

FAQ's

1. Question...Do the communities around Laurel Park Racecourse support slots?

Of the (4) precincts around Laurel Park, (3) voted approximately 60-40% FOR slots in the 2008 Referendum. The 4th, Russett, voted 51-49% against. Many people said they voted for slots because they assumed the Anne Arundel County license would be at a racetrack, Laurel Park, to help Maryland Horse Racing. Many of the communities around Arundel Mills have indicated that they DO NOT want slots at Arundel Mills.

2. Question...Why would Laurel Park serve as a better site for a slots license than Arundel Mills?

It will take years (2015) for Arundel Mills to generate the revenue that Laurel Park could provide within 9-12 months of being licensed. This is because Laurel Park already has plan and permitting approvals, and community support, a process which Laurel Park has been working on and developing over the course of the last 8 years or so.

3. Question...How can a referendum on Bill 82-09 allow Laurel Park to be reconsidered for a slots license?

A successful petition drive will take the issue of Bill No 82-09, which grants zoning for slots at Arundel Mills, to a vote of the citizens of Anne Arundel County in the November 2010 elections. This can re-open the slots license application process and thus allow Laurel Park, based on the scheduled sale, to submit a First Class bid under potentially different circumstances.

4. Question...Why is Saving Maryland Horse Racing important?

Horse Racing and Breeding in Maryland generate 20,000 jobs and have an annual economic impact of \$1.5 Billion. Horse Racing is the State's 3rd largest industry, behind Tourism and the Port of Baltimore.

Maryland's historic Pimlico Race Course, sister track to Laurel Park, is the 2nd oldest racetrack in the entire United States, just behind Saratoga in New York. Maryland was the 2nd jurisdiction in America to host organized horse racing, after New York. Horse racing began in Maryland in the 1700's, and has now touched 4 centuries.

The Maryland Jockey Club, parent company of Laurel Park (founded in 1911), and Pimlico Race Course (founded in 1870) is the oldest sporting institution in all of North America.

A vibrant and strong Laurel Park will preserve green space in and around Laurel Park, and also help to support hundreds of horse farms and acres of green space throughout the State.

5. Question...How has Laurel Park supported its surrounding communities?

For many years, Laurel Park has provided its surrounding communities with about \$400,000 in annual impact fees. Among other projects, Laurel Park Impact Fees have built the Maryland City Fire House and the Russett Library (the only County Library with Sunday hours); purchased 2 new

fire engines and emergency medical equipment, such as ambulances; supported local schools; maintained landscaping along the Route 198 corridor; and provided seed money for the construction of a public and handicapped access at Russett's OxBow Observation Platform.

6. Question...Why will a slots emporium at Arundel Mills cause the collapse of Laurel Park and Maryland Horse Racing as we now know it?

If there is a slots emporium at Arundel Mills, Laurel Park cannot survive. Horse Racing will cease to exist as we have known it at Laurel Park for so many years. An entire industry, and the many people and jobs it supports, will collapse. Laurel Park will then most likely become yet another unwanted housing development or strip-mall retail center.

Over the past (close to 15 years), Maryland horse racing has faced crippling competition from slots, first in Delaware, and then in West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Slots at Arundel Mills will: further erode the Laurel Park customer base, shift consumer spending of discretionary dollars, and prevent financing for marketing upgrades and capital improvements that will allow Laurel Park to remain competitive with an upscale facility and the implementation of programs to attract a younger demographic that will grow and build the business.

The interests of Maryland Horse Racing and Breeding can best be served and protected by a slot license holder that is a stake holder in this industry, like Laurel Park.

7. Question...Why didn't Laurel Park submit the required \$28 million licensing application fee in February 2009?

Laurel Park did not submit the \$28 million license fee in February 2009 because its parent company, Magna Entertainment, was unable to receive assurance that the license fee was refundable in the event required zoning was denied.