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## TOM LEACH TO HOST 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TOBA NATIONAL AWARDS DINNER

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association announced today that Tom Leach will host the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Awards Dinner to be held on Friday, September 7 at the Keeneland Entertainment Center in Lexington, Kentucky.

Leach is a two time Eclipse Award winner for excellence in coverage of Thoroughbred racing. He is also known as the Voice of the University of Kentucky Wildcats, calling the play-by-plays for the basketball and football teams. Leach has been named the Kentucky Sportscaster of the Year four times.

"We are honored to have Tom Leach as our Awards Dinner host," said Dan Metzger president of TOBA. "Tom's charisma and his deep knowledge of horse racing make him a slam dunk as our host."

The TOBA National Awards Dinner honors the achievements of Thoroughbred owners in the four major North American racing regions and breeders in 23 states and Canada. In addition, the Rood & Riddle Thoroughbred Sport Horse of the Year Award is presented to the owner of the ex-Thoroughbred racehorse that excelled in sport horse competitions tracked by the United States Equestrian Federation. TOBA also honors a National Broodmare of the Year.

National Awards Dinner sponsors include OCD Pellets, Xpressbet, Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates, AmWest Entertainment, Woodford Reserve, Grey Goose Vodka, John Deere, Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, Keeneland, Daily Racing Form and Blood-Horse Publications. Tickets for the National Awards Dinner may be purchased at www.toba.org.

TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred horse breeders and owners. TOBA's mission is to "improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of Thoroughbred owners and breeders." Projects managed by TOBA include the American Graded Stakes Committee, Sales Integrity Program, The

Racing Game and Claiming Crown. Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA) is the charitable arm of TOBA. TOBA is the owner of The Blood-Horse Inc., and is represented on the Board of Directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association as a founding member.