

Ontario Sires Stakes No. 53

For 2- and 3-Year-Old Pacers & Trotters

Sponsor:

Ontario Horse Improvement Program, as administered by Ontario Racing (OR).

For:

Standardbred foals of 2023 (foaled between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023).

To Be Raced As:

Two-year-old trotting and pacing colts, geldings and fillies in 2025 and three-year-old trotting and pacing colts, geldings and fillies in 2026.

To Be Raced At:

Ontario pari-mutuel tracks. The assignment of Ontario Sires Stakes (OSS) events to Ontario racetracks will be within the sole discretion of Ontario Racing (OR).

Eligibility:

Two-year-olds (foals of 2023) conceived as the result of a mating between a mare in the Northern Hemisphere and a stallion that stood the entire Northern Hemisphere breeding season in Ontario, providing that the stallion was duly registered with the Ontario Sires Stakes Program for the appropriate breeding season, may be nominated to the Ontario Sires Stakes if they meet the following requirements.

- The nominated yearling must be fully registered (including microchipping and DNA testing) with Standardbred Canada or the United States Trotting Association at the time of nomination. Any foal registered with the USTA that does not meet the registry requirements set out by Standardbred Canada shall not be eligible to be nominated to the OSS. Yearlings registered off the continent of North America may be accepted on an individual basis provided a copy of the home country registration certificate accompanies the nomination fee.
- The OSS will not recognize foals as twins if produced through embryo/ovum transfer. If such foals were produced through embryo/ovum transfer, only the donor mare's first-born foal, registered with either Standardbred Canada or the USTA, will be eligible for nomination.
- Foals conceived from frozen semen will be eligible to the OSS program only if the semen is from a stallion that was registered for the OSS program both at the time of collection and when the mare was inseminated. The semen must have been obtained through the OSS registered owner, lessee or Syndicate.

2-year-old Late Nomination Payment (in Canadian Funds):

March 17, 2025 (declare gait)\$1,500

Nominators failing to make the required May 15, 2024 yearling nomination payment or the August 15, 2024 late yearling nomination payment are given until March 15, 2025 to fulfill the nomination conditions to OSS No. 53 for a fee of \$1,500.

Please note: If the horse will race in 2025, the two-year-old sustaining payment of \$600 (in addition to the two-year-old late nomination payment) is also due on March 17, 2025.

2-year-old Sustaining Payment (in Canadian Funds):

March 17, 2025 (declare gait)\$600

This payment to be made only if horse will race in 2025.

Future Payments:

As a courtesy, the OSS Administration will make every effort to advise nominators of future sustaining payments, but it is the responsibility of the owner of the eligible colt, gelding or filly to ensure that future sustaining payments are made, whether or not a notice has been received.

Failure to make a payment when due constitutes automatic withdrawal from racing in the Ontario Sires Stakes events of that year.

3-year-old Sustaining Payment (in Canadian Funds):

February 16, 2026 (declare gait)\$800

This payment to be made only if horse will race in 2026.

OSS Racing Guide:

Each spring, the OSS Administration publishes an OSS Racing Guide which contains the rules and program details for the current racing season. Any information in the Racing Guide supersedes the information contained in these conditions.

The Ontario Sires Stakes program consists of a GOLD, a GRASSROOTS, and a PROSPECT Series with end of season finals for each series.

Starting Fee:

The starting fee is due in accordance with the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) rules in effect at race time but, in any event, it must be paid before the horse starts.

Trainers and/or owners are responsible for verifying declaration times at each racetrack. These times will be strictly adhered to.

Racing Conditions:

Each of the events shall be raced at a distance of one mile.

All races shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the AGCO and all participants are strongly advised to make themselves familiar with the rules.

Horses sustained to the OSS program may be subject to testing under the Out of Competition Program.

Should conditions beyond the control of Ontario Racing prevent the racing of any event, Ontario Racing reserves the right to declare the event off and to distribute the money to the current eligible horses or to transfer the event to another date, or to another track, or to do both.

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Money Division:

Gold Series events with five or fewer starters, Grassroots Series Legs, Prospect Series Legs, Prospect Series Finals:

5 or more starters:50% 25% 12% 8% 5%

4 starters:50% 25% 15% 10%

3 starters:60% 30% 10%

2 starters:65% 35%

1 starter:100%

Gold Series Events, Grassroots Finals/Consolations, Grassroots Legs with 11 starters or multiple trailers:

All finishers in the race will receive money. The winner of the race will receive 50% of the total purse; one percent (1%) of the total purse will be paid to each horse finishing sixth through last; the remainder of the purse will be divided 50-24-16-10% for the horses finishing second through fifth.

Gait:

Any eligible filly, colt or gelding changing gait after the sustaining payment in either year will be eligible to race at the gait adopted.

Currency:

All amounts mentioned above are in Canadian funds. The U.S. equivalent will be set two months prior to the payment deadline.

Rules:

These events shall be contested under the above conditions, and under the AGCO Rules of Standardbred Racing and Directives, as well as individual Racetrack Rules as approved by the AGCO. Ontario Racing, within its sole discretion, may from time to time make changes to the terms, conditions, and the purse structure of the Ontario Sires Stakes, of any nature and kind whatsoever, including the nomination payments, sustaining payments and starting fees, and the nominator hereby agrees to be bound by such changes.

Nomination and sustaining payments can be paid to the Ontario Sires Stakes directly at <https://oss.ontarioracing.com> or by mail.

It Is Recommended That Payments**Be Sent By Registered Mail To:**

Ontario Sires Stakes

c/o Ontario Racing

P.O. Box 160

Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0

Phone: 416-407-4841

ossprogram@ontarioracing.com