

2009 Harrah's Chester Casino & Racetrack Rules
Per PA Code Title 58-183.264

1. Horsemen are to be licensed by and familiar with the rules of the Pennsylvania State Harness Racing Commission (PSHRC) and the United States Trotting Association (USTA).. In the event of any conflicts in the rules, the Judges at Harrah's Chester Casino & Racetrack shall determine which rules apply. The violation of any of the rules may result in disciplinary action including loss of purse, fines and/or suspension. Any ruling by the Judges at Harrah's Chester is subject to appeal to the PSHRC. Trainers are responsible for the licensing of their owners and employees.
2. All racing applications must be submitted online only at the Harrah's Chester website.
3. In order for a horse to qualify and/or race at Harrah's Chester, proof of 2009 Coggins test, EHV and rabies vaccination, along with a current Health Certificate dated within 30 days of the horse's first start at Harrah's Chester must be submitted to the Racing Office. If a 2009 Coggins Test, EHV or rabies vaccination for a horse has already submitted at another track and that information is indicated on the USTA eTrack Eligibility Report, then that paperwork need not be submitted.
4. Declarations must be made by designated time listed on the weekly condition sheet. When making out the declaration blank or calling in to make an entry, all pertinent information must be given such as, but not necessarily limited to: name of horse, driver's name, trainer's name, event to be entered, whether the horse will be racing with Lasix and whether it will be the first time for this medication, whether there have been any recent ownership or trainer changes and if there are any potential conflicts with other horses in the same event. Exact spellings of questionable names should be brought to the attention of the person taking the declaration over the phone as well. This includes if the horse is a foreign-bred with either "N" or "A" at the end of the name. No e-mail or faxed declarations will be accepted.
5. All Australian or New Zealand horses as well as high-end conditioned first-time starters at Harrah's Chester *may* be classified at the discretion of the Racing Secretary.
6. It is Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission policy that all horses originally entered in a class shall have preference over any horse subsequently moved into the class.
7. Preference will be determined by the racing dates of the horse's last two (2) pari-mutuel starts during the current year. For first time starters, preference will be determined by the following: 4 Yr. Olds & Up - by the most recent satisfactory qualifying race; 2 & 3 Yr. Olds – by the first qualifying race going in the required time, provided they have no more than 3 qualifying lines prior to being entered in the box.
8. In order for a horse to be removed from the Lasix List, it must race in a qualifying race without Lasix. The horse must be tested and show no Lasix in the system.

9. All drivers must be licensed by PSHRC to qualify or race. All drivers and trainers must be approved by the Presiding Judge before being allowed to participate. Driving suspensions may be served per PSHRC directive and the USTA penalty point system will be in effect. Qualifying and Provisional drivers must report to the Judges office before making their first start at this meet. All drivers must wear driving colors in qualifying races. All new drivers must report to the Presiding Judge and the Starter.
10. Horses and drivers must be in the Paddock enclosure according to the posted schedules. Failure to do so will result in the horse being scratched and the responsible trainer fined. If a problem is experienced while en route that causes the horsemen to be late, the Judges may consider the reason and allow the horse to race with no penalty imposed.
11. Only owners and trainers with horses racing at Harrah's Chester on that particular day are permitted in the Paddock. All such individuals must possess a valid and current PSHRC license. All licensees must abide by posted paddock policies.
12. Harrah's Chester Casino & Racetrack shall exclude from the Paddock, in the interest of public safety, all those persons who have no immediate business with the horses entered, except for the members of the PSHRC, their duly assigned representatives and those having special permission from Harrah's Chester.
13. No person shall use improper, profane, or indecent language, or be abusive to a racing official, or any employee of the casino or race track.
14. No person shall, in any manner, or at any time disturb the peace or make himself obnoxious while on the grounds.
15. No person or horse ruled off, by or under suspension, by any recognized turf authority, trotting association included, shall be admitted to the grounds.
16. When a person is ruled off a course or suspended, every horse owned in whole or part by him, or under his care, management, training or superintendence shall be ineligible to be entered or to start in any race until said horse or horses have been reinstated by the rescinding of said person's penalty, or by transfer through bona fide sale, or by placement of horse or horses in the hands of a licensed trainer approved by the stewards.
17. While in the Paddock, horsemen shall so conduct themselves as to avoid creating any appearance or suggestion that would reflect adversely on the integrity of racing. The Judges and Paddock Judge are authorized on any occasion to revoke or curtail the Paddock privileges of any person if, in their judgment, circumstances warrant such action in order to maintain proper decorum in the Paddock.
18. Trainers are responsible for their horse's physical condition, equipment, shoeing and reporting any inaccurate program information on gelded horses to the Judges. Trainers may be held responsible for horses that show a reversal in form or inconsistent performance. Trainers must notify the Racing Office of any potential entry conflicts when making entries. The coupling of entries will be made by the Judges in consultation with management and PHHA representative on an individual basis. Trainer changes are not permitted without first notifying the Judges.

19. No unauthorized person may possess hypodermic equipment or injectable materials. No oral medication or injectable syringes of any type will be allowed in the Paddock during racing hours except by authorized personnel.
20. Electronic eligibilities are required to qualify. Non-tattooed or non-freeze branded horses will not be permitted to race or qualify.
21. Any trainer who wishes to try a horse with or without hobbles in a qualifying race may do so and this qualifying attempt will not affect the horse's status in regards to the steward's list. If the horse is successful, it may race with or without hobbles in its next start. If the horse fails to qualify with the addition or subtraction of hobbles the horse will be allowed to resume racing equipped the way it raced previously as long as it was qualified before the equipment change.
22. The Judges may place a horse on the Judges List for poor performance at any time. Horses breaking on a Fast or Good track in their first start after a qualifying race must re-qualify. After two consecutive scratches, a horse must qualify. Scratched horses may not race or qualify for a minimum of five days, starting the day after the race date. Any horse placed on either the Vet's or Steward's List will not be allowed to enter in any race unless released by the Vet or Judges.
23. Scratch time will be as posted. All changes must be processed through the Judges' Office only. Trainers must name proper drivers by scratch time. It is the trainer's responsibility to check on the status of catch drivers and also-eligibles with the Judges.
24. Horses must re-qualify that have not raced in thirty (30) days from the DATE OF THE LAST RACE – which will be counted as the first day - to and including the day of declaration.
25. Qualified horses that enter into a qualifying race will not be penalized if they are interfered with during the course of race. However, horses failing to go in qualifying time will be put on the Judges' List and must re-qualify.
26. Qualifying standards will be as posted during the course of the race meet. Opportunities to qualify will be as follows: 2-Year-Olds – 5 consecutive chances; 3-Year-Olds – 4 consecutive chances; 4-Year-Olds & Up – 3 consecutive chances. If a horse has used up his chances, it will not be allowed to qualify at Harrah's Chester for 30 days.
27. Horses failing to go in qualifying time on a Fast or Good track will be placed on the Judges' List for poor performance.
28. Horses failing to show a good performance may be required to re-qualify. Horses making breaks in two (2) consecutive races on a fast or good track will be required to re-qualify. Horses making breaks in three (3) consecutive races, regardless of track condition, will be required to re-qualify.
29. Trainers are responsible for the condition of both their horses and equipment. If any unnecessary delay is caused by faulty equipment or shoeing, the trainer may be fined.
30. Broken equipment shall be shown to the Paddock Judge immediately after the race. If the equipment was found to be faulty, in the opinion of the Judges, fines may be imposed. Shoes are not considered broken equipment.
31. All sulkies must have be USTA approved. All sulkies are to be equipped with wheel discs. Multi-colored wheel discs will not be allowed.

32. An approved safety vest shall be worn by all horsemen while racing, parading, or warming up a horse prior to racing; or jogging, training, or exercising a horse at any time. The safety vest shall cover the torso, front and back, from the collarbone to the hip bone and be of uniform material and thickness over the whole of the vest, except for localized areas. Vests must meet current (Beta 7 RAPRA) industry testing standards. Horsemen are responsible for providing their own vests.
33. Horses must post parade. A driver or trainer may be penalized for failing to parade his horse unless excused by the Judges. A horse may be held at the paddock, with the Judges' permission. All horses are required to go once around the track unassisted prior to the post parade of their respective races. Horses that fail to meet this requirement may be placed on the Judges' List and the trainer on record fined.
34. Drivers will parade and score their own horses. If they are unable to do so, arrangements must be made for someone else to do so along with notifying the Paddock Judge. A driver must score their own horse at least one (1) time.
35. All horses shall go the course, except in the case of an accident or broken equipment. If a driver is unable to continue, he or she must take the horse to the outside fence and hold him until the race is completed. Drivers should dismount and hold the horse if it has suffered injuries in a race and is unable to complete the course.
36. Drivers must keep both feet in the stirrups during the race except to pull out ear plugs. While on the racetrack, drivers will refrain from fraternizing with other drivers and members of the public.
37. All drivers must keep a line in each hand until the 7/8 pole at which time they can use the whip with one hand. There will be no whipping below the level of the shaft. There shall be no striking of the shaft. There shall be no putting the whip between the horse's legs. Drivers will be allowed whips not to exceed 48 inches, plus a snapper no longer than six inches. The snapper shall not be knotted. There shall be no taping of the whip except on the handle. There will be no excessive or indiscriminate use of the whip and no whipping after the finish.
38. Passing lane Euro-Rail violations will be imposed in accordance with posted guidelines.
39. All horses shall be raced in a consistent manner. Excessive use of the whip will not be tolerated. Hitting wheel discs is prohibited.
40. Drivers must set and maintain a pace comparable to the class in which they are racing. Failure to do so by going an excessively slow quarter or at any other portion of the race that changes the normal pattern, overall timing or general outcome of the race will be considered in violation of this section. The Judges may impose a penalty.
41. No "holes" shall be given. Drivers giving a hole must pull out and advance. A penalty may be imposed for driving in a half-in, half-out position.
42. Drivers must file all objections with the Patrol Judge (Starter) in the Clubhouse turn immediately after the race, stating the number of the offending horse and where the violation occurred in the race, and then immediately report to the Paddock Judge's office. Late objections will not be accepted.

43. All drivers involved in an accident – no matter how slight – are required by the Judges to be examined by medical personnel at the track.
44. All veterinarians will comply with the track policy implemented by Harrah's Chester Casino & Racetrack.
45. CLAIMS – A current or associate member of the USTA or a current licensee of this or another jurisdiction may claim any horse in a claiming race. Only certified checks or money orders, made out to Harrah's Chester, with U.S. Funds will be accepted. Transfer fee is \$33, which should be by personal check only made out to U.S.T.A. (This will apply to non-claim transfers as well) Inaccurate or incomplete information may void the claim. All claims must be filed with the Horsemen's Bookkeeper 15 minutes prior to post time for that race. Horses claimed at Harrah's Chester will not be allowed to race at another track for a period of **60** days, with the exception of Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs. No other reason will be accepted to allow a horse at another track. A newly claimed horse that has a trainer that is not yet approved to race at Harrah's Chester may not be allowed to start that horse at Harrah's Chester and will not be allowed to start at another track for 60 days from the date of the claim.
46. Horses will be deemed "unfit for competition" under the following circumstances:
 - (a) based on examination by a Commission Veterinarian, (b) high metabolic alkalosis at levels established by the Pennsylvania Harness Racing Commission. When it is determined that a horse has a high metabolic alkalosis, the horse will be scratched from competition. Furthermore, the horse will not be able to be dropped into the box for ten consecutive days after the high metabolic alkalosis positive.

Wednesday, January 14, 2009