



TOC

Thoroughbred Owners of California

Summer Newsletter

July 2023

Content	Pages
Chairman's Message	1-2
Board Election Results	2
Chairman's Award	3
2023 Del Mar Information	4-5
CARMathon	5
2023 CARF Information	6
Summer Events	7
TOC Horseplayer Tour	8
Statistics	9



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

BY GARY FENTON

Del Mar's Opening Day is here. It should be a great day showcasing the very best of California Racing. But....with The Stronach Group's announcement of Golden Gate Fields closing, obviously this year's event will have some

unusual clouds hanging over it. We recognize this is a difficult time for many in our industry. The TOC cares deeply about our horsemen, horsewomen, our breeders and everyone who works in our ecosystem. We've already heard from many members, both in the north and south, and encourage anyone with comments or questions to reach out to us, as our doors are always open.

While sudden and jarring, the news was not completely unexpected. TSG has warned stakeholders for some time that if the economic situation didn't change up north, it would shutter the racetrack. Our membership has heeded similar warnings and taken actions akin to TSG.

With the current situation, the structure in California must be modified. This creates a golden opportunity to make California racing better. We have the chance now to revitalize our ecosystem. We have a resilient community, and throughout the last decade, California has endured and grown stronger. Today is no exception.

In the upcoming days, the TOC will convene with stakeholders, and together, map out a post GGF future for consideration by our membership. Hard choices will need to be made, and we seemingly must address a fundamental question: Should California continue to maintain a two-

Continued on Page 2

NOV 3 & 4 **BREEDERS' CUP** SANTA ANITA

THE BREEDERS' CUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
 November 3-4, 2023, Santa Anita Park, Arcadia, CA
 \$31 million in purses and awards
 \$1.3 million in undercard purses
 Two Golden State Juvenile series races

Participating undercard horsemen will receive complimentary race day seating and parking.

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circuit economic model? TSG's announcement emphasized the need to increase resources down south to prevent a similar fate for Santa Anita Park. On the other side, CARF has come out to advocate for themselves to be the new year round track operator in the north. Their initial plan includes finding funds to build a turf course and running dates at Sacramento. A similar option being pitched has a new non-profit third party track operator applying for the GGF dates, which would help keep balance and prevent a monopoly by one track operator.

As you can see, there is a lot to unpack here – and nothing should be off the table. Keep in mind, for any of this to happen, it appears current horse racing law will need to be revised, which likely will need consensus by all stakeholders. This community has come together before, and we remain hopeful with the right plan we can ensure the future of California Racing for years to come.

TOC ELECTS FIVE BOARD MEMBERS



TOC's membership elected Gary Barber, Gary Fenton, Terry Lovingier, Tim Cohen and Matt Dohman to its Board of Directors. All five were elected to three-year terms. The new board officially takes office on July 1st.

A total of 5,956 ballots were mailed out to eligible voters, and 1,161 qualifying ballots were received. The complete vote tally is available for viewing [here](#).

As members recognized, due to an unfortunate error, this year's election ballots failed to designate the "incumbent" candidates in possible violation of TOC guidelines and California election laws which ensure the accurate designation of candidates in order that an informed electorate may intelligently elect one or more of the candidates.

Staff and the TOC board discussed the issue with outside counsel and alerted the candidates of the error in an attempt to resolve the matter in an equitable fashion to all candidates. When no unanimous resolution could be reached between the candidates, the TOC board decided that it was in the best interest of the organization and membership to continue with the election as is.

The newly elected Directors join Nick Alexander, Joe Ciaglia, Rick Gold, Ryan Hanson, Stephanie Hronis, Lindsay LaRoche, Bob Liewald, Ed Moger, Samantha Siegel and Johnny Taboada in comprising TOC's 2023-24 Board. Richard Rosenberg, a former board member of the CHRB, has agreed to stay on with the organization as an appointed member of the Integrity & Safety and Wagering Committees for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Current TOC bylaws require that at least three board members be from Northern California. Representing Northern California on the Board are Taboada, Moger and LaRoche. TOC bylaws require at least two and no more than six owner-trainers on the board, and representing the owner-trainer seats are Hanson and Moger.

Mike Pegram to Receive TOC Chairman's Award



Mike Pegram has been selected by the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) to receive the 2022 Ed Friendly Industry Service Award, also known as the Chairman's Award. The award is presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions and service in the Thoroughbred racing industry. Among former recipients are some of the most prominent names in California racing, including Mace Siegel, John Harris, Bob and Beverly Lewis, Jerry and Ann Moss, and Clement Hirsch.

Pegram served on the TOC board from 2010 to 2019 and as Chairman of the Board from 2012 to 2016. During his tenure as chairman, he successfully steered the organization through tumultuous times, leaving TOC in a strong operational and financial position. He was incredibly committed to the future of our racetracks, our purse structure, and the health of our sport.

In 2010, TOC successfully supported passage of SB 1072, which provided for a takeout increase with all of the additional revenue going to purses. Over the next several years, Pegram led the board in fending off attacks from within the industry to repeal or modify the legislation, standing firm in his commitment to protect the 1072 purse contributions, which have since provided tens of millions in much needed purses to California horsemen.

Widely known for being one of the friendliest and most fun-loving horsemen in the sport, Pegram credits much of his success in racing to the fact that he put his trust in long-time trainer Bob Baffert, who Pegram supplied with many of the trainer's biggest stars.

Pegram has campaigned many outstanding runners, including champions Real Quiet and Silverbulletday, and Dubai World Cup winner Captain Steve. He has also campaigned many graded stakes runners with his two longtime partners, Karl Watson and Paul Weitman, including champion sprinter Midnight Lute, champion Lookin At Lucky, Cave Rock, Hoppertunity, Pretty N Cool, Midnight Lucky, Fiftyshadesofhay, Executiveprivilege, and Coil.

"Mike is an exceptional leader who continues to make a lasting impact on both this organization and California racing," said TOC Chairman Gary Fenton. "His dedication, hard work, and commitment are an inspiration to all of us, and we are proud to honor him with this well-deserved award."

Pegram will be recognized at TOC's Southern California Annual Meeting at Del Mar on August 12th.

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TOC NTRA QR CODE



Summer is upon us and that means – for the 84th time – Del Mar and its turf and surf is here, full of all its fresh fun, lots of sun and a race meet that has become the most highly anticipated in the west.

The 31-day session – starting on July 21 and running through September 10 – will once again offer the highest purses ever paid out at a California stopover, this time likely to go past \$870,000 per afternoon throughout the eight-week session.

Further, the racing headquarters first brought to life back in 1937 by entertainment icon Bing Crosby and a bunch of his Hollywood pals, again will present a robust stakes schedule filled with 39 major offerings worth \$8,275,000. Highlighting that department will be Grade I, \$1,000,000 FanDuel Racing Pacific Classic planned for Saturday, September 2 during Labor Day weekend.

Pacific Classic Day once more will feature a sparkling five-graded-stakes afternoon that will include the Grade II, \$300,000 Del Mar Handicap and the Grade II, \$300,000 Del Mar Mile.

All told, the track has slated six Grade I races during its stand, as well as six Breeders' Cup "Win & You're In" test that each guarantee their winners a spot in the starting gate for their major counterparts during the two-day, \$28 million end-of-season championship spectacular that will be held this year at Santa Anita.

The shore oval's dynamic racing office pairing of executive vice president for racing Tom Robbins and vice president and racing secretary David Jerkens are justly proud of their keystone offerings.

"We've got a stakes program this summer that mirrors our record program of last year," Jerkens says. "We've made a couple of very minor tweaks, but otherwise it's the same offerings at the same values that our horsemen and women found so pleasing last year."

Additionally, the racing duo are proud to boast once again their popular and highly effective "Ship & Win" program, back for its 13th season. The unique incentive arrangement, which has drawn over 2,000 out-of-state horses to Del Mar over the course of its existence, will offer a \$5,000 first-start bonus and a 50% purse supplement to its dirt runners, as well as a \$4,000 fee and a 40% bonus to grass competitors. Interestingly, approximately 70% of the "S & W" runners who come to race at the seaside headquarters are locally owned and the majority of them stay on to race in California year round.

Further still, the racing office will continue with its successful Maiden Allowance Bonus purses program that adds 25% in purse earnings to runners who hail from barns that have no more than 60 horses stabled in Southern California. The bonus holds true for dirt competitors in maiden allowance races, all California-bred maiden allowances and any maiden-claiming race at the \$62,500 level or above.

Continued on Page 5

2023 Del Mar Information, Cont.

The track has raised its maiden allowance purses for the year to a California record \$82,000. Its 25% maiden bonus elevates that purse to \$102,500.

“We’ve got a bunch of positives working for us at Del Mar,” Robbins notes. “We’ve been building on them and continue to do so. It provokes a marvelous ripple effect that sees our horseplayers strongly engaged, which in turn means our horsemen and women see upgraded purses and in the end it all leads to first-class racing.”

The track will add yet another constructive addition to its roster this year when it begins a program to provide a wholesome and hearty dinner to backstretch employees on all racing days throughout the summer. Those who work directly with the horses – grooms, exercise riders, hot walkers – will be offered a free family-style meal in the track kitchen provided by Del Mar with the aid of California Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Foundation, the Oak Tree Racing Association and one of the track’s major bettors. Approximately 1,000 workers will be eligible for the new perk.

Racing will begin with a three-day weekend (Friday through Sunday, July 21, 22, 23), then switch into the usual four-days-a-week pattern (Thursday through Sunday) over the next seven weeks with a racing Monday thrown into the mix for Labor Day on September 4. The meet will conclude with a Friday through Sunday race-to-the-finish on September 8, 9 and 10.

Racing programs are projected to present eight races on most Thursdays and Fridays, then either nine, 10 or 11 races on most Saturdays and Sundays.

First post daily to start the season is 2 p.m. on nearly all days with the exception of Friday’s 4 p.m. start. That schedule shifts slightly as the season goes along and the easiest way to confirm a start time is by going to dmtc.com.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club F&B Vouchers

Licensed owners can purchase \$300 of vouchers for \$200 once a week or a \$30 voucher for \$20 each day. Vouchers may be used for any food and beverage from a Del Mar vendor. The frontside racing office will handle the transaction.




A CARMAcres Fundraiser

In Support of Thoroughbred Aftercare

CARMATHON 2023

SATURDAY AUGUST 26TH 2023

JOIN US LIVE ON:  

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CARMA OWN • RACE • RETIRE

CARMA (California Retirement Management Account) proudly announces the return of its highly anticipated annual online fundraiser. Building on the remarkable success of previous years, CARMATHon aims to raise \$150,000 to support retired racehorses and fund essential aftercare programs.

Donations for CARMATHon can be made on the CARMA website from Monday, August 7th, through Saturday, August 26th.

For more information, click here or contact Lucinda Lovitt at (626) 574-6622 or lucinda@carma4horses.org.

2023 CARF Information

By Wayne Atwell

Summer is here which means Fair racing is in full swing in Northern California. This is a great time to rekindle old friendships, create new friendships, or enjoy exciting racing at various venues in northern California. On a personal note, this year is my 51st year at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton and it's always so much fun to attend each and every year.

Like many years since I was a child, as I make the walk from the Pleasanton horsemen's parking lot, through the tunnel and admission gates, and into the fair, hearing the children's screams from the rides or laughter from the pig races on the right, or seeing the animals on the left, it feels like a homecoming of sorts as I approach the grandstands seeing so many friends that have not been seen since last year.

This year, the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF), added two thoroughbred stakes races to their stakes schedule for a total of nine stakes races. The new stakes additions were the Mary Clare Schmitt Pleasanton Oaks for Cal-bred three-year-old fillies and the Pleasanton Mile for three-year-olds and up for a record purse of \$150,000. Shippers from southern California won both of the big races with the talented filly Tom's Regret winning the Oaks and the Doug O'Neill-trained Katonah winning the Mile. It was good so see FanDuel TV on site for closing day.

TOC scheduled two 'Essentials of Thoroughbred Ownership' seminars this year at the Fairs. The first was held on June 22nd at Pleasanton. Guests heard from knowledgeable and experienced speakers on various topics in racing including the thoroughbred ownership experience, acquiring thoroughbreds, race-day insights from a trainer and jockey perspective, and thoroughbred aftercare. The second seminar is scheduled for August 19th at Ferndale, and we look forward to seeing you there.

I know many TOC members have a favorite story about the Fairs whether it is at Pleasanton, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Ferndale, or Fresno. If you have a fun story you would like to share on how the Fairs connected you to racing, please send it to me at watwell@toconline.com.

Leading Owners - 2023 YTD

Golden Gate Fields Meet December 26 to June 11, 2023

Most Starts

1	Larry D. Williams and Marianne Williams	75
2	Rozamund Barclay	62
3	Steve Moger	52
4	Nancy Salas-Ibarra and Floriberta Trujillo	51
5	Timothy Francis O'Leary	50

Most Wins

1	Larry D. Williams and Marianne Williams	15
2	Johnny Taboada	14
3	Gray Farms Inc.	12
4	Ronald L. Charles and Samuel Gordon	11
5	Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC	10

Most Earnings

1	Larry D. Williams and Marianne Williams	\$444,724
2	Nicholas B. Alexander	\$262,756
3	Ronald L. Charles and Samuel Gordon	\$260,000
4	Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC	\$245,298
5	Johnny Taboada	\$223,168

Santa Anita Park Meet April 21 to June 18, 2023

Most Starts

1	Reddam Racing LLC	38
2	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC	30
3	Hronis Racing LLC	30
4	Les Blake	30
5	Nicholas B. Alexander	22

Most Wins

1	Reddam Racing LLC	7
2	Hronis Racing LLC	5
3	Michael E. Pegram, Karl Watson and Paul Weitman	4
4	Calvin Nguyen and Joey C. Tran	4
5	Les Blake	4

Most Earnings

1	Michael E. Pegram, Karl Watson and Paul Weitman	\$509,200
2	Reddam Racing LLC	\$428,232
3	C R K Stable LLC	\$385,880
4	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC	\$365,020
5	R Unicorn Stable	\$300,000

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

SUMMER EVENTS

TOBA

CLINICS & SEMINARS

Always educational ... Always fun

NEW OWNER & BREEDER SEMINAR

JULY 28

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club – Del Mar, California

Visit toba.org to register today!

OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON MEMBERS

- Learn about Thoroughbred ownership from the top officials and professionals in the industry.
- Gain insight and perspective from Flightline ownership members Kosta and Stephanie Hronis and joined by John Sadler.
- Go inside Thoroughbred Partnerships with Founder and Managing Partner of Little Red Feather Racing, Billy Koch.
- Get an up-close tour of multiple Kentucky Derby winning trainer Doug O'Neill's barn.
- Enjoy a Day at the Races, Compliments of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

Contact Barkley Porter at barkley@toba.org or call (859) 276-6793 | (859) 327-4060

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NEWS AND NOTES



Follow us on social media and subscribe to our email list to receive the latest TOC news.



SOUTHERN CA ANNUAL MEETING

2023

sponsored by



Join us for breakfast and the opportunity to network with fellow TOC members!

TOC board members will be present for a Q&A session and Owner Awards winners will be honored.

Veranda Café
August 12 - 8:30am

Owner APPRECIATION DAY

brought to you by



Enjoy an afternoon with live music and fellow owners at this social event!

Snacks and beverages will be served.

Plaza de Mexico Fountain
August 13 - 3:30pm

Essentials of Thoroughbred Ownership

Learn all there is to know about ownership at our upcoming seminar.

Humboldt County Fairgrounds
August 19 - 12:30pm



SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual Women's Luncheon

August 24

Featuring horseplayers Judy Wagner & Alexa Zepp

sponsored by



Lunch & Horseplayers Contest Included

Proceeds benefit CTHF

[Click to Register for TOC's Events](#)



TOC Horseplayer Tour

Free to TOC Members

Contest Dates:

- Contest 1 - [Results](#)
- Contest 2 - [Results](#)
- Contest 3 - July 21 – DMTC - [Contest Link](#)
- Contest 4 - August 12 – Del Mar Thoroughbred Club
- Contest 5 - Sept 2 – Del Mar Thoroughbred Club
- Contest 6 - October 21 – Golden Gate Fields
- FINAL CONTEST - December 26 – Santa Anita Park

Brought to you by:



\$1,000,000 BONUS

To the designated winner of the 2023 TOC Handicapping Tour should they go on to win the 2024 National Handicapping Championship in Las Vegas. Terms & Conditions Apply



[Learn More](#)



Our mission is to preserve and protect California's vibrant equestrian culture by bringing together equine industry leaders, workers, families and fans.

Stop by the California Horse Power Coalition table in the Clubhouse Entryway on opening day at Del Mar (11:30am to 3:30pm) to learn more about our initiatives!

Sign up for email updates and CHPC newsletters here. (add link!)

Remember to complete the American Horse Council National Economic Impact Study, which is open through September 29:

[Horse Owner Survey](#)

[Horse Industry Supplier Survey](#)

[Learn More About The Economic Impact Study](#)



STATISTICS

U.S. Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator	Jun-23	Jun-22	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$934,855,612	\$974,337,208	-4.05%
U.S. Purses	\$110,957,092	\$115,387,638	-3.84%
U.S. Race Days	388	428	-9.35%

Indicator	YTD-2023	YTD- 2022	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$6,074,478,517	\$6,262,619,225	-3.00%
U.S. Purses	\$598,797,368	\$588,728,263	1.71%
U.S. Race Days	1,861	1,929	-3.53%

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

California Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator	Jun-23	Jun-22	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$113,377,345	\$106,843,682	6.12%
CA Purses*	\$8,043,900	\$8,126,000	-1.01%
CA Race Days	25	23	8.70%

Indicator	YTD-2023	YTD-2023	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$779,698,969	\$833,034,841	-6.40%
CA Purses*	\$57,551,600	\$59,929,600	-3.97%
CA Race Days	152	155	-1.94%

*Figures for wagering on CA races are from all locations ADW and Brick and Mortar on the CA live Thoroughbred races Total Purses Generated. All Data from CHRIMS.

CA Purses Generated are TOTAL all source purses generated and do not directly correlate to the handle figure, wagering on CA Races.

Track Reports (Purse Generation)

Santa Anita - Classic Meet & Hollywood - Total Purse Revenue Generated - Total Revenue Producing Handle

Dec 21, 2022 ~ Jun 21, 2023	2023	2022	Difference	% Difference
Total Purses Generated	\$37,572,639	\$39,624,304	-\$2,051,664	-5.2%
Average Purses Generated Per Race Day	\$873,782	\$808,659	\$65,123	8.1%
Total Revenue-Producing Handle	\$964,583,206	\$1,010,550,865	-\$45,967,659	-4.5%
Average Handle Per Race Day	\$22,432,168	\$20,623,487	\$1,808,681	8.8%
Race Days	43	49	-6	-12.2%

Golden Gate - Winter/Spring Meet - Total Purse Revenue Generated - Total Revenue Producing Handle

Dec 21, 2022 ~ Jun 13, 2023	2023	2022	Difference	% Difference
Total Purses Generated	\$14,181,338	\$14,999,741	-\$818,403	-5.5%
Average Purses Generated Per Race Day	\$301,731	\$312,495	-\$10,764	-3.4%
Total Revenue-Producing Handle	\$325,481,397	\$343,401,340	-\$17,919,943	-5.2%
Average Handle Per Race Day	\$6,925,136	\$7,154,195	-\$229,058	-3.2%
Race Days	47	48	-1	-2.1%

*Data from CHRIMS

Handle & Purse Generation include all ADW and Brick & Mortar wagering for both exports and imports.