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More Than 50 3-Year-Olds Nominated for Inaugural \$500,000 Penn Mile

Grantville, **PA (Thursday, May 23, 2013)** – More than 50 3-year-old colts were nominated to the inaugural running of the \$500,000 Penn Mile on the turf, including the winners of seven of the eight graded stakes races run on the turf for 2-year-olds last year and 3-year-olds this year.

Entries for the Penn Mile, the richest race in the history of Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course, will be taken Wednesday, May 29, with the race set to be run Saturday, June 1 on a ten-race card kicking off at 6 p.m. and featuring six stakes races worth more than \$1 million in purses, including the \$250,000 Mountainview Handicap and the \$150,000 Pennsylvania Governor's Cup.

The Penn Mile will be scheduled as the fourth race on the June 1 card (approximate 7:22 p.m. post) as the final leg of an All Stakes Early Pick 4.

Among the most accomplished turf colts nominated for the Penn Mile are trainer Chad Brown's Grade 2 winning duo of **Noble Tune** and **Balance the Books**, who ran second and third in the 2012 Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, respectively, along with Grade 3 grass winners **Den's Legacy** for Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, **Jack Milton** for five-time Eclipse Champion Trainer Todd Pletcher, and **Rydilluc** for four-time leading NYRA trainer Gary Contessa.

Two horses that most recently contested the 139th running of the Kentucky Derby on May 4 were nominated to the Penn Mile – Grade 2 winner **Vyjack** for trainer Rudy Rodriguez and multiple graded stakes-placed **Charming Kitten** for Pletcher.

Grade 1 winners **Java's War** for trainer Kenny McPeek and **Power Broker** for Baffert are also among those nominated to the Penn Mile, with the former's top win coming on a synthetic surface and the latter's on dirt.

Of the remaining Penn Mile nominees, 20 are either stakes winners or have finished top three in a graded stakes race.

More than 40 horses were nominated to the second running of the \$250,000 Mountainview Handicap for 3-year-olds & up going 1 1/8 miles on the dirt, including 20 graded stakes winners.

Among those nominated was multiple Grade 1 winner **Ron the Greek** for Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott, who also nominated Grade 1 winner **Flat Out**.

Additional Grade 1 winners nominated were **Drill** for Baffert, **Golden Ticket** for Kenny McPeek, **Hymn Book** for Shug McGaughey, **Liaison** for Baffert, and **Ruler On Ice** for Kelly Breen.

The 40th running of the \$150,000 Pennsylvania Governor's Cup fittingly drew 40 nominations, including eight graded stakes winners. Among those nominated were the winners of the past three editions of the race – **Kyma** for trainer Brandon Kulp, **Ben's Cat**, who has won 16 stakes race for legendary trainer King

Leatherbury, and 2010 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint champion **Chamberlain Bridge** for trainer Bret Calhoun.

In addition to the Penn Mile, Mountainview, and Pennsylvania Governor's Cup, the June 1 card will also feature the \$50,000 Penn Dash for 3-year-olds and up going five furlongs, and a pair of \$60,000 six furlong dirt sprints, the E Dubai HBPA and the Silver Train HBPA, for Pennsylvania-bred or Pennsylvania-sired horses. It will be the richest day of racing in the 40-year history of Penn National.

HRTV, The Network for Horse Sports, will be providing race day coverage of the Penn Mile, including in-studio commentary and analysis by network talent TV and online features and promotion during the week leading up to the events.

Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course is a Penn National Gaming property that offers guests the most exciting and unique entertainment experience in Central Pennsylvania. The venue features more than 2,463 slot machines, 53 banked gaming tables, and a 16-table Poker room. Live thoroughbred and simulcast horse racing is offered year-round. An array of dining options are available including the award-winning Final Cut Steakhouse, winner of three consecutive Wine Spectator Awards of Excellence; Mountainview Dining, a 500-seat restaurant overlooking the one-mile racetrack; SkyBox Sports Bar, and the popular 350-seat Epic Buffet.

Penn National Race Course, located minutes from Hershey and Harrisburg, PA., opened on August 30, 1972, and has presented top-class live thoroughbred racing for more than 40 years. The original track was taken down in 2006 and the new Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course, a fully-integrated gaming and racing facility, opened on February 12, 2008.

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