



# Gaming Commission

One Broadway Center, P.O. Box 7500, Schenectady, NY 12301-7500  
[www.gaming.ny.gov](http://www.gaming.ny.gov)

January 9, 2019

Re: **Industry Comment to Proposed Rulemaking for Helmets and Safety Vests at Thoroughbred Racetracks (9 NYCRR §§ 4006.7 and 4006.8)**

To Whom It May Concern:

On December 18, 2018, the New York State Gaming Commission submitted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to the Department of State proposing amendments to our rules concerning helmets and safety vests at thoroughbred racetracks (9 NYCRR §§ 4006.7 and 4006.8 of 9 NYCRR). The full text of the proposed rules can be found on our website at <https://www.gaming.ny.gov/proposedrules.php>.

As the result of the Jockey Injury Compensation Fund's Report, assessing operational risks in New York Thoroughbred racing, the rulemaking proposal seeks to improve Commission safety rules for protective equipment by expanding the requirement of wearing safety helmets and vests to any person mounted on a horse; increasing the maximum weight of the safety vest from two to four pounds to permit the wearing of newer vest models; and requiring the starting gate crew to wear a safety helmet. The proposal also identifies the safety standards that helmets and vests must meet.

If you wish to provide any comments on this proposed rulemaking, please submit your written comments to Kristen M. Buckley at One Broadway Center, Suite 600, Schenectady, NY 12305 [gamingrules@gaming.ny.gov](mailto:gamingrules@gaming.ny.gov) no later than March 4, 2019.

Very truly yours,

Kristen M. Buckley  
Acting Secretary