

New York State

Racing and Wagering Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AS \$1M BELMONT STAKES APPROACHES, CHAIRMAN SABINI ISSUES AD RULE REMINDER

With a national TV audience set to view the Grade 1, \$1 Million Belmont Stakes on June 6, New York State Racing and Wagering Board Chairman John D. Sabini today reminded jockeys that the only advertising they can wear during a race must be authorized in advance by stewards.

The Racing and Wagering Board rules allow jockeys to don advertising and promotional material only if jockeys provided the stewards a description of the advertising, along with the names of the brands and product sponsors involved in the promotional material. A written authorization for the advertising must also be filed by the managing owner of the horse involved. The information is to be provided to the Racing and Wagering Board office at the track at least 24 hours before the applicable race.

“My staff has already provided guidance on these necessary rules to an attorney for jockey Calvin Borel – and we stand ready to accommodate others seeking explanations for this rule or any other one on our books,” said Chairman Sabini, who on Saturday plans to be among the tens of thousands of people attending the 141st running of the Belmont Stakes, the third and oldest of America’s Triple Crown races. “Rules in other states restricting jockey advertising have in some cases led to disputes, confusion and even lawsuits – and that is what I am confident we can avoid here in New York.”

Jockeys and their agents seeking request forms for advertising permission may contact Steve Lewandowski, the Racing and Wagering Board assistant to stewards, at the Belmont Park office of the Racing and Wagering Board. To reach him by telephone, call 516-488-1920.

