

Create Fitz Award

The local division of the Horsemen's Benovolent and Protective Association will honor the memory of the late James Edward (Sunny Jim) Fitzsimmons with an annual award for Horseman-of-the-Year-in-New York, Frank C. Rand Jr., association president, announced at Aqueduct yesterday.

Selection of the Fitzsimmons memorial award, to be presented each year on the anniversary of Mr. Fitz' birthday, July 23, will be made by the HBPA board of directors. The award will be emblematic of a horseman's integrity, warmth of personality, loyalty, ability, cheerfulness and thoughtfulness—all of those attributes which made Sunny Jim such a magnificent horseman and person.

Mr. Fitz, who died last Friday at 91, and who was laid to rest yesterday morning, was the local chapter's first president, the first president of the national HBPA, and a New York board member since the association's inception. "Mr. Fitz was the guiding light for the HBPA," said Rand. "His life was an inspiration to us all."