

NEHBPA Working With Dewey Square Group to Formulate “Grassroots” Legislative Campaign

The New England HBPA has been working with representatives of the Dewey Square Group to put together a grassroots campaign to further the cause of horsemen and thoroughbred racing during the upcoming legislative debates. As a result, the NEHBPA's Board of Directors has mailed the following letter to the homes of all NEHBPA members.

New England Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, Inc.

**P.O. Box 388
Revere, MA 02151
(617) 568-3333**

Dear HBPA Member,

You have probably been reading a lot about Suffolk Downs as a possible site for a resort-style casino. Boston Mayor Tom Menino has repeatedly stated his support for a casino at Suffolk Downs and a recent report by gaming expert Clyde Barrow from UMASS Dartmouth has suggested Suffolk Downs as a site for resort-style gaming. As a dedicated participant in thoroughbred racing with an interest in the track's success, we want to let you know how the new Suffolk Downs' ownership team has told us that it envisions its future.

First and foremost, Suffolk Downs is committed to revitalizing the thoroughbred racing industry in Massachusetts. Thoroughbred racing has a great tradition in this region and Suffolk Downs is intent on building upon it. If the Commonwealth decides to pursue casino gaming, Suffolk Downs would welcome a world-class, resort-style casino to go along with thoroughbred racing and we all look forward to working with the Mayor, the Governor and state legislators to make that happen.

With new ownership and the return of the MassCap in September, this is a very exciting time for us. The Suffolk Downs' ownership team brings with them a new vision and renewed enthusiasm for the historic track.

Many of you have already met Richard Fields, and we know that both he and newly-appointed Suffolk Downs Chairman Bill Mulrow look forward to sharing their vision of our future with you. We will keep you informed as the events unfold, but we will need your help over the next several months to reach out to other members of the communities in which we live and do business.

To get ready for our grassroots activities we ask that you take two quick steps.

- 1.** Please take a moment to update your contact information by sending a quick email to the NEHBPA at nehbpa@aol.com with your full name, preferred mailing address and please include your day and evening telephone number. We want to make sure that if we need to get in touch with you quickly regarding an email, letter writing or phone campaign that we have all your information.
- 2.** If you haven't already done so please visit www.suffolkdowns.com and sign up for the

Suffolk email list.

If you don't have an email address and would like to get started, please contact Leslie Feinberg at 617- 259-2774 and she would be happy to walk you through setting up a free Hotmail or Yahoo email account. Leslie works for the Dewey Square Group and they are helping Suffolk Downs with grassroots activities.

A resort-style casino would create an influx of new jobs, additional tourism and new revenue for the city and state, and would safely secure Suffolk Downs as the only remaining thoroughbred racetrack in New England. Among the benefits to the Massachusetts thoroughbred industry would be a more competitive purse structure at Suffolk Downs and stability for local horse breeders and farmers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

NEW ENGLAND HBPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS