

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 263-6000  
Fax (916) 263-6042

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

12235 Beach Blvd., Suite 7  
Stanton, CA 90680  
(714) 890-7001  
Fax (714) 890-7006  
Contact:  
Mike Marten  
(714) 890-7004  
Pager: (714) 212-0325

CHRB NEWS RELEASE

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**TVG REPORTS WIDER DISTRIBUTION, IMPROVED PROGRAMMING**

INGLEWOOD, CA – TVG’s audience increased by more than 50 percent over the last 16 months and the company’s new chief operating officer, Ryan O’Hara, told the California Horse Racing Board that he expects the “same kind of growth going forward” as the product continues to improve and the focus shifts more toward traditional horse-racing fans.

Providing an update to the Board as TVG’s new season kicks off on the West Coast with the opening of Hollywood Park, O’Hara said his company decided to “invest more money than ever to meet the public’s demand for improved product.” The improvements include better on-screen graphics and new features, including profiles of racing’s stars and explanations of terms and practices in horse racing designed to give viewers a better understanding of the sport.

O’Hara ran a six-minute video emphasizing some of the changes in store for viewers this year. In one segment titled “See How They Run,” commentator/analyst Frank Lyons explained why a horse changes leads. He likened it to someone carrying a heavy suitcase and switching the burden from one hand to another. In another segment, trainer James Bond shared some thoughts on his theory of training.

O’Hara acknowledged that TVG started out years ago focusing heavily on entertaining viewers outside of horse racing, and while TVG is still trying to create new racing fans, he said under his direction the company will “shift a few degrees toward hard-core sports and horse-racing fans.”

TVG was in 8 million homes at the start of 2003, according to O’Hara, and 16 months later the distribution has expanded to 12.5 million homes. Furthermore, TVG is continuously negotiating with cable companies to lower the “tier” of access, so that TVG can be part of the basic cable package at no additional cost to subscribers.

In other business, the Board renewed the license of Youbet.com to conduct Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) in California but shortened the term of the license to the end of this year, so that Youbet’s licensing period will be in sync with the other two ADW operators in California. (XpressBet and TVG). The Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) supported the Board decision to shorten the term of YouBet’s license. The TOC will be negotiating with all three ADW providers and establishing new terms for horsemen’s approval.

Under general business, Albert Fiss, vice president of the Jockeys' Guild, asked the Board as a whole to rescind the stay granted by CHRB chairman John Harris that allows Pat Valenzuela to resume riding this Sunday while the jockey appeals a suspension issued by the stewards. However, the deputy attorney general who advises the Board on legal matters said the seven racing commissioners could not even discuss this request because it was not on the agenda. Fiss then asked the Board to expedite Valenzuela's appeal. CHRB Executive Director Roy Wood said he would do everything possible to speed up the process. Fiss provided the commissioners with a letter to Harris on behalf of 18 jockeys protesting the stay.

The Board presented a resolution to former racing commissioner Alan Landsburg, whose four-year term expired earlier this year, in appreciation of his service on the Board and for his commitment to the horse-racing industry. The resolution also acknowledged his contributions as a writer, director, and producer in television and motion pictures. Harris described Landsburg as a man of "great vision." In accepting the resolution, Landsburg said that as a newly appointed interim director of the TOC, he would continue working to help improve the industry.

Jockey Paul Atkinson reported on efforts to obtain better health insurance for California jockeys. Under state law, all of the money from uncollected pari-mutuel refunds can be used to pay for health insurance for California jockeys. This amount came to about \$1 million last year. The jockeys are negotiating with a new company to provide improved benefits for that money.

The Board approved licenses for the San Joaquin Fair meet from June 16 through June 27 and the Alameda County Fair meet from June 30 through July 11.

The agenda item involving Capitol Racing was withdrawn after the racing association posted a required bond with the Board.

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