



Dear NY Stallion Owners,

The stallion payment for eligibility in the 2026 Empire Breeders Classic (EBC) for foals of 2023 comes due on March 15, 2024. This payment is for stallions standing and registered in New York in 2022 and provides eligibility for all foals bred in that year, foaled in 2023 and subsequently yearlings in 2024.

A nomination form with the pertinent information and list of sires with the number of mares bred and 2022 stud fee have been included in this mailing.

Collecting this payment by March 15 allows consignors of 2024 yearlings by eligible sires to list the EBC as an engagement in the stakes section of the yearling sales catalog. We will forward the list of sires made eligible to the staking services and posted on our websites, along with other NYSS associated sites, for easy access to the consignor.

No further payment is due for the resulting foals until the 2-year-old payment in 2025.

Thank you for your support of the Empire Breeders Classic,

Tioga & Vernon Downs Racing Team

<b>BRED IN 2022/FOALS OF 2023/ RACE IN 2026</b>			
<b>Stallion (34)</b>	<b>2022 FEE</b>	<b>Mares Bred (865)</b>	<b>EBC FEE</b>
<b>AMERICAN IDEAL</b>	\$10,000	117	\$10,000
<b>CHAPTER SEVEN</b>	\$30,000	135	\$30,000
<b>COURTLY CHOICE</b>	\$6,000	53	\$6,000
<b>DEVIUS MAN</b>	\$4,000	39	\$4,000
<b>DEWEYCHEATUMNHOWE</b>	\$3,500	70	\$3,500
<b>E L TITAN</b>	\$6,000	28	\$6,000
<b>HUNTSVILLE</b>	\$8,500	140	\$8,500
<b>MET'S HALL</b>	\$5,500	40	\$5,500
<b>ROLL WITH JOE</b>	\$4,000	41	\$4,000
<b>SO SURREAL</b>	\$3,000	76	\$3,000
<b>ARTISCAPE</b>	\$2,500	9	\$1,000
<b>AMERICAN WHISKEY</b>	Private	7	\$1,000
<b>BAY OF SHARKS</b>	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
<b>CAPTAIN NEMO</b>	Private	2	\$1,000
<b>CORAGGIOSO</b>	\$2,500	5	\$1,000
<b>CREDIT WINNER</b>	Private	16	\$1,000
<b>EXPLOSIVE EXPRESS</b>	Private	3	\$1,000
<b>HILL I AM</b>	Private	21	\$1,000
<b>I AM POPEYE</b>	\$700	3	\$1,000
<b>IN THE ARSENAL</b>	\$2,500	16	\$1,000
<b>JIMS GUY</b>	\$500	1	\$1,000
<b>LEGAL DREAM</b>	Private	1	\$1,000
<b>LIFE UP FRONT</b>	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
<b>LIGHTNING STORM</b>	\$1,000	4	\$1,000
<b>MAJOR MOE</b>	\$1,000	18	\$1,000
<b>PURPOSE BLUE CHIP</b>	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
<b>THE VETERAN</b>	\$2,500	17	\$1,000

# EMPIRE BREEDERS CLASSIC

## STALLION NOMINATION FORM

### FOR THE 2026 EVENTS

*Stallion Eligibility: A stallion must have been registered to stand in New York State by the Agriculture & NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund, or its agent, and met all the Rules of Eligibility for the designated year to be eligible for nomination.*

The 2026 Races are for New York nominated foals of 2023 sired by stallions registered in New York in 2022 and nominated to the Empire Breeders Classic. The races are for 3-year-olds in 2026 that are New York nominated trotters and pacers with a filly division for each, featuring \$225,000-\$250,000 est. in final purses.

### Stallion Nomination:

**Stallions registered in 2022 (for the 2026 event):** Stallion owners may make all of their New York nominated progeny foaled in 2023 eligible to the Empire Breeders Classic by making a payment equal to **one service fee** for the registered stallion in the year 2022 with a **minimum payment of \$1,000**.

\*\*\*Stallions breeding fewer than twenty (20) mares in the 2022 season may make their nominated progeny eligible to this event by payment of \$1,000.

Payments must be postmarked no later than MARCH 15, 2024.

STALLION	2022 FEE	BRED FEWER THAN 20 YES or NO	PAYMENT DUE
<b>TOTAL</b>			

**Stallion Nominator** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable (US Funds) and mail to:**

**TIOGA DOWNS**

**ATTENTION RACE OFFICE**

**2384 West River Rd, Nichols, NY 13812 - (607) 699-7688**

**Check Conversion Notification**

*When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use the information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. For inquiries, please call our customer service phone number: 607-699-3900*

*Visit [www.electronicpayments.org](http://www.electronicpayments.org) for general information about check conversion*

# THE 2026 EMPIRE BREEDERS CLASSIC

For New York Nominated Foals of 2023

Three-Year-Old Pacers & Trotters with a Filly Division for Each

**Sponsored By:** The Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund, NY Stallion Owners, Tioga Downs & Vernon Downs, et al.

**Fees Collected By:** Tioga Downs

**For:** New York Nominated Pacers & Trotters, Foals of 2023 whose New York nominated Stallion has paid into this race.

**To Be Raced As:** A Stake for New York Nominated Three-Year-Old pacers & trotters with a filly division for each.

**Estimated Purse:** Colt & Filly Pace \$250,000E / Colt & Filly Trot \$225,000 with ten percent of the final amount used for Consolations if needed.

**To Be Raced At:** Tioga Downs and/or Vernon Downs.

**Cancellation:** The Sponsors reserve the right to cancel any or all races if it becomes impractical or undesirable in the opinion of The Sponsors to conduct said races and the right to change the date and/or the location of the race(s). If an event is not raced, The Sponsors responsibility and liability shall be limited to refunding, without interest, all payments collected toward these events. These monies will be pro-rated among those owners of horses eligible at the time of cancellation.

**Added Money:** These funds, barring any unforeseen circumstances which may preclude this, in addition to all fees paid in by nominating horsemen shall constitute the purses for this event.

The Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund	\$200,000 estimated
NY Stallion Owners	\$100,000 estimated
Tioga Downs & Vernon Downs (each)	\$100,000

**Stallion Nomination:** Stallion owners may nominate their eligible stallions for the 2026 event by making a payment equal to the amount of one service fee for the nominated stallion in the year in which those three-year-olds eligible to the 2026 event were bred with the minimum payment being \$1,000. Those stallions breeding fewer than twenty mares in the 2022 season may make their nominated progeny eligible to this event with a payment of \$1,000. Stallion payments are due by March 15, 2024 and payable to Tioga Downs.

**Eligibility:** These events require nominees to have been sired by a stallion standing in the state of New York and registered with The Agriculture & NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund or its agent for the 2022 breeding season when the nominee was bred. The stallion must also have been nominated to the 2026 Empire Breeders Classic events. All nominees must have been nominated as a yearling to the New York State Sire Stakes program or made the supplemental payment to those races as called for in their conditions.

If a New York eligible stallion that bred fewer than 20 mares in 2022 fails to pay into this event, the owner of that NY eligible stallion's progeny may pay an "in lieu of stallion" fee of \$1,000 to make a single two-year-old horse eligible for the 2026 race. Further eligibility requires completion of the regular sustaining payment schedule for three-year-olds as listed below.

If a New York eligible stallion that bred fewer than 20 mares in 2022 fails to pay into this event, the owner of that NY eligible stallion's progeny may pay a supplemental fee of \$6,000 to make a single three-year-old horse eligible for the 2026 race.

**Payments:** (US Funds only)

<b>Two-Year-Old Nominating Payment:</b>	March 15	\$350
<b>OR Two-Year-Old "In Lieu Of" Fee:</b>	March 15	\$1,000
<b>Three-Year-Old Sustaining Payment:</b>	March 15	\$1,000
<b>OR Three-Year-Old Supplemental Fee:</b>	March 15	\$6,000

**Declaration Fee \$2,500 (may be divided)**

Any nomination to this stake is a contract between the nominator and the sponsor and may be void at the discretion of the sponsor if ownership of the nominee is transferred after any payment has been made. Sponsors reserve the right to amend these conditions as deemed necessary without liability.