

# Wyoming Horse Racing, LLC

Notice to all Horsemen:

In a 6-2 vote the Wyoming Gaming Commission has approved my request to amend my 2020 race dates thereby cancelling our June dates in Gillette. As unpopular as that is, the Gaming Commission effectively agreed with my assessment that without proper Health Orders it would be unwise to proceed.

As disappointing as that is for everyone, there has been a lot of loose talk regarding my motivation for taking this course of action.

Now, I am open to any and all criticism but the personal attacks and aspersions as to my intentions are unwarranted. I have worked 30 years in this industry building a reputation as a fair and honest broker.

Horse Racing is a collaborative effort and we all need to work together. My record in Horse Racing is crystal clear as to my commitment to do what is right for all the participants, especially the Horsemen.

- Over the past 4 years I have run the most race dates in Wyoming and I'm the only operator ever to run more than the required 16 days (18 in 2018).
- Every year for the past 4 years I have paid out the most in purses, in total dollars and as a percentage of handle.
- I have spent the most on track maintenance equipment in Wyoming over the years.
- My jockeys insurance is the best offered to our industry and no different than what they have at Churchill Downs.

I'm there in the Race office when you enter. I'm down at the rail in the mornings. At the gate when you are schooling. In the Winners Circle celebrating with you and I'm the first on the track when there is an injury.

As I have said before, I will take on all legitimate criticism but personal attacks serve no constructive purpose.

This was a very difficult decision made more difficult by people bent on creating conflict and dissention instead of working with all parties to build consensus and understanding. This did not have to go down the way it did. I have been painted unreasonably as the bad guy in all of this when there was no direction from the proper authorities. In the end, as painful as it is, the Gaming Commission agreed with me and made the right decision, in my opinion. I take no pleasure in all of this but someone had to act. We could have all hoped for the proper Health Orders to appear after we had all spent the time, money and effort of going to Gillette to prepare to race. But, hope is not a course of action. If you had listened in on the Gaming Commission meeting you would have heard the Wyoming Legislators in attendance state that they believed that State Health Orders allowing events such as ours were not to be expected in the near future to allow us to race.

As I told the Horsemen in the days prior to the vote, I will not take offense about anything you have sent to the Commission or what you will say to them. I am committed to working with the Horsemen in producing positive outcomes during this time of COVID-19 pandemic.

I have been in Race Track management for over 30 years and from time to time I have to make unpopular decisions but I knew what I signed up for when I took the job. Please do not doubt my love of this sport or my appreciation for all of you who run with us. I fell in love with Horse Racing not slots. My record is a testament to that.

Let's recommit ourselves to working together for the betterment of our sport. We will get through these tough times. I am available anytime to work with anyone to help our sport. That is my commitment to you and it is a commitment I have had to the Horsemen for the past 30 years.

Sincerely,

Eugene Joyce – President

Wyoming Horse Racing LLC