



The Jockey Club

40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022
Phone: (212) 371-5970 | Fax: (212) 371-6123

Chairman Jan Schakowsky
Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs and Commerce
2125 Rayburn HOB
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Schakowsky and Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers,

My name is Stuart Janney, and I am the chairman of The Jockey Club. I am writing to share our support of H.R. 1754, the Horseracing Integrity Act of 2019, and to thank you for including the bill in your upcoming hearing.

Congressional hearings have often expedited beneficial change in professional sports, particularly with regard to the use of performance-enhancing drugs. On behalf of The Jockey Club and the Coalition for Horse Racing Integrity, we hope that this hearing will lead to a similar result.

Passage and enactment of the Horseracing Integrity Act would establish an independent non-profit corporation responsible for developing and administering a single anti-doping and medication control program for horse racing across the U.S. This would enhance the overall integrity of horse racing, improve equine safety and welfare, and ensure a level playing field for those who compete (owners, trainers and jockeys) and for those who wager on the outcome of our races.

Beyond that, it will help sustain and grow a sport that is part of a vibrant equine industry that accounts for an economic impact of \$122 billion a year, 1.74 million jobs, and \$79 billion in salaries, wages and benefits. [American Horse Council Economic Impact Study of 2017]

The Jockey Club's mission statement proclaims that it is dedicated to the improvement of Thoroughbred breeding and racing, and its core belief is that horses should compete only when they are free from the influence of medication. Consistent with these directives, The Jockey Club has been advocating for medication reform, including uniform drug rules, in our sport for decades.

I would like to share with you some background of The Jockey Club and explain why this legislation is so important to us.

The Jockey Club is the breed registry for all Thoroughbred horses in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. It was formed in 1894 to maintain the integrity of *The American Stud Book*. To register a Thoroughbred in North America, breeders must comply with the rules of registration as set forth in the *Principal Rules and Requirements of The American Stud Book*.

However, The Jockey Club's contributions to the Thoroughbred industry go well beyond registration. The Jockey Club maintains a group of commercial, for-profit subsidiaries and commercial partnerships, each with a twofold purpose: to serve specific segments within the industry using highly efficient, state-of-the-art technology and to generate profits that are invested in myriad industry initiatives designed to improve the health, safety, and welfare of our equine athletes.

These initiatives have helped with welfare, safety, and medication reform, but unfortunately, the regulation of horse racing in the United States remains highly fragmented.

There are 38 racing jurisdictions in the U.S., and each is governed by its own set of rules. The industry has tried for decades to achieve uniformity of medication rules, but it has thus far failed.

Experience shows that the only way for our sport to achieve uniformity in medication rules is through an independent organization, free of conflicts of interest, to create and apply uniform rules, stringent out-of-competition testing, tough penalties, and effective enforcement, which together will ensure clean competition and improvements in racing safety and equine welfare.

This is why The Jockey Club supports the passage of the Horseracing Integrity Act and why it continues to encourage other like-minded organizations and individuals to join this effort.

Under the aegis of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the agency recognized by Congress as the official anti-doping agency for the Olympic, Pan American, and Paralympic sports, H.R. 1754 would create the Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority (HADA), a private, not-for-profit, non-governmental, independent authority responsible for developing and administering a nationwide anti-doping program, including extensive out-of-competition testing, for horse racing.

HADA would work collaboratively with state racing commissions and their respective staff members, and would be funded entirely by the industry, with HADA receiving no federal tax payer funding.

Ultimately, HADA would achieve uniformity and help ensure equine welfare, protect the integrity of the sport, and promote a sustainable industry.

The Jockey Club's determination to enhance the welfare and safety of horses and riders and to achieve medication uniformity and reform is longstanding and well-documented.

We will continue to devote our human, financial, and technological resources toward these goals.

Thank you, again, for your interest in our sport and for this opportunity to share some insights about H.R. 1754 and its importance to the sport of Thoroughbred racing.

Sincerely,

Stuart Janney III
Chairman