

IDAHO STATE POLICE

Idaho State Racing Commission

A large, light gray watermark of the Idaho State Police logo is centered on the page. The logo is a shield-shaped emblem with a white outline. Inside the shield, the word "IDAHO" is written in a curved banner at the top. Below the banner is a white silhouette of the state of Idaho. A diagonal banner across the bottom of the shield contains the words "STATE POLICE".

**Strategic Plan
FY2016 - FY2020**

C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor

Colonel Ralph Powell, Director

July 12, 2016

IDAHO STATE POLICE

Idaho State Racing Commission

Strategic Plan FY 2016 - 2020

Mission Statement

To enhance, promote and protect the live horse race industry in the state of Idaho. This is accomplished through licensing; regulation and supervision of all live and simulcast race meets in this state under the terms of the Horse Racing Act in Idaho Code, §54-2501-16.

Core Functions

The Idaho State Racing Commission has authority to prepare, enforce and promulgate a complete set of rules and regulations to govern race meets. Also, ensuring the individuals who participate at race meets will act in the best interest of racing. It is the duty of the Racing Commission to license, regulate and supervise all horse race meets and Pari-Mutuel activity in this state.

Vision Statement

The Idaho State Racing Commission has an important place in one of the oldest sports in this country. We recognize that the horse racing industry is part of Idaho's agricultural health and economy.

To protect and uphold the integrity of the pari-mutuel sport of live and simulcast horse racing; to exert every effort which is right and proper to regulate, protect and nurture the racing and wagering industry and to preserve and enhance public confidence.

The Idaho State Racing Commission will fulfill its mission through:

- * Employees, including contractual officials, who are highly trained, respected and trusted by the Commission and the public to maintain high professional standards to perform their duties.
- * Professional and fairly compensated employees working together toward the protection and promotion of live racing.
- * Continued strong public support for the horsemen and racing industry which enhances the Commission's image and reputation.

KEY EXTERNAL FACTORS

The racing industry is subject to economic changes, population trends, and other factors that directly affect horse racing. These trends influence the number of new applicants and the number of licenses renewed annually, which in turn, impacts the amount of revenue collected by the commission for its operations.

National concerns about the industry's downward trend are paramount to the economic conditions within the state, the racing industry and necessitate a constant monitoring of these trends.

Revenues necessary to operate the racing commission are intricately connected to the economy of the nation and state. When fluctuations in revenues occur it may warrant the development of expenditure plan alternatives.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary goals of the Commission are to build a strong and credible industry, to operate the Commission office as efficiently and economically as possible and to serve as a steadfast entity on which the industry and the public can depend on to preserve and maintain the integrity of horse racing in Idaho.

GOAL 1. MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF HORSE RACING IN IDAHO.

Objective 1.1 – Live Meet Association Applicants

Associations conducting race meets are operated by responsible management.

Action:

All applicants applying for a live meet license; provide background information, fingerprints and financial documentation for Commission approval.

Performance Measure:

State level FBI background checks are performed on every race meet license applicant for compliance. **Benchmark: 100%**

Objective 1.2 - Safety

Each racing association is doing everything possible within their ability to provide the spectators, the horses, and their attendants the best possible facilities it can.

Action:

Employees of the Racing Commission visit each track during live race meets to inspect, license, supervise the operations, and to regulate the races. The Commission representative will make recommendations to the associations identifying possible improvements or problem areas.

Performance Measure:

Perform a comprehensive inspection program for pari-mutuel racetracks. Through this inspection program, the Commission seeks to ensure the facilities at the racetracks and the operations comply fully with the rules of the Commission. Reports are provided to Racing Association personnel as well as the Idaho State Racing Commissioners for review/and suggestions.

Benchmark: 100%

Objective 1.3 – Owners and Trainers

Every owner and trainer seeking to enter a horse in competition is a person of good character and financially responsible.

Action:

Prior to entering a horse in the competitions, all owners and trainers must apply for a license, which includes a fingerprint based criminal history check.

Performance Measure:

Any licensees providing false information on their application may have their license suspended or revoked and could be fined by the Commission. Investigators (part-time) meet with licensees to interview and document pertinent information regarding licensee. **Benchmark: 100%**

Objective 1.4 – Race meet

Every race will represent a true competitive effort by the participating rider and horse.

Action:

Every rider and horse is physically fit to race.

Performance Measure:

Jockeys must have a physical performed prior to being licensed and must have a doctor's release after any incident.

Performance Measure:

Horses and jockeys will submit to urine and blood tests as required by the State Vet or the Board of Stewards.

Performance Measure:

Horses are free from any forbidden medication or drugs prior to races.

Action:

No rider during the running of a race will commit any act that would make the race anything other than a true competition.

Performance Measure:

All races are monitored by state Stewards and recorded for any illegal practices. **Benchmark: 100%**

Objective 1.5 - Rules

The state statute and rules of racing are strictly enforced with the cooperation of all divisions within the Idaho State Police and officials of the Racing Commission.

Action:

Enforce rules and regulations to ensure the individuals who participate in race meets will act in the best interest of racing. Implementing new rules is an ongoing effort to continually stay up to date with industry standards.

Performance Measure:

Investigate all rule infractions and sanction penalties as required for violations. Continually review IDAPA rules for improvement/updates.

Benchmark: 100%

GOAL 2. AUDIT AND ENFORCE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF LIVE AND SIMULCAST PARI-MUTUEL OPERATIONS

Objective 2.1 – Tote Testing

Provide assurance that the totalizator system has the ability to collect, process, report and maintain reliable, accurate and timely information in accordance with the rules of the Commission.

Action:

Perform inspection and totalizator tests prior to opening of live race meets to confirm compliance.

Performance Measure:

A controlled testing of totalizator system with each new tote company to be completed a minimum of one day prior to the first race of that meeting.

Benchmark: 100%

GOAL 3. MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE RACE INDUSTRY

Objective 3.1

Interact with other state Racing Commissions.

Action:

Department administrators attend various state conferences and workshops to implement uniform rules of racing throughout the United States and Canada.

Performance Measure:

Staff holds various seats on national committees for problem solving and information sharing on industry concerns.

Action:

Hold membership with the Racing Commissioners International (RCI) for online availability to search licenses and rulings with many of the participating states.

Performance Measure:

Uphold the integrity of the pari-mutuel industry through an informed membership through RCI, by encouraging uniform regulations through various programs and projects. **Benchmark: 100%**

GOAL 4. PROMOTE COMMUNICATION AND TEAMWORK WITH THE PUBLIC AND RACING ASSOCIATIONS.

Objective 4.1:

Develop and present a unified, well-organized image to the public and legislature. Continue to provide the public with opportunities for input at Commission meetings and interaction including providing opportunities to speak with horseman's groups, tracks and breed associations.

Action:

Department administrators meet with legislators, representatives of various track associations, horseman groups and breed associations.

Performance Measure:

Document meetings attended, and attendance for all open meetings. At quarterly Commission meeting, place agenda item of PUBLIC COMMENT to encourage input from racing industry.

Benchmark: 100%

GOAL 5. CHART THE FINANCIAL FUTURE OF THE IDAHO STATE RACING COMMISSION.

Objective 5.1:

Develop a five (5) year plan addressing the revenue issue at the Idaho State Racing Commission. The Racing Commission is totally self funded and as such, needs to be prepared in the event of a downturn in the economy.

Action:

Identify and categorize the funding sources and their future levels of cash flow.

Performance Measure:

Present a cash flow, expense budget for five (5) years to the Idaho State Racing Commission during the fall of 2016.

Objective 5.2:

Operate the Idaho State Racing Commission in the most cost effective manner.

Action:

Thoroughly analyze all current expense categories for possible savings.

Performance Measure:

Incorporate findings into a five (5) year plan.

Objective 5.3:

Explore possible additional funding sources.

Action:

Consider the revenue results from the following areas:

- Increased revenue from existing legislated sources.
- Legislative changes to provide reserve funding.
- Increased revenue from sources used by other Racing Commissions.

Performance Measure:

Develop a five (5) year goal with action items from this study.