

Skip Hoovler, of Pataskala, Ohio is an Advisory Committee Member on the OHHA Board of Directors. From 1989-1993, Hoovler served as President and has worked on every OHHA committee at one time or other throughout his years on the board.

Harness racing has been a part of Hoovler's life for fifty years. He and his wife Tammy have been active in both breeding and racing. "I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the horse racing industry for over thirty years and I am still excited and interested in seeing our business grow and prosper," shared Hoovler.

Being awarded an Ohio Horse of the Year award is a huge accomplishment for anyone in the business. Hoovler has had the opportunity to be honored with not only one Ohio Horse of the Year divisional winner, but three. Medoland Don (Nobleland Sam - Tammy L Tup - Billy Dart) won the 2-Year-Old Pacing Colt award in 2000. Medoland Miracle (Striking Sahbra - Charming Sahbra Arnie Almahurst) was the 2002 2-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year and Northmedo Tam (Stand Forever - Dazzle Dart - Billy Dart) took home the honors for 2-Year-Old Pacing Filly in 2004.

Horsemen always have a favorite or two that comes through the barn. Hoovler's three award winner horses made the list of Hoovler's stable stars or favorite horses, along with Medoland Carter and Honest Skipper. One of Hoovler's most memorable horse moments was "the thrill of realizing that we owned one of the great horses in Ohio, Medoland Sam," stated Hoovler.

Besides horses, Hoovler is active in his community. He is a member of the Pataskala Chamber of Commerce. He has participated in the Pataskala United Methodist Church Building Campaign and has volunteered time working with tax issues for the Southwest Licking Schools. Due to his various volunteer work and contributions in his community, Hoovler was awarded the 2006 John Stevens Humanitarian Award. "Because of my respect for Dr. Stevens, to receive any award in memory of him is a great honor," shared Hoovler.

Like all horsemen, Hoovler has dreams for the harness racing industry. "My dream is to create a statewide political base to help educate the legislature as to the economic value of horse racing by making sure that politicians understand the jobs and agricultural opportunities (green space) that horse racing creates," shared Hoovler. He also hopes to be able to develop a relationship with Ohio's racino partners that will regenerate the public awareness of the harness racing industry.