



MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB

CHAMPIONS HANDICAPPING TOURNAMENT

Frequently Asked Questions

Choose Your Berth!

There are 4 berths up for grabs in the 2023 Fall Champions Tournament: Two berths into the 2024 NTRA National Horseplayers Championship (NHC), one berth into 2023 The Breeders' Cup Betting Challenge (BCBC) and one berth into 2024 Pegasus World Cup Betting Championship (PWCBC). The first place finisher can choose 1 of any of the 4 berths. The second place finisher has a choice of 1 of the 3 remaining berths. The third place finisher has a choice of 1 the 2 remaining berths and the fourth place finisher wins the remaining berth.

The NHC berth cannot be bought; every player must qualify for the NHC tournament. This qualifier is for the NHC taking place on March 15 - 17, 2024. The BCBC berth covers your \$2,500 entry fee and \$7,500 bank, as well as two days of championship racing. The BCBC takes place November 3 & 4, 2023 at Santa Anita Park and satellite locations. The PWCBC berth has a value of \$8,800 and will take place January 2024.

1. When can I enter the tournament?

Registration for the Saturday, August 19, 2023 Champions tournament will begin Saturday, July 15.

You can call **443-547-5953** if you want to register with a credit card (Mastercard or Visa) - \$300 Entry fee Only. The bank cannot be charged to a credit card. Or, you can mail in your entry fee and bank (Money order or cashier's check), or mail in just your entry fee, if you prefer. If you are registering over the phone you have until NOON on Friday, August 18. If you call after 12:00pm on Friday (8/18) you will reach a voice mail message telling you that early registration is closed and how many open spots in the tournament (if applicable), registration will resume the morning of the tournament at 10:00am. in the Sports Bar on the 2nd-floor Clubhouse.

2. How do I get a registration form?

You can e-mail diana.harbaugh@marylandracing.com before noon on August 18 or click here to download the rules and entry form.

3. How much to enter the tournament?

You need a total of \$500 (per entry) to enter the tournament, a \$300 entry fee and a \$200 bank.

4. How many entries may I have in the tournament?

You are allowed a maximum of two entries per person.

5. What are the tracks available for wagering in the tournament?

The tracks available for wagering in the August 2023 Champions tournament are Laurel, Saratoga, Gulfstream, Monmouth and Woodbine. There are no mandatory races, all races from the valid tracks are available for wagering in the tournament.

6. Should I register early/Why? How many do you allow in the tournament?

Yes. The only way to guarantee a spot is to register early. We cap the entries at 300.

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7. Do I get to keep what is in my bank at the end of the tournament?

Yes, the bank is yours to keep.

8. If I place 2 bets on the same horse, is it considered 2 wagers as long as each bet is for \$20 or more?

Maybe... the rules will give you more details, but you may wager \$20 to win, place and show on the same horse and it will count as 3 bets; if you wager \$20 to win twice on the same horse, that will count as only 1 wager.

9. How many places do you pay?

First through tenth place finishers receive a prize check. If you are among the top ten, be sure to stop by the registration table before you leave.

10. What is the average winning balance to win the tournament?

It depends on the year, but the first place winner has had a balance anywhere from \$2,192 to \$4,359. Click here to view past winning balances.

11. How many people do you send to The National Horseplayers Championship (NHC) in Las Vegas, the Breeders' Cup Betting Challenge (BCBC), and The Pegasus World Cup Betting Championship (PWCBC) ?

This tournament will send 2 people to the NHC, 1 person to the BCBC and 1 person to the PWCBC. NHC tour points will be awarded from this tournament. To be eligible for NHC seats, players MUST be an NHC tour member PRIOR to the start of the Champions tournament. If a player is ineligible, the NHC berth will be awarded to the entrant with the next highest tournament bankroll.

12. Who pays for the airfare and hotel?

The hotel stay is included for the NHC berth and the PWCBC berth. The player is responsible for air fare.

13. Is there a minimum/maximum wager?

Yes, the minimum wager allowed in the tournament is \$20; there is no maximum wager cap. You can not add money to your bank, however if you have winning wagers FROM QUALIFIED BETS, the winnings are added to your bank and you are free to wager the maximum in your bank.

14. Can I place all my bets early and leave or do I have to stay for the entire tournament?

You don't have to stay for the tournament, however if you win, we will need additional information before we can mail your check, you will need to return to cash out your bank, one of your horses may scratch resulting in cancellation of your wager and you miss lunch. We also need your choice of berths if you finish in the top 4 spots. I suggest you plan to stay.

15. Can I bring a guest/phone/laptop?

A limited number of guests are allowed (first come, first served) for a \$20.00 fee. Phones are allowed; please be courteous when on a cell phone. Electricity is available at most tables.

Have an additional question?

Call Diana Harbaugh at **443-547-5953**

or email at **diana.harbaugh@marylandracing.com**