

# Racing commission rules against horse owner

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

The Ontario Racing Commission (ORC) did not put the cart before the horse in levying record fines and 10-year suspensions against Limehouse stable owner Walt Dixon and three others for shadow training and hidden ownership.

In a ruling released last week, an ORC panel dismissed or denied 10 motions made on behalf of Dixon, trainer Doug Berkeley of Moffat, veterinary assistant Leslie Berkeley, trainer Matthew Moeykens and Punky T Stables of Limehouse, that the fines and suspension — levied prior to a hearing — are unconstitutional.

On March 1, the ORC fined and suspended 14 individuals who it claimed acted in a manner "prejudicial to the best interests of racing," through their involvement in a shadow ownership and training scheme the ORC says netted them \$2-million.

The ORC, a quasi-judicial body, levied fines of \$350,000 against Dixon and Doug Berkeley. Moeykens was fined \$10,000 and Leslie Berkeley was fined \$50,000. All were also suspended from racing for 10 years and the licence for Punky T Stable was suspended for 10 years.

ORC rules require owners and trainers be licensed and their names listed in the official programs given to bettors.

The ORC alleges Berkeley, while suspended, continued to train horses that were listed on programs as being trained by Moeykens. Dixon allegedly gave inaccurate information about horses he owned and gave misleading information, racing horses identifying Moeykens as the trainer when the actual trainer was Berkeley.

At a hearing last month, their lawyer, Frank Roth, challenged the fines and suspensions, arguing they violate his client's rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Last week, the

ORC ruled the fines and suspensions stand, paving the way for a full hearing on the merits of the case.

Roth said he, and all of his clients, are "disappointed" with the results of the hearing and are determining what their next move will be.

"There's been no full and fair hearing of the evidence by an impartial tribunal whatsoever," Roth said last Thursday, adding his clients are "actively reviewing and contemplating an appeal to the Division Court for a judicial review of the decision."

## Two area businesses are fined by WSIB

Two area businesses have been fined for offences under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act.

A Georgetown business 1408140 Ontario Inc. operating as TJ's Grillhouse pleaded guilty to a charge of failure to register as an employer with the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) and was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000. A charge against the owner was withdrawn.

A similar charge against a Campbellville business, Fine Oak Things, resulted in a fine of \$1,500 but again a charge against the owner was withdrawn.

Businesses covered by the

Workplace Safety and Insurance Act that hire workers must register within 10 days of employing their first part-time or full-time worker. They can register through the WSIB's website (www.wsib.on.ca), or by calling toll free at 1-800-387-0080.

The WSIB administers no-fault workplace insurance for employers and their workers and is committed to the prevention of workplace injuries and illnesses. The WSIB provides disability benefits, monitors the quality of healthcare, and assists in early and safe return to work for workers who are injured on the job or contract an occupational disease.



SHE SHOOT: Shelby Pitre shoots the ball towards the goal during an under-9 shooting drill on Saturday, May 12 at the Acton Soccer Club's "Fun Day" at MSB. - Ellen Piehl photo

## TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Working Together Working for You!

### Volunteer Appreciation Reception



Her Worship Mayor Kathy Gastle and Members of Council will be paying tribute to residents who volunteer in the Halton Hills community.

Thursday, June 7th  
at the Civic Centre  
1 Halton Hills Drive  
Halton Hills (Georgetown)

Guest Speaker  
David Warner,  
United Nations Toronto Chapter

Spend some time with your fellow volunteers. Enjoy refreshments and entertainment provided by the Halton Police Chorus.

If your organization has not confirmed attendance, please R.S.V.P. by Wednesday, May 30, 2001 to (905) 873-2601, ext. 2340 or 2345.

P.O. Box 128, 1 Halton Hills Dr., Halton Hills (Georgetown), ON L7G 5G2  
Tel.: 905-873-2600 • Fax: (905) 873-2347

# GREENSCAPE NURSERY

WEEKEND SPECIAL  
Petunias & Marigolds  
\$11.00  
per flat

## PURPLE WAVE PETUNIA

New!

- Easy To Grow!
- Spreads up to 4 feet
- Takes hot or cold
- Covered with big 2-2 1/2" blooms

Sun  
Garden Height: 4-6"  
(10-15 cm.)  
Spacing: 18-24" (46-61 cm.)

"Green Thumb" Tip:  
Feed weekly with an all-purpose fertilizer and keep well-watered.



HERBS & VEGETABLES  
\$1.49

PREMIUM BLACK LOAM SOIL  
4 / \$11.00

BUY 3 ROSE BUSHES  
GET 1 BAG ROSE FOOD  
Value \$5.99

### WAVE PETUNIA BASKETS

Lilac, Purple, Pink, 3' trailer  
Reg. \$29.99

NOW 2 for \$40.00

FRESH STOCK  
ARRIVING DAILY



MEMBER OF LANDSCAPE ONTARIO

1km west of Rockwood, Hwy #7  
519-856-1311