

October 8, 2015

Water Hay Oats Alliance
Stop Race Day Medication



For Immediate Release



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF HORSERACING AUTHORITIES JOINS COALITION FOR HORSE RACING INTEGRITY

Leading global horse racing organization announces support for uniform drug and medication policy in U.S. horse racing

The Coalition for Horse Racing Integrity announced today that the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) has joined the Coalition, expressing its support for the Thoroughbred Horseracing Integrity Act of 2015. The IFHA strives to coordinate and harmonize the rules of its 62 member countries regarding breeding, racing and wagering in a manner that ensures the quality and fairness of racing and protects the welfare of horses and jockeys.

"The whole world has endorsed our efforts," said Arthur Hancock, a co-founder of the Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA). "This is huge. For years and years we have been fighting for clean racing in America. IFHA's support will help us get there."

WHOA has promoted *Article 6 of the IFHA's International Agreement on Breeding, Racing and Wagering* from its inception in 2012. Since that time WHOA's international representation has grown to 85 members. WHOA looks forward to working together with IFHA toward our common goals and WHOA's mission to bring U.S. racing jurisdictions in sync with international standards.

"Creating a uniform system for the regulation of medications in American horse racing is of critical importance," said Louis Romanet, chairman of the IFHA. "The international horse racing community must work together if we are to achieve high standards in testing and enforcement of our equine athletes to protect their health and ensure a safe environment.

"Since its creation, the IFHA has sought to protect the integrity, quality and fairness of horse racing worldwide in the interest of both the horses and the general public," Romanet said. "We believe that the goal of this legislation is very much in line with our mission."

The IFHA was founded in 1993 to promote proper regulation and best practices on international horse racing matters. The organization produces the International Agreement on Breeding, Racing and Wagering, a voluntary agreement designed for use by recognized racing and breeding authorities, as well as statistics concerning breeding, racing and betting.

It held its 49th annual conference on Monday, October 5 at the offices of France Galop in Paris with delegates from 52 countries and a number of racing executives and journalists in attendance.

The Water Hay Oats Alliance is a member of The Coalition for Horse Racing Integrity (CHRI) - whose membership also includes the Breeders' Cup Ltd., the Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association, the Humane Society of the United States, the Humane Society Veterinary Medicine Association, The Jockey Club, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, the Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders, the Meadowlands Racetrack, Tioga Downs, Vernon Downs, Centaur Gaming, and Arapahoe Park.

The CHRI supports The Thoroughbred Horseracing Integrity Act of 2015. This bill, introduced in July 2015 to the House of Representatives by Congressmen Andy Barr (R-KY) and Paul Tonko (D-NY), will direct the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) to create an independent, racing-specific, non-governmental and non-profit organization to bring uniformity and clean sport to horse racing.

The Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA) welcomes the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) to the Coalitions growing list of supporters.

Learn more about the Water Hay Oats Alliance - www.waterhayoatsalliance.com

Contact us: info@waterhayoatsalliance.com

Learn more about the Coalition for Horseracing Integrity - www.horseracingintegrity.com

The Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA) is a grassroots movement of like-minded individuals who support the passage of federal legislation to prohibit the use of performance-enhancing drugs in the sport of horse racing. The appointment of an independent anti-doping program run by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) will solve the problem of widespread drug use in American racing and put U.S. racing jurisdictions in step with international standards. Doping destroys public confidence in racing, defrauds the betting fan, weakens the genetic pool and, most importantly, puts the life and limb of our equine athletes and their jockeys at risk. It is obvious that after years of committee review and discussion, America's racing industry cannot police itself by eliminating the proliferation of performance enhancing drugs in our sport, nor does it possess the power to adequately punish the purveyors of these drugs.