

Ohio Revised Code Horse Racing Law

Chapters 3769.07 to 3769.072

3769.07 Permit restrictions - displaying of permit

Except as otherwise provided in this section, no permit shall be issued under sections 3769.01 to 3769.14 of the Revised Code, authorizing the conduct of a live racing program for thoroughbred horses and quarter horses at any place, track, or enclosure except between the hours of twelve noon and seven p.m., for running horseracing meetings, except that on special events days running horseracing meetings may begin at nine a.m. by application to the state racing commission and except that the seven p.m. time may be extended to eight p.m. on a Sunday or holiday by application to the commission, and no permit shall be issued under those sections authorizing the conduct of a live racing program for harness horses at any place, track, or enclosure except between the hours of twelve noon and twelve midnight for light harness horseracing meetings. The seven p.m. and eight p.m. closing times described in this section shall upon application to the commission be extended to nine p.m. for any running horseracing meeting conducted between the fifteenth day of May and the fifteenth day of September at a track that is located more than twenty-five miles from a track located in this state where a light harness horseracing meeting, other than a light harness horseracing meeting at a county fair or independent fair, is being conducted and that is located less than twenty-five miles from a track located outside this state. A permit issued for horse racing at a county fair shall authorize live horse racing to begin at nine a.m.

No permit shall be granted for the holding or conducting of a horseracing meeting after the tenth day of December in any calendar year, except for racing at winterized tracks. "Winterized track" means a track with enclosed club house or grandstand, all-weather racing track, heated facilities for jockeys or drivers, backstretch facilities that are properly prepared for winter racing, and adequate snow removal equipment available.

No permit shall be issued for more than an aggregate of fifty-six racing days in any one calendar year, except that an additional five days of racing may be approved by the commission upon application by a permit holder and except that an additional thirty days of racing may be granted for racing at any time after the fifteenth day of October and prior to the fifteenth day of March to a permit holder who has a winterized facility, but no more than thirty such additional days may be issued at any one track or enclosure. No more than an aggregate of fifty-six racing days shall be issued in any one calendar year for any one race track, place, or enclosure, except for the additional five days of racing for each permit holder which may be approved by the commission pursuant to this section, except as provided in sections 3769.071 and 3769.13 of the Revised Code, except for racing days granted as a result of a winterized facility, and except that the commission may issue a second permit for a maximum of fifty-six racing days for any one track, place, or enclosure, if the commission determines that the issuance of such second permit is not against the public interest. No such second permit shall be issued.

(A) For the operation of racing in any county with a population of less than seven hundred thousand or for the operation of racing in any county which has more than one race track at which a racing meet has been authorized, except as provided in this division and in sections 3769.071 and 3769.13 of the Revised Code, in the same year by the commission. A second permit issued pursuant to this division may be issued at either or both race tracks in a county that has only two race tracks if a racing meet has been authorized at both race tracks in the same year by the commission and one race track has been authorized to conduct thoroughbred racing meets and the other race track has been authorized to conduct harness racing meets. When such second permit is issued pursuant to this division for racing at the one race track, racing shall not be conducted at that race track on the same day that racing is conducted at the other race track in the county except by mutual agreement of the two race tracks.

(B) To any corporation having one or more shareholders owning an interest in any other permit issued by the commission for the operation of racing, in the same year, at any other race track, place, or enclosure in this state;

(C) To any person, association, or trust which owns or which has any members owning an interest in any other permit issued by the commission for the operation of racing, in the same year, at any other race track, place, or enclosure in this state.

No permit shall be issued so as to permit live racing programs on the same hour at more than one track in one county or on tracks in operation in 1975 within fifty miles of each other, nor shall any other form of pari-mutuel wagering

other than horse racing be permitted within seventy-five miles of a track where horse racing is being conducted, except that this provision shall not apply to a horseracing meeting held at the state fair or at a fair conducted by a county agricultural society or at a fair conducted by an independent agricultural society. Distribution of days shall not apply to fairs or horse shows not required to secure a permit under such section. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person, association, trust, or corporation may own or operate two separate facilities in this state that are conducting horse-racing meetings.

A permit, granted under sections 3769.01 to 3769.14 of the Revised Code, shall be conspicuously displayed during the horseracing meeting in the principal office at such race track and at all reasonable times shall be exhibited to any authorized person requesting to see the same. (2007 H 177, eff. 10-25-07; 1995 H 561, 9-19-96; 1994 H 297; 1991 H 477; 1988 S 206; 1986 H 837; 1981 H 330; 1975 H 287; 1973 H 520; 1971 S 175; 1970 S 566; 1969 S 373)

3769.071 Quarter horse racing

In addition to any permit authorized to be issued by this chapter, the state racing commission may issue not more than three permits for not more than fourteen consecutive racing days each at any race track, place, or enclosure. Not more than two permits shall be issued for quarter horse racing in one county. All racing under any permit issued pursuant to this section shall be limited to quarter horse racing only. This chapter applies to quarter horse racing, which shall be classified for this purpose the same as running horse racing. The minimum purse shall be five hundred dollars. (1988 S 206, eff. 3-29-88; 1975 H 284; 1971 H 220)

3769.072 Additional permits where another track or enclosure is located within 20 miles or in same county

The commission shall grant to any track or enclosure that has fewer permits or total racing days available to it than another track or enclosure located within twenty miles a number of permits so that the total number of racing days available to both tracks or enclosures is equal. The state racing commission shall issue one additional permit for not more than sixty-one days to a permit holder issued a racing permit under section 3769.07 of the Revised Code, if, on the effective date of this section, such permit holder conducts racing at a track that is located within the same county as, or is located within twenty miles of, another track for which three or more permits have previously been issued by the commission under section 3769.07 of the Revised Code. If one of the three permits is for racing at a winterized facility, the new permit issued under this section shall be for thirty days. Further, in addition to any permit authorized to be issued by this chapter, the commission shall issue not more than two additional permits for not more than fourteen days each to a permit holder issued a racing permit under section 3769.07 of the Revised Code, if, on the effective date of this section, such permit holder conducts racing at a track that is located within the same county as another track for which permits have previously been issued by the commission under section 3769.071 of the Revised Code. Permit holders receiving permits issued by the commission under this section may, but need not, conduct live racing programs under such a permit, subject to commission approval, but the number of racing days authorized by the permit shall be considered to be permit days for the purpose of section 3769.0810 of the Revised Code, whether or not live racing programs are conducted under that permit. (1995 H 561, eff. 9-19-96)