

# Chasing

NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE ASSOCIATION | 400 FAIR HILL DRIVE, ELKTON, MD 21921

## Save the date for Go Jump Racing Hospitality Tent event at Saratoga

Members of the steeplechase community will want to mark their calendars and the save the date, Thursday, Aug. 25, for the second annual Go Jump Racing Saratoga Hospitality Tent.

The special event, in a paddock tent overlooking all the activity at historic Saratoga Race Course, will offer an opportunity to come together on New York Turf Writers Cup day and expose other members of the Thoroughbred racing community to the many joys and rewards of steeplechase racing.

Members are urged to attend the event and to bring along members of the flat-racing community as their guests. Food and beverage service will be offered, and the Promotion & Growth Committee is planning informational displays to highlight steeplechase racing's many strengths.

"The first Saratoga event last year was highly successful, and we want to build on its momentum," said Al Griffin Jr., a National Steeplechase Association board member and chair of the Promotion & Growth Committee.

"We have a great story to tell to horse owners and trainers from the world of flat racing," he said. "We have record-setting purses at meets with very large crowds and great ambience. It's a combination that can't be beat, and we want to spread the message at Saratoga, the place where the racing world comes together each summer."

The first Hospitality Tent, held in Saratoga Race Course's At the Rail Pavilion, drew a sizable crowd of steeplechase participants and their guests.

Among those attending was Dogwood Stable founder Cot Campbell, who attended the event with his wife, Anne. Many NSA officers and directors, including Chairman Beverly Steinman and President Guy J. Torsilieri, participated.



National Steeplechase Association President Guy J. Torsilieri, standing, spoke with owner Jacqueline Ohrstrom and trainer Richard Valentine at last year's first Go Jump Racing Saratoga Hospitality Tent, held at the track's At the Rail Pavilion.

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**Go Jump Racing!**





## Sheppard honored for humane care

Racing Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard has been honored by New York-based Equine Advocates with the Ellen and Herbert Moelis Equine Protection Award for his dedication to the humane treatment of racehorses.

The award was to have been presented at the organization's 15th annual awards dinner and auction on July 29 at the Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs.

In a training career that now spans six decades, Sheppard has trained 10 individual Eclipse Award champions, including Racing Hall of Fame members Cafe Prince and Flatterer. Certainly, Flatterer is an example of Sheppard's dedication to his horses both during and after a racing career.

Bred by Sheppard and co-owner Bill Pape, Flatterer won four Eclipse Awards as champion steeplechase horse between 1983 and 1986. After a distinguished racing career that included a gallant second in England's Champion Hurdle, he enjoyed a long retirement until his death in 2014 at the age of 35.

At the time, he was the oldest surviving notable horse in North America.

Sheppard always has had good fortune at Saratoga Race Course and will be looking to extend his untouchable record of 47 straight years with at least one victory at America's premier summer racetrack.

The streak began in 1969, only three years after Sheppard's first winner in a sanctioned race. He has more than 3,000 wins overall.



Amateur steeplechase jockey Sarah Shaffer capped a strong American effort in the U.S. leg of the Longines International Fegentri Ladies Series competition with a victory aboard Wilburn's Princess, left, at Delaware Park on June 12. The races at four Mid-Atlantic racetracks between June 9 and June 13 were sponsored by the Amateur Racing Club of America.

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