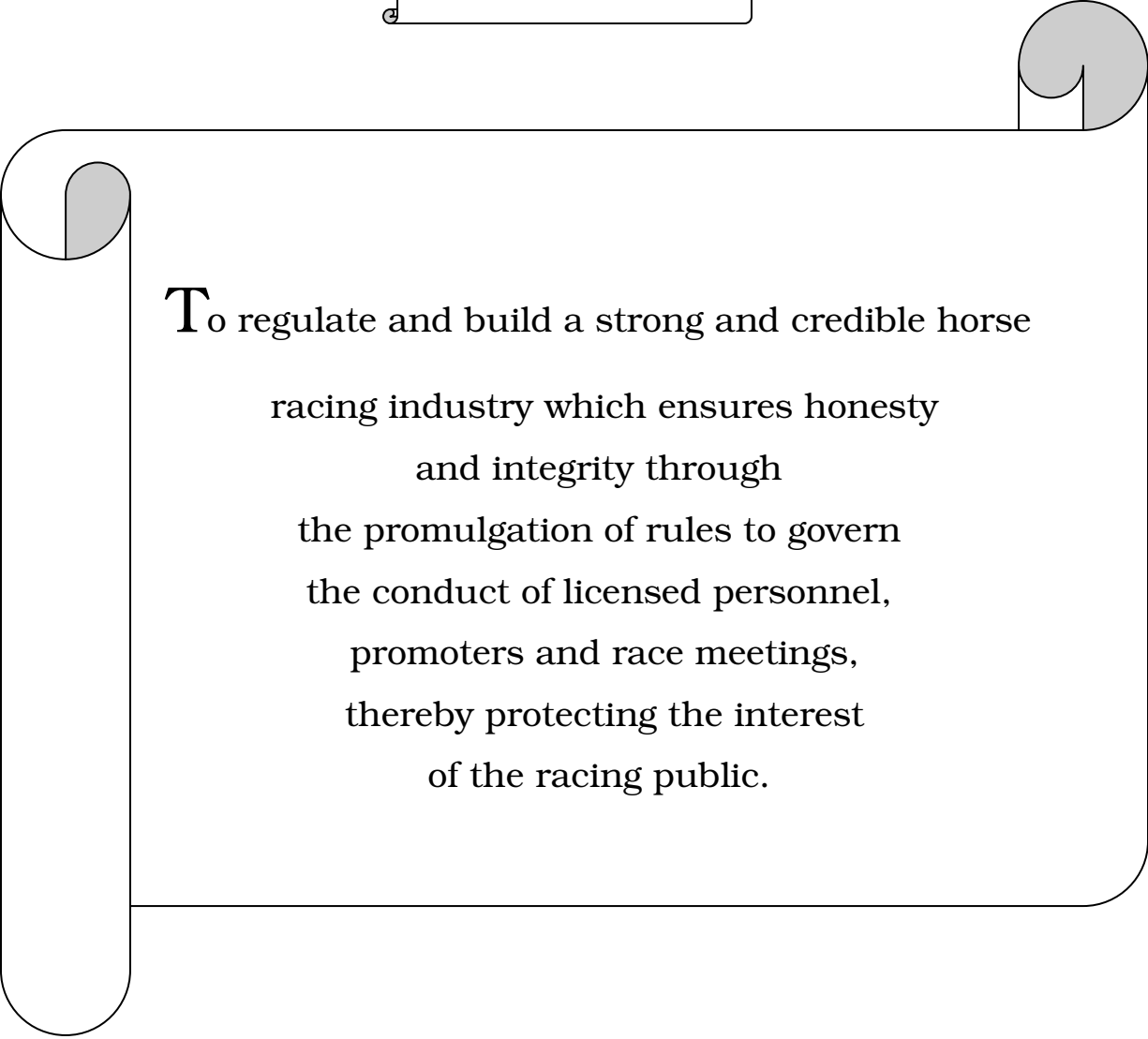


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OUR MISSION

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To regulate and build a strong and credible horse racing industry which ensures honesty and integrity through the promulgation of rules to govern the conduct of licensed personnel, promoters and race meetings, thereby protecting the interest of the racing public.

**THE JAMAICA RACING COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT
2007/2008**

TO: The Hon. Audley Shaw M.P.
 Minister of Finance
 Ministry of Finance & the Public Service
 30 National Heroes Circle
 Kingston 4

This report summarizes, in terms of Section 12 of the Jamaica Racing Commission Act, the activities of the Jamaica Racing Commission in the Financial Year 2007/2008, in fulfilling the regulatory, financial, judicial and administrative functions assigned by the Act.

The report also presents the audited financial statements of the Commission data indicating performances and trends in the horse racing industry.

**THE JAMAICA RACING COMMISSION ACT
(ACT 3 OF 1972 AMENDED BY ACT 4 OF 1979)**

The Jamaica Racing Commission was established under the Jamaica Racing Commission Act, 1972:

- to regulate and control horseracing and the operation of racecourses in the island;
- to grant such licenses and permits as may be required by virtue of the provisions of the Act;
- to recommend to the Minister the method of utilizing sums, under the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act, for assistance to breeders of horses and horse racing generally;
- to introduce and implement, or to assist in or undertake the implementation of any scheme for the development of the horse racing industry.

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COMMISSIONERS:

Rudolph Muir	-	Chairman
Walter Campbell	}	- to Oct. 31, 2007
Dr. Michael Coore		
Robert Gore		
Hugh Levy	}	- to Oct. 31 2007
Andrew Mighty		
Derrick White		
Graham Brown	}	- From Nov. 1 2007
Edison Chai		
Mark Croskery		
Kenneth Gooden		
Bruce Levy		

OFFICIALS:

Ruth A. Smith-Sutherland,	-	General Manager
Ainsworth Carroll	-	Director, Finance & Administration
Lloyd A. Cobran	-	Director, Racing
Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett	-	Senior Veterinary Officer
Dr. Sophia Ramlal	-	Veterinary Officer
Lawrence Brown	-	Information Technology Manager
Alva Belnavis,	-	Finance Manager
Haldene Johansen	-	Operations Steward
Desmond Riley	-	Operations Steward
Eustace Williams	-	Operations Steward
Ian Lawrence	-	Administrator/Welfare & Training

DELEGATEES:

(1) Operations Stewards

(2) The First Instance Tribunal:

-	Linton Walters	- Chairman
-	Carlton Williams	
-	Leslie Hewitt	
-	Colin Ifill	
-	Maurice James	
-	George McPherson	
-	Lester Woolery	
-	Operations Stewards	

SUB-COMMITTEES

FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Rudolph Muir	-	Chairman
Robert Gore	-	Commissioner
Derrick White	-	Commissioner - to Oct 31, 2007
Edison Chai	-	Commissioner - from Nov. 1, 2007
Ruth Smith-Sutherland	-	General Manager
Ainsworth Carroll	-	Director Finance & Admin.
Alva Belnavis	-	Finance Manager
Beverley Adams	-	Personnel & Administrative Officer

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Robert Gore	-	Chairman
Rudolph Muir	-	Commissioner
Derrick White	-	Commissioner - to Oct. 31, 2007
Edison Chai	-	Commissioner - from Nov. 1, 2007
Ruth Smith-Sutherland	-	General Manager
Ainsworth Carroll	-	Director Finance & Admin.
Alva Belnavis	-	Finance Manager

OBSERVATION COMMITTEE

Walter Campbell	-	Chairman
Hugh A. Levy, Jnr	-	Member
David Levy	-	Member
George Lawson	-	Member
Lloyd McFarlane	-	Member

EQUINE DRUG TESTING COMMITTEE

Rudolph Muir	-	Chairman
Ruth Smith-Sutherland	-	Member
St. Aubyn Bartlett	-	Member
Sophia Ramlal	-	Member
Racing Chemist	-	Member
Racing Analyst	-	Member

HALL OF FAME TRUSTEES

Rudolph Muir	-	Chairman
Ed Barnes	-	Trustee
Walter Campbell	-	Trustee
Vincent Edwards	-	Trustee
David Levy	-	Trustee
Noel Levy	-	Trustee
Denzil Miller Jnr.	-	Trustee
Howard Hamilton	-	Trustee

RACING INDUSTRY INSURANCE SCHEME COMMITTEE

Michael Coore	-	Chairman
Ruth Smith-Sutherland	-	Member
Collin Berry	-	Member
Eustace Williams	-	Member
Ina Lawrence	-	Member
Denzil Miller Jnr.	-	CTL Representative
Gresford Smith	-	Trainers' Representative
Ian Spence	-	Jockeys' Representative
Paul Pancho	-	Grooms' Representative

EMOLUMENTS SENIOR STAFF

POSITION	ANNUAL BASIC SALARY \$	ANNUAL ALLOWANCES \$
General Manager	3,092,870.00	681,563.00
Director Finance & Admin	1,914,222.00	583,812.00
Director Racing	2,112,943.00	642,612.00
Senior Veterinarian	3,145,953.00	1,364,793.00
I.T. Manager	1,694,936.00	300,000.00

CHAPTER 1

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The primary goals of the Commission are to build a strong and credible industry and to serve as a central racing body on which the industry and the public can depend to preserve and maintain high standards of sport, honesty and fair play, and to promote the health and safety of the animals and personnel involved in racing.

The Commission's main objectives during the year under review were to:

- maintain the development of horseracing in Jamaica
- maintain close supervision of the operations of race meetings to assure the public and the competing owners of horses and other participants that race meetings are conducted fairly by responsible management;
- ensure proper registration and identification of horses including full implementation of micro chipping to replace tattooing of horses in conformity with international standards, to institute measures to protect animal health and welfare and to complete the compilation of volume XIV of the Jamaica Stud Book;
- follow up on the completion of the vaccination depository which ensures the integrity of vaccination protocols (80% complete at beginning of year).
- continue welfare and training programmes for persons in the industry and ensure the maintenance of a comprehensive Insurance Scheme for persons holding occupational permits;
- improve the standard of professionalism in racing by providing training courses for future jockeys and trainers. In particular to monitor the current batch of apprentices.
- ensure that horses are fit to race and are allowed to run on their merit;
- continue to prevent and detect the use of prohibited substances in competing horses through full implementation of a medication restriction rule;
- establish criteria and grant occupational permits/licenses to include farriers;
- ensure that applicants for registration as racehorse owners are of good character and with sufficient means to maintain their horses in training;

- advise Government on the extent of subsidies in support of horse racing and breeding and administer subsidies approved;
- act as coordinator between the various groups in the industry and adjudicate on complaints, objections and appeals received from persons in relation to horse racing;
- maintain racing and breeding statistics and disseminate them to the public locally and internationally;
- maintain and strengthen links with the Caribbean racing countries and other racing jurisdictions.

CHAPTER 2

2.1 PUBLIC SUPPORT

Horseracing promoted locally by Caymanas Track limited (CTL) at the single racetrack on the island continued to attract wide public support. The promoter not only put on local race meetings but simulcasted races from the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia, and transmitted these races local and overseas via satellite to their sixty-six off-track Betting Parlours across the island.

During the period under review CTL conducted eighty local race meets and three hundred and nine days of simulcast races.

2.2 RACES AND PURSES

Table 1 below provides details on racing activities and purse earnings over the past five years for comparison:

TABLE 1

	2007/2008	2006/2007	2005/2006	2004/2005	2003/2004
RACEDAYS	80	83	81	79	87
NO. OF RACES	846	871	849	841	889
TOTAL NO. OF RUNNERS/STARTS	7465	8261	7976	8041	8,390
AVERAGE NO. OF STARTERS PER RACE	8.82	9.48	9.39	9.56	9.44
RACEDAY SALES BY PROMOTER (LOCAL RACING)	\$2,834,021,621	\$2,185,770,000	\$1,918,740,750	1,650,283,220	\$1,577,737,094
RACEDAY SALES BY PROMOTER (SIMULCAST)	\$1,888,791,938	\$1,776,112,000	\$1,493,190,000	1,372,068,222	\$1,268,041,907
TOTAL PURSE MONEY PAID OUT	\$386,343,750	\$351,310,050	\$319,937,731	304,693,950.00	\$292,494,000

2.3 FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE INDUSTRY

TABLE II
GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO RACING

	2007/2008	2006/2007	2005/2006	2004/2005	2003/2004 \$
Horse Breeders' Scheme	-	-	-	-	1,145,340
Lab Analyses and repairs to equipment	12,694,127	11,220,337	10,411,863	11,258,645	7,746,680
Purse Payments	-	-	-	-	14,814,860
Publication of Racing Year in Jamaica	177,662	166,977	504,023	217,613	260,075
Other Development Projects (See notes in Financial Statement)	17,434,703	17,930,875	17,602,361	19,852,066	19,643,187
Total Subsidies	30,306,492	29,318,189	28,518,247	27,705,467	43,610,142

CHAPTER 3

ACTIVITIES

The Commission's activities over the year comprised

3.1 FINANCE

- advising the Government on the allocation of funds for the various purposes under the Bookmakers' Levy Schemes;
- administering the Schemes and monitoring the expenditure of funds in relation thereto; and
- preparing annual estimates of revenue and expenditure, and monitoring the expenditure of funds.

In the previous year's report with respect to the newly implemented Gross Profit Tax, payments were not being made as prescribed and this situation still persists in the current year.

3.1.1 ACCOUNTS

The Commission's Annual Statements of Accounts for 2007/2008 and the Auditor's report thereon are attached.

3.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRY

Advising the Minister on the necessity to have a retooling and modernization of all physical aspects of racing, to garner more customer support, increase throughput, improve bloodstock, improve infrastructure and produce a horse friendly environment.

3.3 REGULATORY

One area that received special attention during the period was the administration of the Jamaica Racing Commission Rules 1977, including amendments to existing and establishment of new ones. These are explained below (rules 14, 55, 83 and 95A).

Rule14 to establish that the Racing Chemist had responsibility for the analysis of samples taken from horses including other qualified persons carrying out such analysis, under his general direction, control and/or supervision.

Rule 55 to provide for the collection of hair follicles to be used in DNA typing of horses as well as to have microchips implanted in each horse as a means of identifying such horse. The rule is further amended to establish that each veterinarian who intends to practice on thoroughbred horses at Caymanas Park or other places governed by the Jamaica Racing Commission must be registered with the Jamaica Racing Commission.

Rule 83 to establish that a Trainer shall be subject to a penalty, if he claims a horse on behalf of an owner, from a stable in which the said owner has a horse.

Rule 95A to provide that each microchip number shall include Jamaica's code as opposed to the letters JAM.

3.4 REGISTRATION/LICENCES/PERMITS

The Commission continued to discharge its responsibility under the Jamaica Racing Commission Act 1972 and the Jamaica Racing Commission Racing Rules 1977 in relation to the issuing of licenses and permits, as well as the registration of owners' entities. As at March 31, 2008 a total of 513 permits and licenses for members of the occupational group had been issued. This is broken down as follows:

OCCUPATIONAL GROUP	2007/2008	2006/2007
Trainers	123	19
Assistant Trainers	25	42
Jockeys	62	80
Apprentice Jockeys	1	1
Grooms	268	267
Stable Assistants	10	13
Exercise Riders	24	23
TOTAL	513	445

The total number of owner/owners entities registered at the end of the period was 515 broken down as follows:

OWNERS	2007/2008	2006/2007
Owners (Individuals)	501	690
Owners (Registered Companies)	6	7
Owners' Agents	8	6

When compared with the previous year the total for individuals is much less (501 as opposed to 690). This is however normal as March 31, 2008 represents the end of month two (2) of a 24 month licensing period and some owners do not renew their registration unless they have a horse in training.

3.5 PROMOTING COMPANY

3.5.1 Racedays

Caymanas Track Limited, the promoters of horseracing, again applied to the Jamaica Racing Commission for approval (which was granted) to promote 82 race meetings in 2008. This was done within the time frame established by the Commission (October of each year).

3.5.2 Review of Racing Programmes

The Operations Stewards to whom the Commission delegated the responsibility to monitor, and ensure that all horses and persons who participated in races were eligible, performed their duties in a judicious manner. This task (which is very critical in the management of race meetings) ensured fairness and adherence to the Rules of Racing 1977.

3.6 REVIEW OF RACEDAY FILMS

The Stewards continued their review of films of the races and conducted weekly hearings into riding infringements as well as investigations into reports of breaches or possible breaches of the rules. Below is a table of hearings and investigations held, as well as the actions taken.

CATEGORY	NO. OF SUMMONS ISSUED	PENALTIES		TOTAL CASES REFERRD TO THE COMMISSION
		SUSPENSION	FINES	
Jockeys	177	225 days	\$132,000	2 i) Andrew Nunes and Larris Allen fighting in a race – 25 and 35 days respectively ii) Wesley Henry – not riding a horse on its merits – 6 months

3.7 OBSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Observation Committee continued its review of films of races, advising the Stewards of their findings. The Stewards would then, (if not already done) conduct further investigations.

3.8 REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

The Operations Stewards in their management of the Registration Department endeavored to continue the process of improving the functions of the department. A tally of the various documents processed up to March 31, 2008, is set out below:

- (a) 409 applications for the registration of Native Bred horses were processed with 17 pending.

- b) 67 applications for the registration of imported horses were processed with 39 pending.
- c) 558 samples were sent to the laboratory for DNA typing, Blood typing and parentage verification while another 138 horses were awaiting sampling.
- d) 287 lip tattoos/microchips were affixed with 21 applications to be done.
- e) 333 names for horses were approved, 6 denied with 10 still being processed.
- f) 64 applications for the registration of racing colours were approved.
- g) 397 certificates of registration of the death of horses were received and recorded.
- h) 24 applications for the registration of Nom-de-plumes and syndicates were received and approved.
- i) 662 applications for the transfer of ownership of horses were approved.
- j) 720 applications for the registration of Training Agreements were approved.

3.9 JAMAICA STUD BOOK

The Jamaica Stud Book Volume XIV was almost completed by the end of the period under review, with just a few minor corrections to be made. Work on Volume XV had some preparatory data compiled.

CHAPTER 4

PROTECTIVE MEASURES

The Commission and Track Veterinarians maintained their vigilance in the area of “pre and post race” examination of all horses declared to race, with a view to detecting lameness and other chronic problems present. This offered additional protection to the horses, owners, trainers, jockeys, grooms as well as punters, by assisting in the prevention of serious injuries to man and beast. This ultimately amounts to financial savings to all parties.

4.1 COMPULSORY VACCINATION

The Commission’s Veterinarians and Operations Stewards maintained their vigilance in the monitoring of the programme which seeks to ensure that each horse entering and those housed at Caymanas Park, have been properly vaccinated, and that the expiry date of each vaccination has not expired.

4.2 CULLING

These veterinarians also conducted other examinations (periodically) of the horse population at Caymanas Park, to identify chronically lame horses. These in addition to horses aged eight years and older, that have not earned any purse in the preceding twenty-four (24) months, were culled from racing at December 31, 2007. The number culled for this period was twenty-five (25) as in the previous year.

4.3 HORSE WELFARE

There were no reports, during the period under review, of any horse being abandoned. This may be attributed to the Jamaica Racing Commission publishing on a regular basis; advisories on how to dispose of horses that were no longer able to race.

4.4 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR JOCKEYS & EXERCISE RIDERS

The Welfare Officer with the assistance of Caymanas Track Limited’s surgeons and other presenters continued to counsel members of the Occupational Group on the benefits of a healthy and drug free lifestyle. Drug testing of all Jockeys and Exercise Riders was also continued. The use of safety helmets, vests and boots was continuously monitored by the Stewards, the Welfare Officer as well as Caymanas Track Limited’s raceday and non-raceday officials.

CHAPTER 5

VETERINARY SERVICES

The year 2007/2008 was a year of improved efficiencies and setbacks for the Veterinary Department. The efficiency of some routine programmes such as sampling for parental verification, Lasix administration, race-day examinations, testing barn operations and vaccination monitoring was improved. Other routine programmes especially lip-tattooing and micro-chipping were impacted by unplanned events which slowed accomplishments. Of particular significance was the severe damage to the veterinary department's office with the passage of *Hurricane Dean* on August 19, 2007. Major roof damage and loss, flooding, absence of electronic communication and electricity resulted in the inability of the department to perform all routine services at maximal efficiency for 3-4 weeks.

Special highlights of the year have been the training and graduating 25 new trainers, daily Lasix usage averaging 70% among runners, initiation of micro-chipping of horses, participating in the inaugural JRC summer employment programme, and improved surveillance ability for the testing barn.

5.1 Veterinary "On Call System"

The veterinary "on call" system (introduced by the Commission in the 1990s) continued to ensure that horses declared to race, were withdrawn on racedays legitimately. The system requires that such horses be examined by the Jamaica Racing Commission Veterinarian, who would then report his or her finding to the Stewards of the meeting, along with appropriate recommendations. During the period under review a total of 89 such horses were examined by the Veterinarians and withdrawn.

5.1.1 Tattooing

Lip tattoos were applied to 220 horses.

5.1.2 Micro-chipping

Nine imported horses were micro-chipped representing the first phase of this new method of horse identification. Plans to identify local bred horses using micro-chip technology starting September 2007 had to be delayed due to delays in manufacturing by overseas suppliers.

5.1.3 Horse Welfare

The department reported two incidents of horse abuse involving “TEARDEMUP” and “JUSJAMAICANTIC” to the stewards/commission

5.2 SAMPLE COLLECTION FOR PARENTAL VERIFICATION

5.2.1 DNA/blood-typing sampling

Critical to the identification process which facilitates registration of thoroughbreds is the DNA and Blood Typing process. During the year 403 hair and blood samples were submitted for parental verification.

5.2.2 Testing Barn (Equine Sample Collection Centre)

A total of 3049 samples (1648 urine and 1401 blood) were collected and submitted for testing during the year. This represents a significant increase (43%) over collections for the previous year (urine 1767; blood 1387; total: 3154). The significance of the increase coupled with unchanged staff numbers and unchanged processing times in the barn are indicative of increased efficiencies on the part of the staff.

In the last quarter of 2007 the surveillance capabilities of the testing barn were improved with the upgrading, relocation and installation of cameras. Additionally, the veterinarians’ office has been fitted with a monitor to facilitate viewing of all fields.

5.2.3 Lasix

The use of raceday medication (Salix) continued. Its usage continues to aid in the reduction of horses bleeding via epistaxis on racedays. 69.4 % of the starts at Caymanas Park were horses who had received Lasix:

	AMOUNT
Lasix administrations	5749
Late non-starters after Lasix	306
Total Lasix starts	5219 (of 7519 = 69.4%)
Total Lasix starters	635 (of 925= 68.6 %)
Bleeders (with Lasix)	14

5.2.4 Endoscopy/Bleeding

During the year 252 endoscopic examinations to diagnose Exercise-Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage (EIPH) were performed in 2007. Forty-one horses were observed bleeding at the nostrils.

5.3 TRAINING

5.3.1 Continuing Education

The veterinary department did not participate in overseas continuing education during the period, but membership in the American Association of Equine Practitioners was maintained.

5.3.2 Trainers Training Programme

Part two of the trainers training course was conducted in the first quarter of 2007 resulting in the graduation of 25 new trainers in June, 2007. Of the 25 graduates, 22 applied for and received a Trainer's Licence.

CHAPTER 6

JUDICIAL ACTIVITIES

6.1 INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE COMMISSION

During the period under review the Commission conducted 8 investigations into reports received: 5 into the conduct of racing personnel, 1 into the abandonment of a horse, 1 into an incident at the Starting Gates and 1 into the performance of a horse. All cases were settled and sanctions as indicated in the table below:

CATEGORY	NAME	REASON	DECISION
Trainer	Everal Francis	Faulty gears	Fined \$10,000.00
“	Otis Burke	Conduct as a Trainer	Warned off – 1 year
“	Lechester Beech	Failure to properly care for a horse	Suspended – 6 months
Jockey	Wesley Henry	Failure to ride a horse on its merits	Suspended – 6 months
“	Larris Allen	Fighting during a race	Suspended - 35 racedays
“	Andrew Nunes	Fighting during a race	Suspended - 25 racedays
Owner	Patrick Salmon	Conduct as an owner	Fined \$30,000.00
Promoter	Caymanas Track Limited (C T L)	Action of Gate attendants re THUNDER SQUAD	Fined \$67,500.00

6.2 APPEALS

During the year the following appeals were heard and determined:

6.2.1 Against the First Instance Tribunal:

DATE	NAME	FINDINGS
16 th August 2007	Jackson Hong	With respect to race day 28 th May 2005 – Appeal dismissed
		Race day 11 th June 2005 – Warning off set aside. (Fines remain)

6.2.2 Against the Handicapping Committee:

DATE	NAME	FINDING
27 th September 2007	Gary Subratie	Appeal allowed
27 th September 2007	Dwight Chen	Appeal dismissed
8 th November 2007	Ian Parsard	Appeal allowed
6 th December 2007	Michael McIntosh	Appeal dismissed

6.2.3 Against the Stewards of the race meetings:

DATE	NAME	FINDINGS
12 th April 2007	Cleveland Blake	Owner of Mama's Girl <i>Appeal up held</i>
17 th May 2007	Javour Simpson	Apprentice Jockey who rode Formula One on 2 nd May 2007 Appeal dismissed
12 th July 2007	Oneil Mullings	Jockey who rode Heza Ranking on 23 rd June 2007 Appeal dismissed
13 th September 2007	Gary Subratie	Trainer of Unknown Variable on 8 th September 2007 – Appeal dismissed
11 th October 2007	Premiere Production Ltd.	Owners of Calabash Bay on 22 nd September 2007 Appeal allowed
8 th November 2007	Howard Hamilton	Owner of The Queen on 31 st October 2007 - Stewards decision set aside
29 th November 2007	Gordon Lewis	Owner of Flash Flood on 21 st November 2007 – Appeal dismissed
7 th February 2008	Anthony Ferguson	Trainer/Owner of Crucial Point on 30 th January 2008 – Stewards decision set aside
7 th February 2008	Dr. Lynden Richards	Owner of Yamashita's Gold on 26 th January 2008 – Appeal dismissed
20 th March 2008	Omar Walker	Jockey who rode Pundit on 1 st March 2008 & Mr. Blair on 8 th March 2008 – With respect to 1 st March Appeal dismissed – On 8 th March. Decision of Steward set aside

6.3 DELEGATION

6.3.1 Security Tribunal

There were no referrals of cases to the Commission by the Security Tribunal during the period.

6.3.2 First Instance Tribunal

In addition to Appeals and Investigations conducted by the Commission during the year the First Instance Tribunal, delegates of the Commission continued to hold investigations into the reports of Positive Findings, by the Racing Chemist, for prohibited substances. For the period under Review 7 cases were conducted with penalties being imposed in two of these cases. The other five were disputed and dismissed.

The prohibited substances found were:

SUBSTANCE	NO. OF CASES
EPHEDRINE	1
FLUNIXIN	2
PROPOXYPHENE	1
CHLORPHENIRAMINE	1
METHYLPHENIDATE	1
MEPIVACAINE	1

6.4 OUTSTANDING POSITIVES

The following Positive Finding cases are pending due to a technicality with respect to Rule 14 which governs the functions of the Racing Chemist:

- i) ENCHANTING EYES
- ii) PRIME POSSESSION
- iii) MAKE THEM LAFF
- iv) MY BABY GIRL
- v) WE WILL SEE

6.5 COURT CASES

The Suit filed by Dr. Paul Wright against Dr. St. Aubyn Bartlett & the JRC was pending in the court.

The suit filed by the Commission against Mr. Romel Wallen & TVJ is still pending

CHAPTER 7

7.1 JOCKEYS' TRAINING PROGRAMME

Statistics for (Apprentices) 15 graduates of the Jockeys' Training Programme.

Set out below is the performance of the 2006 graduates of the programme

TABLE I

	2007/2008
Licensed No. of Graduates (Apprentices)	15
No. of Rides	1,905
No. of Wins	204
Stakes Earned	\$64,932,725

7.2 HALL OF FAME

There were no inductions into the Hall of Fame of Thoroughbred Racing for this year due to financial constraints.

CHAPTER 8

WELFARE PROGRAMME

8.1 BENEVOLENT FUND

During the period under review there were seventeen (17) former racing persons enrolled with the Jamaica Racing Commission's Benevolent Fund:

- Renford Baugh
- Byron Binns
- Roy Brown
- Keith Davis
- Garfield Dwyer
- Lloyd Ennis
- Warren Flemmings
- Norris Gray
- Roy Hewitt
- Ivanhoe Johnson
- Roy Kennedy
- Joseph Levy
- Renford McIntosh
- George Reid
- Manley Sappleton
- Vincent Sappleton
- Barrington Smith

Disbursement from the fund during the year was as shown in the table below:

Month	Pension \$	Financial Assistance \$	Medical Assistance \$	Funeral Grant \$
April 2007	160,000	3,000	-	-
May 2007	245,000	3,000	-	-
June 2007	170,000	3000	-	-
July 2007	170,000	3,000	16,600	
August 2007	170,000	3,000	-	-
September 2007	170,000	3,000	-	-
October 2007	260,000	3,000	48,715	-
November 2007	180,000	3,000	-	25,000
December 2007	270,000	15,000	-	-
January 2008	175,000	3,000	20,000	25,000
February 2008	170,000	3,000	10,300	40,000
March 2008	255,000	3,000	10,300	
TOTAL	\$2,365,000	\$48,000	\$95,645	\$90,000

8.2 RACING INDUSTRY INSURANCE SCHEME

The Racing Industry Insurance Scheme provides health, accident and life insurance benefits to all persons licensed in the occupational groups. Individual participation in this scheme is compulsory for all occupational licensees who contribute approximately 30% of the total annual premium.

Twenty-three (23) accidents were reported for the financial year; seven claims were submitted, and six were settled with one pending at the end of the period.

8.3 DEATHS

- Mr. Lorenzo Bloomfield, pensioner, died on January 14, 2008
- Mr. Oneil Shaw, racehorse groom, died October 20, 2007
- Mr. Neville Cousley, veteran racehorse trainer and Hall of Famer, died on January 4, 2008.

8.4 SUMMER WORK PROGRAMME

The Commission in partnership with Caymanas Track Limited, the National Youth Service and selected trainers participated in the 2007 National Summer Employment Programme (NSEP). Twenty high school children between ages 15-18 years were recruited to work with these trainers for a three to four week period in July 2007.

The youngsters were introduced to job opportunities which are available in the horse racing industry while providing summer employment for them with a stipend.

CHAPTER 9

ADMINISTRATION

9.1 STAFFING

The Commission closed the year with 44 members of Staff, thirty-six (36) permanent members and (8) part-time members. Three (3) members of staff were separated from the Commission and one individual was recruited during the year.

9.2 TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

In keeping with the objectives in the Corporate Plan to improve the capabilities of staff members, staff at all levels participated in various training programmes. These included:

- i) Leadership Skills, (Middle Managers)
- ii) Records Management (Registrar and Senior Secretaries)
- iii) Communication Skills (Frontline Staff)
- iv) Disaster Preparedness & Business Continuity Planning (I.T. Staff)
- v) Telephone Techniques and Office Etiquette & Personal Development (Support Staff).
- vi) Computer Technology (Information Technology and Accounting Staff)

During the period under review one Operations Steward attended a continuing education course for accredited stewards at the University of Louisville Kentucky, in order to maintain his accreditation as a racetrack Steward.

9.3 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE

In November 2007, the Commission scholarship Awardee, Jason Wright graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, London, after having completed his degree in Veterinary Medicine. He was subsequently registered by the Veterinary Board to practice medicine in Jamaica. In March 2008 the Commission engaged his services as a part-time veterinarian to assist with its Salix Programme.

10.1 INTERNATIONAL LINKS

10.1.1 Memberships/ Associations

Jamaica continues to participate internationally with several thoroughbred horseracing organizations. The level of involvement is now returning to normal however, there are still some constraints.

Our membership is with the following international and regional organizations:

- Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI)
- West Indian Thoroughbred Racing Association (WITRA)
- Caribbean Racing Confederation (CRC)
- Association of Racing Chemists (AORC)

These organizations provide the avenue for the exchange of racing information and ideas for improvement in the administration and management of horseracing and breeding. In addition, organizations such as WITRA and CRC promote international horseracing events to which member countries are invited thus providing the opportunity to gain international exposure derived from international participation and adds great value to our racing and in particular our breeding industry.

The Commission, in an effort to remain relevant and abreast with international development in racing must also interface with several racing organizations, namely:

- The Jockey Club of North America
- Weatherbys – Great Britain
- The International Stud Book Committee (ISBC)
- International Cataloguing Standard Committee – France
- International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA)
- The Jockey Club Information System
- Bloodstock Research Information Services Inc.
- Equibase Company
- Trinidad & Tobago Racing Authority (TTRA)
- Barbados Turf Club (BTC)
- American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP)
- Racing Commissions Regulator of North American States, Britain and Ireland

plus numerous racetracks and racing regulators/Commissions in other racing jurisdictions throughout the world, from time to time.

Organizations such as those listed above provide accepted industry standards, information for the movement of horses, authentication of identity and pedigree of horses and numerous other racing related matters.

The main benefits derived from Jamaica's involvement with those international and regional organizations are in the areas of:

- Training;
- Access to information and services; and,
- Access to racing technology

The Commission also maintains a relationship with organizations which provide specific scientific services to the horseracing industry and to horseracing regulations in particular. These are:

- University of Lexington – Veterinary Science Department
- The Gluck Equine Research Centre – Lexington Kentucky
- University of the West Indies – Chemistry Department
- University of Florida – Laboratory, Gainesville, Florida
- Ohio State University – Laboratory

The above organizations provide services in the areas of Bloodtyping, DNA Genetic testing, parentage verification, Equine Drug testing and Equine Research.

The English speaking racing jurisdictions in the Caribbean: namely Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica did establish a potentially useful organization namely, West Indian Thoroughbred Racing Association (WITRA), for some years now. The objectives of this organization are:

- to provide and stage West Indian Classic and such other races as may constitute a West Indian Classic Day;
- to promote racing and breeding of thoroughbred horses in the member countries;
- to exchange experience and knowledge of breeding improvement, nutrition and all aspects of thoroughbreds and;
- to promote close relations and friendship between the people of member countries as well as other people and countries that practice the sport of thoroughbred racing.

The development of this organization is however hampered by the lack of reliable transportation and where available it's prohibitive cost. However, we have seen an increase in the number of the Jamaican bred horses being sold in our Annual Yearling sales to persons in Trinidad and Barbados.

One new development from this increase in foreign ownership is that a number of foreign owners are leaving their horses to race in Jamaica.

The usual participation by Caribbean horses in major regional races such as:

- Barbados' Sandy Lane Gold Cup;
- Trinidad's Royal Oak Derby;
- Jamaica's Superstakes; and,

WITRA Classic did not occur because of transportation problems. We are still trying to resolve this problem.

Jamaica's membership in the Caribbean Racing Confederation was bolstered with our recent win in the Confraternity Cup. In November 2007 two horses, namely RUM TALK and MIRACLE MAN participated in the Caribbean Classic for 3 years-olds and the Confraternity Cup for 3-year-olds and older horses. However, our performance did not produce the win that we were expecting, RUM TALK finished a dismal eighth, while MIRALE MAN finished fourth in its race.

10.2 SUPERSTAKES/ASSOCIATIONS

The twenty-ninth (2007) renewal of the Superstakes Raceday now sponsored by Megafone and which was held on Saturday, 9th November 2007 saw the running of:

i The Megafone Superstakes

A Grade 1 Invitational Race for Native-bred 3 year olds and upwards over a distance of 2000 metres;

ii The Megafone Caribbean Sprint Championship

A Grade 1 Invitational Race for Native-bred 3 years olds and upwards over a distance of 1200 metres;

iii The Megafone Mile

A Grade 1 Invitational Handicap Race for Imported 3 year olds and upwards over a distance of 1600 metres

iv The Magafone Claiming Sprint

A claiming race for 3 year olds and upwards who raced for \$160,000 in a specific period over a distance of 1100 metres.

There was no Jockeys' Challenge held during this year. Nevertheless, the day's racing provided some exciting and spectacular performances.

10.3 VISITS ABROAD

During the fiscal year 2007/2008 Jamaica's racing jurisdiction was represented in several international and regional forums, providing needed training information and standards to our racing regulators, these include:

- (1) Racing Commissioners International, Inc. (RCI)
Annual Conference on Racing and Wagering Integrity
Jackson Hole, Wyoming, USA
April 23-28, 2007
- (2) Caribbean Racing Confederation
Mid-year Meeting
Panama City, Panama
May 31- June 4, 2007
- (3) Racing Commissioners International, Inc (RCI)
Summer Board Meeting
Delmar, California, USA
July 25-29, 2007
- (4) Symposium on Racing and Gaming
Tucson, Arizona, USA
December 3-7, 2007
- (5) American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP)
53rd Annual Convention
Orlando, Florida, USA
November 30- December 5, 2007
- (6) University of Louisville
Continuing Education for Accredited Stewards
Louisville, Kentucky, USA
November 12-13, 2007
- (7) Caribbean Racing Confederation
Annual Meeting
San Juan, Puerto Rico
November 28- December 3, 2007

- (8) Racing Commissioners International (RCI)
74th Annual Racing Regulators Conference
Austin, Texas, USA
March 24-28, 2008

- (9) University of Louisville
Continuing Education for Accredited Stewards
Tampa, Florida, USA
March 12-13, 2008

CHAPTER 11

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Commission's Annual Statement of Accounts for 2007/2008 and the Auditor's report thereon are attached at Appendix I.