

Contacts:

Aaron Bedessem, Running Aces, <u>abedessem@runaces.com</u>, 651-925-4587 Molly Mulvehill Steinke, Nemer Fieger, <u>molly@nemerfieger.com</u>, 612-309-1677

Running Aces Commitment to the Well-Being of Standard Bred Horses

Columbus, Minn. (Jan 25, 2023) --- Running Aces Casino, Hotel & Racetrack announced a formal partnership with This Old Horse, continuing their commitment to Minnesota's Standardbred horses and the well-being after a racing career.

This Old Horse is a multi-accredited, non-profit racehorse aftercare program with 13 locations in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Along with a variety of joint efforts, Running Aces has committed to annual funding for various training, rehoming, rehabilitation, and safety support for qualified Standard bred horses transitioning into retirement.

While Running Aces has a history of support for racehorse aftercare, Taro Ito, President, and CEO proposed the idea to formalize the company's position on an annual basis. He said, "This is an important issue for our industry, and I know it is the right thing to do."

Running Aces, considered one of the most beautiful, well-maintained harness racetracks in the country, presents live racing between May and September each year and plays host over 250 Standardbred racehorses each year. Race fans are interested in learning what happens next to equine athletes once their racing days are over and Running Aces believes this new program will provide assurances to the public that they are committed to what happens to these horses after the finish line, too.

"This is good news for Standardbred horses," said Nancy Turner, President of This Old Horse. "This commitment by Minnesota's harness racing industry is one of the most innovative and progressive aftercare support programs in the Country. The desire of the racing industry to work together to assure the well-being of racehorses at every stage of their life and the willingness to work collaboratively to make it happen is inspiring."

The Minnesota Harness Racing, Inc., representing drivers, trainers, owners, and grooms who work in the Minnesota Standardbred industry and promotes the welfare of racehorses have pledged a portion of race start fees to this initiative as well. It's Vice President Cathy Dessert said, "We are pleased that our organization has the opportunity to collaborate with Running Aces and Racehorse Reimagined to provide aftercare resources to our versatile equine athletes; which will enable retraining as a stepping stone for the next career of their lives after racing."

Vice Chair of the Minnesota Racing Commission Barb Colombo stated, "We applaud RA its bold efforts to help ensure the safe and healthy retirement of Standardbred racehorses, and in many cases, transitioning them to quality second careers."

Running Aces will start the 2023 live horse racing season on Sunday, May 14th and will race every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 7pm. The full list of promotional days and events will be available soon at RunAces.com.

About Running Aces® Casino, Hotel & Racetrack

Running Aces is the Twin Cities' premier card room, hotel, and entertainment destination just 20 minutes North of St. Paul/Minneapolis. With a 24/7 smoke-free card room, including stadium gaming and simulcast races around the country, plus live harness horse racing and trout fishing in the summer season, Running Aces provides a local getaway any time of the year for the whole family. The new state-of-the-art 116-room, full-service hotel features a modern look, the latest technology, and fantastic racetrack views. Running Aces has been serving up the best in food, cards, racing, entertainment, and customer service since 2008. www.RunAces.com