

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Charles Town Releases 2013 Stakes Schedule

**Charles Town, WV (December 10, 2012)** – With the Charles Town Classic (G2) and its newly minted \$1,500,000 purse as its centerpiece, Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races today released its full stakes lineup for 2013.

Charles Town's stakes schedule kicks off on April 20 with the \$1,500,000 Charles Town Classic, as well as 5 other stakes on the evening's 13 race program. With its \$1,500,000 purse that includes \$1,000,000 paid out to the winner, the Charles Town Classic now stands as the richest race in the United States outside of the Kentucky Derby and Breeders' Cup.

The most lucrative race on the April 20th undercard will be the \$200,000 Sugar Maple for fillies and mares going 7 furlongs. The Sugar Maple has been run on the Charles Town Classic undercard since the inaugural running of both races in 2009. Joining the Sugar Maple will be the \$85,000 Robert Hilton Memorial, \$50,000 Webb Snyder Charles Town Dash as well as the \$50,000 Original Gold and Confucius Say for accredited West Virginia-breds.

The Charles Town Sprint Festival, on the calendar in late June since 2008, has been removed with a pair of races formerly held on the day shifted to the track's Race for the Ribbon Card on September 21.

The featured race on the Sprint Festival card, the Red Legend, is one of those races moved to its new spot in September and has been renamed The Researcher, after the winner of the first two Charles Town Classics. The Researcher, a 7-furlong race for three-year-olds will maintain the same \$400,000 purse it's carried since 2010 and stands behind the \$500,000 Kings Bishop (G1) at Saratoga on the list of the country's richest sprints for three-year-olds.

"Moving the Researcher to September was primarily a matter of being scheduled around 2 or 3 three-year-old races as opposed to the 7 or 8 we had crossover with in June," said Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races Vice President of Racing Erich Zimny. "In June, there were a few sprints within a couple weeks of the race and, with our race being 2 turns, we found ourselves losing horses to some of the route races at that time of the year. It was a very crowded spot on the calendar for a race like ours."

The fifth running of the Charles Town Oaks joins The Researcher on September 21 to form a duo of \$400,000 races to headline the card. The Charles Town Oaks will be run at the same 7 furlong distance that it's been contested at since its inception.

Also moved from the Sprint Festival to September is the \$85,000 Wild & Wonderful for horses 3&up going 7 furlongs. Other stakes on the Race for the Ribbon card include the \$50,000 Pink Ribbon as well as a trio of \$50,000 stakes for West Virginia breds – the Rachel's Turn, Henry Mercer Memorial and It's Only Money.

Including the 5 restricted stakes conducted on the Charles Town Classic and Race for the Ribbon days, 16 stakes for West Virginia breds, totaling \$800,000 in purses are currently scheduled in 2013. Not included in that figure is the \$100,000 Tri-State Futurity, open to horses bred in West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia.

Also not included in those totals is the third of Charles Town's event days - West Virginia Breeders' Classics XXVII, which is slated for October 19. The races and purses for the day showcasing the top

West Virginia bred horses in training will be released at a later date. In 2012, West Virginia Breeders' Classics XXVI was comprised of 9 races and \$1,345,000 in available purse money. The evening's signature race, the \$500,000 West Virginia Breeders' Classic, was won by the Sandra Dono trained Lucy's Bob Boy.

All told, the 2013 Charles Town Stakes schedule is made up of 25 races worth a total of \$3,670,000, excluding the West Virginia Breeders' Classics whose purses have not yet been finalized.

## 2013 HOLLYWOOD CASINO AT CHARLES TOWN RACES STAKES SCHEDULE

April 20 May 25 June 22 June 29 August 3 August 10 August 17 August 24 September 21 September 30 November 9 November 16	\$1,500,000 Charles Town Classic (G2), 4&up, 1 1/8 miles \$200,000 Sugar Maple, F&M 4&up, 7 furlongs \$85,000 Robert Hilton Memorial, 3YO, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Webb Snyder Charles Town Dash, 3&up, 4 1/2 furlongs \$50,000 Confucius Say S. (WV), 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Original Gold S. (WV), F&M 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Fancy Buckles S. (WV), F&M 3&up, 4 1/2 furlongs \$50,000 It's Binn Too Long S. (WV), F 3YO, 4 1/2 furlongs \$50,000 Coin Collector S. (WV), 3YO, 4 1/2 furlongs \$50,000 Robert G. Leavitt S. (WV), 3YO, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Sadie Hawkins S. (WV), F&M 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Frank Gall Memorial (WV), 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Sylvia Bishop Memorial (WV), F 3YO, 7 furlongs \$400,000 Researcher S., 3YO, 7 furlongs \$400,000 Charles Town Oaks, F 3YO, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Wild & Wonderful, 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Pink Ribbon, F&M 3&up, 7 furlongs \$50,000 Henry Mercer Memorial (WV), 2YO, 4 1/2 furlongs \$50,000 Rachel's Turn S. (WV), F 2YO, 4 1/2 furlongs West Virginia Bredeers' Classics XXVII, Races TBD \$100,000 Tri-State Futurity (R), 2YO, 7 furlongs \$50,000 My Sister Pearl S. (WV), F&M 3&up, 1 1/8 miles \$50,000 West Virginia Futurity (WV), 2YO, 7 furlongs
November 30	\$50,000 West Virginia Futurity (WV), 2YO, 7 furlongs
December 21	\$50,000 Eleanor Casey Memorial (WV), F 2YO, 7 furlongs