

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RACE DATES **AND** **STABLING OVERSIGHT** **COMMITTEE MEETING**

of the California Horse Racing Board will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2014, commencing at **1:30 p.m.**, in the **Baldwin Terrace Room** at the **Santa Anita Park Race Track, 285 West Huntington Drive, Arcadia, California**. Non-committee Board members attending the committee meeting may not participate in the public discussion, official committee vote, or committee closed session.

AGENDA

Agenda Items

1. Discussion regarding **industry reports on the horse inventory at each Southern California racetrack and auxiliary training facility, the financial status of the Stabling and Vanning Fund, and the cost and efficiency of the vanning aspect of that program.**
2. Discussion regarding the **staff report comparing handle from the first four weeks of the 2013 spring-summer meet at Hollywood Park (April 25 through May 19) with the corresponding four weeks of racing at Santa Anita Park (April 24 through May 18).**
3. Discussion regarding **tattooing procedures at Southern California racetracks and auxiliary training facilities and whether horses running for the first time should be tattooed upon arrival at any of those facilities rather than waiting until after they are entered, only days before the race.**
4. **General Business:** Communications, reports, requests for future actions of the Committee.

Additional information regarding this meeting may be obtained from Mike Marten at the CHRB Office at Los Alamitos Race Course, 4961 E. Katella Avenue, Los Alamitos, CA, 90720; telephone (714) 820-2748; cell (714) 240-1870; fax (714) 821-6232. A copy of this notice can be located on the CHRB website at www.chrb.ca.gov. *Information for requesting disability related accommodation for persons with a disability who requires aids or services in order to participate in this public meeting, should contact Mike Marten.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RACE DATES
AND
STABLING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Commissioner George Krikorian, Chairman

Chuck Winner, Member

Rick Baedeker, Executive Director

Jacqueline Wagner, Assistant Executive Director

STAFF ANALYSIS
DISCUSSION REGARDING INDUSTRY REPORTS ON THE
HORSE INVENTORY AT EACH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RACETRACK AND
AUXILIARY TRAINING FACILITY, THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE STABLING AND
VANNING FUND, AND
THE COST AND EFFICIENCY OF THE VANNING ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM

Southern California Race Dates and Stabling Oversight Committee Meeting
May 21, 2014

ISSUE

At the September 2013 Regular Board Meeting, representatives of the Thoroughbred Owners of California, Santa Anita, Del Mar, and Los Alamitos outlined an agreement among themselves, coupled with a vote of the Stabling and Vanning Committee, whereby horses displaced by the closure of Hollywood Park on February 1, 2014, would be stabled initially at Santa Anita, Los Alamitos, Fairplex, and San Luis Rey Downs, and later at Del Mar. Additional details of this agreement were provided at the October 2014 Board meeting.

ANALYSIS

The loss of stalls at Hollywood Park and the anticipated closure of the stable area at Fairplex have and will continue placing a greater burden on other Southern California racetracks and authorized stabling facilities. Stalls are at a premium. Racing offices need assurance that horses occupying those stalls can be reasonably expected to participate in the current race meet. Furthermore, the stabling agreement provides the Stabling and Vanning Committee with authority to reduce or cease entirely payments to facilities if their stabling occupancy falls below 50 percent. For these reasons, it is increasingly important to have accurate inventories of horses at each facility. In January, the industry began the process on inventorying horses at each facility and updating those lists at the end of each month. Representatives of the Stabling and Vanning Committee can report on the status of those inventories.

The industry reported at the September 2013 Board meeting that the Stabling and Vanning Fund had a current deficit of \$1.3 million, which was expected to grow by an additional \$1 million in 2014. The vanning aspect of auxiliary stabling is an expensive part of the program. Statements were made at Board and committee meetings that vanning was not being provided in the most efficient manner (e.g. multiple vans were traveling less than half-full).

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented for Committee discussion. The Committee may wish to hear from representatives of the Stabling and Vanning Committee

STAFF ANALYSIS
DISCUSSION REGARDING THE STAFF REPORT COMPARING HANDLE FROM THE
FIRST FOUR WEEKS OF THE 2013 SPRING-SUMMER MEET AT
HOLLYWOOD PARK (APRIL 25 THROUGH MAY 19)
WITH THE CORRESPONDING FOUR WEEKS OF RACING AT
SANTA ANITA PARK (APRIL 24 THROUGH MAY 18)

Southern California Race Dates and Stabling Oversight Committee Meeting
May 21, 2014

ISSUE

Hollywood Park conducted its final race on December 22, 2013, freeing up 49 racing dates in the spring and summer and another 27 racing dates in the fall. The CHRB finalized the 2014 racing calendar for thoroughbreds in Southern California at the October 2013 Board meeting. The new calendar allocated most of Hollywood Park's spring-summer dates to Santa Anita Park. The current Santa Anita meet still began on its historical opening date, December 26, but instead of concluding on or about April 21, the meet is continuing through July 2, to be followed by a short meet at Los Alamitos. The fall dates were allocated to Del Mar and Los Alamitos.

ANALYSIS

Some expressed concern that by extending the meet at Santa Anita well past its normal closing date, interest in Santa Anita's races might wane in the final weeks and months. The Committee instructed staff to prepare a report comparing handle at the current meet from April 24 through May 18 with the corresponding weeks of the 2013 Hollywood Park meet, April 26 through May 19, for presentation at the Committee Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented for Committee discussion.

STAFF ANALYSIS
DISCUSSION REGARDING TATTOOING PROCEDURES AT
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RACETRACKS AND
AUXILIARY TRAINING FACILITIES, AND WHETHER HORSES
RUNNING FOR THE FIRST TIME SHOULD BE TATTOOED UPON ARRIVAL
AT ANY OF THOSE FACILITIES RATHER THAN WAITING UNTIL
AFTER THEY ARE ENTERED, ONLY DAYS BEFORE THE RACE

Southern California Race Dates and Stabling Oversight Committee Meeting
May 21, 2014

ISSUE

Since 1947, the Thoroughbred Racing and Protective Bureau (TRPB) has provided the thoroughbred horse-racing industry with a horse identification system based primarily on lip tattoos. The United States Trotting Association and American Quarter Horse Association offer similar services. While there is increasing interest in microchips, lip tattoos remain the principal means of identifying horses in North America.

ANALYSIS

CHRB Rule 1554, Duties of Horse Identifier, requires the Horse Identifier to “inspect documents of ownership, eligibility, registration, or breeding, as may be necessary to insure proper identification of each horse eligible to compete at the race meeting. He shall supervise the tattooing or branding for identification of any horse within the inclosure.”

The Horse Identifier and his or her assistants work with owners, trainers, and representatives at various stabling facilities to identify newly arrived horses and when necessary apply lip tattoos. Industry representatives are prepared to discuss this process with the Committee to determine whether the process can be improved.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented for Committee discussion.