

**Ontario
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July 10, 2013

Notice to the Industry

ORC approves changes to Fort Erie Race Date Schedule

Further to the rescheduling of the last 3 Mondays to the end of the season, Fort Erie Race Track has continued to experience issues with horse supply, causing track management to make application to the Ontario Racing Commission (ORC) to vary its 2013 race date schedule by cancelling another three Mondays and adding three dates at the end of the meet.

Following consideration of the circumstances, the Director approved the application. Monday, July 15, July 22 and July 29, 2013 are cancelled and Sunday, October 6, Monday, October 7 and Tuesday, October 8, 2013 are added to the Fort Erie 2013 approved race date schedule.

The decision of the Director was based on the following:

1. The available horse supply at Fort Erie in 2013 continues to be problematic, with no appreciable increase in inventory in the last few weeks. Fort Erie's condition is a symptom of a province wide condition, with trainers and horses that would have raced at Fort Erie last year, now finding racing opportunities at Woodbine.
2. The backstretch at Woodbine that was closed due to the outbreak of the EHV-1 is now open.
3. Fort Erie has been struggling to fill 2 days a week during the last few weeks.
4. Attempts to fill three cards of racing per week under the current circumstances could result in horses racing too frequently and increase the risk to the welfare of the equine athletes.

Please be advised that any aggrieved party has the right to appeal the Director's decision to the Commission.

Rob McKinney
Acting Executive Director