

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



COMMITTEE MEETING

of the **California Horse Racing Board**, convening as the **Strategic Planning Committee**, will be held on **Thursday, September 20, 2007**, commencing at **10:00 a.m.**, in the **Baldwin Terrace Room at the Santa Anita Race Track, 285 West Huntington Drive, Arcadia, California.**

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

AGENDA

Action Items

1. Discussion and action regarding the **allocation of race dates and related issues for 2008 and beyond.**

Additional information regarding this meeting may be obtained from Jacqueline Wagner at the CHRB Administrative Office, 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95825; telephone (916) 263-6000; fax (916) 263-6042. A copy of this notice can be located on the CHRB website at www.chrb.ca.gov. *Information for requesting disability related accommodation for persons with a disability who require aids or services in order to participate in this public meeting, should contact Jacqueline Wagner.

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

Richard B. Shapiro, Chairman
John C. Harris, Vice Chairman
John W. Amerman, Member
John Andreini, Member
Jesse H. Choper, Member
Marie G. Moretti, Member
Jerry Moss, Member
Ingrid J. Fermin, Executive Director

STAFF ANALYSIS
ALLOCATION OF RACE DATES FOR 2008 AND BEYOND

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
September 20, 2007

BACKGROUND:

The Strategic Planning Committee (Committee) is holding a meeting to discuss the allocation of race dates for 2008 and beyond.

ANALYSIS:

During an earlier Committee meeting held on August 22, 2007, the Committee requested from the industry proposed racing calendars for 2008, 2009 and 2010, and Business Plans. Attached are the following industry proposed 2008 racing calendars and one Business Plan received by the Board:

1. Northern California Thoroughbred Racing
The Board was notified that this calendar has been agreed-to by all Northern California Stakeholders; however, specific individual fair dates have yet to be determined.
2. Southern California Thoroughbred Racing
The Board was notified that this calendar has been agreed-to by all Southern California Stakeholders.
3. Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association
4. Sacramento Harness Association
5. Business Plan representing the California Authority of Racing Fairs

After additional consideration, time has been extended to develop the 2009 and 2010 racing calendars. As such, no racing calendars are provided for 2009 and 2010.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for discussion and action.

Calendar 1

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			26	27	28	29
30	31					
5						0

GGF 122.00
 Split 2:50
 Total 124.50

BM 70.00
 Split 2:50
 Total 72.50

Fairs 87. Racing Fairs to be limited to 43 thoroughbred races per week

Overlap

Simulcast only

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Calendar 2

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2 16 5

Legend:

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HPPA - Spring 60

Del Mar 43

Fairplex 16

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HP-Fall 40

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LOS ALAMITOS 2008

Total Race Days = 205

December

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SACRAMENTO HARNESS ASSOCIATION

2008 PROPOSAL

Total Race Days = 180

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a California joint powers agency

RECEIVED AUG 20 2007

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

To: California Horse Racing Board Members
Ingrid Fermin, Executive Director
From: Christopher Korby
Date: August 17, 2007
Re: Strategic Planning

Honorable Members:

I would like to respectfully submit several documents that outline some thoughts and observations about policy and longer-term planning related to horse racing in California.

The DRAFT *Policy Statement* outlines some thoughts on a policy with respect to horse racing, California Fairs and California agriculture that we believe the State of California should consider. Certain of these matters are addressed in the first chapter of horse racing law (enclosed) when it describes the legislative intent in allowing parimutuel wagering on horse racing. We believe that this statement of legislative intent, memorialized in statute, can be helpful in guiding policy discussions and long-term planning. We would encourage the Board to consider these elements in its strategic planning.

California Racing Fair Venues: Preserving a Heritage Building for the Future lays out some thoughts on the macro-economic forces at work on the traditional economic model of race track ownership and describes a vision for a new model of race track ownership that can create a strong and stable future for racing in California. The document also profiles the nine publicly-owned race tracks located at California Fairs, as well as listing the twenty-three Satellite Wagering Facilities operated by Fairs. This piece was published as an insert in *California Thoroughbred* magazine.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these thoughts.

THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA FAIRS
AND CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE
POLICY STATEMENT

DRAFT

The state of California recognizes horse racing as a competitive sport, distinguished from other sports in that its existence depends entirely on the successful breeding, ownership and training of race horses. Breeding, owning, caring for and training horses are elements of the agricultural economy. Therefore, the state of California recognizes horse racing and its attendant husbandry as an agricultural activity.

The State of California has the sovereign right to permit parimutuel wagering on horse racing. The Legislature exercised this right, in statute, creating the California Horse Racing Board to license and regulate its conduct. Acting through the Board, the state grants annual licenses for the conduct of racing to racing associations, which are either private, for-profit entities or Fairs. The state also requires that racing associations have a valid contract with horse owners (private entrepreneurs) for the payment of purses. This nexus of state sovereignty, private enterprise and the public interest represents a successful partnership between the public and private sectors.

California statute asserts an affirmative connection between horse racing, parimutuel wagering, agriculture, and the public interest. The Legislature has recognized that allowing parimutuel wagering serves the public interest when it 1) assures protection of the public; 2) encourages agriculture and the breeding of horses; 3) supports the network of California Fairs; 4) provides for maximum expansion of horse racing opportunities in the public interest; and 5) provides for uniformity of regulation for each type of horse racing. (B&P Code §19401).

State government has a revenue interest in the economic vitality of horse racing, beyond meeting the costs of regulation, because horse breeding and racing generate both direct and indirect revenues to the public sector. Revenues are distributed to horsemen as purse payments, to racing associations as commissions, and to the state as license fees. License fees are distributed by the Department of Food and Agriculture for the support of Fairs. Other distributions include wildlife restoration, local charities and an equine veterinary research and teaching facility at the University of California Davis.

Fairs play an important role in the social fabric of their communities. California Fairs and horse racing have a century-long, mutually beneficial relationship. All Fairs and all Californians who attend Fairs, who are employed by Fairs or who participate in Fairs benefit from this economically interdependent connection. Therefore, it is the policy of the State of California to reinvest revenues generated by horse racing in order to support and encourage 1) California Fairs generally; 2) the improvement of racing venues, equipment and facilities on Fairgrounds; 3) horse racing at California Fairs; 4) a competitive California satellite simulcast program; and 5) the interstate and international export of California-produced livestock, products and services.

Horse racing represents a multi-billion dollar component of the state's agricultural economy, employing 30,000 people in breeding farms, animal husbandry, related professions, equine medical care and as suppliers of feedstock. The prosperity of these agricultural enterprises depends on a robust horse racing industry. Thus, the policy of the State of California is that the Department of Food and Agriculture shall support and encourage 1) improvements in breeding stock, supported by the well-regulated conduct of horse racing; and 2) increased interstate and international export of California-bred horses.

Christopher Korby
February 12, 1998
Updated August 2007

CALIFORNIA CODES
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
SECTION 19400-19419.9

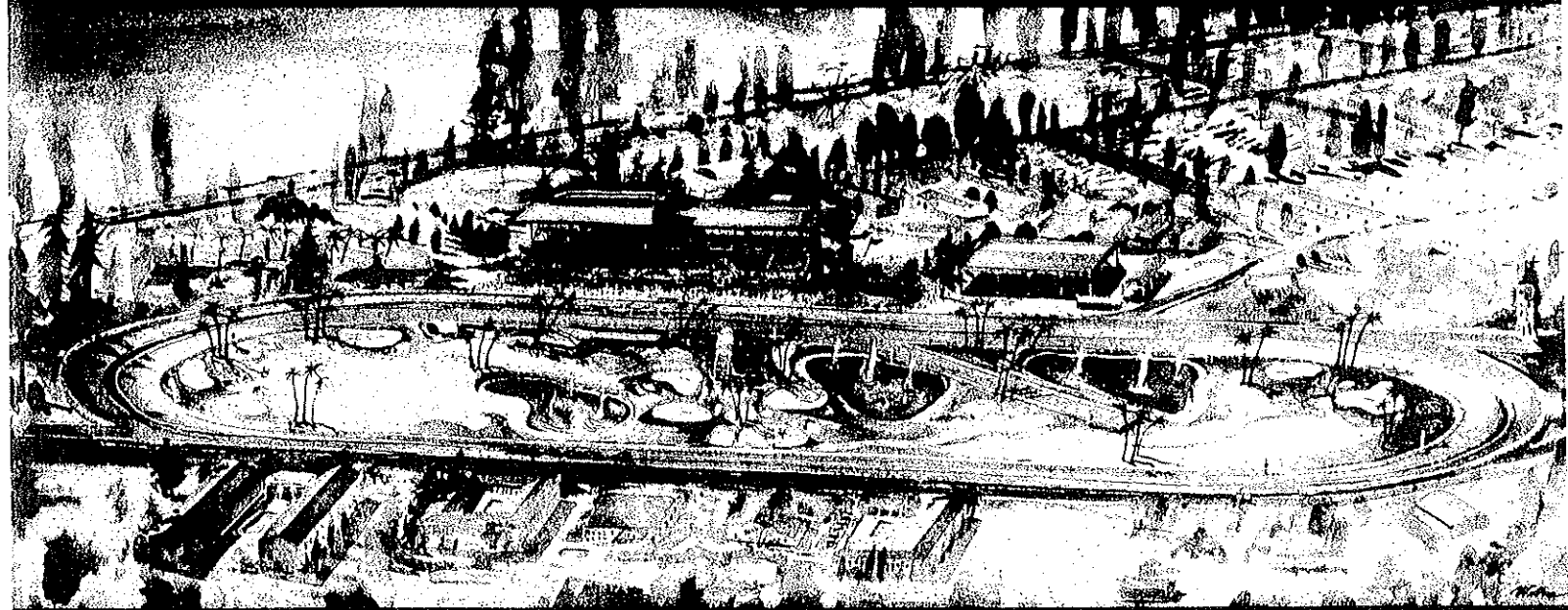
19400. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Horse Racing Law."

19401. The intent of this chapter is to allow parimutuel wagering on horse races, while:

- (a) Assuring protection of the public.
- (b) Encouraging agriculture and the breeding of horses in this state.
- (c) Supporting the network of California fairs.
- (d) Providing for maximum expansion of horse racing opportunities in the public interest.
- (e) Providing uniformity of regulation for each type of horse racing.

19402. Except where the context otherwise requires, the definitions set forth in this article govern the construction of this chapter.

Artist's Rendering of the
Alameda County Fair with Turf Course
by William Vaughn Willis



California Racing Fair Venues

*Preserving a Heritage
Building for the Future*



Horses Run at the San Joaquin Fair. Racing has been conducted at the San Joaquin Fair since 1860.



Contents...

Front Cover:

The cover showcases a rendering of the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton with a 7/8th mile Turf Course.

Plans are underway to make significant improvements to Fair racing venues in Northern and Southern California.

Photo Credit: Will Vaughn Willis

2. Observations on the Future of Northern California Racing
4. Overview of Northern and Southern California Racing Fairs
- Overview: Northern California Live Racing Fairs
 5. San Joaquin Fair
 6. Alameda County Fair
 7. Solano County Fair
 8. Sonoma County Fair
 9. Humboldt County Fair
 10. California State Fair
 11. Big Fresno Fair
- Overview: Racing Venues at Fairgrounds in Southern California
 12. Los Angeles County Fair
 13. San Diego County Fair
14. Overview: Fair Satellite Facilities

Some Observations On The Future Of California Racing

By Christopher Korby, Executive Director, California Authority Of Racing Fairs

Introduction

Fairs have a grand old tradition of horse racing in California going back over 150 years to the days of the Gold Rush. So when pari-mutuel wagering came along in the early '30s, the Fairs embraced it like an old friend.

Fairs and horse racing share a long political heritage, reflecting a balance of interests that has served the racing industry well since 1933, when support from Fairs helped assure passage of the referendum approving pari-mutuel wagering. That referendum laid the foundation for modern racing in California.

California Thoroughbred breeders and California Fairs also share a long-standing interest in the economic vitality of California racing. It's no coincidence that California statute recognizes the common agricultural connection that links the breeding of horses, Fairs and horse racing. Horse Racing Law cites "encouraging agriculture and the breeding of horses in this state" and "supporting the network of California fairs" as important reasons in the legislative intent for allowing pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing. In so doing, statute recognizes Thoroughbred breeding as an economic pillar of the racing industry. Rounding out the connections to agriculture, the law recognizes Fairs as a vehicle through which the Legislature has chosen to distribute the economic benefits of horse racing to local communities and to the agricultural sector. Revenues derived from horse racing help sustain overall Fair activities, an important part of the fabric of California life. It's more important than ever that this long-standing alliance continue to work for the long-term, best interests of the racing industry in California.

There are major changes on the horizon for California horse racing. Planning for these changes will be critically important to its future. I'd like to offer some thoughts on this matter from the perspective of the California Fairs.

My observations on this subject will proceed in three parts: 1) our perspective on certain circumstances that presently obtain in the racing industry; 2) California Fairs historical partnership with racing and their commitment to its future; 3) a vision for the future of California racing that is at once practical, realistic and familiar.

Background and Perspective

The economic model that underpins ownership of most Thoroughbred tracks in California is under strain. Real estate on which privately-owned, commercial race tracks sit has appreciated to valuations that may no longer justify horse racing as the highest and best use of the asset. Corporate owners, with responsibilities to their shareholders, may, will-

ingly or unwillingly, be compelled to consider development of their property for uses other than racing.

The move to develop race track real estate is already underway at Bay Meadows. Local observers with whom we have spoken estimate 18-24 months until approvals allow demolition and development to proceed.

There is a prospect on the horizon that could decelerate the trend toward development: revenue to the racing industry from expanded gaming. Such revenue, if it became available, could change the return-on-investment calculus for land under racing venues. At present, the chances of realizing this prospect are uncertain.

We would encourage industry leaders, particularly owners and breeders, who have a major stake in the future vitality of the racing industry, to look for commitments from their industry partners that are not reliant on expanded gaming for their future. Fairs are making such a commitment.

Fairs' Commitment to Racing:

Historical Antecedents

The long history of racing at California Fairs is evidence of the commitment that Fairs have to the sport. Racing has been conducted at Fairs in this state since the 1850's. Fairs were instrumental in securing passage of the initiative that created modern pari-mutuel wagering in the early 1930's. In fact, the first racing of the modern pari-mutuel era was conducted at Fairs in 1933 because Fairs had the facilities already in place to accommodate it. Fairs went on to build and rebuild grandstands and stable facilities at nine venues around the state, from Humboldt County in the north to Del Mar in the south. Seven of these venues are fixtures on the Northern California circuit, two, Del Mar and Los Angeles County Fair (Fairplex) conduct racing on the Southern California circuit. Two Fairs, Pleasanton in the north and Fairplex in the south, operate as training facilities year-round.

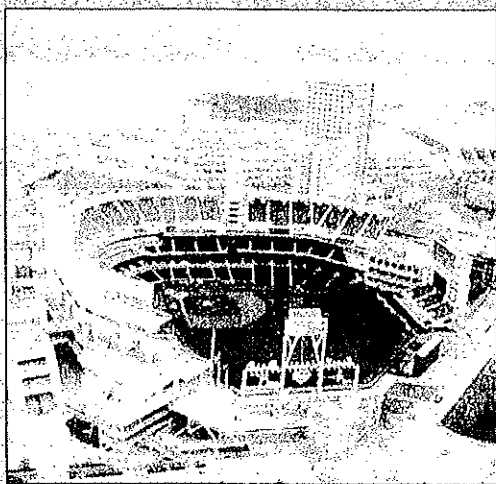
With the advent of simulcasting in the mid-1980's, Fairs again stepped up with a commitment to racing, creating a network of twenty-three simulcast facilities around the state. These satellite facilities annually contribute over \$600 million in pari-mutuel handle to California's racing industry. Most recently, Sonoma County Fair in Santa Rosa invested over \$3 million to build the first Turf Course at a Northern California Fair.

A Vision for the Future

We propose a model for the future of California racing that is at once practical, realistic and familiar. We propose that racing facilities at Fairs, which are publicly-owned, expand and improve to fill the industry's needs as privately-owned, commercial race tracks are developed for purposes

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA RACING

BY
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CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS



PUBLICLY OWNED MAJOR LEAGUE SPORTS VENUES IN CALIFORNIA

BASEBALL

Name	Team	Owner
Angel Stadium	Anaheim Angels	City of Anaheim
McAfee Coliseum	Oakland Athletics	City of Oakland/Alameda County
PETCO Park	San Diego Padres	City of San Diego/Padres

BASKETBALL

Name	Team	Owner
Oracle Arena	Golden State Warriors	City of Oakland

FOOTBALL

Name	Team	Owner
McAfee Coliseum	Oakland Raiders	City of Oakland/Alameda County
Qualcomm Stadium	San Diego Chargers	City of San Diego
Monster Park	San Francisco 49ers	City of San Francisco

HOCKEY

Name	Team	Owner
Honda Center	Anaheim Ducks	City of Anaheim
HP Pavilion	San Jose Sharks	City of San Jose

other than racing. There are examples and precedents of this public/private partnership model throughout major league professional sports; there is an especially successful example in the racing industry right here in California.

Before we look at some of the examples, let's look at some of the circumstances that align in this model:

- Fairs are California-based with a mission to use their profits here in California.
- Fairs can issue bonds, secured by future revenues from pari-mutuel wagering, in order to finance facility expansion and improvements.
- As publicly-owned facilities, Fairs are less susceptible to the impact of changing real estate valuations.
- Fairs are already diversified entertainment and commercial enterprises, landmarks in their communities, with year-round attendance measured in the millions.
- Profits from racing at Fairs are re-invested in California racing venues.
- Fairs can be a good political ally with deep roots in the state's agricultural community, a strong sector in California's economy and a major presence in the Legislature.

We would point to the public/private partnership at Del Mar as an exemplar of this model for California racing. We'll talk about that in a moment. First let's take a quick look at the example of major league professional sports.

Partnership between publicly owned venues and privately-owned franchises is a model long evident in major league professional sports. Such arrangements, though they may vary in form and nature in each instance, generally relieve franchises of the financial burden of venue ownership while allowing municipalities to secure and maintain major league sport franchises. Both benefit: the franchise is more economically viable and the municipality can realize the sense of civic pride and economic benefits attendant to a major league sports franchise. There are examples from baseball, basketball, football and hockey up and down the state in

franchises operating in partnership with publicly-owned venues appears later in this article.

As noted above, there is a successful, existing example of this model for California racing: the operating partnership between Del Mar Thoroughbred Club (DMTC) and the 22nd District Agricultural Association (Del Mar Fair). Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, a private entity, operates one of the finest racing meetings in North America at a public venue financed, built and owned by the Del Mar Fair. The current facility was built 1990-1992 through state revenue bonds secured by revenue from pari-mutuel wagering. The upshot is a tremendously successful operation that benefits DMTC, the Del Mar Fair, the state and California horsemen. We don't think that the California racing industry could find a better model on which to build a strong, stable future.

Conclusion

The racing industry is approaching a crossroads as increasing real estate values strain the economic model that governs operator-owned, private commercial race tracks. As land values increase, private race track owners are compelled to consider developing their property for purposes other than racing.

Fairs are proposing a concept for the future that envisions a larger role for publicly-owned venues at Fairs, perhaps along the lines already in place at Del Mar. In that example, a private racing association operates in a lease agreement with a public facility owned by a Fair. Fairs are diversified entertainment and commercial enterprises, less susceptible to the impact of changing real estate values than are operator-owned, private commercial tracks. Millions of Californians already visit Fairs each year. Fairs have and can finance expansion and improvement of their existing racing facilities through public bonds secured by revenue from pari-mutuel wagering. The model that Fairs envision keeps California racing revenues in California for the benefit of California participants. We believe that such a model provides a solid foundation on which to build a strong and stable future for

Northern California Racing Fairs

With a collective history of competitive racing that dates back to the 1850's, Northern California Racing Fairs can call on a proud heritage. That heritage is only a prelude, however, as Fairs assert their commitment to horse racing for the long run.

Fairs embody a unique partnership of public and private interests. Fairs are publicly owned entities with a mission of public service to their communities, support of the agricultural economy and active participation in the horse racing industry. Revenue from horse racing at California Fairs stays in California for the benefit of Californians.

Fairs represent a major public investment in the California horse racing industry. There are seven Fair racetrack venues in Northern California: San Joaquin Fair (Stockton); Alameda County Fair (Pleasanton); Solano County Fair (Vallejo); Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa); San Mateo County Fair (San Mateo); Humboldt County Fair (Ferndale); California State Fair (Sacramento); and Fresno District Fair (Fresno). These Fairs occupy more than 1,400 acres located in major metropolitan areas.

In addition, Fairs own and operate 14 satellite wagering facilities in Northern California. Statewide, Fairs own and operate 23 satellite facilities, which in FY 2005-06 drew 2.65 million racing fans. The fans wagered over \$652 million through the Fairs satellite network.

Southern California Racing Fairs

Racing at Fair venues in Southern California represents some of the finest racing in the country. Los Angeles County Fair (Fairplex Park) is one of the largest and most successful Fairs in North America. The horse racing meeting at Fairplex is an important stop on the Southern California circuit. Satellite wagering at the L.A. County Fair keeps the racing spirit alive in the L.A. Basin year-round.

Del Mar. The words evoke a standard of excellence and the finest that racing has to offer. Del Mar's summer meeting, conducted by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club at facilities owned by and leased from the San Diego County Fair, offers some of the best racing in North America. Californians can be proud of the high standards and tradition of excellence that continue to flourish at this venue. This partnership is a model for the successful future of racing in California.



San Joaquin Fair

City:	Stockton
Racing Since:	1860
US Census MMA:	649,868
Grandstand Capacity:	3,800
Track Surface(s):	Sandy Loam
Track Distance(s):	1 Mile
Annual Fair Attendance:	160,935
Interim Attendance:	391,386
Acres in Fairgrounds:	252
Simulcast Facility:	24,222 sq. feet
Handle (Simulcast):	\$31,626,066



Days of Racing	2005: 10
	2006: 10
On-Track Handle	2005: \$ 2,181,188
	2006: \$ 1,698,840
All-Source Handle	2005: \$ 19,454,424
	2006: \$ 16,852,770
Stalls in Stable Area:	756
Year-Round Training:	NO

History

Racing began at the San Joaquin Fair during the Gold Rush days. Stockton was the first track to conduct modern pari-mutuel wagering in California on August 21, 1933 when approximately 1,500 fans attended the thoroughbred and harness races. For the first time since 1909, when the anti-gambling law passed to ban bookmaking and close the old Emeryville track, it was once again legal to bet on horses.

The fair was traditionally held in August, before shifting to the mid-June dates in 1988. Stockton is typically the first stop on the Northern California Fair Circuit.

The Fairground is located approximately 75 miles east of San Francisco and 60 miles south of Sacramento.

District Legislators

Senators

Mike Machado - (R) District 5
Dave Cogdill - (R) District 14

Assembly Members

Alan Nakanishi - (R) District 10
Greg Aghazarian - (R) District 26
Cathleen Galgiani - (D) District 17
Guy Houston - (R) District 15

Recent Facility Improvements

Grandstand Improvements
New Paddock
Infield Improvements
Renovated Restroom/Shower Facilities
Backstretch Drainage Upgrades
Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
Complete Racing Office Renovation
Track Safety and Maintenance Program

Alameda County Fair

City: Pleasanton
 Racing Since: 1858
 US Census MMA: 7,092,596
 Grandstand Capacity: 6,500
 Track Surface(s): Dirt
 Track Distance(s): 1 Mile
 Annual Fair Attendance: 382,409
 Interim Attendance: 2,644,243
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 267
 Simulcast Facility: 29,407 sq. feet
 Handle (Simulcast): \$ 61,518,468



Days of Racing: 2005: 11
 2006: 11
 On-Track Handle: 2005: \$ 6,905,585
 2006: \$ 5,576,048
 All-Source Handle: 2005: \$ 38,317,137
 2006: \$ 35,624,198
 Stalls in Stable Area: 701
 Year-Round Training: YES

History

Stamped as the oldest one mile racetrack in America, the Pleasanton oval dates back to 1858, when it was constructed by the son of the Spanish Don, Augustin Bernal.

On July 23, 1939, mutual wagering started in Pleasanton. The San Francisco Chronicle reported the occasion by saying, "The revival of East Bay racing will be on the same spot where horse racing virtually had its birth in California more than 70 years ago when the Spanish Dons built the first track here." In fact, The Chronicle referred to Pleasanton as, "The birthplace of horse racing in California."

The Alameda County Fair occupies 267 scenic acres in an upmarket East Bay community at the crossroads of Interstate 680 and Interstate 580, approximately 40 miles north of San Francisco.

District Legislators

Senators

Tom Torlakson - (D) District 7
 Don Perara - (D) District 9
 Ellen Corbett - (D) District 10

Assembly Members

Guy Houston - (R) District 15
 Mary Hayashi - (D) District 18
 Alberto Torrico - (D) District 20
 Sandre Swanson - (D) District 16

Recent Facility Improvements

Major Paddock Upgrades
 \$4.45 Million Solar Power Installation
 Renovated Backstretch Restroom/Shower Facilities
 Backstretch Drainage Upgrades
 Tack Room and Barn Upgrade

Solano County Fair

City: Vallejo
 Racing Since: 1951
 US Census MMA: 412,336

Grandstand Capacity: 5,000
 Track Surface(s): Dirt
 Track Distance(s): 7/8 Mile

Annual Fair Attendance: 78,767
 Interim Attendance: 310,000
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 157

Simulcast Facility: 9,939 sq. feet
 Handle (Simulcast): \$ 28,030,019



Days of Racing: 2005: 11
 2006: 11
 On-Track Handle: 2005: \$ 2,871,017
 2006: \$ 2,142,633
 All-Source Handle: 2005: \$ 33,046,332
 2006: \$ 30,722,036
 Stalls in Stable Area: 874
 Year-Round Training: NO

History

Plans for buying land and securing money for the Solano County Fair began as early as 1938, but World War II intervened. Planning resumed after V-Day; on February 22, 1948, ground-breaking ceremonies took place and on September 21, 1950, Governor Earl Warren snipped the ribbon signaling the opening of the first fair. In 1951, horse racing made its debut.

The Solano County Fair, in Vallejo, is located at the intersection of Interstate 80 and Highway 37, approximately 40 miles north of San Francisco.

District Legislators

Senators

Patricia Wiggins - (D) District 2
 Michael Machado - (D) District 5

Assembly Members

Noreen Evans - (D) District 7
 Lois Wolk - (D) District 8

Recent Facility Improvements

New Paddock
 Renovated Backstretch Restroom/Shower
 Horsemen's RV Lot Upgrades
 Backstretch Wash Rack and Drainage Upgrades
 Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
 Track Safety and Maintenance Program

Sonoma County Fair

City: Santa Rosa
 Racing Since: 1879
 US Census MMA: 466,725
 Grandstand Capacity: 5,180
 Track Surface(s): Sandy Loam/Turf
 Track Distance(s): 1 Mile/7 Furlongs

Annual Fair Attendance: 370,032
 Interim Attendance: 1,175,000
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 182

Simulcast Facility: 21,076 sq. feet
 Handle (Simulcast): \$ 26,995,700



Days of Racing: 2005: 12
 2006: 12
 On-Track Handle: 2005: \$ 6,203,650
 2006: \$ 5,644,607
 All-Source Handle: 2005: \$ 41,717,374
 2006: \$ 40,232,745
 Stalls in Stable Area: 1,022
 Year-Round Training: NO

History

The first recorded fair in Sonoma County's history was a single day display, held on the Santa Rosa Courthouse Plaza in October 1855. In 1879, a 90-acre portion of the present Sonoma County Fairgrounds was acquired by a group who accessed a levy on its members to provide funds for the construction of a one-mile track complete with stalls, grandstand, and other improvements. The Sonoma County Fair has grown in size over the years, and that growth has been accomplished without the aid of tax revenue.

The 2005 meet marked the debut of a 7-furlong turf course at the Sonoma County Fair. A packed grandstand gave the field a standing ovation during the inaugural turf race on Opening Day, July 27, 2005.

The Sonoma County Fair, in Santa Rosa, is located just off of Highway 101 approximately 75 miles north of San Francisco and in the heart of California's wine country.

District Legislators

Senators

Patricia Wiggins - (D) District 2
 Carole Migden - (D) District 3

Assembly Members

Noreen Evans - (D) District 7
 Jared Huffman - (D) District 6

Recent Facility Improvements

New Turf Course
 Renovated Restroom/Shower Facilities
 Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
 Grandstand Concession Stand Upgrades
 Horsemen's RV Lot Renovation
 Track Safety and Maintenance Program

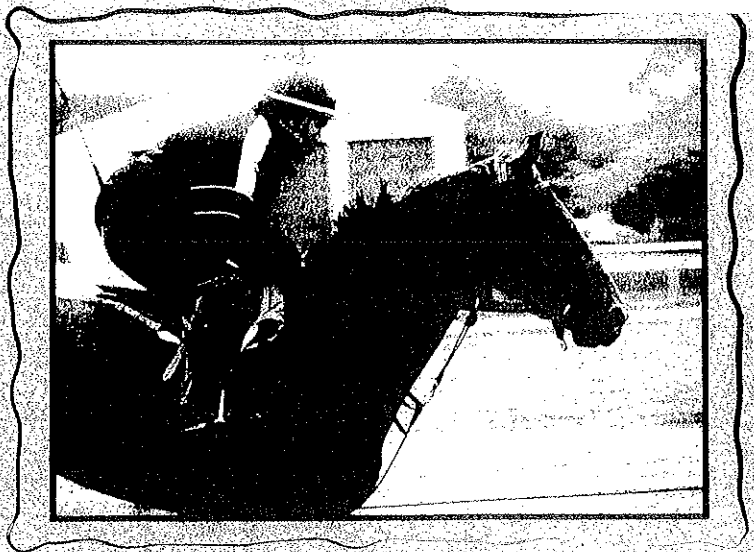
Humboldt County Fair

City:	Ferndale
Racing Since:	1896
US Census MMA:	126,518
Grandstand Capacity:	2,000
Track Surface(s):	Dirt
Track Distance(s):	1/2 Mile
Annual Fair Attendance:	72,000
Interim Attendance:	120,000
Acres in Fairgrounds:	65
Simulcast Facility:	N/A
Handle (Simulcast):	N/A

History

Ferndale has been the site of the Humboldt County Fair since 1896. By most accounts, horse racing flourished in Ferndale during those early years. Languishing for a time, horse racing was legalized again in 1933 and in 1935 became a mainstay of the fair. The half-mile oval demands skill from horse and rider. It is not only horse racing that takes you back to "yesteryear" in Ferndale. The entire community, with its unique atmosphere of Victorian structures, bountiful antique shops and friendly residents, recreates a sense of times past.

The Humboldt County Fair, in Ferndale, is located along California's beautiful North Coast. The entire town of Ferndale, noted for its Victorian architecture, is registered as a National Landmark.



Days of Racing	2005	10
	2006	10
On-Track Handle	2005	\$ 775,170
	2006	\$ 727,308
All-Source Handle	2005	\$ 3,080,934
	2006	\$ 2,959,549
Stalls in Stable Area		260
Year-Round Training		NO.

District Legislators

Senators

Patricia Wiggins - (D) District 2

Assembly Members

Patty Berg - (D) District 1

Recent Facility Improvements

Major Paddock/Winner's Circle Upgrade
Renovated Restroom/Shower Facilities
Backstretch Drainage Improvements
Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
Jocks' Room Renovation
Grandstand Concession Stands Renovation
Track Safety and Maintenance Program
New Racing Office

California State Fair

City: Sacramento
 Racing Since: 1861
 US Census MMA: 1,930,149

Grandstand Capacity: 6,500
 Track Surface(s): Dirt
 Track Distance(s): 1 Mile

Annual Fair Attendance: 941,327
 Interim Attendance: 550,000
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 350

Simulcast Facility: 37,800 sq. feet
 Annual Handle (Simulcast): \$ 53,689,057



Days of Racing	2004	N/A*
	2005	N/A*
On-Track Handle	2004	N/A*
	2005	N/A*
All-Source Handle	2004	N/A*
	2005	N/A*
Stalls in Stable Area:	N/A*	
Year Round Training:	N/A*	

History

The California State Fair has over 150 years of history behind it. Created in 1854 by the State Agricultural Society, the event enjoyed a nomadic early history. In 1861, the fair's wandering days came to an end, when it found a permanent residence in Sacramento. The original purpose of the exposition, to promote California agriculture, remains intact today, but horse racing has become a significant force in its success. Now the oldest continuous race meeting in California.

District Legislators

Senators

Darrell Steinberg - (D) District 6
 Dave Cox - (R) District 1

Assembly Members

Dave Jones - (D) District 9
 Roger Niello - (R) District 5

Recent Facility Improvements

Washrack/Backstretch Drainage Improvements
 Restroom/Shower Facility Upgrades
 Winner's Circle Landscaping
 \$2 Million Solar Power Installation
 Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
 Track Safety and Maintenance Program
 Grandstand/Satellite Facility Renovations

* The California State Fair ran a Harness Meet in 2004 and 2005

Big Fresno Fair

City: Fresno
 Racing Since: 1882
 US Census MMA: 922,516
 Grandstand Capacity: 5,000
 Track Surface(s): Dirt
 Track Distance(s): 1 Mile
 Annual Fair Attendance: 571,051
 Interim Attendance: 990,870
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 165

Simulcast Facility: In Grandstand
 Annual Handle (Simulcast): \$22,269,530



Days of Racing 2005: 11
 2006: 11
 On-Track Handle 2005: \$3,442,261
 2006: \$3,476,203
 All-Source Handle 2005: \$8,104,725
 2006: \$9,364,097
 Stalls in Stable Area: 800
 Year-Round Training: NO

History

Traditionally the final stop on the Northern California Fair Circuit, the Fresno Fair was established in 1882 by a group of Fresno businessman and professionals serving as members on the Farm Bureau and Chamber of Commerce. The groups collectively raised a total of \$25,000 and purchased 100 acres of land. Two years later the Association incorporated horse racing into the daily activities. In 1941 Fresno offered its first pari-mutuel horse racing meeting. During the war years, racing at Fresno was interrupted, but returned to stay in 1948.

District Legislators

Senators

Dean Florez - (D) District 16
 Dave Cogdill - (R) District 14

Assembly Members

Juan Arambula - (D) District 31
 Tom Berryhill - (R) District 25
 Nicole Parra - (D) District 30
 Michael Villines - (R) District 29

Recent Facility Improvements

New Paddock
 New Winner's Circle
 Infield & Tote Board Landscaping
 Renovated Restroom/Shower Facilities
 Backstretch Drainage Improvements
 All New Washracks in Backstretch
 Tack Room and Barn Upgrades
 Major Upgrades to Grandstand Satellite Facility
 Track Safety and Maintenance Program
 Major Backstretch Electrical Upgrade

Los Angeles County Fair



City: Pomona (L.A.)
 Racing Since: 1922
 US Census MMA: 16,373,645
 Grandstand Capacity: 12,500
 Track Surface(s): Dirt
 Track Distance(s): 5/8 Mile
 Annual Fair Attendance: \$ 1,427,656
 Interim Attendance: \$ 1,300,000
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 543
 Annual Handle (Simulcast): \$ 80,336,258

History

In 1922, ground was broken and access roads were built for the Los Angeles County Fair. A half-mile race track and a grandstand seating 4,000 were constructed.

The inaugural L.A. County Fair opened on October 17, 1922, and ran for five days through October 21. Following the success and public acceptance of the first Fair, a \$75,000 bond issue was approved for the construction of permanent buildings and a grandstand for horse racing.

In the early '80's, the track was expanded to 5/8 of a mile.

District Legislators

Days of Racing	2005: 16
	2006: 16
On-Track Handle	2005: \$ 11,814,889
	2006: \$ 11,339,530
All-Source Handle	2005: \$ 105,308,618
	2006: \$ 105,729,325
Stalls in Stable Area	1,300
Year-Round Training	YES

Senators

Gloria Negrete McLeod - (D) District 32
 Bob Margett - (R) District 29

Assembly Members

Anthony Adams - (R) District 59
 Nell Soto - (D) District 61
 Bob Huff - (R) District 60

Recent Facility Improvements

Backstretch Improvements
 Renovated Grandstand
 Renovated Paddock

San Diego County Fair

City: Del Mar (San Diego)
 Racing Since: 1937
 US Census MMA: 2,813,833
 Grandstand Capacity: 15,000
 Track Surface(s): Dirt/Turf
 Track Distance(s): 1 Mile Dirt

Annual Fair Attendance: 1,205,719
 Interim Attendance: 1,959,837
 Acres in Fairgrounds: 364
 Simulcast Facility: 90,000 sq. feet
 Annual Handle (Simulcast): \$110,002,315

Days of Racing	2005: 43
	2006: 43
On-Track Handle	2005: \$108,907,840
	2006: \$100,685,048
All-Source Handle	2005: \$546,971,289
	2006: \$511,215,852
Stalls in Stable Area:	1,200
Year-Round Training:	NO



History

The 22nd District Agricultural Association manages and operates the Del Mar Fairgrounds and its adjoining facilities. The Fairgrounds and Horsepark are the sites of approximately 350 events each year, including a 43-day Thoroughbred meet operated by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club was founded by a group headed by Bing Crosby and actor Pat O'Brien in the seaside community of Del Mar. The track has been a summer playground for horses and horsemen since it opened its gates on July 3, 1937.

The Del Mar track has blossomed into one of the nation's leaders for daily attendance and handle and attracts top owners, trainers, riders and horses each summer. A new grandstand, completed in 1993, added state-of-the-art amenities while preserving the Spanish charm and warmth of the original facility.

District Legislators

Senators

Christine Kehoe - (D) District 39
 Mark Wyland - (R) District 38




Assembly Members

Martin Garrick - (R) District 74
 George Plescia - (R) District 75

Recent Facility Improvements

Backstretch Improvements
 Satellite Facility Upgrades
 New Barn Construction
 Renovated Grandstand (1993)

California Fairs Satellite Network

Location	Fair/Regional Description	Table/ Carrel Seating	 Food Service					 Vehicle Parking	 Viewing Displays			
			Restaurant	Del	Grill	Catering	Beverages & Full Bar		Television	Big Screen TV's	Jumbo Screen TV's	Carrel Jumbotron TV's
Anderson	Shasta District Fair	240		✓	✓	✓	✓	505	12	5		
Bakersfield	Kern County Fair	600		✓		✓	✓	Unlimited	26	12	2	
Del Mar	San Diego County Fair	3,500	✓	✓		✓	✓	12,000	425	40	4	
Eureka	Redwood Acres Fair	300		✓	✓	✓	✓	625	14	4		
Fresno	Big Fresno Fair	600		✓	✓	✓	✓	3,000	13	16	6	
Indio	Riverside County Fair	500		✓	✓	✓	✓	400	50	10		
Lancaster	Antelope Valley Fair	450		✓	✓	✓	✓	400	60		6	120
Monterey	Monterey California Fair	332		✓	✓	✓	✓	235	18	4		8
Perris	Southern California Fair	350		✓		✓	✓	250	65	6		54
Pleasanton	Alameda County Fair	800	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1,500	95		10	60
Pomona	Los Angeles County Fair	1,000	✓			✓	✓	46,000	65	8		147
Sacramento	Cal Expo & State Fair	950	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10,140	105		15	90
San Bernardino	National Orange Show	1,400	✓	✓		✓	✓	1,500	175		14	42
San Jose	Santa Clara County Fair	132		✓		✓	✓	475	20	10		
Santa Barbara	Earl Warren Showgrounds	300	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1,000	26	14		
Santa Maria	Santa Barbara County Fair	250		✓	✓	✓	✓	565	42	14		
Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Fair	600	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1,000	90		8	20
Stockton	San Joaquin Fair	500		✓	✓	✓	✓	750	120	14	10	
Tulare	Tulare County Fair	300		✓	✓	✓	✓	1,000	14	6		
Turlock	Stanislaus County Fair	200		✓	✓	✓	✓	1,000	12	6	6	
Valejo	Solano County Fair	250		✓	✓	✓	✓	250	40	16		
Ventura	Ventura County Fair	600		✓	✓	✓	✓	1,700	165		14	26
Victorville	San Bernardino County Fair	350		✓	✓	✓	✓	350	26	8		

Fair Satellite Wagering Facilities

