

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD  
1010 HURLEY WAY, SUITE 300  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95825  
(916) 263-6000  
FAX (916) 263-6042



## **NOTICE OF RACE DATES COMMITTEE MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **California Horse Racing Board's Race Dates Committee** will be held on **Wednesday, August 20, 2003**, commencing at **10:30 a.m.**, at the **Del Mar Satellite Wagering Facility**, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., **Del Mar**, California. Non-committee members attending the Board's committee meeting may participate in the public discussion, but shall not participate in any official committee vote or committee executive session.

### **AGENDA**

1. Discussion and action regarding the **race dates for the 2004 racing year**.

Further information regarding the committee meeting may be obtained from John Reagan, Senior Management Auditor, at the CHRB Administrative Office, 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, California, 95825; telephone (916) 263-6000 or fax (916) 263-6042. A copy of this notice can be located on the CHRB website at [www.chrb.ca.gov](http://www.chrb.ca.gov)

### **RACE DATES COMMITTEE**

Chairman Roger Licht, Chairman  
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella, Member

**Date of Notice:** August 8, 2003

**STAFF ANALYSIS**  
ALLOCATION OF 2004 RACE DATES  
  
RACE DATES COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 2003

**Background:**

At the July Race Dates meeting the proposals for 2004 race dates as requested by the racing associations was outlined. Although no real surprises were presented, there were points of contention – both new and old.

1. The thoroughbred racing associations propose to run on Monday, December 20, 2004. The TOC was firmly opposed to this since it reduced the holiday downtime by one day.
2. The traditional discussion concerning overlapping fair racing in the Northern Zone with thoroughbred racing at Bay Meadows. CARF representatives requested that there be no overlap or at least a reduction in overlap. The thoroughbred association continues to believe that overlap is a plus for both the fairs and their meet. Both sides promised to present data to support their position on the issue prior to the August Dates Committee meeting. Bernie Thurman has submitted information regarding overlap and it is included in this package.
3. The harness industry's proposal to run an additional 26 nights at the San Joaquin Fair in Stockton was opposed by the quarter horse industry. Both sides agreed to have their side of the argument in writing to the Committee prior to this meeting. Information from Alan Horowitz regarding this request is included in this package.

In addition, there was one adjustment to the proposed calendar when the Fresno District Fair asked to clarify their 2004 dates – essentially requesting that their meet of 11 days start on October 6 rather than September 29, 2004. The new bar chart reflects that request.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Committee hear from all interested parties concerning the 2004 dates.

# DRAFT

## PROPOSED RACE DATES 2004 RACING CALENDAR

# DRAFT

DEC      JAN      FEB      MAR      APR      MAY      JUNE      JULY      AUG      SEP      OCT      NOV      DEC      JAN

### THOROUGHBRED & FAIR MEETINGS

26	SANTA ANITA (84 Days) 17 Wks	18	21	HOLLYWOOD PARK (65) 13 Wks	18	21	DEL MAR (43) 7 Wks	8	29	S.A. (26) 5 Wks	31	3	H'WD PARK (36) 7 Wks	20
26	GOLDEN GATE FIELDS (74) 15 Wks	4	7	BAY MEADOWS (55) 11 Wks	20	16	FAIRS	6	3	BAY MEADOWS (49) 10 Wks	7	10	G.G.F. (31) 6 Wks	20
										LACF 10 26 17 Dys			FRESNO FAIR	

### QUARTER HORSE MEETING

26	LOS ALAMITOS (203) 51 Wks													19
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### HARNESS MEETINGS

26	CAL EXPO (133) 31 Wks					31	6	STOCKTON (26) 9 Wks	2	7	CAL EXPO (45) 12 Wks				24
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### NORTHERN FAIRS (RACING DAYS)

STOCKTON (10), JUNE 16 - JUNE 27  
 PLEASANTON (11), JUNE 30 - JULY 11  
 VALLEJO (10), JULY 14 - JULY 25  
 SANTA ROSA (12), JULY 28 - AUG 9  
 SAN MATEO (12), AUG 11 - AUG 23  
 FERNDALE (10), AUG 12 - AUG 22  
 SACRAMENTO (12), AUG 25 - SEPT 6  
 FRESNO FAIR (11), OCT 6 - OCT 17

Dates Committee  
August 2003

2004 RACE DATES YEAR-TO -YEAR COMPARISON CHART			
South	2003	2004	Change
Santa Anita	85	84	-1
HP-Spring	65	65	0
Del Mar	43	43	0
LACF	17	17	0
Oak Tree	32	26	-6
HP-Fall	30	36	6
	272	271	-1
North	2003	2004	Change
GG-Winter	70	74	4
BM-Spring	55	55	0
BM-Fall	50	49	-1
GG-Fall	35	31	-4
	210	209	-1
No. Fairs	2003	2004	Change
Stockton	10	10	0
Pleasanton	11	11	0
Vallejo	10	10	0
Santa Rosa	12	12	0
San Mateo	12	12	0
Humboldt	10	10	0
Sacramento	12	12	0
Fresno	11	11	0
	88	88	0
Quarters	208	203	-5
Harness	179	204	25



August 6, 2003

The Honorable Roger H. Licht, Chairman  
Racing Dates Committee

The Honorable Sheryl L. Granzella, Member  
Racing Dates Committee

California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite #300  
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Dates Allocation for Northern California Thoroughbred  
Associations

Dear Chairman Licht and Commissioner Granzella;

The attached statistical reports address the topics of overlap and concurrent racing. A brief recap:

**Overlap:**

- Handle and related revenue increase during periods of overlap between a racing fair and thoroughbred association
- Thoroughbred field size continues to be ample to sustain overlaps in their current form; in fact, during most overlaps, average thoroughbred field size at racing fairs is larger than average thoroughbred field size during non-overlap time frames, and compares well with average thoroughbred field size for the entire Northern California fair circuit

- Opportunities for racing participants increase during periods of overlap
- The number of jobs increases during periods of overlap
- During overlaps, more money is wagered on the Northern California thoroughbred cards than the racing fair cards
- During non-overlap periods, Thoroughbred associations generate more handle and related revenue than racing fairs

### **Concurrent racing**

- Handle and revenue drop substantially on days when concurrent racing is not conducted

I hope that you will find the enclosed material to be useful. If you would like to take a look at additional statistics, please do not hesitate to call.

Respectfully submitted,



Bernie Thurman  
VP & Assistant General Manager

xc: Roy Wood  
Jack Liebau

enclosures

## Northern California Statistical Reports

The attached statistical reports substantiate the following findings with respect to overlaps between a Thoroughbred Association and Racing Fair, and concurrent racing. Note that handle and pari-mutuel revenue numbers include "traditional" commingled wagers; bets generated via Advanced Deposit Wagering ("ADW") systems are not included.

### Overlaps

- 1) More handle, revenue and jobs are generated during time frames when both a Northern California Thoroughbred Association and Racing Fair conduct live racing than during time frames when only an Association or Fair operate
- 2) More handle and revenue is generated during time frames when a Thoroughbred Association conducts live racing than during similar time frames when a Racing Fair conducts live racing
- 3) Average thoroughbred field size during overlaps compares well with average thoroughbred field size during non-overlap periods; in short, the Northern California inventory of "ready to run" thoroughbreds is ample to sustain historic overlap racing. Further, average thoroughbred field size through August 4th of the 2003 fair circuit is substantially higher than thoroughbred average field size during the comparable time frame in 2002.

### Concurrent Racing

- 4) In Northern California, substantially more handle, revenue and jobs are generated during time frames when cards from both Northern and Southern California are offered than during time frames when only a Thoroughbred or Racing Fair card from either Northern or Southern California is offered to the public. The numbers indicate that most Northern California fans expect a minimum of two live California cards, one from Northern California and one from Southern California, supplemented of course by import races from out of state jurisdictions. In short, patrons want appetizers and dessert to go along with the main course.

## 2002 & 2003 Average Thoroughbred Field Size at Racing Fairs

<u>Fair</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>% Increase</u>	
Alameda County Fair	7.36	7.91	+	7.5%
San Joaquin County Fair	7.52	8.29	+	10.2%
Solano County Fair	7.88	8.47	+	7.5%
Sonoma County Fair	7.40	7.97	+	7.7%

## Jobs at Bay Meadows – “Simulcast Only” versus Live

When live racing is conducted, Bay Meadows employs substantially more employees than on days when only simulcast wagering is offered. Bay Meadows employee job classifications that are increased include (in alphabetical order):

Admissions Sellers  
Assistant Starters  
Bar Tenders  
Bussers  
Concession Stand Staff  
Group Sales Attendants  
Janitors  
Laborers  
Kitchen Staff  
Marketing Aides  
Mutuel Employees  
Outriders  
Parking Attendants  
Porters & Commissary Workers  
Program Sellers  
Publicity Staff (including announcer, program production, price maker, etc.)  
Racing Officials and Racing Office Staff  
Receiving Barn Staff  
Security Guards  
Track Vets  
Truck Drivers (track crew)  
Ushers  
Valets  
Video Production Staff (camera men, machine operators, etc.)  
Waiters



## Stockton Overlap

For the last three years, Stockton has conducted five days of racing which were overlapped with the Bay Meadows Spring meet, followed by five days of non-overlapped racing.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Average Daily Combined Host* Handle during BM/Stockton overlap	4,192,599	4,470,052	4,339,824
Average Daily Host Handle during Spring Bay Meadows non-overlap dates	3,999,818	4,320,005	4,185,922
Average Daily Host Handle during Stockton non overlap dates	2,569,656	2,497,006	2,509,533

*Summary: Combined handle during overlaps is consistently higher than handle generated by thoroughbred associations or racing fairs during non-overlap periods. For example, in 2003, combined overlap handle was 73% higher than Stockton Fair non-overlap handle and 4% higher than Bay Meadows Spring meet non-overlap handle.*

*Average daily handle during Spring Bay Meadows non-overlap periods is larger than average daily handle during Stockton Fair non-overlap periods. For example, in 2003, handle was 67% higher during Spring Bay Meadows non-overlap dates than during Stockton non-overlap dates.*

\*Host Handle is comprised of wagers that provide revenue to Northern California thoroughbred and racing fair host tracks; it includes live and import wagers placed in Northern California, plus export wagers placed in out of state locations.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at Bay Meadows during the Bay Meadows/ Stockton overlap dates	3,245,877	3,715,464	3,382,576
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at Stockton during the Bay Meadows/ Stockton overlap dates	878,124	795,674	873,689

*Summary: When given the choice of wagering on a Bay Meadows or Stockton race, fans in Northern California, Southern California and out of state locations wagered well over three times as much on Bay Meadows races*

Stockton (continued)

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Average Daily Handle at Bay Meadows (on-track) during BM/Stockton overlap	908,927	872,505	875,920
Average Daily Handle at Stockton (on-track) during BM/Stockton overlap	269,217	260,406	261,150
Average Daily Handle at Golden Gate (off-track) during BM/Stockton overlap	423,576	422,118	416,213
<i>Summary: During time frames when both Bay Meadows and Stockton conducted live racing, fans at Bay Meadows wagered more than three times as much as fans wagering at Stockton; fans at Golden Gate, which was acted as a satellite site, wagered 37% more than fans at Stockton.</i>			

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Thoroughbred Field Size during Fair Circuit:	7.67	7.28	n/a
Stockton Thoroughbred Field Size during Overlap Bay Meadows/Stockton overlap	7.94	7.53	8.26
Stockton Thoroughbred Field Size during Non-Overlap Time Frame	7.95	7.50	8.31
<i>Summary: Thoroughbred field size at Stockton compares well with average fair circuit thoroughbred field size both during and after overlap time frames</i>			

## Fresno Overlap

During the past forty+ years, Fresno has conducted racing during the time frame when a Northern California thoroughbred association conducts racing.

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Combined Host* Handle during BM/Fresno overlap	3,946,072	3,971,566	3,853,500
Average Daily Host Handle during Fall Bay Meadows non-overlap dates	3,680,342	3,665,286	3,586,447
<p><i>Summary: Combined handle during overlaps is consistently higher than handle generated by thoroughbred associations or racing fairs during non-overlap periods. For example, in 2002, combined overlap handle was 7% higher than Bay Meadows Fall meet non-overlap handle.</i></p>			
<p>*Host Handle is comprised of wagers that provide revenue to Northern California thoroughbred and racing fair host tracks; it includes live and import wagers placed in Northern California, plus export wagers placed in out of state locations.</p>			

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at Bay Meadows during the Bay Meadows/ Fresno Fair overlap dates	3,183,229	3,056,455	2,809,467
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at Fresno Fair during the Bay Meadows/ Fresno Fair overlap dates	968,657	1,012,733	980,864
<p><i>Summary: When given the choice of wagering on a Bay Meadows or Fresno race, fans in Northern California, Southern California and out of state locations wagered nearly three times as much on Bay Meadows races</i></p>			

Fresno (continued)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Handle at Bay Meadows (on-track) during BM/Fresno Fair overlap	714,160*	762,076	686,716
Average Daily Handle at Fresno (on-track) during BM/Fresno Fair overlap	347,199*	375,547	387,816
<i>Summary: During time frames when both Bay Meadows and Fresno conducted live racing, fans at Bay Meadows wagered nearly twice as much as fans wagering at Fresno</i>			
<i>*Fresno lost of day of racing in 2000 due to rains &amp; an unsafe track surface; thus, the average for 2000 includes one less card of live races</i>			

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Thoroughbred Field Size during Fair Circuit:	7.69	7.67	7.28
Fresno Thoroughbred Field Size during Overlap Bay Meadows/Fresno Fair overlap	7.97	8.18	7.53
<i>Summary: Thoroughbred field size at the Fresno Fair compares well with average fair circuit thoroughbred field size</i>			

## Cal Expo/State Fair Overlap

During the last seven years, State Fair has conducted eight days of non-overlapped racing, followed by four days of overlapped racing with Bay Meadows.

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Combined Host* Handle during BM/State Fair overlap	4,658,823	4,664,292	4,266,430
Average Daily Host Handle during Fall Bay Meadows non-overlap dates	3,680,342	3,665,286	3,586,447
Average Daily Host Handle during State Fair non overlap dates	2,399,557	2,492,148	2,414,125
<p><i>Summary: Combined handle during overlaps is consistently higher than handle generated by thoroughbred associations or racing fairs during non-overlap periods. For example, in 2002, combined overlap handle was 77% higher than State Fair non-overlap handle and 19% higher than Bay Meadows Fall meet non-overlap handle.</i></p> <p><i>Average daily handle during Fall Bay Meadows non-overlap periods is larger than average daily handle during State Fair non-overlap periods. For example, in 2003, handle was 49% higher during Fall Bay Meadows non-overlap dates than during State Fair non-overlap dates.</i></p>			
<p>*Host Handle is comprised of wagers that provide revenue to Northern California thoroughbred and racing fair host tracks; it includes live and import wagers placed in Northern California, plus export wagers placed in out of state locations.</p>			

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at Bay Meadows during the Bay Meadows/State Fair overlap dates	3,458,144	3,129,894	2,670,366
Average Daily Handle on live races conducted at State Fair during the Bay Meadows/State Fair overlap dates	1,257,702	1,321,258	1,103,290
<p><i>Summary: When given the choice of wagering on a Bay Meadows or State Fair race, fans in Northern California, Southern California and out of state sites wagered over twice as much on Bay Meadows races</i></p>			

Cal Expo/State Fair (continued)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Handle at Bay Meadows (on-track) during BM/State Fair overlap	1,101,018	1,150,721	991,325
Average Daily Handle at State Fair (on-track) during BM/State Fair overlap	429,374	477,327	465,205
<i>Summary: During time frames when both Bay Meadows and State Fair conducted live racing, fans at Bay Meadows wagered more than twice as much as fans wagering at State Fair</i>			

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Average Daily Thoroughbred Purses generated during overlap between Bay Meadows and State Fair	192,204	199,774	185,111
Average Daily Thoroughbred Purses generated during non-overlap Bay Meadows Fall dates	159,923	150,580	148,886
Average Daily Thoroughbred Purses generated during non-overlap State Fair dates	93,944	102,696	102,221
<i>Summary: During periods of overlap, more purse money was generated than during non-overlap periods when only State Fair or Bay Meadows conducted racing. For example, in 2003, 81% more purse money was generated during the overlap period than during non-overlap periods when only State Fair conducted racing, and 24% more purse money was generated as compared to non-overlap time frames during the Bay Meadows fall meet</i>			

Cal Expo/State Fair (continued)

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Thoroughbred Field Size during Fair Circuit:	7.69	7.67	7.28
State Fair Thoroughbred Field Size during Overlap Bay Meadows/State Fair overlap	7.71	8.13	7.97
State Fair Thoroughbred Field Size during Non-Overlap Time Frame	7.13	7.93	7.26
Summary:	Thoroughbred field size at State Fair compares well with average fair circuit thoroughbred field size both before and during overlap time frames		

## Concurrent Racing

On the vast majority of racing days, cards from both Northern and Southern California thoroughbred and/or racing fairs are presented. On days when concurrent racing is not conducted, handle drops substantially.

### North Dark, South Open Examples

In 1999, Bay Meadows experimented with the concept of remaining dark on two Wednesdays in late January and early February. It was hoped that fans would be content to attend and wager throughout the Northern California when only cards from Southern California and out of state tracks were presented. On the two experimental days, Northern California network attendance and handle were down 28% and 36% respectively from comparable Wednesdays when both Northern and Southern California cards were offered. It was hoped that handle on the Thursdays that followed the dark Wednesdays would increase, but such was not the case. The complete loss of export handle combined with the substantial loss of Northern California handle served notice that this was an experiment that should be avoided.

On December 22, 2002, heavy rains resulted in a racing surface at Golden Gate Fields that was deemed to be unsafe, and the live card was cancelled shortly before the first race. Because of the last minute decision to cancel, attendance was at normal levels throughout the network (30 people higher than the comparable day). However, with the lack of a Northern California card, wagering in the Northern network dropped by 27% from the prior comparable day.

Each year during the Fairplex meet, non-concurrent racing is conducted on Mondays and Tuesdays; Northern California is dark, and fans can wager only on the Southern California and out of state import races. These days are so unpopular with the Northern California fan base (average daily Northern network handle in 2002 was only \$328,947 on these days) that several satellite facilities opted to remain closed. By way of comparison, on the non-Holiday Monday in September when both Bay Meadows and Del Mar conducted racing, fans in the Northern network wagered \$1,174,083.

### South Dark, North Open Examples

On several occasions during the past several years, Northern California racing fairs have conducted racing on days when Southern California was dark. Some of the most recent examples include two Mondays in July during the 2002 fair circuit, when the Alameda and Solano County Fairs choose to present non-concurrent cards. Handle in the Northern network on these two days was \$762,443 and \$676,923 respectively. On two Mondays in late July and early August when concurrent racing was conducted, the Northern network generated \$1,231,418 and \$1,571,485.



## Concurrent Racing (continued)

### South Dark, North Open Examples

In 2003, the Alameda County Fair conducted non-concurrent racing on Monday, 6/30. The Northern network handle on that day was \$770,628, far below the average of \$1,400,022 for two comparable Mondays during the Sonoma County Fair when both Northern and Southern California hosts conducted racing.

The numbers indicate that most Northern California fans prefer a minimum of two live California cards, one from Northern California and one from Southern California, supplemented of course by import races from out of state jurisdictions.



August 11, 2003

California Horse Racing Board  
2004 Date Allocation Committee  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Race Date Allocations for 2004

Dear Chairman Licht & Commissioner Granzella:

This letter lays out the various reasons why the allocation of new racing dates in 2004 for harness racing at the Stockton Fairgrounds is supported by the harness industry -- Capitol Racing LLC, the California Harness Horsemen's Association and the California Standardbred Sires Stakes Program -- and is beneficial to the host facility (the San Joaquin County Fair), the various union and employee groups that will staff the race meet, the satellite operators throughout the State that can offer their patrons an additional set of nightly races on which to wager, and to the patrons of harness racing state-wide who have stepped-up during the past five years to endorse harness racing with their wagering dollars.

- (1) The addition of these two months of racing would enable harness racing to recapture the year 'round racing program that it once had back in the 1980's. At that time a nationally prominent harness circuit raced year 'round in California at Bay Meadows Race Course, Los Alamitos Race Course, Cal-Expo, and Hollywood Park. In the course of the 1990's racing opportunity declined steadily as these facilities gained race dates for thoroughbreds and quarterhorses. Harness racing reached a low point in California with only 13 total weeks of racing at Los Alamitos in 1994. Since that time harness racing has battled back to reclaim important racing dates at the Cal-Expo facility in Sacramento. In 1995 the traditional spring race dates returned to Cal-Expo under a new operator, Capitol Racing. Also in that year a first-ever Fall harness meet was conducted in Sacramento by Capitol Racing. Then in 2001, when Los Alamitos no longer wanted to host harness racing, those Winter dates (late December through early April) were moved to Cal-Expo to provide horsemen with a ten month racing schedule. And now for 2004, a request for new dates at the Stockton Fairgrounds -- dates that would create an all important year 'round racing program for the owners, trainers, drivers and breeders of standardbred (harness) horses here in California. This twelve month racing program would be viewed nationally as another important step in the continued resurgence of California harness racing.

- (2) Harness horsemen and breeders are in strong support of this allocation. It will provide them with a year 'round opportunity to race that will stimulate both the ownership of horses and the breeding of new California-breds. This added racing opportunity will translate into more purse money for both overnight race horses and for the California Standardbred Sires Stakes Program. The latter program is currently subsidized by the overnight purse pool in an effort to stimulate breeding here in California. Both designated and subsidy funds should evidence an increase with the two additional months of racing.

Trainers and owners will be able to "do right" by their horses giving them time off when it is needed and preferred rather than waiting for the imposed down time of our break in racing under the current schedule (i.e., in August and September). Selected down time throughout the year may prove more beneficial to the equine athlete than an imposed break when there is no racing opportunity.

- (3) The San Joaquin County Fair should benefit from the additional exposure given to its racing facility both state-wide as well as nationally. Not to mention the additional funds available to the Fair from rent and ancillary revenues. These new dates will provide the Stockton Fair with an opportunity to "get back to its roots" as the first in Stockton Fair in 1860 featured "trotting horses" on its newly prepared oval.
- (4) Many local and state-wide unions and employee groups will benefit from the new racing dates. Employees will be needed to fill jobs throughout the race facility on both racing and non-racing days. In addition, job openings may be created at night satellite facilities throughout the State. Further, new jobs and revenues should be produced locally in the Stockton area as vendors and suppliers are needed to provide the many goods and services required of new racing operation.
- (5) California's satellite wagering facilities should also experience a boost in revenues attributable to the new race dates. Both handle and attendance figures should increase directly during this period of the racing year. The "harness only" patron should be attracted to neighborhood satellites with the two added months of harness racing – providing continuity for their handicapping efforts. The "night patron" will benefit by having more product on which to wager.

Prior to the allocation of race dates in 2001, harness racing was un-overlapped state-wide from late December through the first week-end in April. For 2001, the Allocation Committee and the Board approved the request by Los Alamitos Race Course to race Quarterhorses during that period of time. Harness racing moved to Cal-Expo during those months and for the first time in several decades raced during that time with overlapped dates. Since the beginning of 2001 most race nights for harness racing have been overlapped either from Quarterhorses at Los Alamitos or Thoroughbreds at Hollywood Park and/or Bay Meadows (i.e., on Friday nights). Our industry has accepted this overlap as the price for racing in California.

Accordingly, Capitol Racing is very pleased to support this allocation of new dates along with other segments of the harness industry. A year 'round program of night racing will provide a new tool in our continuing efforts to recruit new horses, trainers and drivers, and owners to California racing. We urge the Date Allocation Committee to recommend these new dates to the full Board for its approval. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Horowitz', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alan Horowitz  
General Manager



July 17, 2003

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
 JACK OWENS  
 PRESIDENT & GENERAL COUNSEL  
 JOHN K. VAN DE KAMP

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Memo to: CHRB Race Dates Committee

From: John Van de Kamp

Re: TOC Position on Race Dates

TOC appreciates the extension of time given to make its recommendations regarding Racing Dates for 2003-2004.

The TOC Board reviewed the subject at its July 11 Board Meeting and asked me to communicate the following views:

1. Christmas Break. While TOC has long advocated a longer Christmas Break, the calendar for 2004 sets up for a Santa Anita opening on Sunday, December 26, 2003. TOC believes Hollywood should close to live racing at the end of the day on December 19, 2003. That would provide six-day break between Hollywood Park and Santa Anita—that break will be welcomed by fans, owners and backstretch personnel.
2. Overlaps. TOC does not believe that there should be Northern California Fair racing when there is no concurrent racing in the South. Handle and purse revenue fell precipitously at Pleasanton when it ran on Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>; the net purse revenue loss was the major contribution to the purse overpayment at the meeting.
3. Del Mar and Fairplex Schedules. The Del Mar and Fairplex schedules should not be changed, i.e. 6-day weeks should continue at Del Mar and the Fairplex meeting should continue with 17 days.
4. Pilot Program. TOC requests the establishment of a pilot program running from December 26, 2003 to February 29, 2004 wherein racing in the North should be scheduled for four-day weeks, each week concurrent with traditional five-day weeks in the South. The exception would be where there are holidays: in such cases there should be concurrent racing North and South. The pilot program would be conditioned on the availability of the Northern track to bring in full card simulcasting, either through the end of the 23-day existing limitation and/or the availability of using TVG or YouBet cards at the live racing facility and the Northern California off-track simulcast venues.

As yet we have received no racing date proposals from the Tracks and the Fairs for the year in question. We reserve the right to comment on their proposals when received.

Cc: Tracks  
 CARF