

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**In the matter of:**

John Carlo, Peter Battista, Margaret Zayti Partnership,  
d/b/a Northville Downs

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**ORDER SETTING FORTH GUIDELINES FOR  
CONTINUED OPERATION OF NORTHVILLE DOWNS  
WITH LIVE RACING AND SIMULCASTING**

The Executive Director of the Michigan Gaming Control Board (“Executive Director”) is committed to assisting Northville Downs (“NVD”) with continuing its operation of live and simulcast horse racing in a safe and efficient manner consistent with all laws, order, and health guidelines.

This Order provides minimum standards for the continued operation of NVD. These minimum standards are subject to revision if approved by the Executive Director. NVD is not precluded from implementing procedures and policies in addition to, or more stringent, than those listed below.

**I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

A. NVD will ensure that all persons must:

1. Wear a face mask (and gloves if appropriate) at all times unless fully vaccinated or other exempted from wearing a mask under the Gatherings and Face Mask Order issued by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).
2. NVD must make a “good faith effort” to ensure that all persons at their establishment (including employees) comply with the face mask requirements. A “good faith effort” may include any of the following: posting a sign notifying people that wearing a mask is required unless a person falls into a specified exception as set forth in the MDHHS Gatherings and Face Mask Order; asking persons not wearing a mask whether they fall into a specified exception; requiring face masks of all patrons and employees; or any other similar policy designed to ensure compliance.

3. Follow CDC guidelines for notification, and within 24 hours notify the following if a person is identified with a confirmed case of COVID-19:
  - a. The local public health department.
  - b. Any workers, contractors, or suppliers who may have come into contact with the person with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
  - c. The Executive Director.
- B. NVD must comply with all prescribed local, state, and federal COVID-19 health requirements. In particular, see Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration Emergency Rules at:  
[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/MIOSHA\\_COVID\\_Emergency\\_Rules\\_726100\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/MIOSHA_COVID_Emergency_Rules_726100_7.pdf).

## **II. CLEANING/SANITATION PROTOCOLS FOR NVD**

- A. Before opening or after closing and as needed throughout the day or as directed by the Racing Manager, NVD must clean and disinfect with EPA-Registered Disinfectant all utilized areas in the facility including but not limited to the Grandstand, bar/restaurant, offices, and office areas. This includes all entrance(s) and key touch points such as elevator buttons, escalator handrails, door handles, bathrooms, occupied office space, paddock facilities, the starting gate, and the stewards stand.
- B. NVD must have hand sanitizer stations at all touch points throughout the facility including but not limited to the Grandstand, bar/restaurant, office area, driver's room, and barn area facilities. All bathrooms must be stocked daily with hand sanitizer and soap.

## **III. NVD EMPLOYEES**

- A. Unless fully vaccinated, all employees must be provided with a face mask (and gloves if appropriate) and are required to wear it always while on the property in adherence to state or local law, orders, and guidelines.
- B. NVD must ensure that any employees, except fully vaccinated persons, remain at least 6 feet from one another to the maximum extent feasible while on premises.

## **IV. GRANDSTAND, BAR/RESTAURANT, OFFICE AREAS**

- A. Capacity cannot exceed the greater of 50% of the limits established by the State Fire Marshal or the local fire marshal.
- B. Signs must be posted regarding hand washing and other COVID-19 prevention tips.

- C. Public announcements must be made to remind customers to respect face mask requirements and encourage hand washing.
- D. Post COVID-19 prevention tips in every race program.
- E. Post signs requesting customers who have recently been ill not to enter.
- F. Disinfecting products must be made available in all areas of the Grandstand to enable patrons to disinfect frequently touched surfaces at their discretion.
- G. Disinfecting wipe dispensers must be available for use by patrons at shared objects such as SAMS machines.

## **V. RESTRICTED AREA OPERATIONS AND PROTOCOLS**

- A. Only licensed individuals will be provided access to restricted areas.
- B. Participants must be assigned stall numbers and must report horses to those stalls.
- C. Unless fully vaccinated, all individuals entering a restricted area must wear face masks, which will be provided by NVD or its certified horsemen's organization, the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association.
- D. Track Maintenance
  - 1. All employees must follow basic protocols in Section I.
  - 2. A sanitizing station must be placed in the track maintenance building.
  - 3. When in use, all track equipment must be cleaned with EPA-Registered Disinfectant twice daily or as otherwise directed by the Racing Manager.
  - 4. Only one crew member will be allowed per vehicle unless the vehicle's operation requires more than one crew member.
  - 5. All vehicles must be equipped with hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes, face masks, and gloves.
- E. Ship in barns
  - 1. Hand sanitizer stations must be available at each end of the barns.
  - 2. Wash bays are to be used only for bathing horses' post-race.
  - 3. All licensees in ship in barns must follow basic protocols in Section I.
- F. Paddock Access and Operations
  - 1. Good faith effort must be made to ensure physical distancing for employees in the paddock. Pre-race conversations with drivers should be completed earlier in the day by phone or text.
  - 2. A sanitizing station must be placed in the paddock area.
  - 3. Paddock Office
    - a. Access reserved for racing officials only, a racing official may authorize a licensee to enter as needed.
    - b. One licensee at a time allowed to enter once authorized.
    - c. A sanitizing station must be placed in the paddock office.
- G. Detention Barn

1. One employee at a time allowed in lab and break room.
2. Each employee will be assigned their own break area.
3. Equipment, including pens, should not be shared between employees.
4. One licensee allowed per horse.
5. Sealing samples preferably done outside lab office.
6. Licensee must wear gloves when signing sample tag.

## VI. MGCB OFFICES

- A. MGCB offices must be cleaned and sanitized twice daily or as otherwise required by the Racing Manager.
- B. The Racing Manager may designate one or more worksite supervisors to implement, monitor, and report on the COVID-19 control strategies developed under this and the race meeting licensee's plan. The supervisor must always remain on-site when employees are present on site. An on-site employee may be designated to perform the supervisory role.
  1. Licensing
    - a. All employees must follow the basic protocols in Section I.
    - b. Protocol for licensing:
      - i. Applicants must, if possible, send their applications electronically, prior to racing, to [horseracing@michigan.gov](mailto:horseracing@michigan.gov), excluding SSN's and DOB for security protection. Payment must be dropped off or mailed to the licensing office, or a credit card payment is available in office or by phone.
      - ii. The Executive Director will accept a photo of the completed license application emailed to [horseracing@michigan.gov](mailto:horseracing@michigan.gov).
      - iii. Licensees will be sent their receipt and badge electronically; a photo of their badge is accepted by security and in the MGCB detention barn as identification.
      - iv. Applicant must call the licensing office to reserve a place in line to get licensed.
        - A. Applications and pens will be available both inside and outside of the licensing conference room.
        - B. Licensees must wait in their vehicles until receiving a phone call when they are to be licensed.
        - C. The licensing conference room will be available for one person at a time to complete an application, if necessary.
        - D. Licensees will have the option of a plastic badge or an electronic badge to be viewed on their phones.
    - c. Veterinarian's Office
      - i. No licensees are allowed in the veterinarian's office without authorization.

- ii. Paperwork submitted by licensees must be placed in the veterinarian's folder in the first-floor licensing room.
- d. Steward's Office
  - i. No licensees are allowed in the steward's office without authorization.
  - ii. Stewards' hearings and disciplinary procedures will be conducted via telephone or video conference whenever possible.

IT IS ORDERED that NVD must comply with the Horse Racing Law of 1995, MCL 431.301 to MCL 431.336, its promulgated administrative rules, and orders of the Executive Director. Failure to abide by the statute, rules, and/or orders will result in a fine, suspension, or revocation of the license and/or permit as permitted by the act.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, along with the above requirements, NVD will be subject to all local and state laws and orders issued hereafter.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, this order will take effect on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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Henry Williams, Executive Director  
Michigan Gaming Control Board

May 27, 2021

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Date