



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Office of the Governor

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Gov. Beshear appoints John Phillips to Horse Racing Commission

Phillips replaces John T. Ward who was appointed executive director of Commission

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 3, 2012) – Governor Steve Beshear today announced the appointment of Lexington horseman John Phillips to the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission. Phillips is the owner of Darby Dan Farms in Lexington.

“John is a third-generation horseman who understands and is committed to our priorities of safety and integrity in this sport,” Gov. Beshear said. “He brings a wealth of community and industry knowledge to the post, and his experience operating the legendary Darby Dan Farms is unmatched.”

Phillips replaces John T. Ward, of Paris, who was named by the Governor in February as the executive director of the Commission. Phillips will serve for the remainder of the unexpired term ending July 1, 2014.

The Commission is charged with the responsibility of regulating the conduct of horse racing and pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing and related activities within Kentucky.

Phillips, an attorney, is a member of The Jockey Club and has served as a board member for the Breeders' Cup, the Gluck Equine Research Center, the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, as well as the executive committee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association board and the Communications Committee of the NTRA.

“I am very excited to become part of an excellent horse racing commission that has already made great strides in improving the integrity of this sport,” Phillips said. “There are many important issues before us, and I look forward to working with my fellow commissioners as we continue seeking ways to maintain our status as the Horse Capital of the World.”