



**For Immediate Release**  
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***SUFFOLK DOWNS OPENS LIVE RACING SEASON THIS SATURDAY,  
KENTUCKY DERBY DAY***

**EAST BOSTON, MA** – Opening Day of the 2009 live racing season at Suffolk Downs is this Saturday, May 2, Kentucky Derby Day. Gates open at 10 a.m. First post time for the nine-race program is 1:15 p.m.

In addition to live racing, the track will simulcast the 135<sup>th</sup> running of the Kentucky Derby from Churchill Downs. Wagering on the Kentucky Derby will be available both Friday and Saturday.

On Opening Day, patrons can receive a 2009 season pass with a \$5 donation to the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation. The TRF will have a booth on the first floor of the Grandstand, where they will also be conducting a silent auction featuring racing and Boston sports memorabilia.

Patrons can also have their picture taken with a racehorse and jockey at the Fan Photo Experience located at the main Clubhouse entrance. Hours are 12:15-3:15 (weather permitting).

For the month of May, live racing will be held every Wednesday and Saturday, as well as Memorial Day (May 25) and Sunday, May 31, the date of the 20<sup>th</sup> annual Hot Dog Safari. Usual first post time is 12:45 p.m. Post time on Opening Day and subsequent Triple Crown race days is 1:15 p.m.

As of June 3, the track will conduct a Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Saturday racing schedule until the conclusion of the meet on Saturday, November 7. First post time will be 12:45 p.m. daily.

Suffolk Downs will be offering a 10-cent superfecta wager on all of its races. The track added this exotic wager to its daily menu on a limited basis in 2007 and continued it last year.

The track's marquee event, the Massachusetts Handicap, which has earned Grade III status by the American Graded Stakes Committee, is slated for the fall. Track officials are in the process of finalizing the timing of the MassCap and will announce the date in the coming weeks.

**About Suffolk Downs:**

Founded in 1935, Suffolk Downs is New England's only active Thoroughbred racing venue. Home of the Massachusetts Handicap, it has hosted Hall of Fame horses Seabiscuit, Whirlaway and Cigar, among others, and has been the site of performances by world-renowned entertainers, including the Beatles, Aerosmith and Elvis Costello. For additional information about Suffolk Downs, call (617) 567-3900 or visit [www.suffolkdowns.com](http://www.suffolkdowns.com).