Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Ohio Thoroughbred Racing Advisory Committee

Point of Contact Christopher Dragone- Ohio State Racing Co

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

The Ohio Thoroughbred Racing Advisory Committee (Committee) was created in section 3769.084 of the Revised Code. The Committee advises and assists the Ohio State Racing Commission (OSRC) regarding the administration of the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund (OTRF) created by section 3769.083 of the Revised Code.

The OTRF is used to promote racing and breeding in the state by providing purse money for accredited Ohio horses (horses sired by an Ohio stallion) and Ohio- foaled horses, and breeders' awards to owners of stallions and broodmares. A portion of annual funding is also used to market thoroughbred racing in Ohio and nationally.

There are 293 live thoroughbred racing programs scheduled in 2024. The Committee meets formally several times a year to discuss any changes necessary during the current year and to determine what conditions should be set for the following year's program. Thoroughbred horsemen, track managements and the public are given a chance to provide imput about racing conditions and dates of the stakes races.

Agency's past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff

The OTRF has an administrator who is paid by the OTRF and also serves as the OTRF registrar. Two other OSRC employees (including the Executive Director and Fiscal Officer) work with the Committee to assist it in attaining its primary purpose. While the amount of money available for distribution varies annually, the workload remains the same for this agency.

Agency’s past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding

The OTRF derives money from taxes on wagers made at throughbred and harness racing commercial tracks in Ohio, from the distribution of a protion of tax money received by the OSRC from casinos, and from the distributions of Video Lottery Terminal proceeds approved by the OSRC. OTRF disbursements totaled just over $12 million in 2023.

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any

The Committee consists of three members appointed by the Governor. No member receives compensation. Although all members are entitled to actual and necessary expenses, no member has requested reimbursement for expenses in the past five years.

Additional notes