

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
NEW JERSEY RACING COMMISSION
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Commissioners

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Acting Executive Director

TAHESHA L. WAY

Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

FINAL DETERMINATION AND ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REMAINING CASINO SIMULCASTING SPECIAL FUND MONIES (ACCUMULATED IN 2023) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,084.56 PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 5:12-205(D)

WHEREAS, \$281,574.48 in Casino Simulcasting Special Fund monies accumulated in 2023 became available for distribution pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d);

WHEREAS, the Commission provided the permit holders and horsemen's organizations with notice and the opportunity to submit written comments in accordance with *N.J.A.C.* 13:70-1.37, *N.J.A.C.* 13:71-1.32, and the Commission's other rules of practices and procedures;

WHEREAS, the submissions of the interested parties were circulated and considered in accordance with *N.J.A.C.* 13:70-1.35 and *N.J.A.C.* 13:71-1.30;

WHEREAS, the Commission created a Committee to review the submissions and make recommendations to the Commission at a public meeting;

WHEREAS, the Committee's findings and recommendations were communicated to the Commission at its November 20, 2024 meeting;

WHEREAS, the Commission agreed with and accepted the findings and recommendations of the Committee, which are part of the record of that meeting;

WHEREAS, New Meadowlands Racetrack and Monmouth Park each demonstrated that its financial well-being has been negatively affected by casino simulcasting pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d)(1) and that it is financially distressed pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d)(2);





- WHEREAS, pursuant to a Final Determination and Order dated December 13, 2024, New Meadowlands Racetrack received \$75,086.52 and Monmouth Park received \$75,086.52 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 5:12-205(d)(1) and 205(d)(2);
- WHEREAS, the horsemen's organizations each established that it will use Casino Simulcasting Special Fund monies to fund projects which will be beneficial to the racing industry pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d)(3);
- WHEREAS, pursuant to a Final Determination and Order dated December 13, 2024, the Standardbred Breeders' and Owners' Association of New Jersey ("SBOA") received \$28,157.44, the New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association ("THA") received \$14,078.72, the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey ("TBA") received \$14,078.72 pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d)(3);
- WHEREAS, the remaining moneys were tabled pending the receipt of responses to the following questions from stakeholders: "(1) Should Freehold Raceway receive these funds given the fact that it will no longer operate a racetrack? and (2) If not, how should these funds be allocated?";
- WHEREAS, the Committee reviewed the submissions and made recommendations which were communicated to the Commission at its March 19, 2025 meeting;
- WHEREAS, the Commission agreed with and accepted the findings and recommendations of the Committee, which are part of the record of that meeting;
- AND THE COMMISSION FINDING THAT Freehold Raceway should not receive a distribution because the purpose of the Casino Simulcasting Special Fund monies is to support of ongoing operations and Freehold Raceway has ceased racing operations and no longer holds a permit;
- AND THE COMMISSION FINDING THAT \$75,084.56 which currently remains in the Casino Simulcasting Special Fund should be distributed equally among New Meadowlands Racetrack, Monmouth Park, SBOA, THA, and TBA, as recommended by the Committee;
- IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT the New Meadowlands Racetrack shall receive \$15,016.91 and Monmouth Park shall receive \$15,016.91 from the Casino Simulcasting Special Fund monies accumulated in 2023 pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-205(d)(1) and 205(d)(2);
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the SBOA shall receive \$15,016.91, and the SBOA shall use \$12,764.37 for the SBOA's health benefit program and shall pay \$1,802.03 to the Standardbred Retirement Fund and \$450.51 to Horse Rescue United to fund standardbred race horse retirement;
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association ("THA") shall receive \$15,016.91 which shall be used to fund the health, dental, prescription, and eyeglass benefit program it provides to the backstretch community;
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey ("TBA") shall receive \$15,016.91 which shall be used to fund its 2024 New Jersey-bred incentive program.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the SBOA, THA, and TBA shall file proof of compliance with this Order with the Commission by October 31, 2025.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the SBOA, THA, and TBA shall file proof of compliance with this Order with the Commission by October 31, 2025.

This Order memorializes the actions taken by the Commission at its March 19, 2025 meeting.

NEW JERSEY RACING COMMISSION

By: <u>Sara Ben-David</u> Sara Ben-David, Acting Executive Director

Dated: April 23, 2025