

**THE JOCKEY CLUB  
THOROUGHBRED SAFETY COMMITTEE  
RECOMMENDATION  
March 27, 2019**

**Recommendation: Recording Additional Data or Making Additional Data Sources Available for Analysis of Factors Associated with Increased Risk of Racing Fatality**

The Equine Injury Database, a free service to the industry, was launched in 2009 to centrally store information on injuries sustained by racehorses to assist in injury mitigation planning. Analyses of the database by subject matter experts have concluded that approximately 35% of the variation in racing fatalities is associated with identifiable factors that may prove predictive of future catastrophic racing injury. These factors include the length of the race, the frequency of starts, changes in trainer listed in the program, and condition of the racing surface.

Based upon testimony provided to The Jockey Club Thoroughbred Safety Committee by subject matter experts, additional sources of data are critical for identifying and better understanding other factors potentially having an important role in racing fatality. Additional data from new sources would continue to enhance the precision of the statistical model, which currently contains the relevant starts and injury records of the racetracks (98% of all North American racetracks) currently participating in the Equine Injury Database. The goal of these analyses is to further develop those factors that are potentially predictive of increased risk of racing fatality to assist track management and industry stakeholders with injury prevention.

The Jockey Club Thoroughbred Safety Committee calls for:

“All racing associations and regulatory officials to record additional data or make such additional data sources available for analysis in the Equine Injury Database including:

- Post-race and out-of-competition test results,
- Medications and treatments administered to the horse,
- Any laboratory/clinical findings discovered at necropsy of a fatally injured horse,
- All maintenance practices and analytical findings performed on racing surfaces, and
- Other details related to track surface condition.

Any information subject to contractual or statutory protections should be made available accordingly.”

As a continuing service to the industry, The Jockey Club will make any changes to the Equine Injury Database necessary for the recording of additional data elements.