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Place Your Bets on the Fastest Sport at the Fair: Horse Racing!

Five Days of Indian Relays; Four Days of Horse Races

Blackfoot, ID (August 30, 2012) –

And they're off! Once again, "The Fastest Sport at the Fair" returns to the Grandstand -- **Pari-Mutuel Racing** and the **Indian Relay National Championships** presented by Fort Hall Casino.

Pari-Mutuel Racing – a betting system in which all bets are placed together in a pool and shared among all winning bets – will kick-off on Sunday, September 2 and will continue on Monday, September 3; as well as Friday, September 7 and Saturday, September 8. Each day, post time is 12 noon, with 8 to 10 pari-mutuel races and 3 Indian Relay races scheduled.

Pari-Mutuel Racing attracts all types of racing fans – from spectators to novice and serious bettors. Anyone over the age of 18 can place a bet; the Race Track's official program, available for $3, will provide information on each race and each horse, so fans can place their wagers on horses they think are most likely to win, place or show. The schedule of events is as follows:

Sunday September 2
EISF-AQHA Maiden Challenge Trials
Lively Ladies TB Fillies & Mares Handicap
Gene & Joyce Caccia Memorial
Lee Ward Memorial

Monday September 3
Von Adams Memorial
EISF-AQHA Birthday Bash Bonus Sprint
EISF-IARA Pt & Appy Futurity
EISF-IARA Pt & Appy Derby

Friday September 7
EISF-AQHA Maiden Challenge Final
EISF-AQHA Bonus Challenge
Legends Memorial
EISF Thoroughbred Sprint

Saturday September 8
TJ Fackrell - Spa Boy Memorial
EISF Quarter Horse Futurity

Miss Quick QH Fillies and Mares Handicap
EISF Quarter Horse Open Handicap

The Pari-Mutuel races include the return of the always popular and dangerous **Indian Relay National Championships**, after the 4th, 6th and 8th races. Indian Relay Races is a centuries-old tradition of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes culture. The sport actually originated on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation over 100 years ago, and many families that participated in the sport decades ago are still participating and passing this legacy on from generation to generation. The Indian Relay teams consist of three horses and four team members (1 rider, 1 catcher [Mugger], and 2 holders). The rider must complete a lap with each horse riding bareback. The rider must dismount without any help from their teammates and without losing control of their horses.

Admission to the Pari-Mutuel Horse Racing and Indian Relay National Championships costs $4 per person; this is in addition to gate admission.

In addition to coinciding with the Pari-Mutuel Racing, Indian Relay Races also will be held on Thursday, September 6, at 12 noon; admission to this event is FREE on Thursday. The Indian Relay schedule is as follows:

- **Sunday, September 2** – Chief Race; Indian Relay Races
- **Monday, September 3** – Indian Relay Races
- **Thursday, September 6** – Indian Relay Races [FREE Admission to Race]
- **Friday, September 7** – Indian Relay Races
- **Saturday, September 8** – Ladies Race; Championship Indian Relay Races

The Eastern Idaho State Fair Barnyard Birthday Bash returns to town on Saturday, September 1, through Saturday, September 8. Complete schedules and 2012 Fair information can be found at www.funatthefair.com or by calling (208) 785-2480.

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The Eastern Idaho State Fair is a 16 County Fair District that is in its 110th year of operations. Over 219,000 people visit the annual event, making it Eastern Idaho's longest running and largest community event. The mission of the EISF is to provide wholesome, affordable family education and entertainment in a clean and safe agricultural environment.