



Welcome

We are delighted to have you join us at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway, where thrilling harness racing and world-class entertainment come together in the heart of Ohio. Whether you are a seasoned participant or new to our track, we strive to provide an outstanding experience for all horsemen and racing enthusiasts.

Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway has very quickly grown in stature and become an important stop on the Grand Circuit. Home of the Dayton Derbies, one for each sex and gait for older horses, the premier races have attracted racing's biggest stars and produced great races.

This guide contains both core policies that have been in place at all Penn National Gaming, Inc. racing facilities as well as additional local policies that apply to Dayton Raceway.

All horsemen wishing to participate at Dayton Raceway must complete a Ship-In Racing Agreement, as well as sign the participation waiver.

Ohio has once again become a premier state for harness racing thanks to the addition of expanded gaming and Penn National Gaming and Dayton Raceway are committed to hosting the highest quality racing in the state.

Thank you again for your participation in our racing program and your continued support of harness racing in Ohio. Please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns or questions.

Jason Bluhm

Director of Racing

Contact Information

Mailing Address: Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway
777 Hollywood Blvd.
Dayton, OH 45414

Main Phone: 937-235-7800

Website: www.hollywooddaytonraceway.com

2026 Race Dates: September 28 – December 30

Post Times: 4:00 PM Tuesday-Saturday

Racing Office: 937-235-7860

Judges: 937-235-7865 (AM) 937-235-7847 (PM)

OSRC: 937-235-7867

Ohio State Racing Commission

The Honorable Mike DeWine.....Governor
Beth Hansen.....Chairman
Daniel McCarthy.....Commissioner
Gregory H. Simpson.....Commissioner
Thomas R. Winters.....Commissioner
Holly Chandler.....Executive Director
Doug Thomas.....State Presiding Judge
Dr. Tim Renn.....State Veterinarian

Racing Officials and Personnel

Jason BluhmDirector of Racing
Jason BluhmlRacing Secretary
Tina Seekman..... Asst. Racing Sec/Bookkeeper
Doug Thomas.....Presiding Judge
Todd Brown.....Associate Judge
Jim Ashman.....Associate Judge
Janet Essig.....Paddock Judge
Bill Mt. Pleasant.....Identifier
Mike Wuebkenberg.....Starter/Patrol Judge
Lisa Schwartz/Rick Gleason ...Charters
Dr. Tim Renn.....Track Veterinarian
Jim Shelton.....Track Super
Ashley Holliday.....Outrider

Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association

Mailing Address: 2237 Sonora Drive.
 Gove City, OH 43123

Telephone: 800-353-6442; 614-221-3650 Fax: 614-221-8726

Frank Fraas.....Executive Director
Brett Merkel.....OHHA Representative at Dayton Raceway

Racing Office Guidelines

All participants at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway must be members in good standing with the United States Trotting Association.

New drivers must report with their USTA licenses to the Clerk of the Course. Drivers with expired licenses will be given only one (1) notice to get renewed. Qualifying drivers must introduce themselves to the Judges and give their USTA driver license number to the Clerk of the Course before their first qualifying drive at Dayton Raceway, and are required to wear driving colors.

No horse claimed out of a claiming race shall race at any other track until the close of the season at Dayton Raceway, or for thirty (30) days, whichever is the shortest period of time. Horses may not leave the State of Ohio to start for a period of sixty (60) days.

Dayton Raceway qualifying standards at the start of the 2026 meet will be: **PACE 2:00; TROT 2:02**. There will be a four (4) second allowance for a county fair half mile track, 3 year – olds allowed one (1) second, 2-year - olds allowed two (2) seconds, - Horses must have a “good clean” charted line within 45 days of the scheduled race day.

Horses must be wholly owned by Ohio residents for “Ohio Owned” designated races. To receive Ohio owned preferences an owner must be able to produce an Ohio driver’s license that was valid in 2025. A copy of a 2025 Ohio Income Tax return may also be requested.

Any and all events are subject to being combined to create full fields.

While every effort is made to avoid mistakes, it is NOT the policy of Dayton Raceway to re-draw overnight races due to error.

Horses entered incorrectly, whether deliberately or mistakenly, MAY be moved to the class to which they actually are eligible on the same racing card.

Horses racing on Lasix must be on the grounds of Dayton Raceway at least four (4) hours prior to the Scheduled post time of their actual race.

All non-Lasix horses shipping in to race must be on the grounds three (3) hours prior to the scheduled post time of their actual race.

No horses may leave the grounds on the day they are racing until they have completed their racing engagement.

Horses may not drop more than two (2) condition classes without permission of the Racing Secretary. Claiming horses dropping into condition races may not drop more than two (2) purse levels. Trainers entering horses coming from other tracks must consult with the Race Secretary to determine appropriate starting levels.

All medication rules and guidelines are under the jurisdiction of the Ohio Racing Commission.

All horses must have a current (within one (1) year) negative Coggin's Test on file in the USTA system prior to being drawn in to race or qualify.

All trainers are required to sign a Ship-In Stall Application and turn it in to the Racing Office prior to being able to participate at Dayton Raceway. In addition, trainers, or their agent, must sign the release waiver.

Dayton Raceway has implemented Direct Deposit of all payments from the purse account. Please sign up with the Horsemen's Bookkeeper.

DRAW SCHEDULE – ENTRY BOX CLOSES SHARPLY AT TIMES LISTED BELOW.

<u>Race Day</u>	<u>Draw Day</u>	
Tuesday	Thursday	2:00 PM
Wednesday	Friday	2:00 PM
Thursday	Saturday	2:00 PM
Friday	Tuesday	2:00 PM
Saturday	Wednesday	2:00 PM

Scratch time and driver change- deadlines will be listed on Overnight Sheets and posted in the paddock. When making entries, always list MORE THAN one driver on the entry if a potential conflict exists. On draw days, the Race Office will be open one (1) hour prior to the box closing.

The Qualifying schedule will be determined by the number of entries. Notification will be given in a reasonable time to avoid any confusion.

Trainers should avail themselves to the USTA Online Entry Application to make their entries. The Race Office will use a text message service to notify horsemen of deadlines, condition changes and to help fill races. Please make sure you avail yourself of this feature. Instructions on how to participate in text alerts will be posted in the paddock.

Racing Office Hours

4 PM Post Time

Monday: Dark
Tuesday: 1 – 8:30 PM
Wednesday: 1 – 8:30 PM
Thursday: 1 – 8:30 PM
Friday: 1 – 8:30 PM
Saturday: 1 – 8:30 PM
Sunday: Dark

Paddock Procedures

All Horses shall proceed directly to the Paddock upon arrival.

****Drivers for the first two (2) races must sign in with the Breathalyzer Administrator thirty (30) minutes prior to the scheduled post time of the first race. All other drivers must sign in thirty (30) minutes prior to their first programmed drive.**

Anyone on the track warming up or scoring down horses on racing days must be in clean, full colors that include white pants, and a helmet. The wearing of sneakers, tennis shoes or sandals will NOT be allowed. Full colors must be worn for all Qualifying races.

No conversation with the public will be permitted by anyone in the paddock. No conversation among the drivers will be permitted during the scoring of horses prior to a race.

Any equipment changes, or adjustments MUST be reported to the Outrider or Starter if done when on the track.

Trainers are responsible for equipment used during a race including shoeing. Penalties or fines may be imposed for any unnecessary delays or for using unsafe equipment. After the post parade, equipment adjustments or repairs require either the permission of the Starter, Outrider or the Paddock Judge. Trainers are also responsible for the physical condition of their horses.

All drivers must return to the paddock after each race and remain available to speak to the judges until the race is declared official.

Drivers and trainers must sign in at the Paddock Judge's office and shall report to the paddock at the prescribed time. Grooms and owners must sign in with the Security Guard at the Paddock Gate.

The only persons admitted to the paddock are owners, drivers, trainers, and grooms of horses programmed to race that racing card, and fully appointed officials. Children under the age of 14 are not permitted in the paddock. No drivers, trainers, or grooms may leave the paddock until their business is over without permission of the Paddock Judge.

The Paddock Judge's office is for official business only.

No horse shall be left unattended in the paddock. The trainer and/or groom must be present with their horses when Lasix is administered and when the Identifier checks tattoos and for equipment changes.

ALL HORSES MUST BE WARMED UP at least one time around before their scheduled race.

Drivers are expected to parade their own horses. If unable to do so, notify the Paddock Judge in advance. All horses must take at least one score in front of the grandstand **immediately** following the post parade.

THE USE OF CELLULAR PHONES WHILE IN PADDOCK STALLS IS NOT PERMITTED.

Judges Guidelines

Scratch times will be posted in Judge's Office. All scratches must be reported **ONLY** to the Judges by the prescribed time. Judges are in the office at 12:00 PM until 30 minutes to post (4PM Post).

Having two persons on a bike or leading of horses will **NOT** be permitted.

Drivers shall have both feet in the stirrups or pedals at all times on the race track.

Helmets must be buckled at all times on the race track. Only approved helmets may be worn.

All spayed, in-foal, and nerved horses must be reported to the Judges, so that it will be posted. In-foal mares may **NOT** race in claiming events.

The Judges reserve the right to place any horse on the Steward's List.

Any aged horse who fails to qualify on three (3) successive weeks must wait 21 days before re-qualifying at Dayton Raceway. Three Year Olds who fail to qualify on four (4) successive weeks must wait 28 days before re-qualifying at Dayton Raceway.

Any horse causing two (2) recalls or a refund may be refused re-qualifying privileges; or required to qualify twice before re-entering.

All entries and declarations shall be under the supervision of the Judges and the Racing Secretary. They may, and without notice, refuse entries of any person or transfer any entry to a class in which the horse is more competitive.

All driver changes must be made by the time prescribed by the Judges or a fine may be imposed.

ALL FINES MUST BE PAID WITHIN 72 HOURS.

All trainers are required to fill out a stable roster sheet in the Commission Office. This roster will consist of all bona fide owners, trainers and grooms on his/her payroll. If an employee on a roster sheet no longer works for a stable, it **MUST** be reported to the Judges immediately. This will be monitored closely and anyone violating this rule will be subject to a fine and/or suspension and/or loss of racing privileges.

Profane or abusive language toward racing officials WILL result in a fine or suspension as well as a possible loss of racing privileges. Abusive language, fighting or any type of disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Violators will be subject to a fine and/or suspension or possible loss of racing privileges at Dayton Raceway.

Drivers filing objections must do so with the Starter before dismounting.

Horses scratched sick or lame **MAY** be eligible to race seven (7) days from the day of the race they were scratched. A scratch or release slip must be turned into the Judges when scratching a horse or releasing a horse from the Steward's List. Any horse put on the Steward's List by the Track Vet must be removed by the Track Vet or someone appointed by him/her.

Any horse finishing "*distanced*" or giving a bad performance may, **AT THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGES OR RACE SECRETARY**, be placed on the Steward's List.

Any horse that does not finish within qualifying time, on either a fast or good track, may be placed on the Steward's List.

Any horse making a break on a good or fast track following a qualifying race must re-qualify, except for a winning performance.

Any horse making two (2) consecutive breaks, on a fast or good track, must re-qualify. Any horse making three (3) consecutive breaks, regardless of finish, or track condition, must re-qualify.

All horses must "go the course", except in the case of an accident, severely broken equipment or injury to the horse or driver. If unable to continue during a race, take to the outside fence, if possible, and dismount.

Excessive or indiscriminate use of the whip will be penalized. Drivers must keep a line in each hand beginning when the horse is behind the starting gate and continuing through the finish of the race. There will be no whipping after the finish of a race

Drivers will be allowed whips not to exceed forty-eight inches, plus a snapper not longer than six inches. **OSRC Rule 3769-17-17.**

Riding in a “half in half out” position during any race MAY be punishable with either a fine or a suspension.

No driver in the employment of another driver, trainer or owner may compete in the same race unless both drivers are part of a coupled or uncoupled entry. The driver of the second entry must be approved by the Judges.

Starter Guidelines

All broken equipment must be reported to the Starter or Paddock Judge immediately after the race in which it was broken.

All horses should be ready to go when the Paddock Judge calls for them. Drivers should listen for the Starter to tell them when to turn for the post parade. Post parades MUST be conducted in a neat, orderly and professional manner.

Drivers must post parade their horses past the grandstand before turning to score.

Drivers are expected to stay tightly bunched during the final score before a race; and respond together to the Starter’s call to post. All horses should be on the gate at the start of the race. Crossing over or backing out early at the start of a race WILL NOT be tolerated.

There will be NO recalls for breaking horses. There will be a recall for a horse with broken equipment; interference with another horse; a horse falls before the word “go” is given; a mechanical failure of the starting gate or a horse scores ahead of the starting gate, a horse comes to the gate out of position.

Miscellaneous Information

All Claims must be deposited at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the post time of the designated race.

No dogs will be allowed in the paddock area.

All horses shall receive their Lasix in their assigned race stalls. Grooms must attend to their horses when Lasix is administered.

All horses shall be bathed in their assigned stalls.
The manure bins are for manure ONLY.

Trash dumpsters are for paddock area trash only. No person shall bring trash from off site to be disposed of in the track dumpsters.

There will be NO SMOKING allowed in the paddock or any building on property.

The horse trailer parking lot shall be kept clean and orderly with horsemen responsible for the proper disposal of their garbage and manure.

Dayton Raceway shall not be responsible for any damages or thefts of any race bikes or jog carts left overnight in the paddock or paddock area. Any bikes or jog carts left overnight shall be stored in an orderly fashion in designated areas.

Both lessees and lessors must have USTA memberships.

All Ohio State Racing Commission licensees must have their licenses in their possession at all times while on Dayton Raceway grounds.

Failure to follow any of the above guidelines will result in disciplinary action being taken against any violators.

***Any of the above are subject to change. Any changes in Dayton Raceway policy will be posted by the Racing Office in a timely fashion on the weekly condition sheets.*

PENN NATIONAL GAMING, INC. ANTI-SLAUGHTER POLICY

Any horsemen stabled at a Penn National Gaming, Inc. owned or operated horse racing facility who knowingly, or without conducting proper due diligence, sells a horse for slaughter, directly or indirectly, will have his or her stalls revoked and may, in addition, be barred from all of our racing properties. Penn National Gaming, Inc. requires that horsemen participating at the Company's racetracks conduct proper due diligence on those buying horses and encourages horsemen participating at Penn National facilities and industry-wide to support rescue and adoption efforts and to seek humane means of dealing with horses unable to continue racing.