

under the provisions of §§ 7 and 15 of this article. There shall be three HARNESS judges at every race meeting conducted by any licensee under the provisions of § 17 of this article. All stewards and HARNESS judges shall be appointed by the Commission UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. The racing associations and [the organization] ORGANIZATIONS representing the horsemen may make recommendations of qualified persons for the Commission's AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S consideration for appointment as stewards or HARNESS judges.

17.

(a) (2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article governing the terms and conditions relating to racing dates, the [Harness Racing Board] COMMISSION, after having denied, revoked, or suspended a license pursuant to § 7 or § 10 of this article, may assign some or all of the harness racing dates previously awarded, or which could have been awarded, to any person, association, or corporation licensed under this article to conduct racing. An assignment of dates may only be made with the consent of the person, association, or corporation to which the assignment is made.

(b) (1) [(i) Each licensee licensed under the provisions of this section shall at its option be permitted to avail itself of the pari-mutuel betting privileges granted in this section, retaining for its own use 13 1/2% of the regular mutuel pool, 15.5 percent of the two horse multiple mutuel pool, if any, and 21 1/2 percent of the three or more horse multiple mutuel pool, if any, of all money wagered on all races conducted by it during the year. Each licensee shall pay to the Harness Racing Board for the use of the State an annual tax at the rate of 3 1/2% of all money wagered on all races conducted by it during the year.

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of this subsection, effective on July 1, 1984, each] EACH licensee licensed under the provisions of this section shall retain for its own use 16.25 percent of the regular mutuel pool, 18.25 percent of the two horse multiple mutuel pool, if any, and 24.25 percent of the three or more horse multiple mutuel pool, if any, of all money wagered on all races conducted by it. Each licensee shall pay to the [Harness Racing Board] COMMISSION for the use of the State an annual tax at the rate of 0.75 percent of all money wagered on all races conducted by it.

(4) Each such licensee having a total wager in excess of \$166,666.67 daily average during the racing season, in any one year similarly shall pay to the [Harness Racing Board] COMMISSION for the use of the State, breakage computed to ten cents (10¢) on the entire amount thereof provided, however, that each such licensee shall deduct and retain one half of the breakage computed to ten cents (10¢) on the amount wagered on races conducted by the licensee which shall be allocated by the licensee to pay the cost of track maintenance, physical