



February 22, 2008

As the Guild prepares to file its reorganization plan to the Federal Bankruptcy Court, I'd like to remind each of you the important role the Guild plays in the welfare of each jockey.

Last fall, due to the efforts of the Guild's lobbyist in Sacramento, legislation was passed in California providing for the health and welfare of California jockeys, the raising of mount fees and the establishment of a pension fund. We are working towards that end result in other areas of the country as well.

Unity is, and has always been, our strength in dealing with the life-altering issues that face jockeys universally.

Here is a review of some of the efforts the Guild is making on behalf of Guild members:

- Health and Safety – The Guild works to research, implement and maintain health and safety measures. In the past, that has included properly equipped ambulances that follow the races, safety rails, safety vests, safer helmets and clean jockey rooms. Currently, we are working to ensure that ambulances are state of the art and are manned by at least one Paramedic. The Guild is also working to ensure that jockeys are taken to designated Trauma Centers and researching available immediate treatments with organizations like the Miami Project. We continue to work with racetracks to provide healthy facilities in the jockey room among other issues.
- Representation – The Jockeys' Guild provides a representative to meet with racetrack management so no individual is singled out when it's necessary to request changes, express concerns or pursue increased benefits.
- Lobbying Efforts – The Guild hires lobbyists to act on behalf of the jockeys when legislation is being considered concerning gaming, insurance and health and safety. Workers' Compensation is available in five racing states now due to the efforts of the Guild.

The benefits don't stop there. Through each Guild member's \$4 per mount contribution, the Guild provides life insurance and temporary disability of \$200 per week, up to 104 weeks.

Jockeys must recognize the use of their name and image is an assigned right. The Jockeys' Guild management and Jockeys' Guild Board will continue to work to secure the appropriate market value for these rights on behalf of guild members.

Although the services provided by the Guild have been limited due to its bankruptcy, we believe that once the financial difficulties are behind us, the reorganized Guild will deliver far more value than the cost of dues and mount fees.

Whether you are currently a guild member, never been a guild member, a guild member thinking about ending your membership, or a jockey who has already ended its membership, I encourage you to consider what the work conditions of your profession would be if jockeys did not form the Guild 50 years ago. Never in the history of horseracing has one organization representing jockeys had the support of all jockeys. As a result all of the progress made by the Jockeys' Guild; through the years on safety issues, improved compensation, benefits, etc., was achieved by those few jockeys that had a vision for a better profession. Think what could have been achieved with full support. The mission of this organization remains the same, and to be fair, all those that benefit from it should support it.

We hope that you will support the Guild and its efforts to provide a better, safer life for jockeys.

Sincerely,

Terence J. Meyocks  
National Manager