

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825
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RACE DATES **COMMITTEE MEETING**

Of the **California Horse Racing Board** will be held on **Wednesday, August 16**, commencing at **11:30 a.m.** at the **Del Mar Hilton, 15575 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, California**. The audio portion only of the Race Dates Committee meeting will be available online through a link at the CHRB website (www.chrb.ca.gov) under "Webcasts".

The agenda for the committee meeting will consist of the following matters:

AGENDA

Agenda Items

1. Discussion regarding the allocation of **2024 race dates for Southern California**.
2. Discussion regarding the allocation of **2024 race dates for Northern California**.
3. **Public Comment:** Communications, reports, requests for future actions of the Board.
Note: During the public comment period, a total of thirty minutes will be allowed for public comments. After thirty minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to two minutes.
4. **Adjournment.**

Additional information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the CHRB Administrative Office, 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95825; telephone (916) 263-6000; fax (916) 263-6042. This notice is located on the CHRB website at www.chrb.ca.gov. *Information for requesting disability related accommodation for persons with a disability who require aid or services in order to participate in this public meeting, should contact information@chrb.ca.gov. Requests will be swiftly resolved by CHRB staff.

RACE DATES COMMITTEE

Oscar Gonzales, Chairman
Wendy Mitchell, Member
Damascus Castellanos, Member
Scott Chaney, Executive Director
Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director

Agenda Item 1

Scott:

In connection with allocation of 2024 Racing Dates, Los Alamitos requests allocation to its facility of 8 weeks of live racing--3 weeks for the Los Angeles County Fair and 5 weeks of Thoroughbred racing--plus one week of simulcast-only. There were dual requests for the same simulcast- only week in 2023. As you will recall, both Del Mar and Los AI had requested the allocation of the same simulcast-only week. Del Mar maintained that it needed the funds generated from that week to support its highly successful Ship and Win Program. Los AI submitted indisputable evidence (Del Mar's own financial records) that the Ship and Win Program operated on a profitable basis and was not in need of being subsidized. It was indicated that the simulcast-only week would be awarded to Los AI in 2024--split vote 6 to 1. Copy of pertinent part of Transcript of 2023 CHRB Meeting attached. As stated in the past, Los AI will apply both the commissions and purse funds generated during the simulcast-only week to purses.

Notwithstanding Los AI realizing the weeks allocated to it are just one or three pieces of a puzzle representing year-around racing in Southern California: Los AI believes an allocation to it based on the following would be in the best interest of the 2024 Southern California Racing Calendar:

1. Three weeks in December--would complement and enhance the concurrent Quarter Horse Meet.
2. A two or three week meet after the Santa Anita Derby (Santa Anita would commence racing again one week prior to the Kentucky Derby and thereby be the host for the Triple Crown). In the past, Santa Anita has voluntarily not conducted racing during this period of time. It is difficult for a track to conduct uninterrupted racing for 6 months. Los AI does not believe that the racing conducted at Los AI competes with that at Santa Anita. Note that Santa Anita's horse population is likely evenly divided between dirt and grass horses and Los AI does not have a turf course. Also, if a number of horses did ship from the North as a result of the closing of GGF, they would most likely take advantage of the opportunity then to run at Los AI. In fact, the opportunity to compete at Los AI in March might constitute a further enticement for horses to ship from the North to the South.
3. Two or three weeks after Del Mar's Summer Meet.

The allocation of 2024 racing dates is more complicated than usual by the announced closing of GGF. At this time, it is unknown whether the historic Northern California racing dates of GGF will be replaced to some extent by a talked of but yet unidentified entity. There is further talk that there would be major "breaks" within these replacement dates. If these replacement dates with proposed "breaks" materialize, it would be in the best interest of Northern California Stakeholders and Los Alamitos for the talked of "breaks" and the operation of Los Alamitos Thoroughbred Meets to be concurrent. History demonstrates that such an allocation would be beneficial. In December 2020, GGF was closed because of COVID and more than 200 horses at GGF shipped to Los Alamitos to run in its then operating Thoroughbred Meet. These horses were shipped even though they could not be accompanied by their trainers and caregivers.

If there are any questions re Los AI's request for 2024 Racing Dates, do not hesitate to call. Jack

1 racing operations, with food and beverage being ar4ound \$5
2 million.

3 I don't really think, you know, there's much use
4 in bantering back and forth. I have the utmost respect for
5 Del Mar and the success that they've had. I've said that
6 the Ship and Win Program is, you know, one of the most
7 creative and successful marketing programs that have been
8 launched by a California track. I mean, that's where we.
9 The numbers are the numbers.

10 And, you know, I was lucky enough to stumble upon
11 this Del Mar analysis of the Ship and Win Program and
12 brought it to your attention. And my conclusion, based upon
13 their own information in 2021, is shipping when program
14 doesn't need to be funded because it's a profit center.
15 Hell, maybe Del Mar should try to monetize it. It's not a
16 bad deal.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Can we have a motion from the
18 Board?

19 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: First, any questions,
20 Commissioners, for the presenters, anybody?

21 First, I want to just, again, compliment you.
22 One, I want to recognize Los Alamitos for the leadership,
23 management, adjustments to get a handle on fatalities, fully
24 recognized, duly noted. And to Del Mar for just really
25 coming through for California racing and West Coast racing,

1 so tremendously helpful there.

2 So as we take a look, Commissioners -- and I want
3 to just also recognize the conversation between Commissioner
4 Mitchell and Commissioner Hudnut.

5 What I wanted just to perhaps bring up as a point here,
6 because I want to make a motion to adopt the Southern
7 California calendar as presented but with an amendment, and
8 it's with the amendment that I want to just, you know, kind
9 of lay the groundwork here is, so my motion would be to
10 adopt the 2023 calendar as presented.

11 However, in looking at 2024, that we do -- and
12 we've done this before, this won't be the first time I know.

13 Last year we, to make Santa Rosa whole, we offered them
14 something in the subsequent years. So this is how I would
15 like to see this because we do not want to break any
16 momentum whatsoever for Del Mar going into 2023. I think we
17 can all agree on that. But we also believe that Los
18 Alamitos, and to your point, Mr. Hudnut, so what if we
19 awarded that simulcast week, that dark week, but with the
20 flow of revenue to Del Mar, and in 2024, we offer that to
21 Los Alamitos?

22 So I would like to make a motion that we adopt the
23 calendar, the 2023 calendar as submitted, with an amendment
24 that that week in 2024 goes to Los Alamitos.

25

1 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: I'll second that.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner?

3 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: I think it would be a
4 consideration that -- because we're not adopting a full
5 calendar, it would be that and that would be like --

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: A commitment.

7 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: -- a commitment, an idea,
8 a concept. Because, I mean, again, this goes back to why I
9 think it's a good idea that we have a multiyear calendar --

10 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: That's correct.

11 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: -- because we can do this,
12 but this is not a multiyear calendar. This is simply saying
13 it's our intent.

14 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Well, what I think what we
15 can do -- Commissioner Mitchell, great point -- in the case
16 of Santa Rosa, because they were, I remember, wondering how
17 a promise like that was going to hold. So I think that this
18 Board has taken a look at placeholder, certain commitments.
19 And, again, you're right. You've been an advocate for a
20 two-year calendar so we can address issues like this.

21 So we have a motion on the floor. It's been
22 seconded by Mr. Hudnut. Any discussion about what I'm
23 proposing here?

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah, can I just -- I
25 just need to understand the motion. Is it like you're

1 allocating that next year? Because a commitment is
2 different than intent.

3 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Right.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: It just needs to know
5 exactly what --

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Well, then we make.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- the Board would be
8 committing to.

9 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Then I would be wanting to
10 make a commitment, just to resolve this dispute this issue
11 here, and to try to keep some harmony. So the motion would
12 be to adopt the calendar as presented by Staff, the 2023
13 calendar, with an amendment that we adhere to or that we do
14 adopt and allow for that week leading up to Del Mar, the
15 simulcast to go to Los Alamitos in 2024.

16 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Mr. Chairman, may make one
17 comment? Am I allowed to make one comment?

18 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes. Yes.

19 MR. RUBINSTEIN: So I really appreciate what
20 you're trying to do here, is find a solution. And I would
21 ask the Board that if there is going to be consideration for
22 a dark simulcast speaks for Los Alamitos, it should just be
23 that. To quantify -- there could be a dark week any week on
24 the calendar, but to say it needs to be that specific week,
25 it could be at the end of Del Mar's meet, it could be

1 beginning of Santa Anita's meet, the end of Santa Anita's
2 meet. So to lock the Board and the industry into that one
3 specific seven-day period, just in my opinion, is limiting.
4 So if the Board is going to consider a dark week for Los
5 Alamitos, it would just give flexibility for that --

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Understood.

7 MR. RUBINSTEIN: -- in 2024.

8 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Good point.

9 Jack, do you have any thoughts on it?

10 MR. LIEBAU: I think that would be fine, as long
11 as it was a comparable week.

12 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Understood.

13 MR. LIEBAU: A week after -- between Los Al
14 closing in the winter and Santa Anita opening when no track
15 is running is, you know, not a comparable week. I think we
16 would all agree on that.

17 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I think you would be okay
18 with that; right, Josh, a comparable week?

19 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Well, there's only one comparable
20 week to the week before Del Mar. So I think we need to be a
21 little careful again --

22 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Okay.

23 MR. RUBINSTEIN: -- and that's just my
24 recommendation, in boxing the Board in. But if it is the
25 Board's pleasure to consider that dark week for Los

1 Alamitos, just to give the Board as much flexibility as
2 possible.

3 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Understood. Okay.

4 Do you want to kind of kind of tighten this up
5 here a little bit, Scott, with the --

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah. I guess I'm
7 just a little bit concerned that I don't have a vote, so I
8 just want to offer my --

9 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah. Well, my --

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- advice if I can?

11 It worries me a little bit that you're tying your
12 own hands for next year. Let's say there is a spike in
13 fatalities and you want to give Los Al six weeks next year
14 rather than their seven. So does that mean the seventh
15 thing would be the simulcast week? And I think it can be
16 done next year.

17 I mean, I think it's important to acknowledge that
18 that would be the Board's commitment or idea or would like
19 to do it, but it could be done with a reallocation of dates
20 next year; right? Let's say you have a new -- we have a few
21 new Board Members or things change, it worries me that it
22 feels like you're binding the Board to something to shifting
23 ground. We can -- if nothing that the last three years
24 haven't taught us it's that it's a little bit unstable. And
25 I'd kind of like to see like at least another year of

1 stability post-pandemic before. That's just my two cents.

2 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: 2023 is a year of stability.
3 We're talking about 2024 here. And merely stating the
4 Board's intention to do something I don't think binds us to
5 do it.

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: I'd agree.

7 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: Then the language is
8 intent, not commitment.

9 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Correct.

10 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Intent. Okay. You got it.

11 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Absolutely.

12 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Intent. We're taking in
13 with Josh's point. And it sounds to me like Jack is ready
14 for that fluidity there, so --

15 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: Again, I mean, I think
16 this is making my argument for the two-year calendar. And I
17 don't -- we're getting ahead of it to try and allay, you
18 know, concerns raised. And so I'm just, you know, I just, I
19 would like us to look at the two-year calendar versus kind
20 of doing this ad hoc when people pitch a hissy fit from the,
21 you know --

22 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Well, then what I think.

23 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: -- from on the mic.

24 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Point well taken,
25 Commissioner. And I think between Commissioner Castellanos,

1 Castellanos and I, we could take a look and get an earlier
2 head start on the 2024 calendar, perhaps with the two-year
3 approach that we have been talking about that got disrupted
4 by COVID, so --

5 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Sure.

6 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Okay. Well, any further
7 discussion as it relates to -- now, let me just rephrase
8 that. It would be adopting the 2023 calendar as proposed
9 with an amendment that in 2024 the intent of the Board will
10 be to award a dark week with that revenue stream to Los
11 Alamitos in 2024.

12 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: I second the amended motion?

13 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Okay. Looks like we're
14 ready for a vote.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

16 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

18 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Is there public comment?

19 CHAIR FERRARO: We have no public comment, do we?

20 No.

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yeah.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Mitchell?

23 BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL: No.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

25 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

2 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

4 BOARD MEMBER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

6 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

8 MR. LIEBAU: Thank you very much.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: And we have to move on to Northern
10 California.

11 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes. If I could just make a
12 recommendation to the Board? I believe we have some time.
13 And perhaps, and I know we're really run late in this
14 meeting here, but if perhaps we can just push off adopting
15 the Northern California race dates adoption until the next
16 meeting? I mean, Scott, I don't know what your thoughts are
17 on that.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: If I could, would it
19 be possible to tackle the Standardbred race dates for next
20 year? They seem to be uncontroversial. And they're
21 actually presenting their application next month --\

22 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Okay.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: -- for the like one
24 whole meet, rather than bifurcating it like they've done
25 historically, and part of those include dates for next year.

Average Weekly Southern California Thoroughbred Assn & Fair Handle & Distributions - Excluding Dark Weeks
Racing Year 12/22/2021 through 12/20/2022

	SANTA ANITA Meets		Los Alamitos Meets			DEL MAR Meets		TOTAL Weeks w Live Cards
	Winter/Spring	Autumn	LACF meet	Sept Meet	Dec Meet	Summer	Fall	
Notes	Incl Triple Crown	Incl BC-KY						
Cards per week	Mostly 3	Mostly 3	Mostly 3	Mostly 3	Mostly 3	Mostly 4	Mostly 3	
Meet Time Frame	12/22-4/19, 4/27- 4/27-6/21	9/28-11/8	6/22-7/12	9/14-9/27	12/7-12/20	7/20-9/13	11/9-12/6	
Live Cards	76	18	9	7	6	31	13	160
# of Weeks*	25	6	3	2	2	8	4	50
WEEKLY AVERAGES:								
Handle	39,734,578	38,929,096	24,266,807	21,061,496	18,900,241	67,192,843	39,076,610	41,470,242
Track Commissions	1,320,178	1,186,197	861,604	659,376	618,999	2,179,527	1,224,615	1,351,957
Purses	1,562,680	1,417,388	979,007	752,206	711,101	2,656,469	1,492,591	1,613,141
Breeders	134,983	133,828	93,896	85,475	74,228	209,161	125,706	139,095
Stabling & Vanning Fund	234,561	230,652	208,405	183,892	153,991	291,769	207,074	234,227
Workers' Comp Fund	89,086	89,507	35,137	30,891	31,277	186,065	101,570	97,775
Coop Marketing Fund	22,160	55,719	-	-	-	54,060	37,143	29,387
Backstretch & Retirement Funds	60,223	21,890	54,862	17,088	14,378	47,460	19,152	46,414
CHRB - F&E - HISA	290,532	360,733	144,881	187,454	160,167	444,106	264,894	303,400
Equine Fund	22,650	22,624	18,822	16,778	14,130	31,216	20,028	23,002
City Tax	25,922	24,924	19,307	17,773	14,997	42,108	23,957	27,075
Dept Industrial Relations	4,004	3,980	3,538	3,107	2,614	5,034	3,482	4,004
Satellite Wagering Commissions	351,386	189,854	240,599	170,958	124,650	327,413	182,267	291,703
Expense Fund	386,035	414,195	321,921	372,754	312,103	590,959	419,798	417,568
CHRIMS	3,106	2,977	2,683	2,484	2,059	3,710	2,825	3,073
AB 480 Fund	37,306	194,387	93,872	128,068	126,178	164,436	169,542	97,655
Total to California	4,544,812	4,348,856	3,078,533	2,628,304	2,360,871	7,233,492	4,294,643	4,679,478
Out of State Guest Retention	2,441,361	2,341,932	911,255	703,228	743,043	5,271,907	2,853,770	2,686,045
Hub Fees & Import Host Fees	1,156,307	1,236,039	1,071,299	934,642	764,411	1,301,417	930,690	1,141,400
Total Hub-Import-Guest Retention	3,597,668	3,577,971	1,982,555	1,637,869	1,507,454	6,573,325	3,784,460	3,827,446
Weekly Ave by Handle Source								
On Track	2,805,622	2,802,837	1,244,439	1,056,017	935,693	5,859,604	1,896,362	2,982,732
S-Cal Off Track Network	5,165,129	5,227,782	4,606,117	4,329,898	3,608,908	6,900,265	5,363,413	5,336,933
S-Cal ADW	13,571,860	13,266,361	12,001,731	10,356,349	8,713,764	16,893,853	11,607,058	13,492,383
Total S-Cal	21,542,611	21,296,981	17,852,287	15,742,264	13,258,365	29,653,722	18,866,834	21,812,048
Out of State	18,191,967	17,632,114	6,414,519	5,319,232	5,641,876	37,539,121	20,209,777	19,658,194
Total	39,734,578	38,929,096	24,266,807	21,061,496	18,900,241	67,192,843	39,076,610	41,470,242

Notes:

Purse totals include owners' premiums, purses and track commissions do not include redistributed expense funds.

AB 480 Funds are re-distributed to purses & track commissions after the end of the year based upon annual proportions

Weeks determined by number of Sunday cards

Contact: Los Alamitos Publicity 714-820-2690

LARGE FIELDS, BIG PAYOFFS & COOPERATION FROM MANY HIGHLIGHT LACF WINTER MEET

CYPRESS, Calif. –Large fields, a record Pick Six pool and payoff, a fourth consecutive sweep of the Grade I Starlet and Grade II Los Alamitos Futurity for Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert were among the highlights of the 11-day Los Angeles County Fair Winter Thoroughbred meet, which concluded Sunday.

Buoyed by an influx of more than 200 horses from Northern California – due to the current suspension of racing at Golden Gate Fields – the average field size for the season was nearly nine runners per race, compared to 6.97 for the 2019 Winter meet. There were 854 participants in 98 races during the season.

This led to a sizable boost in terms of business. The average daily handle on races run at Los Alamitos was up 36% over 2019 and average daily handle increased 20% on a comparable basis to last year's Winter season.

"This meet was an unprecedented one," said F. Jack Liebau, vice president of the Los Alamitos Racing Association. "In the midst of a surge in Covid-19 cases in California and elsewhere, racing was conducted safely thanks to the excellent compliance by all participants with the preventative measures in place.

"As a result of the Covid-19 outbreak at Golden Gate Fields, trainers and caregivers were not permitted to accompany their horses to Southern California. Los Alamitos management and the connections of those horses from Northern California are indebted to the local trainers who stepped up and assumed the training and care of those thoroughbreds.

"Without their help, the meet would not have been as successful and the owners of the shippers from Northern California wouldn't have had the opportunity to race.

"The Southern California Off-site Stabling and Vanning Fund also helped mitigate this situation by covering the costs of transporting horses from Golden Gate to Southern California. The efforts of many contributed to how well things went during these three weeks."

A five-day Pick Six carryover led to a record total Pick Six pool – and payoff – Dec. 18. Chasing a carryover that had swelled to \$423,178, bettors wagered \$1,809,485 for a total pool of \$2,232,663. The previous record of \$1,558,329 was set Dec. 17, 2016.

There were six perfect tickets two days ago and each was worth \$228,816, bettering the previous best of \$110,732 Dec. 12, 2014.

Baffert's latest successes in the Starlet and Los Alamitos Futurity were provided by, respectively, 17-1 shot Varda and 19-10 second choice Spielberg. The nose victory by Spielberg over 33-1 shot The Great One was Baffert's seventh in a row in the Futurity and his 13th overall. He won it six times at Hollywood Park between 1997-2013.

The meet's other graded stakes – the Grade III, \$100,000 Bayakoa – was captured by Proud Emma for trainer Peter Miller and owners Gem Inc. and Tom Kagele.

The two other stakes were for 2-year-olds bred or sired in California. Sensible Cat won the \$100,000 Soviet Problem for Irvin Racing Stable and trainer Carla Gaines while 13-1 shot Play Chicken won the \$100,000 King Glorious for owner-breeder J. Paul Reddam's Reddam Racing LLC and trainer Doug O'Neill.

Baffert, O'Neill and Jonathan Wong shared the training title with five victories.

Baffert had the most wins (nine) for the year at Los Alamitos, combining the Winter meet with the Summer Thoroughbred Festival (June 27-July 5). O'Neill was second with eight and Steve Miyadi third with seven.

A closing day triple enabled Abel Cedillo to win the jockey title. He finished with 13 victories, one more than Juan Hernandez and two more than apprentice Jessica Pyfer.

For the year at Los Alamitos, Hernandez finished with 16 wins, one more than Cedillo. Edwin Maldonado was third with 13.

Daytime thoroughbred racing will return to Los Alamitos in 2021. The first of three meets is scheduled to begin Thursday, June 24 and continue through Sunday, July 4, followed by the Los Angeles County Fair season (Sept. 10-26) and the Winter meet (Dec. 2-12).

WINNING POST POSITIONS

Los Alamitos Race Course

(11/01/2020 Through 12/21/2020)

	MAIN		TURF	
	Sprints (Under 1 Mile)	Routes (1 Mile & Over)	Sprints (Under 1 Mile)	Routes (1 Mile & Over)
1	10-69 (.14)	0-29 (.00)		
2	6-69 (.09)	2-29 (.07)		
3	7-69 (.10)	2-29 (.07)		
4	7-69 (.10)	7-29 (.24)		
5	6-69 (.09)	4-29 (.14)		
6	10-69 (.14)	5-27 (.19)		
7	7-66 (.11)	2-24 (.08)		
8	10-56 (.18)	0-20 (.00)		
9	3-43 (.07)	5-20 (.25)		
10	3-26 (.12)	2-13 (.15)		



July 31, 2023

Scott Chaney
Executive Director
CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Scott:

Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association would like to request December 20, 2023 through December 24, 2024 for our upcoming 2024 meet.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Monji". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

Cathy Monji
President

2024

Del Mar 2024 Race Dates Request

Summer (9 Weeks): July 10 - September 10

Fall (5 Weeks): October 30 - December 3

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July						
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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Josh Rubinstein
President & COO

July 18, 2023

Sent via e-mail: cschaney@chr.ca.gov

Scott Chaney, Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: DMTC Dates Request for 2024 Racing Calendar

Dear Executive Director Chaney:

We write to address the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club's ("DMTC") requests for the 2024 racing calendar. We appreciate the California Horse Racing Board ("CHRB") addressing this issue early in 2023. Because doing so will benefit owners and trainers in planning where to race their horses and will help determine DMTC's continued investments in purse enhancements, horse recruitment efforts and new programs benefiting backstretch workers.

DMTC requests the same nine (9) week allotment for our 2024 summer meet that the CHRB has allocated to Del Mar over each of the last four years, 2020 through 2023. **In 2024, DMTC's requested nine (9) week summer season is July 10 through September 10.** As was the case in 2021 through 2023, Del Mar requests to operate 31-days of racing over eight (8) weeks from July 19 through September 8, with a simulcast-only week prior to the start of our summer season.

A few points regarding the results of DMTC's nine-week summer race meet:

- Del Mar is the only racetrack in California that traditionally operates a four-day race week (the state's other tracks generally run three-days per week). Our additional day of racing each week provides more racing opportunities and more purse money for industry stakeholders as well as additional work days (i.e., days for employees to qualify for health and welfare benefits).
- In addition to offering the state's highest purses, DMTC has invested over \$1 million in each of the last two years in horse recruitment efforts to attract out-of-state runners to California. In 2021 and 2022, our recruitment initiatives, which are highlighted by the popular *Ship & Win* program, have generated 1,917 starts at California racetracks (1,124 starts at Del Mar and 793 starts at Santa Anita and Los Alamitos) and the majority of these horses have remained in the state.
- Our investment in horse recruitment contributed to our best-ever summer meet in 2022 which produced an average field size of 9.1 runners per race and average daily all-sources handle of \$18.7 million, both of which are records in California. In addition to offering the state's largest daily average purses, DMTC's record wagering levels provide valuable funding contributions to industry programs such as workers' compensation, stabling & vanning and others, and those numbers lead all the other racing associations in California. Please see the attached document for further details.

- DMTC values and respects our backstretch workers. This community works tirelessly to care for our horses, and without them there would be no industry. California stakeholders have been instrumental in creating and funding programs to benefit backstretch workers. Entities such as the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation (healthcare services) [CTHF] and the Edwin Gregson Foundation (college scholarships) are just two examples of these efforts. For our upcoming summer meet, DMTC is proud to partner with the CTHF and implement a new program to assist the backstretch community by providing each worker a nutritious meal each day of racing at no cost to them. Our nine-week summer race meet has allowed DMTC to make this significant expenditure to this new program, which is an important investment in the well-being of our backstretch community and a statement on our part that their welfare continues to be a top priority for us.

DMTC further requests a five (5) week allotment from October 30 through December 3 for our 2024 fall race meet. Del Mar requests to operate seventeen (17) days of racing from October 31 through December 1 for our fall season.

A few points regarding DMTC's fall race meet:

- Del Mar was recently awarded the 2024 Breeders' Cup World Championships, which will be held on November 1 and 2, 2024. This represents the third time DMTC will host the Breeders' Cup over the last eight years.
- Since DMTC's inaugural fall season in 2014, the CHRB has allocated Del Mar either a four-week or five-week race meet each year.
- DMTC has proudly offered the Autumn Turf Festival each year since we began operating our fall meet in 2014. Originally created by Hollywood Park, the Turf Festival is a collection of Graded stakes races run over Thanksgiving weekend.
- In 2024, Del Mar's Turf Festival is projected to offer seven (7) Graded stakes races over Thanksgiving weekend. Due to the dates of preceding stakes races from across the country and the handle generated over Thanksgiving weekend, it is critical that the fifth and final weekend of Del Mar's 2024 fall meet is November 29 through December 1.

Our commitment to investing in our racing program, the welfare of our backstretch community and other initiatives have resulted in Del Mar becoming one of the industry's most successful and safest race meets, not only in California but throughout the entire nation. As noted above, DMTC is prepared to make continued investments to ensure the health of racing at Del Mar as well as throughout California. We also value our relationship with the CHRB and appreciate your consideration of our requests for 2024 race dates.

We look forward to further discussion with the CHRB and industry stakeholders and are available to address any questions you may have.

Respectfully,



Josh Rubinstein,
President and COO

2024 Southern California Race Dates

December 2023						
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SA - December 20, 2023 through June 18, 2024

SA - September 25 through October 29, 2024

SA - Meet Starts December 18, 2023

Wks

Santa Anita	31
Del Mar	0
Los Al	0
LACF@Los Al	0

31

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Sent via email: cschaney@chrb.ca.gov

August 3, 2023

Scott Chaney
Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: 2024 Allocation of Race Dates

Dear Executive Director Chaney,

I am writing to express my views on behalf of the TOC with respect to the allocation of 2024 race dates. With the dark cloud of uncertainty that was recently cast over the northern part of California, specifically the announced closing of Golden Gate Fields, we believe it would be in the best interest of all parties to provide clarity and clear direction regarding the core race dates for southern California. We believe this is within the scope of something I would classify as manageable and predictable based on past practice. It would also provide assurances to those that work within our industry and racing fans across the country as well as around the globe as 2024 is a Breeders' Cup year for the State of California.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club shared its CHRB submission for 2024 race dates with the TOC for the summer and fall and we support their application. The summer meet is the flagship meet of California horse racing, offering the highest level of purses and excellent field sizes to protect our collective California brand and showcase top quality content to a national audience of racing fans. The approval of these dates at the upcoming August Board meeting will allow Del Mar and the Breeders' Cup the opportunity to begin promoting the 2024 dates and work with their county counterparts.

National handle has posted declines in six of the first seven months this year. The TOC agrees that Del Mar should once again be awarded the simulcast-only week prior to the start of the summer season to help maintain the purse levels of California's flagship meeting.

The TOC also supports the Del Mar application for autumn dates, noting that Thanksgiving Day falls on November 28, 2024 and the Autumn Turf Festival is an important part of the California graded stakes calendar. To accommodate this, we support a fifth and final week for Del Mar in 2024.

Though the TOC is not currently in receipt of the race dates requested by Santa Anita and Los Alamitos, it supports in principle allocating the 2024 dates for the south through a similar lens, as we feel the core dates in the south are manageable and predictable and should not be postponed due to the uncertainty in the north. For example, there is no mystery that Santa Anita will feature its traditional opening on December 26, 2023 with a crowd of about 40,000 on site. By doing so, we would be sending a clear message that California horse racing may be facing some challenges as we plan the future but the core dates at our racetracks in the southern part of the state provide stability, strength, and clarity.

Yours sincerely,

William A. Nader

Cc: Gary Fenton, TOC Chairman

285 W. HUNTINGTON DR., ARCADIA, CA 91007 (626) 574-6620

PRESIDENT & CEO: BILL NADER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JORDYN EGAN

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & ANALYTICS: JOE HASSON

NORCAL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: WAYNE ATWELL

SO CAL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MEMBER SERVICES: ELSA PERON

Sonoma County Fair - 2024 Proposed Racing Dates

Agenda Item 2

July						
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Santa Rosa	10
Simo Only	5

watch wager

Operating Harness Racing at Cal Expo
Managed By Golden Bear Racing, LLC

Scott Chaney
Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Avenue #210
Sacramento, CA 95825

Re: 2024 Harness Racing Dates Allocation Request

Dear Scott,

Watch and Wager LLC operator of Cal Expo harness racing would like to request the following 2024 standardbred race dates to be raced at Cal Expo. Our date request is consistent with our 2023 racing calendar.

December 26th, 2023 through May 7th, 2024
November 5, 2024 through December 19th, 2024

It is anticipated that racing will be conducted Friday and Sunday evenings during the proposed allocated periods.

We thank the Board for their consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Christopher J. Schick

watch wager

Operating Harness Racing at Cal Expo

July 20, 2023

Larry Swartzlander
Executive Director
California Association of Racing Fairs
1776 Tribute Road
Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95815

Dear Mr. Swartzlander,

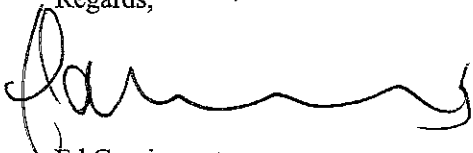
Like all California racing stakeholders, Watchandwager.com (WAW) is deeply concerned about the recently announced closure of Golden Gate Fields and the effect this may have on horsemen in the state. In this time of uncertainty, we applaud the California Association of Racing Fair's (CARF) proactive approach to addressing this unfortunate situation.

However, statements made by CARF in regards to potential Northern thoroughbred race dates at the California Exposition & State Fair (Cal Expo) are extremely concerning to WAW as they are already resulting negative impacts to our racing interests. CARF's statements, particularly those in a Daily Racing Form article yesterday, propose thoroughbred race dates which would directly conflict with WAW's historic harness meet dates and attendant lease of the Cal Expo facility through 2030. Many of our horsemen have already contacted us questioning whether they will be able to return to California for our meet beginning later this year, an understandable concern for those coming from as far away as the U.S and Canadian East coast. As you are aware, were horsemen to decide not to return for our upcoming meet this would have a direct negative financial impact on our operations.

Further, as a publicly traded company on the London Stock Exchange, information implying that WAW will no longer be able to operate a harness meet at Cal Expo will likely have a significant negative effect on our shareholders. As a result of CARF's statements, WAW finds itself in the position of having to make a public statement regarding its ongoing plans to operate a harness meet in order to avoid further impact to our shareholders.

We would urge CARF to sit down with WAW and other California stakeholders prior to any further public statements. We stand fully prepared to work with anyone in the industry to support Northern thoroughbred racing and the horsemen who depend on it. WAW looks forward to discussing such proposals at your earliest convenience.

Regards,



Ed Comins
President
Watchandwager.com

cc.

Tom Martinez
Gregory Ferraro
Scott Chaney

Jerome Hoban
David Neumeister
Christopher Schick
Benjamin Kenney



August 1, 2023

PRESIDENT

EOIN G. HARTY

NO CAL VICE PRESIDENT

GLORIA HALEY

SO CAL VICE PRESIDENT

DAVID E. HOFMANS

TREASURER

RAY BELL

SECRETARY

ANGIE CARMONA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RAY BELL

TIM BELLASIS

VAL BRINKERHOFF

RON ELLIS

GLORIA HALEY

EOIN G. HARTY

DAVID E. HOFMANS

SEAN McCARTHY

MATTHEW TROY

IN MEMORIAM

NOBLE THREEWITT

President & Director

EXECUTIVE STAFF

ALAN F. BALCH

Executive Director

BILL PATTERSON

No. California Manager

ANGIE CARMONA

Deputy Director

Ms. Belinda Stronach, Chairwoman, CEO, and President

THE STRONACH GROUP AND 1/ST

Mr. Aidan Butler, CEO

Mr. Craig Fravel, Executive Vice Chairman

1/ST RACING & GAMING

Ms. Stronach and Gentlemen:

We have reviewed with great interest your media presentation on Friday, as well as responses and quotations from TOC and CTBA. We understand from TOC that you are preparing details for further explanation, perhaps to be released this week.

As the statutory representative of all licensed Trainers in California, a great many of whom are also licensed Owners, we believe it essential that the following issues be addressed. Kindly bear in mind that California law states: "The trainers' organization shall generally be responsible for negotiating issues relating to the backstretch, track safety, and the welfare of backstretch employees." [California Business and Professions Code, Section 19613.1 (b)]

Licensed Trainers (CTT's members), as well as all those connected with California racing, are entitled to objective facts on which to make decisions which affect their future livelihoods, as well as clear reasoning based on those facts.

From the meeting to which we were summoned in Mr. Fravel's office last Wednesday morning, as well as your Friday afternoon media event, apparently you are preparing to embark on implementing plans you have developed for the California industry, rather than first having had collaborative exploratory talks with the entities most involved -- which entities bear specific statutory representation responsibilities. CTT represents all trainers in California, not just those currently racing in the south. It isn't readily apparent that you're prepared for potentially significant adverse repercussions (and not just for trainers), not all of which can even be knowable given your sudden, surprise announcements.

Therefore, it seems to us that the following issues (among many others) require detailed explanation, as well as potential negotiation, per the Racing Law.

1. You've publicly committed "over \$1-million to support the relocation" of the backstretch community to facilitate a consolidation of racing in Southern California. What exactly do you propose, how will this fund be distributed, and under whose direction and oversight? This apparently includes approximately \$500,000 to support California breeding. What are the details for protecting and enhancing existing breeders in California, specifically Northern California? How will these funds be expended, and by whom? Over what time frame?

2. Will the announced commitment of \$4.5-million for a "brand new all-weather synthetic track [to] replace the existing training track at Santa Anita" lead to accomplishing that in the 7 weeks available between this year's Breeders' Cup there and Christmas? If the project is started and cannot be completed, have you considered or quantified the risk of not having a training track available during the upcoming winter? What would be the impact of construction on existing training on the main track during that period? Have you allowed for the contingencies of bad weather and the Thanksgiving holiday period? Has the fundamental engineering required been commenced or completed? Have vendors been contracted? Is Tapeta to be installed, or a different synthetic?

SO. CALIFORNIA - MAIN OFFICE

Santa Anita Park

285 W. Huntington Drive

Arcadia, CA 91007

P.O. Box 660039

Arcadia, CA 91066-0039

(626) 447-2145 (Office)

(626) 446-0270 (Fax)

E-Mail: info@caltrainers.org

NO. CALIFORNIA - FIELD OFFICE

Golden Gate Fields

1100 Eastshore Highway

Berkeley, CA 94710

P.O. Box 6027

Berkeley, CA 94706

(510) 524-3081 (Office)

(510) 524-5280 (Fax)

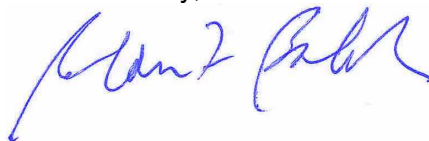
E-Mail: nocactt@aol.com

www.caltrainers.org

3. What exactly is meant by "a commitment to fund a portion of 2024 health care premiums for Golden Gate Fields employees"? Presumably, you are referring here to requirements under existing law for Stronach Racing employees. What about employees of trainers and other critical backstretch workers?
4. What exactly is "a job board accessible to backside employees to support the transition to Santa Anita"? How will it function? Have you considered government resources which might be marshaled, enabling the access of existing backstretch personnel to other potential opportunities, outside racing, and what citizenship or other barriers there may be to transferring skills?
5. As to the proposed investment of "\$500,000+ (over two years) towards building a state-of-the-art equine pool for hydrotherapy and horse exerciser," is this one installation or more than one? Exactly where at Santa Anita will this/these installations be located? When within the two-year period mentioned will these installations be completed?
6. What is the time frame for building and using the new "\$2.5-million turf chute," which has been announced? Is permitting secured?
7. As you know, California racing is an interdependent enterprise, with statutory slivers of the total takeout from handle directly and indirectly supporting many backstretch and other organizations. These include, but aren't necessarily limited to, California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation (CTHF), Winners Foundation, TOC and CTT, California Thoroughbred Business League (CTBL) supporting workers' compensation for trainer employers, California breeder incentive awards, Jockey Welfare Benefit Corporation, CTT Backstretch Pension, jockey pension programs, etc., etc. Detailed revenue forecasts should be provided to CHRB and the affected organizations for planning and transitional purposes. How will industry financial support of CHRB itself be maintained, and at what level, as well as California Horse Racing Information Management System (CHRIMS)? What will be the expected repercussions for these and other affected organizations? Has Stronach Racing considered the economic impact of its decision to discontinue racing at Golden Gate Fields on all these entities, named and unnamed, assessed the detailed cost/benefit of its announced course of action, and considered any transitional financial support to them? If so, to which ones specifically?

We would appreciate your attention to all these matters, and any additional issues that may be connected, prior to your upcoming release of more information.

Sincerely,



Alan F. Balch
CTT Executive Director

AFB:ac

Copies: CHRB
CTHF, Mr. Cliff Goodrich
CTBA, Mr. Doug Burge
CTT, Board of Directors
TOC, Mr. Bill Nader

Dr. Ferraro and CHRB Commissioners, Others:

As you know, Ellen Jackson has been one of California's most esteemed trainers, owners, and breeders, for a very long time. I don't know anyone who has contributed more to the sport in the most important ways than she has, with her time, tireless commitment, and the means available to her.

When she contacted me last night, as her statutory representative, and spoke with me this morning, she asked me for my assistance in making sure this letter of hers (in her own words, untouched by me) reached the CHRB and the industry's leadership.

That's why I'm providing it to all of you. It's a matter of public record, in any case, and I'm confident it represents the opinions of countless people who have devoted their lives to California racing.

Alan F. Balch, Executive Director
California Thoroughbred Trainers

Here is what I wrote to the CHRB:

As I'm sure you're aware now, The Stronach Group intends to close GGF as of the 10th of Dec. I have to wonder who can intervene on the part of all the trainers, grooms, hot walkers, exercise rider, jockeys, owners, breeders, hay growers, grain manufacturers, vendors, small businesses, etc. that are going to be devastatingly impacted by this decision. As I'm also sure you're aware, many of the back stretch workers have only provisional licenses that allow them to work at the track but have no work permit to allow them to work outside the track. This closure is going to throw many people out on the street without work, without the possibility to work and without a place to live. The horses we have raised to race in Northern CA are not of the quality to compete successfully in Southern CA, as is the intended plan by Stronach group to see them all move to Santa Anita and bulk up their horse population. That isn't going to happen. Horses and trainers are leaving the state by the droves as it is. Trying to improve racing in So Cal by destroying any competition in Nor Cal, just doesn't add up.

I don't know where to turn but this travesty is just eating away at my heart and I'm hoping since you allocate the dates for race meets, maybe you have some suggestions. I realize as a private corporation, Stronach Group doesn't have to open their books to the public. But as recently as this spring, Craig Fravel, CEO of Stronach racing, speaking to a group of TOC members at GGF, told us that GGF makes a better profit than SA and is basically supporting them. He also said that the field sizes were on an average 1 horse more per race at GGF than SA. Belinda Stronach is now claiming that GGF is 1.9 million, behind on purses at GGF and have been incurring losses in operating costs for years. She also claims

Stronach group is liable for 25 million in storm drain renovation and water quality improvements. Which was supposedly why we had to leave GGF last summer so they could take care of. Who are we to believe?

Since the mission statement of CHRB is to ensure the integrity, viability, and safety of the California horse racing industry by regulating pari-mutuel wagering for the protection of the public, promoting horse racing, breeding, and wagering opportunities, and fostering safe racing through the development and enforcement of track safety standards and regulations for the health and welfare of all participants, it would appear that this sort of reckless decision making by Stronach group is certainly under your jurisdiction, of the welfare of all participants.

I am sincerely hoping when you make your decisions for race dates you take all the human toll into consideration and at least force the Stronach group to be transparent in their decision making, process and provide you with evidence that this plan to destroy Nor Cal racing is based on what is best for the industry as a whole.

Ellen Jackson

2024 Proposed Northern California Race Dates DRAFT

2023

Updated 7-6-23

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Race days subject to change

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Sacramento	9
Ferndale (Unoverlapped)	6
Fresno	7

2024

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						6

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
7						

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

August 16, 2023

RACE DATES

COMMITTEE MEETING

There is no meeting package material for Item 3