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Press Release

June 6, 2013

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

Long Island Rail Road Offers Extra Service for 145th Belmont Stakes and History-Making Ride by Jockey Rosie Napravnik

Buy Round-Trip Rail Ticket in Advance & Beat Traffic to Belmont Park on Saturday, June 8

MTA Long Island Rail Road is adding 38 trains (18 eastbound, 20 westbound) to its regular schedule to bring up to 20,000 thoroughbred racing fans to Belmont Park for the 145th running of the Belmont Stakes this Saturday, June 8.

This year's race features jockey Rosie Napravnik seeking to become the first female jockey to ride in all three Triple Crown races in the same year. A victory aboard the filly Unlimited Budget would make her the second female jockey to win the Belmont Stakes, and the first to do so while riding a filly.

"As the third jewel of horse racing's Triple Crown, the Belmont Stakes is one of the premier sporting events in this country," said Thomas F. Prendergast, MTA Interim Executive Director, who has been nominated by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to serve as MTA Chairman and CEO. "It regularly draws between 30,000 and 100,000 fans a year, so the best way to get there and avoid race day traffic is to take the Long Island Rail Road to the station right at Belmont Park."

"Rosie has a lot on the line and we will be rooting for her to make history," said LIRR President Helena E. Williams, who made some history herself six years ago by becoming the first female president of the LIRR. "Whomever you favor in the race, the LIRR is the most convenient way to reach Belmont while avoiding traffic and parking hassles. Belmont Park is one of the true treasures of New York State, so come out on out and enjoy the day."

The LIRR's exclusive rail link to beautiful Belmont Park has been the shortest route for racing fans for well over a century – almost as long as the Belmont Stakes has drawn racing fans to see the best three-year-old thoroughbred horses in the world take on the challenge of the mile-and-a-half dirt track.

On Stakes Day, 18 LIRR trains departing from Penn Station, starting at 9:42 AM, will bring racing fans to the Park. Those traveling to the Stakes from Long Island can take trains that arrive at Jamaica in time to connect with the Belmont Stakes trains departing Jamaica at 10:03 AM, 10:40 AM, 10:55 AM, 11:32 AM, 11:38 AM, 11:55 AM, 12:03 PM, 12:23 PM, 12:55 PM, 1:05 PM, 1:22 PM, 1:38 PM, 1:56 PM, 3:00 PM, 3:23 PM, 3:54 PM, 4:20 PM, and 4:59 PM.

First race post time is 11:35 AM. The Belmont Stakes is set for 6:35 PM with two more races to follow.

Purchasing LIRR Tickets

The LIRR urges all racing fans taking the LIRR to the Belmont Stakes to purchase their round-trip tickets in advance. Round-trip tickets from your station of origin to Belmont and back are now on sale at any LIRR ticket window and from all LIRR full service ticket machines (gray, blue or green) by selecting "Deals & Getaways," then "Belmont Park." Ticket machines accept cash, ATM/debit or credit cards. Weekly and monthly ticket holders can use their commuter ticket to and from Jamaica, but must purchase an LIRR Belmont Park ticket prior to boarding at Jamaica to cover the additional fare between Belmont Park and Jamaica. Only Belmont Park tickets will be accepted for train service to and from the track. The LIRR's CityTicket is not valid for travel to Belmont Park.

On Belmont Stakes day, tickets will not be sold on-board trains. But the LIRR will be implementing a pilot program, using hand-held ticketing machines, for purchasing tickets at Belmont Park Station using

credit cards and debit-as-credit cards. Cash ticket sales will also be available at the Belmont Park Station ticket office on Stakes day only.

Pick Up Special LIRR Stakes Schedule

The special Belmont Stakes timetable is available at stations and [on the LIRR's website](#) in PDF format.

No Alcohol Allowed

On Stakes day, the MTA Police will be enforcing a no alcohol policy on trains to Belmont Park. Bags are subject to search prior to boarding Belmont Park trains at Penn Station and at Jamaica Station. Belmont Park is enforcing its own alcohol ban and will not permit alcoholic beverages of any kind. For security reasons, backpacks and coolers are also banned from the Belmont Park facility on Belmont Stakes day.

Long Island Rail Road Fares

From New York, Brooklyn and Woodside:

One-way \$8; Round-trip \$14

From Jamaica:

One-way \$7; Round-trip \$11

Round-trip fares from Long Island with transfer at Jamaica:

Zone 3 (Rosedale, St. Albans, Queens Village, Hollis) \$11

Zone 4 (Far Rockaway, Lynbrook, Hempstead, Mineola) \$13

Zone 7 (Long Beach, Massapequa, Hicksville, Oyster Bay) \$15

Zone 9 (Babylon, Deer Park, Huntington, Northport) \$18

Zone 10 (Bay Shore, Sayville, Ronkonkoma, Patchogue, Port Jefferson) \$24

Belmont Park Admission

Remember that special prices are in effect for Belmont Stakes Day:

General Admission: \$10

Clubhouse Admission \$20

Leaving Belmont Park After the Stakes Race

To ensure the safe and orderly boarding of LIRR trains, the MTA Police Department will employ a color-coded train queuing system. LIRR personnel will be assigned at key locations to assist customers. Return LIRR service to Jamaica, Atlantic Terminal in Brooklyn and Penn Station is available departing Belmont at 4:16 PM, 4:51 PM, 5:18 PM, 5:51 PM and then every 15 minutes starting at 6:27 PM until 9 PM. Announcements will provide customers with departure information. Wait times can range from 15 minutes to 2 hours. Once inside the queuing area, customers can expect wait times of 15 to 60 minutes. Customers waiting to enter the queuing area can expect longer wait times, possibly up to 2 hours.

Accessibility – LIRR’s Belmont Station Is Not Wheelchair Accessible

Belmont is a special event station. The station is not wheelchair accessible, and there are no elevators and only limited escalator service. It is necessary to use a staircase to and from most train platforms.

For More Information

Racing fans can contact the LIRR’s Travel Information Center by calling 511, the New York State Travel Information Line and say “Long Island Rail Road.” If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use your preferred relay service provider on the free 711 relay to reach the LIRR at 511. Customers can also consult the LIRR’s web site at www.mta.info/lirr.

For more information about banned and permitted items at Belmont Park on Belmont Stakes day, please visit www.nyra.com.