PA HARNESS RACING COMMISSION

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2014

PA Harness Racing Commission Pylon Policy

The Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission Rules and Regulations provide directions to the racing regulatory community regarding the subject of pylons. For clarification and for the purpose of edification on this matter the following is the Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission explanation as it relates to the circumstances surrounding when a driver and/or horse leave the racecourse or move inside the pylons:

A. In the event that a horse or part of the horse’s sulky leaves the course and in the opinion of the judges gives the horse an unfair advantage over other horses in the race the horse may be placed back one or more positions.

B. A horse that runs inside two or more pylons the horse will be placed if in the opinion of the judges the action gave the horse an unfair advantage over other horses in the race or the action helped the horse improve its position in the race.

C. Breaking Horses: Drivers may take a breaking horse inside of the pylons if they deem it necessary to avert interference to other horses. While on a break inside of the pylons the driver must immediately slow the horse, get it back on stride and re-enter the course as soon as possible without causing interference. The driver must comply with the breaking rule and lose sufficient ground to the field while inside of the pylons to avoid a disqualification.

D. There shall be no disqualification of a horse temporarily forced off of the course providing the drivers makes an effort to re-enter the course as soon as possible without causing interference.

Chairman Jonathan Newman
Commissioner Noah Wenger
Commissioner Edward Rogers Jr.

Executive Secretary George Crawford
E. It shall be the responsibility of the driver to remain on the course and any action or lack of action will result in a fine that shall be subject to increased increments for multiple violations of the pylon rule.

George Crawford  
Executive Secretary  
PA Harness Racing Commission