members on all new access control procedures, monitoring and reporting requirements. Security Lead will develop procedures to ensure that all suspected of confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection are properly communicated and documented.

○ **Jockey Room Access Guidelines**

- Jockey Room access restricted to licensed and credentialed individuals who are participating in the days races.
- Prior to gaining access to the Jockey Room all Jockeys and Valets will be pre-screened by medical personnel.
- In cases where a medical team member deems any Jockey or Valet being at risk of COVID-19 exposure, they will not be granted access to the Jockey Room.
- Medical personnel will maintain a log with the results of all the pre-screening.
- Jockeys will be asked to leave the Jockey Room as soon as their races are done for the day. Congregating in the Jockey Room will be prohibited.

○ **Apron Access Guidelines**

- The apron will remain closed to the general public.

- Apron access will be limited to credentialed Trainers, Owners, and essential racing personnel with horses in that day.
- A Security Access Log will be maintained by a Security team member to register who accessed the apron on a specific day.
- Congregating on the apron in groups of five or more will be prohibited.

○ **Guests and Visitors**

- To limit exposure and prevent the spread of germs and disease, **NO VISITORS/GUESTS** will be allowed to access the Backstretch or Jockeys Room. Only licensed and credentialed essential personnel will be granted access.

○ **Medical Facilities**

List all on-track and nearby off-track medical facilities.

COVID-19 Response Checklist

Backside Operations	
Written Action Plans in Place?	
Critical Supplies Inventory List Created, Maintained and distributed to Corporate/Other Facilities.	
Security Staffing are adequate.	
Gathering size restrictions. (No more than 10 people allowed in one local area at one time).	
Stable Area Access Control	
Essential personnel restrictions. Licensed Trainers, Veterinarians, Grooms, Exercise Riders, Farriers, Concessionaires No owners, media allowed on the backside. No guests, no exceptions. No children of employees or stakeholders.	
Security Access Log (Name/license number/ in/ out times, license plate number)	
Security Access Symptom Questionnaire, Risk Level Assessment and Clearance Review	
Clearance Sticker or Identification Program	
Self temperature testing (Tempa Dot) before access allowed.	
Travel Restrictions. Those licensees having travelled internationally, including Canada shall not be admitted until a 14 day self quarantine has concluded.	
Restricted areas defined.	
Barns	
Increased Backstretch Patrols and Risk Mitigation Reviews	
Dormitory Areas	
Daily Monitoring, Screening, Risk Mitigation Reviews	
Are there designated areas for quarantine separate and apart from the usual living quarters? (RV, remote dorm, other building)	
Rec Rooms and common areas to be closed.	

COVID-19 Response Checklist

Grandstand Closed (including access for private clockers)	
Backside Recreation Areas Closed	
Backside Cafeteria Open, food to be carried out.	
Training	
Security Team, Health and Safety Teams to be briefed and trained on new procedures, monitoring and reporting.	
Temperature device (e.g. thermometer) to be supplied to all security personnel	
Raceday Operations	
Frontside and Racetrack	
All non-essential personnel will not be permitted on grounds.	
Non-essential personnel to be prohibited includes all public service employees (e.g., food service, wagering tellers, ushers, admission staff).	
No wagering or food service available in the grandstand.	
Press Box will be closed to all but the official chart caller.	
No owners, media or fans will be allowed on the track. No guests, no exceptions. No children of employees or stakeholders.	
Only licensed trainers and support personnel with horses in a particular race, once that race has become official that trainer and grooms must exit the paddock.	
Racing officials for racing operations.	
Safety staff (ambulance drivers, track maintenance crew)	
Specialized janitorial staff to sanitize the facility.	
Increased frequency cleaning/disinfection of high-risk surfaces.	
Increased access to waterless hand sanitization stations	
Increased access to portable hand washing stations	
Focused cleaning/disinfection (door handles, elevator buttons, handrails, counter tops, etc.)	
Increased hours of operations of housekeeping staff with increased emphasis backstretch kitchen/ rec room	

COVID-19 Response Checklist

Pre-race Areas	
Walking ring is closed to everyone other than personnel required to accompany each horse to and from the saddling barn or racetrack.	
Jockeys will get on their horses and proceed directly to the racetrack for the post parade and warm up.	
Jockeys Room	
Travel Restrictions. Those licensees having travelled internationally shall not be admitted until a 14 day self quarantine has concluded.	
Plan and protocols in place for Jockeys traveling from other states or to other states until they have been examined and cleared by the association delegated medical team.	
Jockeys are required to distance themselves from others by staying prescribed areas to maintain isolation	
Jockey's Room lockers significantly spaced within facility or jocks room or other locations.	
Only jockeys scheduled to ride in races will be allowed in the Jockeys' Room. Jockeys are asked to leave after their days rides are completed.	
All jockeys and essential personnel only in the Jockeys' Room (including Valets and Clerk of the Scales) will have their temperatures tested daily. Anyone showing any signs of illness will be denied access to the premises.	
All jockeys will be required to wear riding gloves at all times.	
Jockeys are prohibited from any physical contact between themselves and others.	
No use of Sauna and shared facilities (to be locked). Showers are still made available.	
Any pony restrictions or policies in place? (Gloves mandated)	
Starting Gate	
All starting gates will be disinfected between every race and all gate crew will be required to wear gloves and will have no physical contact between them.	
Starting gate sanitized between each race, between schoolers with bleach solution	
Race Office	
Entries taken by phone or electronically only.	
Draw by conference call	
Check cashing closed?	

COVID-19 Response Checklist

No win circle photo	

John Bel Edwards
Governor

Bob F. Wright
Chairman

Judy W. Wagner
First Vice Chairperson



LOUISIANA STATE RACING COMMISSION

Commissioners
Dr. Patrick Bernard
Thomas B. Calvert
Donald "Don" Cravins
R. Hamilton "Hammy" Davis
K. R. "Ron" Finkelstein, O.D.
Benjamin J. Guilbeau, Jr.
Eric G. Johnson
Mike R. McHaffey
Louis Reine
Kenneth "Kenu" Romero
Mike Shelton

Charles A. Gardiner III
Executive Director

Mr. Charles A. Gardiner, III, Executive Director
Louisiana Racing Commission
320 N. Carrollton Ave., Ste. 2-B
New Orleans, LA 70119-5100

RE: Safety Concerns for Boyd's Mass Eviction of Horses & Horsemen

Mr. Gardiner,

I have just learned that Boyd Gaming has issued an unprecedented directive requiring all horses and horsemen to vacate the racing facilities at Delta Downs and Evangeline Downs by Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in light of COVID-19, while Caesars Entertainment (Louisiana Downs Racetrack) and Churchill Downs (Fair Grounds Racetrack) have agreed to allow horses and horsemen to remain lodged at their racing facilities in order to prevent an even greater humanitarian and equine crisis.

Forcing an unplanned and immediate eviction upon hundreds of horses and horsemen who committed to Boyd's race meets and are reliant upon Boyd's facilities for lodging will create a massive homeless and displacement crisis for horses and horsemen in the midst of the overall crisis situation that has been created by COVID-19 and I fear that this eviction will place all involved at a much greater health risk than that already posed by COVID-19.

I am strongly recommending that action be taken by the Racing Commission to prevent Boyd Gaming from evicting hundreds of horses and horsemen in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,


Bernard M. Cooley, DVM
Equine Medical Director



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



March 16, 2020

Charles Gardiner
Executive Director
Louisiana Racing Commission
320 N. Carrollton Avenue Suite 2-B
New Orleans, LA 70119-5100

Dear Mr. Gardiner:

It is my understanding that Boyd Gaming has given the horsemen at Delta and Evangeline Downs 48 hours to move all horses from the premises. There is no capacity for these 500 horses to be moved anywhere in the state. It is further my understanding that the Opelousas Training Center is almost completely full. Therefore, we are strongly asking for your assistance in requesting that Boyd Gaming allow the horses to stay on the premises until racing commences.

I have also contacted the office of Governor John Bel Edwards for assistance in this matter. Any support you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Strain".

Mike Strain, DVM
Commissioner

EXHIBIT "F"

Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association 1993, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Owners

Charlotte Stemmans Clavier
Bobby Dupre
Christine Early
Keith Hernandez
Andy Leggio

Chairman
Benard K. Chatters



Executive Director
Edwin Fenasci

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trainers

Bret Calhoun
Ron Faucheux
Edward Johnston
Kenneth Roberts
Don Stemmans

March 20, 2020

Charles Gardiner
Executive Director
Louisiana State Racing Commission
320 North Carrollton Avenue Suite 2B
New Orleans, LA 70119

Dear Charles:

On behalf of the Louisiana Horsemen, and in order to continue to care for the well-being and safety of the horses and those that take care of them, the following is required to continue and are hereby requested by the Louisiana HBPA:

1. Horsemen be allowed to stable their horses at the specific race tracks as per their specific allotted stalls.
2. Horsemen be allowed to use the race track surface for training on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, with no gate work, but timed works every Saturday.
3. Training hours will be from 7AM to 10AM without a break.
4. Backside is to be maintained with Security and Maintenance as required.
5. Outside contractors allowed access to the backside to allow for the care of horses.
6. All employees of the trainers with allocated stalls will be able to continue to use the rooms assigned on behalf of the trainer.

The Louisiana HBPA will work closely with all race tracks to ensure that all horsemen follow all rules and guidelines. Accordingly, the Louisiana HBPA requests that the Louisiana State Racing Commission to exercise its full authority to ensure that the items outlined above are performed by each race track without exception. Finally, by enforcing the above, our Horsemen will be in a position to resume racing as soon as each facility resumes operations. We sincerely appreciate the support of the Commission for our Horsemen during this unique time.

Sincerely,

Benard Chatters
President
LAHBPA

EXHIBIT "G"

From: Edwin Fenasci <efenasci@lahbpa.org>

Date: March 20, 2020 at 12:18:48 PM CDT

To: Charles Gardiner <cgardiner@lrc.state.la.us>

Cc: Benard Chatters <bkchatters@gmail.com>, "Duvieilh, John" <jduvieilh@joneswalker.com>

Subject: Supplemental response re stabling requirements

Dear Charlie:

As requested, the total number of horses currently stabled is 3,082 with supporting personnel of 899. These individuals, like the horses they care for, have no place to go other than the race track facility that are provided. The race tracks are their homes. Without accommodations at the race tracks, they are homeless and on the street. Time is of the essence. If you need anything further, please advise.

Sincerely,

Ed

--

Edwin J. Fenasci
Executive Director
LHBPA
Office 504-945-1555
efenasci@lahbpa.org

EXHIBIT "H"