

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Good Afternoon and Welcome to the **“Race Course Management”** session

As we come to the conclusion of the 1st day of the 36th Asian Racing Conference, you will see that throughout this week insightful topics and challenging issues will be presented.

From the Wagering Landscape, to the Rising Tide of Illegal Gambling, International Movement of Horses, Handicapping and Race Planning, Racing Media and the 21st Century Fan. None of these will be 100% successful unless we present a solid **Race Course Management Program** that produces Three Key Initiatives:

S

Safety

C

Consistency

R

Results

These 3 Components are required to have the equine and human athlete perform at the highest level of sound competition. No Grand Prix Circuit would be viable without a safe and acceptable track to race over, no Professional Cricket, Football or Rugby organization could produce fans to attend, maximum media coverage at the event or top athletes to perform if the grounds are not suitable and safe. **Thoroughbred Horse Racing is no Different!**

Race Course Management leads in many areas outside the physical Race Track when we look at **S C R Safety, Consistency and Results** of track facilities. Horsemen around the Globe expect that when they ship horses into your facility that their horses are in a safe environment.

These areas consist of the Stables / Quarantine areas, Horse Ramps, Road Crossings, Tunnels that offer protected floor and walls, Horse Rails, Horse Paths that your horse will travel every day to train, Receiving Barns – you ship into, and on Race day, the Testing Units, the Saddling Paddock, and the Parade Ring where the Jockeys will mount up.

All of these areas we just mentioned lead to the most important aspect of **Race Course Management**, and that is your physical **Race Track Course.**

A key objective of **Race Track Management** is to get maximum horse speed without injury to horse or rider with positive long lasting results and maintain future field size and wagering revenue, increasing return on the investment to Horsemen, Horse Owners, Jockeys, the Race Track Owners and the Fans.

How do you achieve this?

By Focusing on Several Key Components:

1. Surface Composition
2. Irrigation and Water quality
3. Surface Maintenance
4. Equipment Maintenance
5. Weather Data Technology
6. Employee Training

By concentrating on these key components, you can obtain a maximum effort in the success of **S C R** “**Safety, Consistency and Result**” in your racecourse.

SAFETY: is and always should be paramount in the integrity and maintenance of your Race Course.

CONSISTENCY: is what all Race Track Managers and Horsemen strive to maintain the highest level of performance from equine athletes.

RESULTS: with a Safe and Consistent Race Track, the horse owner will get a return of his or her investment and horsemen will have consistent statistics to properly evaluate their horses to keep racing at its most competitive level. The Jockey will be confident riding the Horses on a Consistent and Reliable Safe racing surface to get the best results that will be **affirmed** by the racing fan with repeat attendance and increase wagering.

In today's session we will hear from 2 excellent Racing Organizations

1. Hong Kong Jockey Club, Mr. John Ridley (Director of Racing Operations)
2. Japan Racing Association, Mr. Futoshi Sakakibara (Manager of Track Engineering Section).

Ladies and Gentlemen, please enjoy today's informative session on

"Race Course Management"

Thank you!