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Indiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association

Kenny Brown named first "Groom of the Week" at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino

Story by Tammy Knox
Photos by Linscott Photography



SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; –June 2, 2018– Bruce Murphy, owner of Backstretch Supplies at Indiana Grand, is always looking for ways to promote the sport of horse racing. He wanted to give back to those who work behind the scenes and he presented the first "Groom of the Week" award Saturday, June 2 during the races.

"Groom of the Week is designed to honor the best dressed groom," said Murphy. "We are selling our show to the public and people really enjoy racing, so we want everyone to look the part, whether they are in Thoroughbred or Quarter Horse racing. The judging is done Saturday through Friday every week and we award the \$100 prize money to the groom selected each Saturday in June."

The first recipient of "Groom of the Week" was Kenny Brown, a groom for Aaron West. Brown, a native of Virgin Islands, has been in the horse racing industry for the past 16 years. However, he is new to the Aaron West barn.

"This is my first year working for Aaron (West)," said Brown. "I take care of six horses, but I cannot pick out a favorite. I like them all. It's important for me to look good when I come to the paddock. I want to represent our stable well."

Brown received his \$100 reward from Backstretch Supplies and Murphy. Rachel McLaughlin, on-air racing personality for Indiana Grand, conducted the presentation from the winner's circle following the fifth race of the night.

The second "Groom of the Week" award will be presented Saturday, June 9. Murphy will consult with the judges he has assigned to watch the appearance of the grooms as they come to the paddock for racing.

The 16th season of Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing continues through Wednesday, Nov. 7. Racing is conducted Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:05 p.m. EST with Saturday racing beginning at 6:05 p.m. EST. Two special Thursday racing dates will be held July 19 and Sept. 6 with a 2:05 p.m. EST post time. Six all-Quarter Horse racing nights have been set during the season to include June 2, July 7, Aug. 11, Sept. 15, Oct. 6 and Oct. 27. All dates are Saturday evening cards with a first post time of 6:05 p.m.

About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino holds multiple awards for customer service, entertainment, gaming, dining, and diversity. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile dirt race course and a seven-eighths mile turf course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Winner's Circle Brewpub & OTB located on the casino floor as well as a Winner's Circle OTB located in Clarksville, Ind.

