



CLAIMING A HORSE

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Requirements

- Each prospective owner of a horse in a claiming race and any authorized agent must be a current or associate member of the United States Trotting Association (USTA) or a current licensee of this or another harness racing jurisdiction
- The amount of the listed claim must be in the form of cash, official bank check, or certified check; or claimant must have proper proceeds already deposited into his or her Claiming Account. Checks are to be made payable to **DOWNS RACING LP.**
- A \$40.00 fee is required for handling fees & the USTA transfer of ownership—preferably separately as cash, but can be included in check amount.

Procedures

- Claims are made in the Horseman's Bookkeeper office located in the Shamrock Building, down the hall from the PA Commission offices.
- The prospective owner or his or her authorized agent must complete a PA State authorized Claiming Form at the Bookkeeper's office. No claims are acceptable by fax.
- After all money and licenses have been verified by the Bookkeeper, and the claim form has been completed and signed, the claiming form is placed into an enveloped, sealed, stamped with the time, and placed into the claim box to be delivered to the Judges. Everything must be completed, as well as monies verified, **AT LEAST** 15 minutes before the scheduled post time of the race from which the claim is being made. It is suggested to arrive at the Bookkeeper's office 30 minutes or more before the race from which the horse will be claimed.

Basic Rules:

- ✗ There will be no transferring from one claim account to another without written permission from the owner of the account.
 - A prospective owner can only claim one horse per race.
 - Should there be more than one claim filed for the same horse, the new owner shall be determined by lot by the Judges
 - Inaccurate or incomplete information may void the claim.
 - A post-race urine and blood test shall be taken from each claimed horse. The claim shall be void at the claimant's discretion if the laboratory analysis results in a positive test for a prohibited substance.
 - If a horse programmed to start in a claiming race is scratched, the horse, on its next start in Pennsylvania, regardless of the conditions of that race, shall be subject to be claimed at the claiming price to which it was subject in the race from which it was scratched. This provision applies for 30 days immediately following the date of the race from which the horse was scratched. The removal of the horse from this jurisdiction shall toll the 30-day period. The 30-day period shall resume when the horse is returned to this jurisdiction.
 - Proceeds to the previous owner are not released until the laboratory testing has been completed. The previous owner may, however, use these proceeds three days after the claim in order to claim another horse by completing a Release of Proceeds form with the Bookkeeper.
 - The claimed horse may not race at any track other than a Pennsylvania track for 60 days or the balance of the current race meeting, whichever comes first, unless first released by the Racing Secretary.