

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

In the matter of:

MICHIGAN HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Monies held pursuant to § 19c of the Horse Racing Law

ORDER TO ESCROW SIMULCAST PURSE POOL MONIES

The Horse Racing Law of 1995, 1995 PA 279, MCL 431.301, was amended with an effective date of December 20, 2019. Specific to this order, § 19c was added to provide:

The Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association shall not expend the money it is holding in its horsemen's simulcast purse account that was transferred under an order of the racing commissioner dated April 8, 2019 until June 1, 2020, on which date the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association shall transfer \$900,000.00 of the money to the Michigan Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association to be used by the Michigan Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association only to pay purses.

Given my powers and duties, pursuant to the Racing Law, my staff inquired as to the requirements imposed on the Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association (MHHA) by § 19c. In response, MHHA advised that all monies had been spent during its 2019 live racing season and before the effective date of § 19c. To date, MHHA is cooperating with my staff to provide the documentation necessary to verify this fact. But until a conclusion is reached, it is necessary to preserve the amount referenced by the Legislature in § 19c prior to the start of the live race meet season.

Effectively immediately, MHHA shall place \$900,000 in a separate account to be escrowed until such time as my staff completes its review. At that time, I will issue an Order with my determination. MHHA shall provide the account information to my staff.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/S/

Richard S. Kalm, Executive Director
Michigan Gaming Control Board

August 13, 2020
Date