

## Changes to the Breeders Stakes and Programs

Following the GPEB/Racing Management Committee/Industry Meeting now scheduled for April 28th, 2010, when timing and procedures should be more clear, the Board will communicate any changes that are foreseen for the future with respect to current programs.

The Board always welcomes your input with any ideas that you believe might help stimulate breeding and owning of Standardbred horses, within the constraints of the funds that are available, (which for 2010 approximates that for 2009 and, hopefully will remain a similar amount for 2011).

The complex series of program changes which were planned and advised in March have been rescinded in their entirety for the sake of simplicity. In their place, the following four changes are proposed to encourage the ownership of young horses and benefit a greater number of people going forward:

- 1) To eliminate the Sales Stakes with the 2010 Pacific Yearling Sale and re-direct the money to an expansion of the BC Breeders's Stakes in **2012**. The Sales Stakes will continue for all horses qualified from prior years.
- 2) To eliminate the Sires (Stallion) Stakes with **2011** breedings and to redirect the funds into an expanded BC Breeders Stakes Series in **2014**. The Sires (Stallion) Stakes will continue for all horses qualified in prior years. NOTE: The objective is to consolidate the program over time to a larger BC Breeders series with more races throughout the year offering more opportunities for more people to benefit.
- 3) In 2010 a bonus of 100% of money earned in all overnight races will be paid for 2 year olds. The calculation will not include Stake Races or legs thereof. This new bonus is designed to benefit the owners of two year old horses that may not be ready and/or competitive for the Stake Races held in the fall.
- 4) Starting on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, the BC Bred Bonus will be paid to 2, 3 and 4 year olds only. It will be based on a calendar year and is proposed to be paid out at six monthly intervals.

For information, the following summarizes the qualifications and eligibility rules for the BC Bred Bonus and the BC Broodmare Award as they currently stand:

### BC Bred Bonus:

Currently, up to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, bonus monies are paid to the Owners of BC bred horses, up to and including 5 year olds, finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in any overnight race, with the exception of the lowest claiming class. Bonuses are also not paid on stake monies. It is not necessary to be a BC resident to collect this bonus, but it is necessary to be a member of Harness Racing BC.

Bonuses are calculated for each year based on a fiscal year from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> and are paid out during the subsequent quarter. The amount paid is subject to the budgeted funds being available as accumulated through the SISAP program. (See NOTE below).

### BC Broodmare Award:

Currently, when a BC foaled horse finishes 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> the owner of the broodmare at the time of service will receive an award. If that owner was a non-resident of BC at the time of service, the owner of the mare at the time of foaling will receive the award, if that person was a resident of BC. Races in the lowest claiming category do not qualify for this benefit and these award monies are not paid on stake monies won.

The award includes BC foaled horses, so that any mares imported in foal will be included. All horses in all classes, except the bottom claiming category, regardless of age, will attract the reward for finishing third or better. The number of BC bred and/or foaled horses racing and how they perform will determine what percentage is paid on eligible dollars, subject to the budgeted funds being available as accumulated through the SISAP program. The award is based on the fiscal year, as above, ending March 31<sup>st</sup> and will be paid in the subsequent quarter.

### NOTE:

**Once the Government's new Financial Model is in place, with effect from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, all previous funding arrangements, including that for the SISAP, "Standarbred Industry Stakes and Awards Program" are no longer operative. As such, the amount of funds available for any programs will be directly dependent upon the allocation of funding to harness racing made annually and adjusted as deemed appropriate by the GPEB appointed BC Horse Racing Industry Management Committee**