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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

JULY 3, 2007

BOARD GRANTS WAIVER TO BAY MEADOWS FOR 2008

SACRAMENTO, CA – The California Horse Racing Board unanimously approved a waiver Tuesday for Bay Meadows to operate in 2008 without a synthetic surface, clearing the way for thoroughbred racing to continue in San Mateo for at least one more year.

The waiver request was the only item on the agenda for a special teleconference meeting of the Board. The commissioners, industry representatives, and members of the public participated by conference call from eight different locations throughout the state.

Although there was a limited discussion of the northern racing calendar for 2008, Chairman Richard B. Shapiro quickly brought the focus onto the request by Bay Meadows for a one-year exemption from the CHRB rule requiring all tracks with four or more weeks of continuous thoroughbred racing to install a synthetic surface by the end of 2007. He asked Bay Meadows President Jack Liebau what steps would be taken to make the main track as safe as possible for horses and riders.

“They’ve already been taken,” responded Liebau. “We’ve added various polymer substances to make the surface softer. While we do not have underground drainage, we probably have more polymer fibers in the track at Bay Meadows than we do at Hollywood Park.”

In the roll-call vote, Chairman Shapiro, Vice Chairman John Harris, and Commissioners John Andreini, Jesse Choper, and Marie Moretti all voted yes on the motion to approve the waiver. Commissioners John Amerman and Jerry Moss did not participate in the teleconference meeting.

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