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***RICHARD FIELDS GIVEN LOU SMITH MEMORIAL AWARD BY
NEW ENGLAND TURF WRITERS ASSOCIATION***

DANVERSPORT, MA - Richard Fields, who became the largest shareholder at Suffolk Downs in the spring of 2007, was given the 2007 Lou Smith Memorial Award for yearly achievement at the New England Turf Writers Association's 66th annual awards dinner held Monday, July 14 at the Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers, MA.

Prior to Fields' investment in Suffolk Downs, thoroughbred racing in New England faced an uncertain future. Immediately upon his arrival to Suffolk Downs, Fields made it clear that he was committed to revitalizing racing in the region and preserving the rich tradition that the Sport of Kings has there. Under his leadership, purses at Suffolk Downs were increased, improvements were made to the barn area, and a broad marketing campaign was launched, resulting in significant increases in on-track attendance and handle in 2007.

Fields was also responsible for bringing back the historic MassCap after a two-year absence, much to the delight of local racing fans. Fields has also led the establishment of a strong horse retirement program and a renewed commitment to giving back to the local community.

Other honorees included owner Francis McDonnell, recipient of the Sam McCracken Memorial Award for lifetime achievement in New England racing, all of the divisional champion horses from 2007, outstanding trainer Rafael Ramos, outstanding jockey Tammi Piermarini, and several special achievement award winners.

The NETWA also inducted its Hall of Fame Class of 2008, which consists of multiple-New England champion Timely Writer, trainer George Handy and track announcer Jim Hannon. The Hall of Fame was founded in 2005. A plaque bearing the names of all of the inductees is on permanent display at the Sports Museum located in the TD Banknorth Garden.