

FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE TRINIDAD & TOBAGO RACING AUTHORITY

Functions of the Authority as provided by the Act (No. 45 of 1976, Amended No. 31 of 1989).

- a) Make all such rules as are necessary - Section 10 (1) (a).
- b) Undertake the registration of racehorses, dogs and the owners thereof - Section 10 (1) (b),
- c) Issue such Licences to Trainers, Jockeys, Stable Lads and other personnel in the racing industry –
Section 10 (1) (c).
- d) Establish Training Schemes for Jockeys, Stable Lads and other personnel employed in the Racing Industry - Section 10 (1) (d).
- e) Administer and enforce rules - Section 10 (e).
Make rules to provide for: -
The content and publication of programmes for Race Meetings - Section 17.
The conditions for the acceptance of entries for races - Section 17.
Entry Fees - Section 17.
The payment of prize money - Section 17.
The classification of horses - Section 17.
Handicapping - Section 17.
Any other matters relating to the breeding, training, grooming and racing of race horses -
Section 17.
For the imposition of fines and other penalties for any breach thereof - Section 17.
Make with the approval of the Minister; Regulations for-
The authorising of inspectors for the purpose of this Act - Section 19.
Issue of Licences and grant of permits - Section 19.
The setting of minimum standard of competence for trainers - Section 19.
The compilation and publication of a Stud Book - Section 19.
Prescribing fees required to be prescribed by this Act and charges in respect of any other
matter - Section 19.
Any other matter relating to racing not provided for in this Act - Section 19.
Prescribing penalties not exceeding five hundred dollars for offences against the regulations
- Section 19.

2. Functions and Duties as provided by the Rules of Racing of the Trinidad & Tobago Racing Authority

- a) Similar to what is prescribed in the Act-.
 - i) Approval of Stewards and other Racing officials (Rule 4, 10).
 - ii) Sanctioning of Race Meetings - Rule 7 (4) ©.
 - iii) Approval of dates for race meetings - Rule 7 (4) (d).
 - iv) Approval of Programmes - Rule 23.
 - v) Licences to Jockeys, Grooms and Stable Lads, Trainers and Exercise Lads - Rules 38, 41, 42, 43.
 - vi) Registration of Owners etal - Rule 36.
 - vii) Imposition of fines and penalties - various Sections apply to different offences.
- b) Other functions and duties:

i) Registration of horses, dogs, changes of ownership, leases, racing colours, assumed names, contingencies on sales, authorised agents, agreements between owner and jockey.

ii) Naming of horses - Rule 30.

iii) Taking of Samples - Rule 64.

iv) Viewing of photo films of races - Rule 67.

c) Other things as prescribed.

3. Functions and duties not prescribed in the Rules of Racing.

a) Publications.

4. Functions and duties as provided by the Rules for Registration of Horses revised to January 15, 2001.

Registration of stallions, mares and foals, imported horses and horses not eligible for entry in the Stud Book.

Reports on stallion, mares and foals.

Change of ownership, partnership and leases. Issue of certificates of registration in respect of the sale of foals born or horses imported into Trinidad and Tobago on or after 1st January 1976.

Vaccination of horses.

Naming of horses.

Issue of Export Certificates.

Report on horses, which have been gelded or died.

Issue of tabulated pedigrees.

Registration of Stud Farms.

5. Other Direct Functions

a) Co-Ordinating participation of Trinidad and Tobago on the Caribbean Racing Confederation including the annual Clasico Internacional Del Caribe - Trinidad & Tobago is a member of the Confederation since 1977; and on the West Indian Thoroughbred Racing Association, (Barbados/Jamaica/Trinidad & Tobago).

b). Liasing with International Racing Commissions/Authorities.

c). Responsibility for the operation of the Veterinary Stall on race day (refer #2) (b) (i i i).

d) Maintenance of all records for participants of the industry, including: -

Personal information.

Records of horses.

Earnings of horses as it affects jockeys, trainers, owners, breeders, sires, dams, grandsires etc.

e) Hosting of the Jetsam Awards introduced in 1983.

f) Racing Hall of Fame.

6. Composition of Board

9 Members appointed by the Minister (Trade & Industry). (Section 3 (2)).

- three (3) independent persons one of whom shall be Chairman, one as Vice Chairman.

- Four (4) persons from the Race Clubs (one each from Trinidad Race Club, Trinidad Turf Club, Union Park Turf Club and Tobago Race Club). -

One (1) person from the Racehorse Owners Association.

- One (1) person from the Ministry of Finance.

The Chairman or in his absence the Vice Chairman, must preside at meetings of the Authority; five (5) persons constitute a quorum.

1. List of Organisations Affiliated.

- i) Jockey Club of England.
 - ii) Caribbean Racing Confederation.
 - iii) International Conference of Horse Racing Authorities.
 - iv) Association of International Racing Commissioners (ARC 1).
 - v) Barbados Turf Club, Jamaica Racing Commission, Hipodromo Lamentin - all Turf Authorities of the Caribbean.
 - vi) West Indian Thoroughbred Racing Association (WITRA)
- Subscriptions Paid annually

Racing Confederation of the Caribbean

\$5,900.00 (US) Annual Fee in accordance with Articles 20 & 42 of the Bye Laws of the Confederation - (\$2,500.00 - Classic, \$1,000.00 - Breeders Bonus-, \$2,400.00 - Secretarial Support). No other fees payable.

West Indian Thoroughbred Racing Association (WI RA)

\$5,000.00 (US) annually, upkeep of Permanent Secretariat.

Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI)

\$3,000.00 (US) annual dues.

Benefits

Trinidad & Tobago's Racing Industry is miniscule in comparison with the major international countries of North America, United Kingdom, Europe and Australia, however racing's administration has kept in line with major trends internationally e.g.

- a) DNA - A decision was taken in 1999 to have all horses DNA typed as a further means of determining the identification (sire/dam) of a horse. All breeding stock in Trinidad and Tobago were blood typed by 1985 – and all local foal crops since then. DNA has since replaced blood-typing internationally.
- b) Testing Regulations-

The Rules of Racing in Trinidad and Tobago are very much the same as those of racing jurisdictions in the U.S.A.

The concept of racing is that a horse must show its true performance without any assistance through drugs/medication. Accordingly, any horse whose urine is found to contain any prohibited substance such horse is disqualified from its win/place and debarred from racing for a period.

Participation at the Annual Assembly of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) ensures that Trinidad and Tobago is kept abreast of major decisions in this area, among others.

- c) Caribbean Racing Confederation.

This Confederation, formed in 1966, has as its main objectives (extracted from Rules of Confederation)

(Article 4 - A - G).

- A) Promote closer relations and friendship between the peoples of its member countries, as well as between all peoples and countries that practice some form of horse racing for sport,
- B) Promote to the maximum the racing of horses and the breeding of thoroughbreds in the member countries.
- C) Exchange all sorts of experiences and knowledge on the breeding, improvement, feeding and other aspects of thoroughbreds,
- D) Promote perfecting, at all levels, in the Organisation, functioning and operation of racetracks in member countries.
- E) Gather, in a single entity, all the Confederation's member countries.
- F) Continue promoting, as well as other events among horses born in the member countries, in order to compare the respective levels of thoroughbred breeding in each country,
- G) Serve as a permanent channel to promote, among its members, or with third parties, matters related to horse racing among member countries.

Trinidad and Tobago gained Membership in 1976, and have sent horses to participate in the Clasico Del Caribe on eight occasions from 1977. In 1982 two horses from this country finished 4th and 5th; and another 6th place was earned in 1998, and apart from earning Stakes for owners, drew the respect of all other member countries to the Trinidad and Tobago thoroughbred.

Trinidad and Tobago stands to gain much in the long term from its membership on the Confederation; more so should a local horse achieve the honour of winning the Clasico: - through the sale of local thoroughbreds - (foreign exchange) - and opening up of markets in an area which has been very dormant in the past.