

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, November 16, 2016**, commencing at **11:00 a.m.**, at the **Del Mar Surfside Race Place, (Downstairs General Admission Area) 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, California**. Non-committee Board members attending the committee meeting may not participate in the public discussion, official committee vote, or committee closed session.

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

### Agenda Items

1. Discussion and action regarding **the allocation of Northern California race dates calendar and related issues.**
2. **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](http://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.

### RACE DATES COMMITTEE

Chairman Chuck Winner, Chairman  
Commissioner Steve Beneto, Member  
Commissioner George Krikorian, Member  
Rick Baedeker, Executive Director  
Jacqueline Wagner, Assistant Executive Director

Dated: November 3, 2016

STAFF ANALYSIS  
DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE ALLOCATION  
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RACE DATES AND RELATED ISSUES

Race Dates Committee Meeting  
November 16, 2016

ISSUE:

In preparation for the September 21, 2016 Race Dates Committee meeting, the Northern California stakeholders were asked to submit new or revised three-year race dates proposals. Santa Rosa (Sonoma) submitted no changes from its initial request and a letter was received from Senators Mike McGuire and Lois Wolk and Assembly Members Jim Wood and Marc Levine, supporting Sonoma County Fair's three year race dates proposal. Golden Gate Fields (GGF) also submitted no changes to its July 2016 race dates proposal. GGF added that while it did submit a three year proposal as requested, it continues to recommend that the Board should only allocate dates for 2017.

California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) submitted two proposals (Scenarios A and B) that were to be discussed at its September 15, 2016 meeting with Santa Rosa. Scenario A was the CARF proposal to date. In Scenario A CARF is asking that host fees be reinstated to Humboldt for Wednesday and Thursdays of each racing week.

Scenario B was a proposal to compromise with Santa Rosa. Santa Rosa has expressed a concern that if CARF cannot move its proposed June 21 start date to a June 14 start date, racing a third week without a fair at Santa Rosa may not be economically feasible. In Scenario B, CARF proposed to give the Santa Rosa third week to Humboldt to run unoverlapped and receive a portion of the increased racing commissions from not running unoverlapped.

At the September 2016 Race Dates Committee meeting, no definitive decisions were made regarding Northern California race dates allocation. The stakeholders in Northern California did not reach an agreement on a proposed calendar for 2017 or for 2018 and 2019. The Committee delayed allocation of the 2017 northern California thoroughbred race dates until the October 2016 meeting in order to give the stakeholders more time to reach an agreement on a consensus calendar.

Subsequent to the September Committee meeting, CARF withdrew its Scenario A proposal. At the October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee meeting, Scenario B was presented as the CARF proposal.

At the October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee meeting, discussion continued regarding the 2017 Northern California race dates. The Northern California stakeholders had not reached consensus on a proposed calendar for 2017, 2018 or 2019. The Committee emphasized its preference for the stakeholders to resolve the outstanding issues on their own, however the Committee also reiterated that the California Horse Racing Board was committed to finalizing 2017 Northern California race dates at its October Board meeting.

Ultimately, the Committee moved the following recommendation for the Board's consideration:

Adopt CARF Scenario A with the caveat:

- Leaving open the Stockton/Pleasanton (Oaktree) meeting; to be decided at the October Board meeting.
- Humboldt County Fair to run unoverlapped August 23-27; and overlapped with Golden Gate Fields August 30-September 4, 2017.

**California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) 2017 Race Dates Proposal (SCENARIO A) COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION as discussed at October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee Meeting. Motion to adopt Scenario A failed at the October 20, 2016 meeting of the Board.**

Golden Gate Fields: December 26, 2016 - June 20, 2017

Alameda County Fair: Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12 - August 1

Sonoma County Fair: August 2 - August 22

Humboldt County Fair: August 23 - September 5

- Unoverlapped race days (August 23- August 27);
- Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields ( August 30 – September 4)

Golden Gate Fields: August 30 - September 19

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall) (formerly Stockton): September 20 - October 3

Fresno District Fair: October 4 - October 17

Golden Gate Fields: October 18 - December 19

In discussing 2017 race dates allocation for Northern California at the Board's Regular October 20, 2106 meeting, all attempts to negotiate an agreed-upon solution failed and all motions failed to garner the required four votes for adoption. Therefore, the matter was moved to the November Committee and Board agendas. In the interim, the stakeholders were again implored to try again to reach an accord on 2017 race dates.

Subsequent to the October 2016 Committee and Board meetings, revised proposals were received from CARF and the Sonoma County Fair. A new Commissioner's proposal was also submitted. GGF proposals remain unchanged from what was presented at the October 7, 2016 meeting of the Committee. In addition, the Thoroughbred Owners of California submitted a letter strongly supporting the awarding of overlapped weeks between GGF and Ferndale in 2017 in the same manner as they were run in 2016. The following proposals are submitted for consideration:



## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

### **CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS (CARF) 2017 RACE DATES PROPOSAL A**

Golden Gate Fields: December 26, 2016 - June 20, 2017

Alameda County Fair: Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12 - August 1

Sonoma County Fair: August 2 - August 22

Humboldt County Fair: August 23 - September 5

- First week unoverlapped - four live race days
- Four overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (September 1, 2, 3, and 4)

Golden Gate Fields: August 30 - September 19

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall) (formerly Stockton): September 20 - October 3

Fresno District Fair: October 4 - October 17

Golden Gate Fields: October 18 - December 19

### **CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS (CARF) 2017 RACE DATES PROPOSAL B**

Golden Gate Fields: December 26, 2016 - June 20, 2017

Alameda County Fair: Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12 - August 1

Sonoma County Fair: August 2 - August 13

Humboldt County Fair: August 16 - August 27

- First week unoverlapped - four race days
- Three overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (August 25, 26, and 27)

Golden Gate Fields: August 23 - September 19

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall) (formerly Stockton): September 20 - October 3

Fresno District Fair: October 4 - October 17

Golden Gate Fields: October 18 - December 19

### **SONOMA COUNTY FAIR (SANTA ROSA) 2017 RACE DATES PROPOSAL A (Swaps dates with Cal Expo; placing dates that had historically been held prior to 2010).**

#### **Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2017 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 21 - July 9

Santa Rosa: July 12 - July 30

California State Fair: August 2 - August 20

Humboldt: August 23 - September 4 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

#### **Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2018 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton June 20 - July 8

Santa Rosa: July 11 - July 29



California State Fair: August 1 – August 19  
 Humboldt: August 22 - September 3 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2019 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 20 - July 7  
 Santa Rosa: July 10 - July 28  
 California State Fair: July 31 - August 18  
 Humboldt: August 21 - September 2 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

**SONOMA COUNTY FAIR (SANTA ROSA) 2017 RACE DATES PROPOSAL B  
 (Recognizing 2017 swap of dates may be challenging given the short time frame, 2017 dates mimics the 2016 dates; with the date swap occurring in 2018 and forward).**

**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2017 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 14 - July 4  
 California State Fair: July 5 – July 23  
 Santa Rosa: July 26 – August 13  
 Humboldt: July 16 - August 27 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2018 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton June 20 - July 8  
 Santa Rosa: July 11 – July 29  
 California State Fair: August 1 – August 19  
 Humboldt: August 22 - September 3 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2019 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 19 - July 7  
 Santa Rosa: July 10 - July 28  
 California State Fair: July 31 - August 18  
 Humboldt: August 21 - September 2 (Overlapped with Golden Gate Fields)

**Golden Gate Fields 2017 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 21, 2016 - June 20, 2017  
 Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 21 - July 11  
 California State Fair: July 12, 2017 - August 1  
 Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): August 2 - August 22  
 Golden Gate Fields: August 23 - October 3  
 Humboldt County Fair: August 16 - August 29 (Overlapped)  
 Fresno: October 4 - October 17  
 Golden Gate Fields: October 18 - December 19

**Golden Gate Fields 2018 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 20, 2017 - June 29, 2018  
 Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 20 - July 10  
 California State Fair: July 11, 2018 - July 31  
 Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): August 1- August 21  
 Golden Gate Fields: August 22 - October 2  
 Humboldt County Fair: August 15 - August 28 (Overlapped)  
 Fresno: October 3 - October 16  
 Golden Gate Fields: October 17 - December 18

**Golden Gate Fields 2019 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 21, 2018 - June 28, 2019  
 Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 19 - July 9  
 California State Fair: July 10 - July 30  
 Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): July 31 - August 20  
 Golden Gate Fields: August 21 - October 1  
 Humboldt County Fair: August 14 - August 27 (Overlapped)  
 Fresno: October 2 - October 15  
 Golden Gate Fields: October 16 - December 17, 2019

**COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL (2017 Race Dates Proposal) (Winner)**

- April 12 – April 25  
Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (Formerly Stockton)
- April 26 – June 20  
Golden Gate Fields
- June 21 - July 11  
Alameda County Fair – Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12 – August 1  
California State Fair
- August 2 – August 22  
Sonoma County Fair
- August 23 – September 5  
Humboldt County Fair
- August 30 – October 3  
Golden Gate Fields
- October 4 - October 17  
Fresno District Fair

The proposals as presented at the October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee Meeting were as follows:

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

**California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) 2017 Race Dates Proposal (Scenario A) as discussed at September 15, 2016, meeting with Santa Rosa) PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN as presented by CARF at the October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee Meeting.**

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12 – August 1

Humboldt County Fair: August 23 - September 4

- (Seven overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields;
- Humboldt County Fair Host status (8/23,8/24,8/30, 8/31)

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall) (formerly Stockton): September 20 - October 3

Fresno District Fair: October 4 - October 17

CARF notes the proposed calendar represents inclusive blocks proposed for each fair. Specific racing dates may vary within the proposed blocks. Date ranges reflect Host status unless otherwise noted.

**California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) 2017 Race Dates Proposal (Scenario B) as discussed at September 15, 2016, meeting with Santa Rosa) CARF PROPOSAL as presented by CARF at the October 7, 2016 Race Dates Committee Meeting.**

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12 – August 1

Humboldt County Fair: August 16 – August 27

- First week unoverlapped – four live race dates
- Humboldt County Fair Host status (8/16, through 8/23)
- Humboldt County Fair revenue sharing week one with Sonoma County Fair
- Three overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (8/25,8/26,8/27)

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall) (formerly Stockton): September 20 - October 3

Fresno District Fair: October 4 - October 17

CARF notes the proposed calendar represents inclusive blocks proposed for each fair. Specific racing dates may vary within the proposed blocks. Date ranges reflect Host status unless otherwise noted.

### **Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2017 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 15 - July 2

California State Fair: July 6 - July 16

Santa Rosa: July 19 - August 6

Humboldt: August 11- August 20



**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2018 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton June 14 - July 1

California State Fair: July 5 - July 15

Santa Rosa: July 18 - August 5

Humboldt: August 10 - August 19

**Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa) 2019 Race Dates Proposal**

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 20 - July 7

California State Fair: July 11 - July 21

Santa Rosa: July 24 - August 11

Humboldt: August 16 - August 25

**Golden Gate Fields 2017 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 21, 2016 - June 20, 2017

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 21 - July 11

California State Fair: July 12, 2017 - August 1

Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): August 2 - August 22

Golden Gate Fields: August 23 - October 3

Humboldt County Fair: August 16 - August 29 (Overlapped)

Fresno: October 4 - October 17

Golden Gate Fields: October 18 - December 19

**Golden Gate Fields 2018 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 20, 2017 - June 29, 2018

Alameda County Fair (Oak Tree at Pleasanton): June 20 - July 10

California State Fair: July 11, 2018 - July 31

Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): August 1 - August 21

Golden Gate Fields: August 22 - October 2

Humboldt County Fair: August 15 - August 28 (Overlapped)

Fresno: October 3 - October 16

Golden Gate Fields: October 17 - December 18

**Golden Gate Fields 2019 Race Dates Proposal**

Golden Gate Fields: December 21, 2018 - June 28, 2019

Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton: June 19 - July 9

California State Fair: July 10 - July 30

Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa): July 31 - August 20

Golden Gate Fields: August 21 - October 1

Humboldt County Fair: August 14 - August 27 (Overlapped)

Fresno: October 2 - October 15

Golden Gate Fields: October 16 - December 17, 2019

**COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL (2017 Race Dates Proposal)**

- June 14 - July 4  
Alameda County Fair – Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 5 - July 23  
California State Fair
- July 26 – August 18  
Sonoma County Fair
- August 16 – August 27  
Humboldt County Fair
- August 18 – September 17  
Golden Gate Fields
- September 22 – October 1  
Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (Formerly Stockton)
- October 4 - October 15  
Fresno District Fair

**RECOMMENDATION**

This item is presented for discussion and action.

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November 2, 2016

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Mr. Chuck Winner, Chairman  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chairman Winner,

At the October CHRB board meeting, the commissioners considered two proposals regarding the overlap of race weeks at Ferndale and Golden Gate Fields. One of the motions was to allow one un-overlapped week at the Ferndale Fair, meaning Ferndale would be the only association running in the north for one week (proposed as August 25-27). This would mean Ferndale would be entitled to 100% of the Northern host revenues generated from satellite and ADW wagering during that week.

An alternative motion proposed would have Golden Gate running the same two weeks as Ferndale, as was the case in 2016. As you know, in the case of overlapped weeks, the California Racing Law provides a formula for a split of the ADW and satellite host revenues between the two racing associations.

From the TOC's perspective, the award of the un-overlapped week to Ferndale makes no economic sense for horsemen. In the north, the overlapped week would be expected to generate \$560,000 in purse revenues, whereas the comparable week at Ferndale run un-overlapped would be expected to generate only \$360,000 – representing a \$200,000 reduction to purses.

In the south, Del Mar projects that eliminating the opportunity for Del Mar players to wager on Golden Gate in the un-overlapped scenario would reduce wagering by \$2,083,157, with a corresponding reduction in total purses generated in the south of \$143,270 for the week.

All total the un-overlapped week would cost purses close to \$350,000.

Based on this data, the TOC strongly supports the awarding of overlapped weeks between Golden Gate and Ferndale in 2017 in the same manner as they were run in 2016.

Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Greg Avioli  
President and CEO

cc: Rick Baedeker  
Commissioner Auerbach  
Commissioner Beneto  
Commissioner Choper  
Commissioner Krikorian  
Commissioner Solis

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2011)  
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ALAN LANDSBURG (2005-07)  
MARSHA NAIFY (2007-10)  
ARNOLD ZETCHER (2010-11)

**CORPORATE OFFICE**

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 CHAIRMAN WINNER PROPOSAL - moves STK/PLN to April (after SA Derby); gives GGF a 5 week summer/fall meet.

APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER***	
GGF (15)	STK/PLN(2)	GGF (8)		PLEASANTON (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		SONOMA (3)		FERN (2)*		GGF (5) **	
11	12 25 26			20	21	11	12	1	2	22	23		3 4 17

↑  
SA Derby

Golden Gate winter meet 12/26/2016 - 4/11/2017

\* Ferndale races 8/23 - 9/5; first week un-overlapped  
 \*\* GGF races from 8/30 - 10/3; first week overlapped  
 \*\*\* Golden Gate races 9 weeks from 10/18 to 12/20

TOTAL WEEKS 2017

GOLDEN GATE	37
CARF @ PLEASANTON	2
PLEASANTON	3
CAL EXPO	3
SANTA ROSA	3
FERNDALE	2
FRESNO	2



MAR	APRIL				MAY				JUNE				JULY				AUGUST				SEPTEMBER				OCTOBER																				
1-12																																													
2016												14	15	PLEASANTON		5	6	CAL EX (3)		26	27	SONOMA		16	17	FERN/GGF		30	GGF		20	21	STK/PLN		4	5	FRESNO		18	18	GGF				
<b>2017 Proposals</b>																																													
<b>Commissioner Beneto</b>		this original proposal was submitted in June.																																											
1												13	14	PLEASANTON (3)		4	5	CAL EXPO (3)		25	26	SONOMA (3)		15	16	FERN (2)		30	GGF (4)		19	20	STK/PLN (2)		3	4	FRESNO		18	18	GGF				
<b>Committee</b>		original CARF proposal "A" approved by the committee and presented to the full board at the October meeting;																																											
2												20	21	PLEASANTON (3)		11	12	CAL EXPO (3)		1	2	SONOMA (3)		15	16	FERN* (2)		23	GGF (3) **		19	20	STK/PLN (2)		3	4	FRESNO		17	18					
* Ferndale races 8/23 - 9/5; first week un-overlapped ** GGF races from 8/30 - 9/20; first week overlapped																																													
<b>Chairman Winner</b>		this is a new proposal; moves STK/PLN to April; provides a 5 week late summer meet at GGF.																																											
3	11	12	STK/PLN (2)		25												20	21	PLEASANTON (3)		11	12	CAL EXPO (3)		1	2	SONOMA (3)		22	23	FERN* (2)		23	GGF**(5)					3	4	FRESNO		17	18	
* Ferndale races 8/23 - 9/5; first week un-overlapped ** GGF races from 8/30 - 10/3; first week overlapped																																													
<b>CARF A</b>		Mirrors #2, above; limits overlap between Ferndale and GGF to the FR-SA-SU of the 2nd week; Ferndale hosts all other days.																																											
<b>CARF B</b>																																													
5												20	21	PLEASANTON (3)		11	12	CAL EXPO (3)		1	2	SON (3)		15	16	FERN (2)		23	GGF (4)		19	20	PLN/STK		3	4	FRESNO		17	18					
<b>SONOMA A</b>		Sonoma swaps with Cal Expo																																											
6	2017 - 2018 - 2019											PLEASANTON (3)		SONOMA (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		FERNDALE (2)		GGF (3)		PLN/STK		FRESNO		18																			
<b>SONOMA B</b>		2017 mimics 2016 PLUS PLN closes on July 4; Cal Expo opens on following Saturday, July 8; in 2018-2019 Sonoma swaps with Cal Expo																																											
		2017				PLEASANTON (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		SONOMA (3)		FERNDALE (2)		GGF (4)		Ferndale & GGF overlap both weeks																													
		2018				PLEASANTON (3)		SONOMA (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		FERNDALE (2)		GGF (3)		Ferndale & GGF overlap both weeks																													
		2019				PLEASANTON (3)		SONOMA (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		FERNDALE (2)		GGF (3)		Ferndale & GGF overlap both weeks																													

MAR	APRIL				MAY				JUNE				JULY				AUGUST				SEPTEMBER				OCTOBER			
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*a California joint powers agency*

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November 7, 2016

Mr. Rick Baedeker, Executive Director  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Baedeker,

As requested by Board staff, the California Authority of Racing Fairs respectfully submits the attached proposals for Northern California racing dates at CARF member Fairs in 2017. Horse racing is conducted at the CARF member Fairs shown below.

- **Alameda County Fair**
- **California State Fair**
- **Humboldt County Fair**
- **Fresno District Fair**

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Swartzlander  
Interim Executive Director

Cc: CARF Racing Fair CEO's

**CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS**  
**Proposed Racing Dates for CARF Member Fairs in Northern California**  
**2017**

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**Proposed for Calendar A 2017**

- June 21-July 11
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12-August 1
  - California State Fair
- August 23-September 5
  - Humboldt County Fair
    - First week unoverlapped - four live race days
    - Four overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (9/1, 9/2, 9/3, 9/4)
- Sept. 20-Oct. 3
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (formerly Stockton)
- Oct. 4-Oct. 17
  - Fresno District Fair

**Proposed for Calendar B 2017**

- June 21-July 11
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12-August 1
  - California State Fair
- August 16-August 27
  - Humboldt County Fair
    - First week unoverlapped - four live race days
    - Three overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (8/25, 8/26, 8/27)
- Sept. 20-Oct. 3
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (formerly Stockton)
- Oct. 4-Oct. 17
  - Fresno District Fair

Please note that the attached calendars show in visual format the dates proposed for each Fair, as described above. Dates shown reflect Host status unless otherwise noted.

# 2017 CARF Proposed Race Dates - Scenario A

2016

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	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

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## RACE DAYS

Pleasanton	13
Cal Expo	11
Santa Rosa	11
Humboldt (unoverlapped)	8
Stockton (Pleasanton Fall)	8
Fresno	9

CARF MEETS	49
SANTA ROSA	11
<b>TOTAL FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>60</b>

<b>GOLDEN GATE FIELDS</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>SIMULCAST-ONLY DAYS</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>60</b>

2017

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				

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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				

5

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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	

5

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April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
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## 2017 CARF Proposed Race Dates - Scenario B

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**RACE DAYS**

Pleasanton	13
Cal Expo	11
Santa Rosa	8
Humboldt (unoverlapped)	4
Humboldt (overlapped)	3
Stockton (Pleasanton Fall)	8
Fresno	9

CARF MEETS	48
SANTA ROSA	8
TOTAL FAIR DAYS	56

GOLDEN GATE FIELDS	149
SIMULCAST-ONLY DAYS	60
TOTAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR DAYS	56

Humboldt Host Commissions	1
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1350 Bennett Valley Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
p: (707) 545-4200  
f: (707) 573-9342  
sonomacountyfair.com

November 8, 2016

The Honorable Chuck Winner  
Chairman  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chairman Winner,

Sonoma County Fair and Wine Country Racing is pleased to present its modified proposed racing dates for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The included documents present two different proposals; each one having a three year calendar.

Proposal A suggests that the Sonoma County Fair swap its dates with Cal Expo. This would put Cal Expo back into the dates it had historically held prior to 2010; time-frames that provided for the traditional rotation of the calendar.

Proposal B, recognizing that a swap in 2017 between the Sonoma County Fair and Cal Expo may be a challenge given the short time frame, has the 2017 dates mimicking 2016 with the change occurring in 2018 and forward.

As the CEO of the Sonoma County Fair and Wine Country Racing I was tasked with the challenging job of negotiating our summer race dates with the members of the California Association of Racing Fairs. I had hoped through the numerous meetings with CARF members that a compromise would be achieved. Unfortunately at each of the meetings CARF was unwilling to make any changes to the schedule of dates initially presented. As such we are presenting proposals for race dates that we believe are in the best interest of horse racing and provides for an equitable playing field for the racing Fairs.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of these proposals.

Best regards,

Rebecca Bartling  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sonoma County Fair and Wine Country Racing.

At the Fairgrounds:  
Golf Course  
RV Park  
Jockey Club  
Wine Country Racing  
Fair Foundation





# PETALUMA CITY SCHOOLS

PETALUMA CITY (ELEMENTARY) SCHOOL DISTRICT \* PETALUMA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 200 Douglas Street, Petaluma, California 94952 (707) 778-4813 www.petalumacityschools.org

October 27, 2016

Chuck Winner, Chair  
 Members of the California Horse Racing Board  
 California Horse Racing Board  
 1010 Hurley Way  
 Sacramento, CA. 95825

RE: PROPOSED SONOMA COUNTY FAIR DATES

Dear Chairman Winner and Members,


Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on the California Horse Racing Board's recommendation to change the race dates for the Sonoma County Fair to August 7 – 20, 2017. Please be advised that we are opposed to this change as we are concerned that it would result in the Sonoma County Fair overlapping with schools being back in session for our District of 7,500 students.

As you are aware horse racing dates have historically aligned with the annual Sonoma County Fair. The race dates as proposed by the California Horse Racing Board would push the Fair into the beginning school year. This move would likely impact the Sonoma County Fair's livestock program and also seriously impact the ability of FFA and 4-H youth to show and sell their animals in the Sonoma County Fair livestock auctions. This would create a serious impact on many youth that rely on the funds to help support them in their college endeavors. Additionally, this shift in timing may significantly impact students in the district and their attendance those first three days of school.

Please reconsider your recommendation and withdraw your request to extend these dates from the original dates to August 7 – 20, 2017. We appreciate your support of the FFA and 4-H programs, which are important in the development of youth responsibility. They are the future of agriculture.

Sincerely,

  
 Gary Callahan  
 Superintendent

  
 Chris Thomas  
 Chief Business Official

CC: Katie Fonsen Young, Deputy Manager, Sonoma County Event Center at the Fairgrounds

GARY CALLAHAN, SUPERINTENDENT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: MICHAEL BADDELEY, SHERI CHLEBOWSKI, PHOEBE ELLIS, TROY SANDERSON, MARY SCHAFFER

Superintendent's Office  
 (707) 778-4604  
 FAX (707) 778-4736

Educational Services  
 (707) 778-4619  
 FAX (707) 778-47

Business Services  
 (707) 778-4621  
 FAX (707) 778-4822

Human Resources  
 (707) 778-4610  
 FAX (707) 778-4790

**From:** Kris Vitali [mskris@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 27, 2016 12:02 PM  
**To:** Katie Young  
**Subject:** Sonoma County Fair Dates

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD  
1010 HURLEY WAY  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95825

MR. CHUCK WINNER, CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE RACING BOARD

I AM WRITING YOU REGARDING THE SONOMA COUNTY FAIR DATES PROPOSED BY THE CHRB. MY SON IS 12 YEARS OLD AND IS THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE LIVE OAK 4-H CLUB. HE HAS ENJOYED AND WORKED VERY HARD ON HIS PROJECTS IN THE PAST YEARS. THE PROPOSED DATES WOULD GREATLY AFFECT THE PROJECTS HE WOULD BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2017 YEAR. HE WORKS VERY HARD TO GET STRAIGHT A'S AND WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SHOW AND SELL MARKET SWINE IF THE DATES FALL INTO THE SCHOOL YEAR. THIS WOULD NOT ONLY AFFECT HIM THIS YEAR BUT THE YEARS TO FOLLOW. HE HAS A COLLEGE FUND WHICH 90% OF HIS EARNINGS FROM HIS PROJECTS GOES INTO. HE HAS ALREADY INVESTED HIS SUPPLIES FOR HIS PROJECTS OVER 4 YEARS AND NOW THESE ITEMS WOULD NOT BE USED AND WOULD BE A LOSS FOR HIM. PLEASE RECONSIDER THE THE CHANGE OF DATES WHICH WILL AFFECT NOT ONLY MY SON BUT MANY YOUNG ADULTS AND THEIR FUTURES. PLEASE READ THE LETTER BELOW, THIS IS A LETTER MY SON WROTE TO HIS POSSIBLE MARKET SWINE BUYERS LAST YEAR. REMEMBER YOUR DECISION DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN MANY YOUNG PEOPLES LIVES.

KRIS VITALI

Dear Manager,

Hello, my name is Peter Vitali, and I have been a member of Live Oak 4-H Club for four years. During these years my projects consisted of Dairy Cattle, Market Swine, Poultry, and Youth Photography. I am looking forward to my next year in 4-H, as I am so excited to be Vice President of the club which will also give me more responsibilities over leading some of the meetings. This past year our club helped with Christmas Cheer, we gave out bags of food, and presents for local families in need. We took cookies and sang Christmas Songs at Sunrise of Petaluma. My club has also donated to the victims of the Valley Fire. I worked at the informational booth at the 4-H Chicken Que.

I am 12 years old and just finished my sixth grade at Liberty Elementary School, where I received straight A's on my report card. This past year I enjoyed playing basketball, participating in my school's color run, and competing in the Westside Relays. I also worked on a project where I collected trash on my local road, approximately two huge bags every two weeks. My class raised money for the school with the Walk-a-thon, and Spaghetti Feed. This past year I have prepared to go into a whole new world, Petaluma Junior High School. I plan on trying out for basketball, and participate in track and field.

This is my third year which I will be auctioning my Market Swine. I have put a lot of work and hours in taking care of my Yorkshire and Crossbred. It is my responsibility to feed, water, groom, shelter, and walk my swine daily. My swine animals have been fed and raised on quality show feed and enjoy the great outdoors.

I hope you will be able to come to the Sonoma County Fair, where you can enjoy carnival rides, the wonderful flower exhibits, livestock barns, and the unique-tasting food available. The market swine auction



will be held on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. in the Market Swine show ring. Your support is much appreciated by all the 4-H clubs and chapters attending this auction.

If you have any more questions or need more information regarding the fair, please feel free to contact me at [ktvitali@comcast.net](mailto:ktvitali@comcast.net) and (707) 769-1632 or if you are interested in purchasing any livestock animal please contact the Fair Entry Office at (707) 545-4203 for a buyers packet or and "Add-on money" card. Thank you for your time is much appreciated! Hope you have a great day at the fair.

Sincerely,

Peter Vitali

**From:** Patty Pifer [[ppifer.ahs@wscuhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ppifer.ahs@wscuhsd.k12.ca.us)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:23 AM

**To:** Katie Young

**Subject:** CHRB

To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully submit this letter regarding the future proposed racing dates for the 2017 Sonoma County Fair venue. Within the Sonoma County community, our Fair is a long held tradition for many participants, fair-goers, and the communities that surround our county. Further, many of the people who help run this event, whether it be a vendor, an agricultural member, an adult temporary employee, and for many of our local teens, a rite of passage-their first job, your proposed dates will not allow any of this to occur.

Many of our employees are teens, school employees, part-time employees, and volunteers that staff our local Fair. Our school calendar will conflict with most of the proposed Fair dates. Not only will it prevent employment needed by most of the people who work, but it will also prohibit the economic faction as well. If people can not attend the Fair, there will be no handle whether it be races, vendor products, concessions, or carnival...

I respectfully urge your Board to consider the local community, economy, and tradition of the Sonoma County Fair run. Thank you for your assistance and consideration of what the dates mean to our community. As a long time temporary Fair employee (over 30 years), as well as a full time teacher, I trust you will make the right decision for our Sonoma County Fair.

Sincerely,  
Patty Pifer, MA

Dear Chuck Winner, Chair and members of the California Horse Racing Board,

Hi, my name is Megan Binford and I have been an exhibitor at the Sonoma County fair for the past ten years. I have been fortunate enough to be able to sell my market lambs and rabbit meat pens at the livestock auction. This money goes towards my college fund. It has been

brought to my attention that the fair dates this year will conflict with school and this would be very hard to prepare, show, and sell animals while school is in session. This would be very unfortunate for all exhibitors, as we work so hard with our projects all year and look forward to the auction. Please reconsider the dates, it would be greatly appreciated for all exhibitors.

Thank you,  
Megan Binford  
Tri-Valley 4-H

and Petaluma FFA

From: michellejkirby@gmail.com [michellejkirby@gmail.com]  
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2016 10:48 AM  
To: Katie Young  
Subject: Moving the 2017 fair dates

Good morning Katie,

I am writing to express my concern over the news I heard that the Fair was considering moving the dates of the fair to conclude in late August after most Sonoma County kids are set to start school. As the mother of a high school freshman, and parent of junior livestock exhibitors for 9 years, I urge you to reconsider. Exhibiting livestock is a very valuable endeavor for young people, many of whom would quit if they had to miss the first few days of the school year to do it. Life lessons learned by raising, caring for, and ultimately selling ones project cannot easily be replaced by other youth activities, and I would hate for my son to be forced to choose school over his 4h hogs. Please consider the hundreds of youth who would be penalized as a result of this decision.

Sincerely,

Michelle Kirby

**From:** jm\_carreras@comcast.net [jm\_carreras@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 9:21 AM  
**To:** Katie Young  
**Cc:** Pendelton, Missy  
**Subject:** California Horse Racing-Market Animals

Dear Sonoma County Fair & California Horse Racing Board:

Please do not extend the Sonoma County Fair Dates to overlap into the school year:

My children love showing their Animals at the County Fair and we would not be able to show if the Fair Runs into the school year. Especially their Senior year of High School after Fair members will be going off to college and need time

between the fair ending and the start of the school year. 4-H & FFA members need at least 2 weeks off prior to the school year to make the transition into College life, moving into their dorms getting settled in classes or finding an apartment. Selling their market animals helps in their education fund and I would not want them to miss out on spending time with their 4-H families and friends especially their Senior year of high school.

I also have a daughter with Special Needs she cannot miss any days of school it put her that much behind and she gets so much out of showing her lambs at The County Fair it would tear her apart not to be able to show. She learns more raising her animals and being a 4-H Member than any other learning experience.

I would hope the Sonoma County Fair would put Sonoma County Families needs before the recommendations from The California Horse Racing Board and not overlap the Sonoma County Fair into the school year.

Sincerely  
Michelle Carreras & Family

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**From:** Krista Leone <[kjwizner@comcast.net](mailto:kjwizner@comcast.net)>  
**Date:** October 19, 2016 at 6:55:12 PM PDT  
**To:** <[Katie@sonomacountyfair.com](mailto:Katie@sonomacountyfair.com)>  
**Subject:** Change in fair dates

Hi,

To change the fair dates over just horse racing is beyond dumb. The Sonoma County fair has been a summer time activity for so many 4-H and FFA kids for many generations of family's. If the fair dates are pushed back the kids will not participate in its activities.

You see you will not just loose the participants but the general public that come out to the fair. The kids that are leaving for collage that show and sell animals will have already left to start school as well. The buyers that participate in the auctions will not come and the whole thing would be beyond devastating on the agricultural community as a whole!

I hope that you will choose to keep the fair dates as they have been for many years and not let the race change there dates.

Fondly, Krista Leone  
Former 4-H member and currently continuing the tradition with my own children

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**From:** teamseekins@yahoo.com [teamseekins@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 12:00 PM  
**To:** Katie Young  
**Subject:** Sonoma County fair dates

California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA. 95825

Chuck Winner, Chair and members of the California Horse Racing Board,

The most important aspect of any county fair, in my opinion, is the kids that show livestock. A county fair is the Superbowl of a 4-H and FFA members year. Families build their summer vacations around fair animals, showing, practicing, feeding and fair dates. This would not be possible during a school year. Education, homework and school for these youth does not lend enough time to thier projects.

Please make sure you do not let greed and profit steal the memories and skills these kids obtain by fulfilling a livestock project though 4-H or FFA. Keep our Sonoma County fair dates during the summer (non school year) months.

Thank you for helping to keep our Fair dates!

**Sandra Seekins**  
**4-H Alumni**  
**Gateway 4-H parent**

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**From:** Maria Casey [mariac@jbanda.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:15 AM  
**To:** Katie Young  
**Subject:** Fair dates

Hi Katie,

I am the co-leader of a 4-H club and we have a rich program where children have the opportunity to raise and sell livestock at the fair. This program gives them the opportunity not only to learn about raising animals for sales, but they apply for loans, manage a checking account, buy product and in all understand how business works, this is a powerful experience in the life of a child. The dates you are looking at for the Fair will overlap with these kids going back to school which will make it impossible for them to participate. We hope that you will work with the horse racing board to look at dates that will allow for these kids to still participate. Thank you for your consideration.

Maria Casey  
Independence 4-H

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To Whom It May Concern:

It has been brought to my attention that the California Horse Racing Board's Race Dates committee is recommending that the Sonoma County Fair be pushed back with the fair ending on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

As a teacher, 4H parent, and 4H leader, I have MANY grave concerns about this. First off, as a teacher, having the fair be pushed to the first week that school is in session, simply doesn't make sense. The schools depend on ADA (average daily attendance) money, and not having students there would have a huge impact on their financial picture. While FFA technically falls under a school sponsored activity, and the ADA could be there because of that, 4H is NOT a school sponsored activity, and many districts would lose a significant amount of revenue due to students being gone. The first week of school is also a formative time in the classroom. This is where students and teachers bond with each other, and form a classroom community. To have a student miss part of that could have a negative impact.

Second of all, as a parent of two 4H members, both of whom attend public schools in Bennett Valley, I am not ok with having to make the choice between school and showing at the fairs. My son shows meat birds and dairy cattle. Both of these species require a large amount of commitment, monetary investment and responsibility. My son joined 4H as a very quiet, shy and reserved young man. His involvement in the 4H program has fostered something inside of him, and he is now an outgoing, talkative child who can't wait to be at the fairs so he can interact with the public. To take this opportunity away from him would be devastating. As a parent, I realize that the majority of classroom bonding happens during the first three days of school, and for a child that suffers from anxiety, as mine does, this is an incredibly important time for him to be in the classroom. I don't think it is at all fair or reasonable that I could be forced to make a decision about which activity he participates in- school or the fair.

As a 4H leader, I would be devastated to have to tell my club parent that they had to make a choice between the first week of school, and their child showing at the fair. This is simply not a fair choice for them to have to make. Many of them, like myself, love watching their child succeed and enjoy the "last hurrah" of summer that is the Sonoma County Fair. The many hours of hard work would simply be for nothing, as many of these parents would have their child be in school.

It used to be that the county fair was a place that showcased and celebrated the agricultural youth. This was a place where the public could come and interact with some of Sonoma County's finest young people and learn something about the county that they live in and where their food comes from. It saddens me to think that our fair would so easily do away with any concern for the youth involved in 4H and FFA, simply because horse racing brings in the "big" money. I am begging you to reconsider the fair dates, and keep it at the traditional dates that we have had in the past.

Sincerely,

Emmy Eichner  
Green Valley 4H Dairy Leader  
Wright Charter School 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher



Mackenzie Black  
644 Snow Road  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

October 23, 2016

Chuck Winner  
c/o California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chuck and the California Horse Racing Board:

I would like to request that you not move the horse racing date to mid- August next year. This would really impact the Sonoma County Fair. Moving the dates would interfere with my ability to show my hogs at the Junior Livestock Auction at the fair as I would be attending my first week of school of the 2017-18 year. If I cannot sell my hogs I would miss an opportunity to raise money for college. Last year was my first year showing my hogs and I made \$2000 that went straight to my college fund. I would also loose the money I have spent to purchase hogs for the upcoming year.

The experience of growing and selling my hogs would also be greatly impacted. I would miss the fun of spending the week and showing my hogs at the fair. I would also miss out on learning how to be a better showman. Finally I would lose the opportunity to talk to others about my pigs and myself while I try to find a buyer.

Changing the dates will not only affect me but all other FFA and 4H youth trying to have the same experience. Please reconsider and leave the dates as they were for the 2016 season.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mackenzie Black  
Age 10  
Independence 4H

El Molino High School  
Jennifer Clark, Ag Teacher  
7050 Covey Rd.  
Forestville, CA

October 19, 2017

California Horse Racing Board  
Chuck Winner, Chair  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA. 95825

Dear Mr. Winner,

My name is Jennifer Clark and I am the agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at El Molino High School in Forestville, California. I am writing to you in response to the proposed 2017 Sonoma County Fair dates, and the dates your organization has proposed for horse racing. As an ag teacher and a community member, I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed dates. The Sonoma County Fair is an opportunity provided for our students to exhibit and sell their market animals they've spent the last 7-10 months pouring their passion and hard work into. It also offers an avenue for those students and their families to proudly display the quality livestock that our community is able to produce. With the proposed fair and racing dates of August 3-20th, this opportunity will be limiting those who have been participating at the fair for generations.

I currently have two students who have already purchased their market steer projects for the Sonoma County Fair. These two students will now have to house, feed, and care for these animals an extra two weeks. This may not sound like a large difference to you, but a steer is a very expensive project. These two students have shown steers for several years now and have raising their projects for optimal quality down to science. They purchased their steers at an age and weight aligned with the typical fair dates, and budgeted their expenses accordingly. By pushing the fair back two weeks, they now have to purchase extra feed and will have to carefully calculate the weight gain of these animals. In two weeks, a steer can gain an average of 14 pounds. At our fair, the exhibitors are only paid to 1,300 pounds. This weight gain over the two extra week could easily put a student out of profit for their project. I also have many students who exhibit market hogs, and market lambs. Market hogs have a very narrow weight limit and will endure the same problems as my steer exhibitors. Yes, we could purchase our hogs later and accordingly to the newly set dates, but many breeders we use locally have already bred their sows to farrow in January, selling us piglets to be ready for market in July, not August.

The ultimate problem I see with this date change is the fact that the fair dates will now overlap with the first week of school. As an educator, I cannot justify pulling students out of school. As the ag teacher, I already have to pull students from school for many different FFA activities and it is difficult enough organizing their attendance at these different events with their other classes and teachers, as well as making sure they are keeping up with their schoolwork. It will not sit well with the other teachers, or administration, if I excuse students to miss the first week of school. The first week is very important for the students to familiarize themselves with their new teachers, their new schedule, and get back into a routine. Students and their families are also discouraged that their ENTIRE summer will be consumed by their market projects. Many

students and their families plan summer vacations around the fair dates, and now will not have that week to decompress before school starts.

I speak on the behalf of my school, students, and families. As an FFA alumni, I know some of my best high school memories are those of FFA at the Sonoma County Fair, making new friends and proudly selling my project that I spent countless hours in preparation with. It would be so disappointing for students to be discouraged from participation because of the proposed dates. Please reconsider the fair dates.

Much thanks,

Jennifer Clark



1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA. 95825

Dear Chuck Winner, Chair and members of the California Horse Racing Board,

It is with deep concern that I write this letter regarding the recommended dates for the Sonoma County horse racing, held at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa.

I am a high school Agriculture Teacher, and advisor for the Sonoma FFA livestock and garden projects which are exhibited each year at the Sonoma County Fair. I am very concerned about the proposed change of dates for the 2017 horse racing schedule. My students, along with most students whom raise and exhibit animals at the county fair each summer start school in mid August. This change of date will affect the county fairs dates, as well as affect the ability of students to attend the fair, both as exhibitors and as guests.

The county fair is a cumulating experience for our student's projects in their Agriculture program at our high school. These students elect to carry out livestock, mechanics, and horticulture projects that start many months before the summer fair, spending many hours raising their steers, sheep, goats, hogs, constructing trailers and growing plants for the fair. This change of date will severely impact their participation in the fair as they will be starting school days and possibly weeks before. Additionally, they are required to be chaperoned at the fair, and are in need of advice and assistance from their FFA advisor. This will be impossible for the FFA advisors to attend both the fair as well as be in their classrooms at the start of the school year.

Many of our students have been working for their entire high school careers to achieve the State FFA Degree. This degree honors and celebrates students whom have worked over 500 hours and earned over \$2,000 on their agriculture projects. Many students count on the fair's junior livestock auction to sell their projects, and to make the required minimum amount to earn their State FFA Degree. If students are not able to exhibit their projects at the fair, they will have, essentially, the rug swept out from under them, as many have been working toward this degree for years.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to reconsider the recommended dates for horse racing for Santa Rosa. If you would like, I would be happy to speak with you more about this topic at (707) 496-0056.

Sincerely,

Karling Skoglund  
Agriculture Instructor  
Sonoma FFA  
Sonoma Valley High School

**CAROL A. BUCKENMEYER**  
**1945 Piner Rd Spc. 13**  
**Santa Rosa, CA 95403**

Chuck Winner  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Winner.

With respect to your recommendation that the Race dates during the Sonoma County Fair be into the late August timeframe, this would push the Fair into the school year which would clearly impact the Sonoma County Fair's livestock program and also seriously impact the ability of FFA and 4-H youth to show and sell their animals in the livestock auctions. This would be devastating to youth that rely on the funds to help support them in their college endeavors.

For the past ten years, I have been working for the Sonoma County Fair as a Box Office/Ticket Seller. I have had first-hand knowledge of the daily attendance during the Fair. I also receive comments from the Fair attendees and overall they are disappointed when the Fair is in session and the races are not. This dramatically impacts the Fair financially.

This is not fair! With the Sonoma County fair currently struggling to meet their yearly financial goals, this is putting an additional strain on the Fair's efforts. Everyone in Sonoma County and other parts of the state look forward to the Sonoma County Fair and the Horse Races and other events. The Horse Races are a BIG part of our attendance and to lose more days in the future could possibly be a huge detriment to the bottom financial line. We do not want to lose our Fair. Please help!

Carol Buckenmeyer  
Board of Directors  
Santa Rosa High School Foundation

Chuck Winner, Chair & Board Members  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA. 95825

October 14, 2016

Dear Mr. Winner & Board Members,

We are writing to you to appeal your pending decision to move the horse racing dates for the Sonoma County Fair later into August. The move of these dates significantly and adversely impacts the ability of the Sonoma County Fair to operate and host the 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Program in our area.

The schools in Sonoma County begin their school year for 2017 the week of August 14<sup>th</sup>. The school year start dates directly conflict with the weeks of racing at Sonoma County Fair, and would cause a major conflict with the youth programs at the Fair. These youth programs allow hundreds of youth in our county to learn, create and grow into productive young people. The 4-H and FFA members exhibit their home grown and raised projects that they've spent the entire year working on, raising animals and crops and creating hand crafted projects that earn them awards, recognition and premium money. They raise livestock, pigs, lambs and steers, for the Junior Livestock Auction that earns each exhibitor thousands of dollars that they put back into their projects for the coming years and save for their college educations. For some of our youth, in particular the high school students, their Junior Livestock Auction projects are a significant portion of how they will pay for their college education. These projects and their experience in 4-H and FFA also earn these high school students scholarships.

Our county fair is the only outlet for most of these junior exhibitors to show and sell their projects – there are no other county fairs in our area that offer these same auction programs. If the dates of the fair are changed, these children will have to make the impossible decision to give up their year-long projects and the income that comes with it, or miss a week of school. For the high school students in particular, this is not an option. Missing a full week of school will impact their standing in classes, their grades, and their participation in fall sports programs – if you don't attend school, you miss sports practice and you don't play in the next game. Missing a week of sports could potentially cost their spot on their team for the season.

This pending decision to move the dates of the Sonoma County Fair have a very significant impact on the lives of our local 4-H and FFA students. They spend the entire year working on their projects, learning invaluable skills and life lessons. My son in particular has raised market hogs for 8 years and saved over \$30,000 for his college education. He is an 8 year member of Tri-Valley 4-H and 2 year member of Petaluma High School FFA. He is a scholar athlete, playing football, wrestling and baseball – he maintains his 4-H and FFA projects all year long while getting a 3.20 grade point average. He is currently a sophomore in high school and he is counting on 3 more summers of projects to help him pay for college. Moving the dates of the Fair will end his 4-H projects, as choosing between projects, his sports team and his education is an impossible decision for him to be forced to make.

We strongly encourage you to reconsider this decision, leave the Fair dates earlier in July & before August 14<sup>th</sup> – don't impact these young student's experiences and damage our local County Fair.

Sincerely,

Barb, Greg & Lucas Cheda  
308 Coronado Drive  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
707-481-5921



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**WESTERN**

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Mr. Chuck Winner, Chairman  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

October 18, 2016

Dear Mr. Winner and Members of the Board,

We are writing in regards to the Racing Board's proposal to shift the dates of racing at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds for 2017. It is my understanding that racing would not end until August 20, 2017. Traditionally, our county fair dates have aligned with racing dates. That strategy is clearly beneficial to attendance at both events.


The proposed racing dates conflict with the start of elementary, middle and high schools in a majority of Sonoma County districts. This would seriously impact the Sonoma County Fair livestock program and seriously impact the ability of 4-H and FFA members to show their market animals. Investment of substantial time, energy and money is made all year long by these young people in order to show and sell their animals at the fair livestock auctions. Many take out loans to help with those costs. Students rely on funds from the sale of their animals to pay off those loans as well as help support them in their college endeavors.

Being absent from school for a week, or two in some instances, in order to accommodate the later fair dates is clearly not an option for these hard-working students.

As 5-year members of 4-H, with two children, we understand participation in the fair is a vital to the experience of these young people. 500-700 youth exhibit livestock and other projects annually at the Sonoma County Fair. Programs such as FFA and 4-H are important to the development of responsible and hard working youth that are the future of ranching and agriculture.

Please seriously consider racing dates that will allow students to show and sell their animals without conflicting with the start of the school year.

Thank you for your time,

  
Tony and Nell Western  
Liberty 4-H

2550 Mountain Ranch Road  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
707/763-0854

October 25, 2016

Dear Chuck Winner and Members of the California Racing Board,

Our daughter is a proud member of the Lytton Springs 4-H group. With her gaining enthusiasm in 4-H we now plan our summers around showing animals at the Sonoma County Fair. This empowering experience is giving our daughter the skills to lead for a lifetime. In addition to showing her animals at the fair, we spend a large amount of that time enjoying the races from our family race box. This has been a tradition for our family for over a decade.

If the CHRFB was to move the racing dates towards the end of the summer youth will not be able to participate in the fair because the school year begins August 24th. Doesn't the board want the races to be enjoyed by families? We strongly feel that young people should be able to experience the sport of horse racing. As attendance numbers are plummeting at the track like they have for the last decade, keep in mind that these youth will be your future audience for years to come.

If the proposed dates are changed the 4-H kids will directly be impacted negatively. These hard working youth depend on the showing and selling of their animals to earn money and recognition for college. Our youth work tirelessly all year long to bring their animals to the Sonoma County Fair in order to teach the public about agriculture in our community. This role is vital to maintaining our agricultural roots here in our county. As a Sonoma County rancher, 4-H family and yearly Race Box owner we are asking you to align your racing dates with the Sonoma County Fair dates. This outcome is vital so that we can enjoy the fair and races together as a whole community.

Sincerely,

Melissa and Tony Luci  
Peline Vineyards  
Lytton Springs 4-H



# Sonoma County Fair/ Proposal A for summer race dates

## Sonoma swaps race dates with Cal Expo

2017

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						
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					

August						
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		

September						
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

2018

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						
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				

August						
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

September						
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						

2019

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						
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			

August						
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

September						
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						

- Pleasanton
- Sonoma
- Cal Expo
- Humbolt Overlapped With GG

Simulcast only days



## Sonoma County Fair/ Proposal B for summer race dates

2017 mimics the 2016 calendar with Cal Expo starting on Saturday July 8

**2017**

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

**2018**

2018 and 2019 Sonoma Swaps with Cal Expo

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

**2019**

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

- Pleasanton
- Cal Expo
- Sonoma
- Humbolt Overlapped With GG

Simulcast only days

### RACE DATES COMMITTEE PROPOSAL - Northern California 2017

	JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER						
GOLDEN GATE 26-Dec →	20	21	11	12	1	2	22	23	5	19	20	3	4	17	18	GGF →
	PLEASANTON (3)		CAL EXPO (3)		SONOMA (3)		FERN (2)*		GGF (4)*			(STK) (2)		FRESNO		

\* Ferndale Races from August 23 to September 5

\* Golden Gate races from August 23 to September 19



# DRAFT - 2017 PROPOSED NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR CALENDAR - SCENARIO A

2016

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

1 4

## RACE DAYS

Pleasanton	12
Cal Expo	11
Santa Rosa	11
Humboldt (overlapped)	7
Stockton (Pleasanton Fall)	8
Fresno	9

Humboldt Host Commissions	4
---------------------------	---

DRAFT: Sept. 8, 2016

CARF MEETS	47
SANTA ROSA	11
<b>TOTAL FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>58</b>

<b>GOLDEN GATE FIELDS</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>SIMULCAST-ONLY DAYS</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>58</b>

2017

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				

5 17

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				

5 16

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	

5 18

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

4 18

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

5 17

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	

5 11

July						
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					

5 11

August						
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		

11 8 3 3

September						
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						

5 7 11

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				

2 1 9 8

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		

5 17

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						

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## 2017 Dates Proposals - Northern California; September 21, 2017

Note: allocations begin on the Wednesday prior to Opening Day and end on the Tuesday following Closing Day.

	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
1								

2016

	GGF				PLEASANTON	CAL EX (3)	SONOMA	FERN/GGF	GGF	STK/PLN	FRESNO	GGF					
				14	15	5 6	26	27	16	17	30	20	21	4	5	18	18

### Proposed 2017 Calendars

1	Commissioner	Mirrors 2016
		GGF
		PLEASANTON
		CAL EX (3)
		SONOMA
		FERN/GGF
		GGF
		STK/PLN
		FRESNO
		GGF
		13 14 4 5 25 26 15 16 29 19 20 3 4 17 18

2	GGF	No change: Spring meet ends 1 week later pushing fairs back; Ferndale overlaps last week of Santa Rosa and first week of GGF; STK dates now at GGF
		CAL EX (3)
		SONOMA
		FERNDALE
		FRESNO
		GGF
		20 21 11 12 1 2 22 23 3 4 17 18

3	CARF	New proposal (subject to CARF board approval) eliminates Oak Tree / CARF meet in September; overlaps Ferndale with GGF. (Scenario A)
		PLEASANTON
		CAL EX (3)
		SONOMA
		FERNDALE
		GGF
		PLN/STK
		FRESNO
		GGF
		20 21 11 12 1 2 22 23 5 6 19 20 3 4 17 18

4	CARF	New proposal (subject to CARF board approval) eliminates Oak Tree / CARF meet in September; overlaps Ferndale with Sonoma and GGF. (Scenario B)
		PLEASANTON
		CAL EX (3)
		SONOMA
		FERNDALE
		GGF
		PLN/STK
		FRESNO
		GGF
		20 21 11 12 1 2 16 22 27 6 19 20 3 4 17 18

5	Santa Rosa	No change; restores Sonoma dates to 2014 slot; proposes PLN close on July 2; reduces Cal Expo to 2 weeks; Humboldt runs uncovered.
		(no proposal)
		PLEASANTON
		C/EX (2)
		SONOMA
		FERN
		(no proposal)
		14 4 5 18 19 8 8 22

6	Cal Expo	No change; notes that the 4th of July will continue to pose a problem for PLN/Cal Expo for 2017-18-19, with the 4th falling on Tue-Wed-Tue.
		CAL EXPO
		12 1

	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER



*a California joint powers agency*

1776 Tribute Road, Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
Office: 916.927.7223 Fax: 916.263.3341  
www.calairs.com

September 19, 2016

Mr. Rick Baedeker, Executive Director  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Baedeker,

As requested by Board staff, the California Authority of Racing Fairs respectfully submits the attached proposals for Northern California racing dates at CARF member Fairs in 2017. Horse racing is conducted at the CARF member Fairs shown below.

- **Alameda County Fair**
- **California State Fair**
- **Humboldt County Fair**
- **Fresno District Fair**

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Korby  
Executive Director

Cc: CARF Racing Fair CEO's  
Attachment: 1

**CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS**  
**Proposed Racing Dates for CARF Member Fairs in Northern California**  
**2017**

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**Proposed for 2017**

- June 21-July 11
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12-August 1
  - California State Fair
- August 16-August 27
  - Humboldt County Fair
    - First week unoverlapped - four live race days
    - Humboldt County Fair Host status (8/16 through 8/23)
    - Humboldt County Fair revenue-sharing Week 1 (August 16-20) with Sonoma County Fair
    - Three overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (8/25, 8/26, 8/27)
- Sept. 20-Oct. 3
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (formerly Stockton Fair dates)
- Oct. 4-Oct. 17
  - Fresno District Fair

Please note that the attached calendar shows in visual format the dates proposed for each Fair, as described above. Dates shown reflect Host status unless otherwise noted.



# CARF 2017 Dates Proposal

1-41

2016

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

1 4

## RACE DAYS

Pleasanton	13
Cal Expo	11
Santa Rosa	8
Humboldt (unoverlapped)	4
Humboldt (overlapped)	3
Stockton (Pleasanton Fall)	8
Fresno	9

Humboldt Host Commissions	1
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Sept. 19, 2016

CARF MEETS	48
SANTA ROSA	8
TOTAL FAIR DAYS	56

GOLDEN GATE FIELDS	149
SIMULCAST-ONLY DAYS	60
TOTAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR DAYS	56

2017

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				

5 17

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				

5 16

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	

5 18

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
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4 18

May						
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

5 17

June						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

5 6 11

July						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

7 5 11

August						
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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		

8 5 7 5

September						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

5 7 11

October						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

4 1 9

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		

5 17

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						

6 7



*a California joint powers agency*

1776 Tribute Road, Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
Office: 916.927.7223 Fax: 916.263.3341  
www.calfairs.com

September 15, 2016

Mr. Rick Baedeker, Executive Director  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Baedeker,

As requested by Board staff, the California Authority of Racing Fairs respectfully submits the attached proposals for Northern California racing dates at CARF member Fairs in 2017. Horse racing is conducted at the CARF member Fairs shown below.

- **Alameda County Fair**
- **California State Fair**
- **Humboldt County Fair**
- **Fresno District Fair**

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Korby  
Executive Director

Cc: CARF Racing Fair CEO's

**CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS**  
**Proposed Racing Dates for CARF Member Fairs in Northern California**  
**2017**

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**2017 – Scenario A**

- June 21-July 11
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12-August 1
  - California State Fair
- August 23-Sept 4
  - Humboldt County Fair
    - Seven overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields
    - Humboldt County Fair Host status (8/23, 8/24, 8/30, 8/31)
- Sept. 20-Oct. 3
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (formerly Stockton)
- Oct. 4-Oct. 17
  - Fresno District Fair

**2017 – Scenario B**

- June 21-July 11
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton
- July 12-August 1
  - California State Fair
- August 16-August 27
  - Humboldt County Fair
    - First week unoverlapped - four live race days
    - Humboldt County Fair Host status (8/16 through 8/23)
    - Humboldt County Fair revenue sharing week 1 with Sonoma County Fair
    - Three overlapped race days with Golden Gate Fields (8/25, 8/26, 8/27)
- Sept. 20-Oct. 3
  - Alameda County Fair - Oak Tree at Pleasanton Fall (formerly Stockton)
- Oct. 4-Oct. 17
  - Fresno District Fair

Please note that this proposed schedule shows inclusive calendar blocks proposed for each Fair. Specific racing dates may vary within those proposed blocks. Date ranges reflect Host status unless otherwise noted.





# DRAFT - 2017 PROPOSED NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR CALENDAR - SCENARIO B

DRAFT: Sept. 8, 2016

2016

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
			1			4

## RACE DAYS

Pleasanton	12
Cal Expo	11
Santa Rosa	8
Humboldt (unoverlapped)	4
Humboldt (overlapped)	3
Stockton (Pleasanton Fall)	8
Fresno	9

CARF MEETS	47
SANTA ROSA	8
<b>TOTAL FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>55</b>

<b>GOLDEN GATE FIELDS</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>SIMULCAST-ONLY DAYS</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>TOTAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FAIR DAYS</b>	<b>55</b>

Humboldt Host Commissions	1
---------------------------	---

2017

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				
			5			17

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				
			5			16

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	
			5			18

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						
			4			18

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			
			5			17

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	
			5	6	11	

July						
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					
6		5				11

August						
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		
8		5	7			5

September						
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
			5	7		11

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				
			4	1	9	8

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		
			5			17

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
			6			7



# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA  
95814

September 13, 2016

Honorable Chuck Winner, Chairman  
California Horse Racing Board  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, California 95825

**Re: Proposed Horse Racing Dates**

Dear Chairman Winner and Members of the California Horse Racing Board:

We are writing to respectfully urge your adoption of the Sonoma County Fairgrounds' proposed three-year horse racing dates. We applaud the foresight of the California Horse Racing Board's (CHRB) plan to establish a three-year horse racing schedule versus a traditional one-year plan. The increased stability of horse racing dates will only improve the quality of these long-standing events.

Since the horse racing fair dates were adjusted in 2015, the Sonoma County Fair has only partially overlapped with the Sonoma County Fairground's horse racing dates. As you know, the Sonoma County Fair cannot move its traditional fair dates later in the month due to its carnival's existing contractual commitments and schools starting in early August. As a consequence of the dates for the horse racing and fair not overlapping, there was a 30% decline in revenue between racing during a fair weekend and racing during a non-fair weekend. This downward trend continued through 2015 with an overall handle decline of seven percent, resulting in a significant loss to fairgrounds and the state.

The California Association of Horse Racing Fairs' (CARF) recently proposed dates for 2017 that would unfortunately push the Sonoma County Fair even farther into August. Adopting these dates would only exacerbate the financial impacts of not having the Sonoma County Fair and horse racing completely aligned. Additionally, the fair would not be able to move to CARF's proposed horse racing dates for Sonoma County due to the aforementioned conflicts.

The Sonoma County Fair has made a good-faith effort to comply with the previous calendars. However, the ongoing inability to coordinate dates is not only a financial hardship to the fairgrounds, but also a financial loss to the State and the local economy.



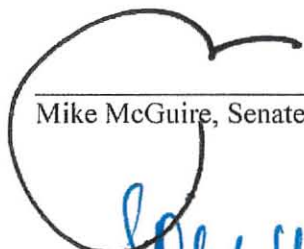
Honorable Chuck Winner  
September 13, 2016  
Page 2

The Sonoma County Fairgrounds provide significant benefits to the horse racing industry, by having the only turf track in the state, running seven stakes races as compared to one at the California State Fair, and stabling seventy percent of the horses on site during the race meet. Sonoma County Fairgrounds is one of the most desired fair racing locations in the state for the horse racing industry.

Adopting the Sonoma County Fairground's suggested three-year horse racing dates will not only ensure long term success for the Sonoma County's fair and horse racing industry, it will boost the benefits from an increased handle and stronger horse racing industry. We believe this would be in the best interests of Sonoma County, the horse racing industry and the state of California.


Thank you for the consideration of this request.

Warmest regards,



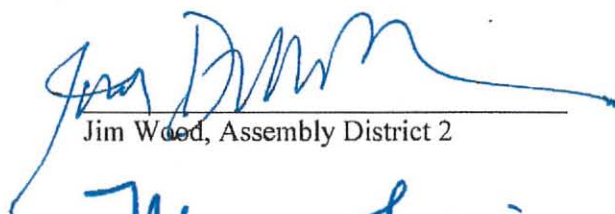
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Mike McGuire, Senate District 2




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Lois Wolk, Senate District 3



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Jim Wood, Assembly District 2



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Marc Levine, Assembly District 10

cc: Members, California Horse Racing Board  
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors



August 11, 2016

The Honorable Chuck Winner  
 Chairman  
 California Horse Racing Board  
 1010 Hurley Way  
 Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chairman Winner,

Sonoma County Fair and Wine Country Racing is please to present its proposed racing dates for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

We understand the challenge facing the California Horse Racing Board in determining dates for the racing fairs and appreciate your efforts and concerns; understanding that your goal is to do what is in the best interest of racing and the State of California.

After a lengthy review of attendance and handle we believe the following proposed dates truly do accomplish the goals of your board. The proposed racing dates (a total of 12 live racing dates each year) will allow for horse racing and the Fair to run concurrently; which is a much more financially and operationally sound model. In contrast the racing dates proposed by the California Association of Racing Fairs and Commissioner Benito both push the Sonoma County Fair into August where schools are back in session and our carnival is contracted at another Fair. As is evidenced by attendance in 2015 at our bonus week of racing on-track handle is significantly less when the Fair is not occurring.

The following is what we propose for the summer racing fairs, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

### **2017**

Pleasanton: June 15, 16, 17 & 18, 22,23,24,25, 29, 30 & July 1 & 2

Cal Expo: July 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15 & 16.

Santa Rosa: July 19, 20,21,22,23, 26, 27,28,29,30 & August 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (July 19, 26 and August 2 Simulcast only)

Humboldt: August 11, 12 13, 18, 19, 20

**2018**

Pleasanton: June 14,15,16, 17,21,22,23,24,28,29,30 & July 1

Cal Expo: July 5,6,7,8,12,13,15 & 15

Santa Rosa: July 18,19,20,21,22,25,26,27,28,29 & August, 1,2,3,4, 5 (July 18, 25 & August 1 simulcast only)

Humboldt: August 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19

**2019**

Pleasanton: June 20,21,22,23,27,28,29,30 & July 4,5,6,7

Cal Expo: July 11,12,13,14, 18, 19, 20, 21

Santa Rosa: July 24,25,26,27,28 31 & August 1,2,3,4,7,8,9,10, 11 (July 24,31 & August 7 simulcast only)

Humboldt: August 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of this proposal and look forward to the August 22<sup>nd</sup> CHRB dates meeting in Del Mar.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Bartling  
Chief Executive Officer



## Santa Rosa Northern California Dates Proposal for Summer 2017

2017																				
June							July							August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		
							30	31												
Pleasanton																				
Cal Expo																				
Santa Rosa							Note: July 19, 26 and August 2 are simulcast only.													
Humboldt																				

## Santa Rosa Northern California Dates Proposal for Summer 2018

# 2018

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						
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				

August						
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	

Pleasanton

Cal Expo

Santa Rosa Note: July 18, 25 and August 1 are simulcast only

Humboldt

## Santa Rosa Northern California Dates Proposal for Summer 2019

2019																							
June								July								August							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S		S	M	T	W	T	F	S		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1			1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		14	15	16	17	18	19	20		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		21	22	23	24	25	26	27		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		28	29	30	31					25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
30																							

Pleasanton

Cal Expo

Santa Rosa Note: July 24, 31 and August 7 are simulcast only

Humboldt



# 2017 Northern California Race Dates

1-53

GGF - December 21, 2016 through June 20, 2017  
 Pleasanton - June 21 through July 11, 2017  
 Cal Expo - July 12 through August 1, 2017  
 Sonoma - August 2 through August 22, 2017  
 GGF - August 23 through October 3, 2017  
 Humboldt - Overlapped August 16 through 29, 2017  
 Fresno - October 4 through October 17, 2017  
 GGF - October 18 through December 19, 2017

Golden Gate	156
Pleasanton	13
Cal Expo	11
Sonoma	11
Humboldt	6
Fresno	8

Total Race Dates
205

December 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						4

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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				
						18

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			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				
						16

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			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	
						18

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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						16

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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			
						17

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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	
					11	6

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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	11

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		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		
				11	6	5

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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
						18

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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				
					8	9

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			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		
						17

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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



# 2018 Northern California Race Dates

1-54

GGF - December 20, 2017 through June 19, 2018  
 Pleasanton - June 20 through July 10, 2018  
 Cal Expo - July 11 through July 31, 2018  
 Sonoma - August 1 through August 21, 2018  
 GGF - August 22 through October 2, 2018  
 Humboldt - Overlapped August 15 through 28, 2018  
 Fresno - October 3 through October 16, 2018  
 GGF - October 17 through December 18, 2018.

Golden Gate	156
Pleasanton	13
Cal Expo	11
Sonoma	11
Humboldt	6
Fresno	8

Total Race Dates
205

December 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						5

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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			
						17

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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			
						16

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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
						19

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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					
						15

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		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		
						17

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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
					11	7

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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	11

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			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	11	6

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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						18

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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			
					8	8

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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	
						18

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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



# 2019 Northern California Race Dates

1-55

GGF - December 19, 2018 through June 18, 2019  
 Pleasanton - June 19 through July 9, 2019  
 Cal Expo - July 10 through July 30, 2019  
 Sonoma - July 31 through August 20, 2019  
 GGF - August 21 through October 1, 2019  
 Humboldt - Overlapped August 14 through 27, 2019  
 Fresno - October 2 through October 15, 2019  
 GGF - October 16 through December 17, 2019

Golden Gate	156
Pleasanton	12
Cal Expo	11
Sonoma	11
<b>Humboldt</b>	6
Fresno	8

Total Race Dates
204

December 2018						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					5

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		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		
						16

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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		
						16

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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						19

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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				
						14

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			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	
						18

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						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					10	8

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	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			
					4	11

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				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
				11	6	7

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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					
						17

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		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		
					8	8

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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
						18

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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				
						8