



Dear Trainer,

Tampa Bay Downs will begin the winter portion of its racing season on Wednesday, Nov. 22 and we welcome your participation in the stall application process. We have set the deadline for the return of stall applications on Sept. 30. Past performances need not accompany your applications.

We are delighted to report that purses for the meet will increase by \$5.5-million, thanks to the passage of House Bill 7063 by the Florida Legislature and signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis. Purses for most maiden special weight races will jump to \$35,000 (including \$3,000 in Florida Owners' Awards funds) from last season's figure of \$27,000, while purses for higher-level allowance events will rise to \$36,500 from \$28,500.

The additional state money is for all races except stakes. Beginning this season, Florida-bred horses will also compete for \$500,000 in additional purse money from the Florida-Bred Incentive Fund in open maiden special weight and allowance races. Florida-breds would race for an extra \$18,000 offered to the top three finishers in maiden special weight races, boosting the total purse for such races to \$53,000. These additional increases are provided from the FTBOA promotion fund.

The average daily overnight purses are projected to be \$200,000 per day, with the bottom purse \$17,000.

The barn area will open Wednesday, Oct. 25, with the first day of training the following Wednesday, Nov. 1. Please do not ship or make shipping arrangements until you receive a confirmation from the Stall Application Committee. Condition books are available at [www.equibase.com](http://www.equibase.com); the meet runs through Saturday, May 4.

Tampa Bay Downs will be vigilant in monitoring all owners and trainers who have any dealings directly or indirectly selling a horse for slaughter. Their stalls will be immediately and permanently revoked. Tampa Bay Downs requires horsemen to conduct due diligence with those buying horses and encourages them to support rescue and adoption efforts by finding humane ways of placing horses unable to continue racing.

As a reminder, all owners and trainers **must** be in good financial standing with the association and with all backside vendors (feed companies, vets, van companies, etc.) to be considered in the stall application process.

Also, please note that any horse claimed at the current meet, for a period of 30 calendar days following the claim, shall not start in a race for a claiming price of less than a 25-percent increase from the price for which the horse was claimed. (Example: If the horse is claimed for \$10,000, during the 30-day period the horse must run for at least \$12,500.) The claim day shall not count; the following calendar day shall count as the first day of the 30-day period with the horse then entitled to start for any claiming price on the 31<sup>st</sup> calendar day following the claim.

In closing, we invite you to consider Tampa Bay Downs when making your winter racing plans. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Allison De Luca, Racing Secretary, or myself at 813-855-4401.

Sincerely,

Peter N. Berube  
Vice President and General Manager

*P.S. All persons and horses racing and training at Tampa Bay Downs must be registered with HISA in order to participate at Tampa Bay Downs. To register and see updated rules and regulations, log on to [www.hisaus.org](http://www.hisaus.org) plus check out the following special notices.*