



State of Indiana Indiana Horse Racing Commission

Michael R. Pence, Governor

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**For Immediate Release
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2016 Indiana Thoroughbred Breed Development Program Approved

The Indiana Horse Racing Commission approved the 2016 Thoroughbred Breed Development Program at their meeting today. An additional \$1.4 million will be available for the program due to a legislative change passed during the 2015 session.

The approved program includes increasing purses for twenty stake races from \$85,000 to \$100,000. In addition, the state's four Signature Stakes will continue to be contested at \$150,000 each. The overnight program will also benefit from the additional funding with an increase of 30 additional scheduled races, and the flexibility to write approximately 48 more races using a Breed Development discretionary fund. In total, this will give the track an opportunity to run approximately 322 Breed Development overnight races during the 2016 meet, an increase of more than 15% from 2015.

"The additional funds gave the Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee an opportunity to look at how we can make an already good program even better," noted Director of Racing and Breed Development Jessica Barnes "We are all very excited to be able to offer these improvements, and we hope that horsemen will take advantage of this lucrative program by making plans to invest and race in Indiana."

Collaborative efforts between the Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee, Racetrack Management at Indiana Grand, and the horsemen's associations made these improvements possible.

You can find the approved program and additional information about the Thoroughbred Breed Development Program on the IHRC's website at www.in.gov/hrc/tb.