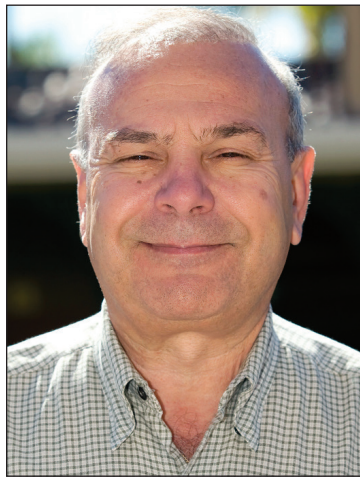


# Meet TOC's New Presidents Nick Coukos



Nick Coukos was named TOC President in November 2015, coming from Ajax Downs, a privately owned Quarter Horse racetrack and slot facility near Toronto, Canada. Prior to that he was Executive Director of the HBPA (Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association) Ontario and Secretary/Treasurer for the National HBPA, where he was fiscally and operationally responsible for the well being of a membership of over 30,000 horsemen.

A finance and accounting major, he holds an honours degree in business administration from York University. He is married with two children.

"My first month on 'the job' has been extremely enlightening, with some of the major issues that owners face being brought to light," said Coukos. "I was fortunate to be part of our Annual Meeting at Golden Gate Fields in November and met several owners and horsemen who are dedicated to Thoroughbred racing in this beautiful state. Stabling and Vanning in both the North and South is one topic that will require significant attention by the TOC in 2016, and we are committed to finding a long-term solution that will strengthen Thoroughbred racing and bring some much-needed security to the investment that owners are making every day."

Coukos continued, "Please come into our office at Santa Anita during the winter meet just to say 'hi.' Finally, I wish Joe Morris the best of luck in his new position with the Stronach Group. His shoes will be awfully tough to fill, but we will give it a shot."

Stop by the TOC office to meet Nick, or contact him at (626) 574-6602 or by email at [ncoukos@toconline.com](mailto:ncoukos@toconline.com).

## U.S. Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

| Indicator               | Dec-15        | Dec-14        | % Change |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Wagering on U.S. Races* | \$694,167,064 | \$642,209,289 | 8.09%    |
| U.S. Purses             | \$57,927,847  | \$58,258,720  | -0.57%   |
| U.S. Race Days          | 281           | 287           | -2.09%   |

| Indicator               | YTD 2015         | YTD 2014         | % Change |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|
| Wagering on U.S. Races* | \$10,676,223,640 | \$10,551,219,302 | 1.18%    |
| U.S. Purses             | \$1,093,667,566  | \$1,111,714,495  | -1.62%   |
| U.S. Race Days          | 4,754            | 4,973            | -4.40%   |

\*Includes worldwide commingled wagering on U.S. races. Data from Equibase.

## CA Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

| Indicator            | Dec-15        | Dec-14        | % Change |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Wagering on CA Races | \$101,150,808 | \$101,059,750 | 0.09%    |
| CA Purses Generated* | \$6,859,092   | \$7,098,708   | -3.38%   |
| CA Race Days         | 27            | 27            | 0.00%    |

| Indicator            | YTD 2015        | YTD 2014**      | % Change |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Wagering on CA Races | \$1,855,172,529 | \$1,829,497,926 | 1.40%    |
| CA Purses Generated* | \$122,823,519   | \$123,049,048   | -0.18%   |
| CA Race Days         | 419             | 417             | 0.48%    |

\*Total Purses Generated

\*\*Two Breeders Cup days conducted in CA not included. • All Data from CHRIMS

# Track Reports (Purse Generation)

Data from CHRIMS • Breeders' Cup days conducted in CA not included

## Del Mar Fall - Total Purse Rev Generated - Total Rev Producing Handle

| October 29, 2015 - November 29, 2015 | 2015          | 2014          | Diff \$\$    | Diff % |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------|
| Total Purses Generated               | \$8,037,846   | \$6,985,020   | \$1,052,826  | 15.07% |
| Total Revenue Producing Handle       | \$182,428,049 | \$145,478,036 | \$36,950,013 | 25.40% |
| Race Days                            | 20            | 15            | 5            | 33.33% |

## Golden Gate Fields Fall - Total Purse Rev Generated - Total Rev Producing Handle

| October 22, 2015 - December 13, 2015 | 2015         | 2014          | Diff \$\$    | Diff %  |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Total Purses Generated               | \$4,168,996  | \$4,663,688   | -\$494,692   | -10.61% |
| Total Revenue Producing Handle       | \$95,832,151 | \$101,031,492 | -\$5,199,341 | -5.15%  |
| Race Days                            | 32           | 34            | -2           | -5.88%  |

## Los Alamitos Winter - Total Purse Rev Generated - Total Rev Producing Handle

| December 3, 2015 - December 20, 2015 | 2015         | 2014         | Diff \$\$   | Diff % |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| Total Purses Generated               | \$2,952,852  | \$3,024,268  | -\$71,416   | -2.36% |
| Total Revenue Producing Handle       | \$66,460,950 | \$64,628,302 | \$1,832,648 | 2.84%  |
| Race Days                            | 12           | 12           | 0           | 0.00%  |

## Santa Anita Autumn - Total Purse Rev Generated - Total Rev Producing Handle

| September 26, 2015 - October 25, 2015 | 2015          | 2014          | Diff \$\$     | Diff %  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------|
| Total Purses Generated                | \$7,455,191   | \$9,594,315   | -\$2,139,124  | -22.30% |
| Total Revenue Producing Handle        | \$167,050,366 | \$212,908,067 | -\$45,857,701 | -21.54% |
| Race Days                             | 19            | 23            | -4            | -17.39% |

## LEADING OWNERS FROM THE SANTA ANITA MEET September 26 — October 25, 2015

| MOST WINS |                                     | MOST STARTS |   | MOST EARNINGS |  |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------|--|
| 1         | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 4       | 1           | Hronis Racing LLC . . . . . 23            | 1             | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . \$375,110                    |
| 1         | Wilson, Holly and David . . . . . 4 | 2           | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 18            | 2             | Fox Hill Farms, Inc. . . . . \$211,800                   |
| 3         | Big Chief Racing, LLC . . . . . 3   | 2           | Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC . . . . . 18 | 3             | Lucky Charm Stable . . . . . \$181,290                   |
| 3         | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 3        | 4           | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 17             | 4             | Spendthrift Farm LLC . . . . . \$180,750                 |
|           | 9 tied with 2 Wins                  | 4           | Kretz Racing LLC . . . . . 17             | 5             | Hollendorfer, Jerry and Smith, Green . . . . . \$180,000 |
|           |                                     |             |   | 5             | Mrs. P. K. Cooper . . . . . \$180,000                    |

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

## LEADING OWNERS FROM THE DEL MAR MEET October 29 – November 29, 2015

| MOST WINS |                               | MOST STARTS |                                | MOST EARNINGS |   |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 1         | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 5 | 1           | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 25 | 1             | Glen Hill Farm . . . . . \$274,580            |
| 2         | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 4  | 2           | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 16  | 2             | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . \$213,740         |
| 2         | Roddy J. Valente . . . . . 4  | 2           | Kretz Racing LLC . . . . . 16  | 3             | Steve Moger . . . . . \$198,030               |
| 4         | B G Stable . . . . . 3        | 4           | DP Racing, LLC . . . . . 15    | 4             | Midwest Thoroughbreds, Inc. . . . . \$167,590 |
|           | 10 tied with 2 wins           | 5           | Hronis Racing LLC . . . . . 14 | 5             | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . \$154,834          |

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

## LEADING OWNERS FROM THE GOLDEN GATE MEET October 22 – December 13, 2015

| MOST WINS |   | MOST STARTS |   | MOST EARNINGS |   |
|-----------|---|-------------|---|---------------|---|
| 1         | Kings River Ranch . . . . . 7                               | 1           | Lanning, Curt and Lila . . . . . 27         | 1             | Lanning, Curt and Lila . . . . . \$100,556                |
| 2         | Lanning, Curt and Lila . . . . . 6                          | 2           | Saratoga West . . . . . 23                  | 2             | J. C. Racing Stable . . . . . \$84,830                    |
| 2         | Randy E. Marriott . . . . . 6                               | 3           | Kings River Ranch . . . . . 22              | 3             | Daehling, Joe and Evans, Holly . . . . . \$65,754         |
| 4         | Nentwig, Michael, Newman, Roger and Pagano, Ray . . . . . 4 | 4           | Harris Farms, Inc. . . . . 20               | 4             | Alexander A. Paszkeicz Living Trust . . . . . \$65,530    |
|           | 6 tied with 3 wins  | 5           | Daehling, Joe and Evans, Holly . . . . . 18 | 5             | Silver Ranch Stable and Wachtel Stable . . . . . \$60,000 |
|           |   | 5           | Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. . . . . 18  |               |   |

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

## LEADING OWNERS FROM THE LOS ALAMITOS MEET December 3 – 20, 2015

| MOST WINS |  | MOST STARTS |  | MOST EARNINGS |   |
|-----------|--|-------------|--|---------------|---|
| 1         | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 5          | 1           | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . 11                                 | 1             | Michael Lund Petersen . . . . . \$221,960                             |
| 2         | Kretz Racing LLC . . . . . 2           | 2           | Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC . . . . . 7                       | 2             | Agave Racing Stable . . . . . \$180,000                               |
| 2         | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 2           | 2           | Wilson, Holly and David . . . . . 7                            | 3             | Reddam Racing LLC . . . . . \$147,800                                 |
| 2         | R3 Racing and Calara Farms . . . . . 2 | 2           | Mike Harrington . . . . . 7                                    | 4             | Watson, Karl, Pegram, Michael E. and Weitman, Paul . . . . . \$92,770 |
|           | Multiple owners tied with one win      | 5           | Watson, Karl, Pegram, Michael E. and Weitman, Paul . . . . . 6 | 5             | Kretz Racing LLC . . . . . \$89,800                                   |
|           |  | 5           | Rockingham Ranch . . . . . 6                                   |               |   |

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

This year we expect to see activity on three gambling expansion bills that could significantly impact the racing industry.

**Daily Fantasy Sports.** There is strong support from many legislators for legalizing and regulating Daily Fantasy Sports (DFS). The TOC met the first week of January with racetrack representatives and the CTBA to discuss the pros and cons for authorizing DFS in California. We plan to meet with members of the legislature in the coming weeks to learn more about the bill and related issues before taking a formal position.

**Internet Poker.** Racing continues to work aggressively towards achieving parity with Tribes and card rooms on any expansion of Internet gambling. Seven of the largest Tribes in the state continue to oppose racing's inclusion in any Internet Poker bill. Internet Poker legislation has been offered without success for each of the past seven years, and it remains unclear whether there is sufficient support in Sacramento to pass it in 2016.

**Sports Wagering.** Assembly GO Chairman Adam Gray has introduced a bill to authorize sports wagering licenses for Tribes, card rooms and racetracks. The bill would require both a change in federal law (which currently prohibits sports wagering in CA) and a voter approved amendment to the State Constitution before becoming legal.

We will keep the TOC membership up to date on any major developments. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our new legislative adviser, Greg Avioli directly at 859-621-6864

## IMPORTANT DATES

- March 1:** Deadline to file completed petitions, for those seeking to qualify for the 2016 board election by the petition process. Petition forms are now available at the TOC offices.
- April 23:** Open Forum at Los Alamitos.

For information on these and other TOC events visit [www.toonline.com](http://www.toonline.com) or call (626) 574-6620.

## PURSE COMPARISON

| Condition      | Santa Anita 16 | Gulfstream 16* | Aqueduct 16 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| MSW            | \$56,000       | \$36,000       | \$60,000    |
| NW1X           | \$58,000       | \$38,000       | \$67,000    |
| NW2X           | \$60,000       | \$40,000       | \$69,000    |
| \$25K Claiming | \$32,000       | \$24,000       | \$47,000    |

| Condition      | Golden Gate 16 | Turf Paradise 16** |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| MSW            | \$26,000       | \$12,500           |
| NW1X           | \$27,000       | \$15,000           |
| NW2X           | \$29,000       | \$17,500           |
| \$10K Claiming | \$13,000       | \$11,800           |

Purse levels adjusted for built in State Bred incentives where applicable.

\*Gulfstream MSW for straight 3yo is advertised at \$50K including \$10K FOA

\*\*MSW carries optional tag of \$30K



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The nomination process for candidates for the TOC board begins this month. There are two ways that members may qualify for the ballot – nomination by the nominating committee or nomination by petition. To qualify for board service, an individual must hold a current California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) owner's license, own at least 25% of a Thoroughbred racehorse, have started a horse or horses a minimum of six times in California during the prior

calendar year, and be a member in good standing.

TOC Board member duties include attendance at monthly board and committee meetings and periodic attendance at CHRB and/or other industry events. Board members receive no compensation for their service, though reimbursements for necessary travel and lodging expenses are made.

There are a total of 15 directors on TOC's board, with members serving three-year staggered terms, such that five seats are up for election each year. According to TOC bylaws, at least two but no more than six directors must be from the owner/trainer class of members; of the owner/trainer directors, at least one must be from the Northern Zone and at least one must be from the Southern Zone; and at least three of the total number of directors must be from the Northern Zone at any given time. All qualified members, regardless of membership class as defined in TOC Bylaws, shall have the right to vote for nominees from both the owner and owner/trainer classes of members.

**To Qualify by Nomination:** Owners interested in serving on the board should submit a letter to the nominating committee by February 1, including the reasons for wishing to serve on the board, confirmation of eligibility for the board, and a biographical statement. If sent by mail, these materials should be addressed to the TOC Nominating Committee, 285 W. Huntington Dr., Arcadia, CA 91007, and postmarked by February 1. Those expressing interest will be informed of the committee's decision by March 1, with announcement of the nominees made soon thereafter.

**To Qualify by Petition:** Those seeking to run for the board through the Petition Process must qualify by obtaining 50 signatures from current TOC members supporting the candidacy on a petition issued by TOC. To obtain the petition form, contact TOC's Santa Anita office at (626) 574-6620. The deadline for filing a completed petition is March 1.

Ballots and candidate statements are mailed out to all TOC members on May 16. The postmark deadline for returned ballots is June 15, and the newly elected board members will take office on July 1.