

## EVENT PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **2020 GENESEE VALLEY HUNT RACES CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19 SITUATION**

*JULY 16, 2020, GENESEO, NY* - After much thought and deliberation, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Genesee Valley Hunt Races, which were to take place October 10. We have been closely monitoring the situation with COVID-19, the recommendations of scientists and infectious disease experts, and New York State's guidelines and restrictions, including a current ban on events attracting large audiences. We've come to the conclusion that running the GVH Races this year would be both difficult and irresponsible.

"You don't take the decision to cancel an event that's been a tradition for over 100 years lightly, but given the current state of COVID-19, canceling is a moral imperative and also a logical one," said Marion Thorne, administrator of the Genesee Valley Hunt Races and vice president of Genesee Valley Hunt, Inc.

"We value the opportunity to host the community at this this multi-faceted, family-friendly day in the country each year. However, our top priority is the health and safety of our community, as well as our volunteers, competitors, vendors, and generous sponsors and patrons. We are saddened to have to cancel, but we know it's the right decision based on the information we have today," Thorne stated.

We share the disappointment of many who look forward to the Genesee Valley Hunt Races each year and appreciate that most will understand the necessity to cancel under the unprecedented situation of a global pandemic. Meanwhile, we'll look forward to reconvening the Genesee Valley Hunt Races next year on October 9, 2021– with an event bigger and better than ever.