

April 16, 2020

To: Hokkaido Sales Customers

Cancellation of Hokkaido Training Sale to Prevent Spread of COVID-19 Outbreak

We at the Hokkaido Sales always continue to be grateful for our customers' patronage of our sales.

As such, it is with great regret that we must announce that this year's Hokkaido Training Sale, scheduled to be held on May 12 (Tue) at Sapporo Racecourse, will be cancelled in light of the increasingly serious situation regarding the coronavirus outbreak. We are truly sorry for the inconvenience this will cause.

This comes as a very difficult decision for us, as we had been preparing for the sale taking the utmost precautions to prevent any spread of the disease, but conditions have become more and more challenging as we have been faced with an increasing number of cases occurring in urban areas, combined with the government's recent declaration of a state of emergency and similar actions taken by local prefectural governments as well. With no proven effective preventive measure against the virus at this time, and the possible risks that may arise from conducting the sales, as well as the uncertainty regarding how the outbreak may progress in the coming weeks, we have sadly reached the conclusion that it would not be appropriate to hold the sale in the current environment, especially considering the safety and health of visitors to the sale. Again, we regret and apologize for the inconvenience caused to all those who were planning to attend the sale.

We appreciate the kind understanding of our valued customers and everyone involved with the sale in this difficult time. Thank you.

With Best Regards,

The Hokkaido Sales

Please note: The catalogue of all horses that were consigned to the sale will remain available on our website at the URL below. We hope the information will assist buyers looking for horses to purchase.

URL: <http://www.hba.or.jp/>

