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NYTHA Executive Director

October 29, 2021

To our Members,

Please see the NYRA Press Release, below, announcing the welcome news that Aqueduct Racetrack will re-open to fans - who can provide proof of vaccination - when the Fall Meet begins on Thursday, November 11.

Yesterday, we sent an email to membership containing additional information regarding acceptable proof of vaccination and NYRA's use of new "Vaccinated" stickers for the credentials of owners, trainers and their staff to expedite the process when entering Aqueduct.

That email may be found [HERE](#).

Please let us know if we can assist you with the vaccine regulation or any other concern.

Regards,

Will

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Aqueduct Racetrack to Re-Open to Fans on November 11

NYC requires all fans to demonstrate proof of vaccination

Aqueduct Racetrack will re-open to the public on Thursday, November 11, Opening Day of the 2021 fall meet.

Originally closed to fans during the height of the COVID-19 emergency in March of 2020, Aqueduct then became the site of a New York State mass vaccination center in January 2021.

The vaccination center, which has distributed more than 300,000 COVID-19 inoculations to date, was a critical piece in the New York State led effort to quickly and efficiently vaccinate New Yorkers. The size and scope of the center, which occupied the entirety of Aqueduct's first floor, required the continued closure of the facility to the general public.

"We are proud to have partnered with New York State so that so many New Yorkers had easy access to these incredibly important vaccines," said NYRA President and CEO Dave O'Rourke. "NYRA would also like to thank our loyal fans for their patience as we worked to bring them back to the Big A. Aqueduct is New York City's racetrack, and we couldn't be happier to finally be able to open the doors once again on November 11."

While the vaccination center will remain in operation, its footprint will be reduced and consolidated. Appointments are optional and walk-ins are currently being accommodated for COVID-19 vaccinations at Aqueduct. For additional information, and details on eligibility for booster doses, please visit <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>.

New York City has established strict vaccine requirements for nearly all indoor settings. Proof of vaccination is currently required to enter indoor entertainment venues, sports arenas, restaurants, movie theaters, music and concert venues, museums, aquariums and zoos, convention centers, exhibition halls, hotel meeting and event spaces, performing arts theaters, bowling alleys, arcades and a host of other settings.

This vaccine requirement is inclusive of fans, employees, vendors and anyone else who physically enters the venue. Accordingly, and in compliance with New York City law, anyone seeking to enter Aqueduct Racetrack must show proof of vaccination in order to gain admittance.

This program, called the Key to NYC, prohibits NYRA from allowing entrance to Aqueduct to anyone over the age of 12 who cannot demonstrate proof that the individual has received at least **one dose** of a vaccine. NYRA will accept the CDC vaccination card and the New York State Excelsior pass as proof of vaccination.

NYRA previously announced that the Belmont fall meet, originally scheduled to conclude on October 31, will be extended to include three additional dates from Friday, November 5 through Sunday, November 7. These dates were originally scheduled to be run at Aqueduct Racetrack as opening weekend of the Aqueduct fall meet. As a result, the 15-day Aqueduct fall meet will now begin on Thursday, November 11 and continue through Sunday, December 5.

Admission to Aqueduct, which will be open to the public on live race days only, is free of charge. The gates will open daily at 11 a.m. First post during the Aqueduct fall meet is

Fans visiting Aqueduct should use the Clubhouse Entrance to provide the required proof of vaccination. Preferred parking will be \$10 daily in the Clubhouse lot and general parking will be in the Conduit lot. All parking fees must be paid via credit card.

For additional information, visit NYRA.com.

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