



# Fall Newsletter

October 2023

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY BILL NADER

Earlier this month, I completed my first full year as President of the TOC. It has been filled with ups and downs, but also a consistent reminder that California horse racing is something special. From the fairs in northern California to

the upcoming Breeders' Cup at Santa Anita and everything in between, horse racing provides lifestyle and sporting entertainment for families, friends and fun-seeking people that create lasting memories.

We are in the process of updating the economic impact, employment numbers and benefits to agriculture and tourism with the help of the American Horse Council. And maybe the greatest contribution of California horse racing is the ongoing development of great horses, horse owners, trainers, jockeys and talented horse people that add to our legacy year after year. To have California-based and California-bred horses playing such an integral part of the Breeders' Cup World Championships at our magnificent California racetracks - Santa Anita and Del Mar - is a perfect illustration of our excellence.

As we look to the future, the imminent challenge is the restructuring of California racing after the announced closing of Golden Gate Fields, which recently agreed to extend its calendar to June of next year to allow for an easier transition. This provides the normal pathway for the northern California fairs to take up their customary position in 2024.

The big question for the north is what happens after Golden Gate closes its doors in June and Fresno wraps up the fair

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NOV 3 & 4

BREEDERS' CUP

SANTA ANITA

**BREEDERS' CUP**

**WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

14 Grade I Championship Races

\$31 Million in Purses and Awards

It's time to take your place among the world's greats. Pre-entry for the 2023 Breeders' Cup World Championships opens online Oct. 1 and closes at Noon (PDT), on Monday, Oct. 23. All Breeders' Cup World Championships races are non-invitational and are open to all thoroughbreds.

Purses and awards total \$31 million and each race pays through the 10th finish position! Each Breeders' Cup starter receives a travel award up to \$10,000 for North American horses and \$40,000 for international horses shipping into California.

Participants experience exclusive world-class hospitality on racing's biggest stage, including the best seats, hotel accommodations, executive car service, and invitations to private events.

To find out more, visit [members.breederscup.com](https://members.breederscup.com) or contact the Breeders' Cup Racing Department.

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[RACING@BREEDERSCUP.COM](mailto:RACING@BREEDERSCUP.COM)

# President's Message, Cont.

circuit in mid-October. What next? We are in search of a suitable racetrack and viable business plan for the “northern circuit.” There has been some progress to date with Los Alamitos stepping forward to be part of revamped “northern circuit” in Orange County.

Without any sustainable plan coming from a racetrack operator in the north, the south is now working diligently on a detailed scenario plan to expand racing opportunities at Santa Anita and Los Alamitos to accommodate horses currently based in the northern region of the state as well as the preservation of the northern California fair circuit. Los Alamitos has pledged its support in playing a supporting role in the potential transition of horses from north to south. The aim is to develop a comprehensive plan soon. In the meantime, we remain open to any proposals that might prove viable over an extended calendar in the north. By our estimation, final decisions regarding future race dates and the “new” California should be decided no later than January of next year.

On the legislative front, all corners of the industry responded quickly to reach consensus agreement and successfully amend AB1074 within a very tight timeframe. On September 30, Governor Newsom signed the bill. Consensus approval from all key industry stakeholders was instrumental in the fast track to success. Here is what you need to know.

## THE MAIN POINTS IN THE AMENDED LEGISLATION ARE:

If the CHRB does not license a thoroughbred race meet in the north after July 1, 2024, the thoroughbred racing association or racing fair licensed in the south will receive the distributions of wagering from the north during designated (dark) weeks. The amounts received for purses and commissions will be used to pay simulcast funding requirements and CHRB support and remaining funds, if any, will be distributed to the racing associations and fairs in the south proportionately based on respective handle during the previous fiscal year.

Regulatory support comes at a cost of approximately \$17 to \$18 million per year. Most of this cost is absorbed by the south while the number of races and starts across the two regions is nearly equal. This is due to regulatory and legislative rules developed at a time when the fair and equitable share was relatively even. This is one example of how the south has recently subsidized the north. Another example is the free exchange of simulcast signals from one region to the other. With the closing of Golden Gate next year, it results in a straight-up (free) trade of simulcast wagering rights for racing conducted at Santa Anita, Del Mar and Los Alamitos to the north in exchange for racing held at Pleasanton, Cal Expo, Santa Rosa, Ferndale and Fresno. As we look at restructuring, it is important to consider these economics. What once was a fair and equitable deal between north and south members has deteriorated over the last decade and any restructuring will need to consider a reset of industry overhead costs.

Last, but not least, a list of improvements that will take place at Santa Anita was announced with the news that Golden

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# President's Message, Cont.

Gate would close. TOC is actively engaged with The Stronach Group ("TSG") to help facilitate the improvements. The first notable change of the \$30 million-plus investment plan will be a new Tapeta training track, which, according to TSG, is scheduled to be ready during the early part of 2024. This will not only provide an additional option for horses to train, but also a reliable track to provide continuity during periods of wet weather. It also provides a familiar track surface for horses that may transition from the north. TSG also committed to a multi-year schedule of stable area upgrades to commence during the 2024 summer offseason.

As we work through the details that will define the restructuring of California horse racing, we will all pause during the first weekend of November to enjoy the Breeders' Cup World Championships at Santa Anita. The first race on Friday, November 3 is at 11:30 am and the first race on Saturday, November 4 is 10:10 am. The first Breeders' Cup race is carded as race 5 on Friday and race 3 on Saturday. There are 14 Breeders' Cup races over the two days.

## Breeders' Cup 2023



The Breeders' Cup World Championships return to Santa Anita Park Nov. 3-4 for a record 11th time as we celebrate our 40th running. We hope you will join us for this memorable milestone and a spectacular weekend of world-class racing.

There will be 22 races offered over Championships weekend, worth more than \$31 million in purses and awards. These include 14 Breeders' Cup World Championships, all grade 1 events, and eight undercard races worth \$1.35 million. We are pleased to offer the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance Stakes (G2) and the Twilight Derby (G2) as graded stakes on Saturday, along with the Qatar Golden Mile, Golden State Juvenile Fillies Stakes, the Senator Ken Maddy Stakes, and the Golden State Juvenile Stakes on Friday's card. Contact Jason Egan at Santa Anita Park (626) 574-6368 for more information on nominating and entering any of the supporting races for the Breeders' Cup.

Tickets are on sale and available via [www.Breederscup.com/tickets](http://www.Breederscup.com/tickets) or by calling (859) 422-2697. Seating will be held in reserve for owners, trainers, and breeders of horses competing in the World Championships. Feel free to contact our participant concierge team if any questions arise, [concierge@breederscup.com](mailto:concierge@breederscup.com) or (859) 422-2697. All undercard horsemen will also receive complimentary seating and parking for the day their horse runs. A reminder, CHRB licenses will not give access through the admission gates on Friday, Nov. 3 and Saturday, Nov. 4. All horsemen must have a ticketed seat, or a general admission pass to enter the racetrack through the admission gates.

Please visit our horsemen's website, [www.members.breederscup.com](http://www.members.breederscup.com), for more information regarding this year's event, and to view the 2023 Horsemen's Information Guide, which contains detailed information about participating on racing's biggest stage. Please let us know if you have any questions leading up to the Championships.

We wish you the best of racing luck and look forward to seeing you at Santa Anita!

Dora J. Delgado | Executive Vice President, Chief Racing Officer  
[dora@breederscup.com](mailto:dora@breederscup.com) | (859) 514-9422



# Northern CA Summer Highlights

By Wayne Atwell

This summer at the CARF Fairs, horse racing owners and enthusiasts were treated to another outstanding year of Fair racing. The Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) organized two educational “Essentials of Thoroughbred Ownership” seminars at Pleasanton and Ferndale. Attendees had the unique opportunity to gain insights into the world of thoroughbred ownerships, learning from firsthand experiences shared by seasoned owners, trainers, and jockeys. Engaging with the owners during the summer fairs is always a positive experience, emphasizing how horse racing is integrated in the communities involved.

One of the highlights of this summer of racing was the Pleasanton Mile, a \$150,000 stakes race held on closing day of the Pleasanton Fair. The race was ultimately won by Katonah, owned by R3 Racing LLC. There was a tremendous fan turnout, marking the first six-figures stakes race in CARF history. The excitement and support from the spectators and owners highlighted the passion for horse racing within the community. The Northern California Fair circuit concluded this year with Fresno Fair on October 15 and was highlighted with the \$75,000 Harris Farms (Cal-Bred) Stakes, won by William and Judy Hedrick's Clovisconnection, and the \$75,000 Bull Dog Stakes won by I'mgonnabesomebody for owner-trainer Bill McLean along with six partners.

The racing year will conclude with the Golden Gate Fields Fall meet which runs from October 20 through December 10. Nine stakes races are scheduled during the racing meet. Also scheduled is the Northern California TOC Annual Meeting on October 21 which features an award presentation honoring the Northern CA Rookie of the Year and complimentary buffet luncheon. Please register for this event [here](#).

## Leading Owners - 2023 YTD

### Del Mar Thoroughbred Club Meet July 21 to September 10, 2023

#### Most Starts

1 Reddam Racing LLC .....	49
2 Hronis Racing LLC .....	34
3 Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC .....	29
4 C R K Stable LLC .....	27
5 Les Blake .....	24

#### Most Wins

1 Reddam Racing LLC .....	6
2 Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC .....	5
3 Spendthrift Farm LLC .....	4
4 Hronis Racing LLC .....	4
5 Michael E. Pegram, Karl Watson and Paul Weitman .....	4
6 Rockingham Ranch .....	4
7 Michael Bello LLC and Charles Bartlett .....	4

#### Most Earnings

1 Reddam Racing LLC .....	\$758,492
2 Zedan Racing Stables, Inc. ....	\$713,200
3 Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC .....	\$387,200
4 Harris Farms, Inc. ....	\$381,400
5 Spendthrift Farm LLC .....	\$378,260

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

### Northern California Fairs June 14, 2023 to October 15, 2023

#### Most Starts

1 Alameda Fair at Pleaseanton .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	15
2 LA County Fair at Los Alamitos .....	Jesus J. Uranga .....	9
3 State Fair at Cal Expo .....	MJ Ranch .....	9
4 Sonoma Fair at Santa Rosa .....	Rozamund Barclay .....	8
5 Humboldt Fair at Ferndale .....	Leon Scott .....	12
6 Big Fresno Fair at Fresno .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	18

#### Most Wins

1 Alameda Fair at Pleaseanton .....	Larry D. Williams and Marianne Williams .....	3
2 LA County Fair at Los Alamitos .....	Jesus J. Uranga .....	3
3 State Fair at Cal Expo .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	3
4 Sonoma Fair at Santa Rosa .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	2
5 Humboldt Fair at Ferndale .....	Leon Scott .....	4
6 Big Fresno Fair at Fresno .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	5

#### Most Earnings

1 Alameda Fair at Pleaseanton .....	R3 Racing LLC .....	\$90,000
2 LA County Fair at Los Alamitos .....	Baoma Corp .....	\$120,000
3 State Fair at Cal Expo .....	Andy Smolich and Rob Smolich .....	\$45,000
4 Sonoma Fair at Santa Rosa .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	\$39,900
5 Humboldt Fair at Ferndale .....	Leon Scott .....	\$37,113
6 Big Fresno Fair at Fresno .....	Taboada Racing Stables LLC .....	\$80,160





## The Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show: From Racehorse to Sport Horse

By Lucinda Lovitt, CARMA's Executive Director

The Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show (TCHS) is gearing up for its much-anticipated holiday show this year, set to take place on December 9-10 at the renowned Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Drawing equine enthusiasts and industry professionals alike, this event promises to showcase the unparalleled versatility of the Thoroughbred breed, all in the heart of Southern California's equestrian hub.

The inception of the TCHS Series was about more than just creating another horse show series—it was about creating a space specifically for OTTBs where they, with their owners, could confidently step into the show ring. Rooted in a desire to increase interest in OTTB's, the series provides an affordable and supportive environment, ensuring that both the Thoroughbreds and their riders feel acknowledged and celebrated.

Set against the backdrop of a world-class venue, the TCHS offers an extensive competition roster. From Hunters, Jumpers, and Dressage to Combined Training, Western, and Showmanship – there is something for everyone. Through this showcase, the equestrian community and general public can witness firsthand how, with the right training and support, Thoroughbreds can switch disciplines and compete at high levels in their second career.



Spectators are welcome at our event, and admission is free!

### TCHS's Contribution to Thoroughbred Aftercare

TCHS plays a pivotal role in reshaping perceptions of retired racehorses. By showcasing the versatility of Thoroughbreds in various equestrian disciplines beyond racing, TCHS dispels the myth that their previous racing careers limit their potential. This not only elevates the appeal of these horses in the equestrian world but also offers racehorse owners added assurance that there are welcoming homes and opportunities for their horses post-racing, ensuring a beneficial transition for these athletes.

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TCHS Horse Show 2022  
Photo Credit Brandy Yi

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Support the Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show (TCHS) and play a pivotal role in raising awareness for retired racehorses. As a sponsor, your brand gains visibility within a passionate equestrian community while directly contributing to the impactful cause of thoroughbred aftercare. Join us in championing the versatility of the Thoroughbred breed—partner with TCHS today! Visit [thoroughbredclassic.org/sponsors](https://thoroughbredclassic.org/sponsors) or contact [lucinda@carma4horses.org](mailto:lucinda@carma4horses.org) for more information.

## About CARMA

California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) is a 501c3 non-profit organization founded in 2007 to raise money for retired racehorses. It is responsible for hosting fundraising events, educating owners and trainers on equine retirement, raising awareness, and working to unify the racing industry in support of its equine athletes. Ways in which this is accomplished include facilitating the transition of racehorses off the track through its Placement Program and showcasing the breed's versatility as equestrian mounts at its Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show.

Learn More: [Carma4horses.org](https://Carma4horses.org)

An important function of TCHS is increasing interest in Thoroughbreds and dissolving the stigma that previous racing careers create limits from competition. In so doing, it creates more homes ready to take horses retiring off the track which helps aftercare.

**Join us**  
**Fashionable Fillies**

**Wednesday, November 1**  
**3:30 pm - 5:30 pm**  
The Chandelier Room at Santa Anita Park  
for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, shopping & live music

**R&VP**  
**\$125 Per Ticket**  
**[Tinyurl.com/FFBC2023](https://Tinyurl.com/FFBC2023)**  
Please respond by October 27  
Sponsorships Available

**Contact**  
**Shannon Kelly**  
Executive Director  
(212) 521-5327  
[skelly@jockeyclub.com](mailto:skelly@jockeyclub.com)

 **Safety Net Foundation**  
[tjcfoundation.org](https://tjcfoundation.org)



NORTHERN CA

# 2023

ANNUAL MEETING

sponsored by



A CURRENT CHRB LICENSE IS  
REQUIRED FOR RESERVATIONS.

Saturday, October 21

10:00 AM

## Golden Gate Fields - Bay View Lounge

All TOC members are invited to the Northern California Annual Meeting. The general business meeting will allow directors an opportunity to bring the membership up to date on important issues and will include a question-and-answer session.

An award presentation will also be made to the winner of the Northern CA Rookie of the Year. Following the meeting, a complimentary buffet luncheon will be served.

[Click to Register](#)

# TOC Horseplayer Tour

Free to TOC Members

Contest Dates:

Contest 6 - October 21 -- [Contest Link](#)  
FINAL CONTEST - December 26 -- Santa Anita Park

[Contest Results](#)

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](#)



## TOC partnered with Del Mar Thoroughbred Club to host an Owner Appreciation Reception for the third year in a row.

On August 13, over 100 owners and guests gathered at the Plaza de Mexico Fountain to enjoy the last few races together with drinks and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Attendees left with their choice to receive a TOC tote bag or cooler.

We are grateful to the TOC members for their year round support of California racing and look forward to seeing you at the next one.

Thank you to DMTC for their generous hospitality.





# STATISTICS

## U.S Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator (September)	Sep-23	Sep-22	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$880,632,380	\$935,580,978	-5.87%
U.S. Purses Available	\$133,995,302	\$138,305,022	-3.12%
U.S. Race Days	374	404	-7.43%
Indicator (Year-to-Date)	YTD-2023	YTD- 2022	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$9,129,984,403	\$9,536,655,717	-4.26%
U.S. Purses	\$989,057,359	\$982,036,590	0.71%
U.S. Race Days	3,067	3,223	-4.84%

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

## California Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator (September)	Sep-23	Sep-22	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$156,249,831	\$164,046,581	-4.75%
CA Purses*	\$12,801,600	\$12,562,200	1.91%
CA Race Days	28	30	-6.67%
Indicator (Year-to-Date)	YTD-2023	YTD-2022	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$1,276,710,180	\$1,379,005,522	-7.42%
CA Purses*	\$92,506,000	\$95,242,300	-2.87%
CA Race Days	237	247	-4.05%

\*Figures for wagering on CA races are from all locations - ADW and Brick and Mortar - on CA live Thoroughbred races

## Track Reports (Purse Generation)

### Del Mar Summer - Total Purse Revenue Generated - Total Revenue Producing Handle

Jul 12, 2023 ~ Sep 12, 2023	2023	2022	Difference	% Difference
Total Purses Generated	\$20,350,858	\$21,656,044	-\$1,305,187	-6.0%
Average Purses Generated Per Day	\$678,362	\$698,582	-\$20,220	-2.9%
Total Revenue-Producing Handle	\$499,826,228	\$553,132,510	-\$53,306,283	-9.6%
*Average Handle Per Day	\$16,660,874	\$17,842,984	-\$1,182,110	-6.6%
Average Handle Per Day (Del Mar Only)	\$12,506,593	\$13,565,563	-\$1,058,969	-7.8%
Race Days	30	31	-1	-3.2%

### Summer Fairs - Total Purse Revenue Generated - Total Revenue Producing Handle

Jun 14, 2023 ~ Aug 29, 2023	2023	2022	Difference	% Difference
Total Purses Generated	\$3,844,809	\$4,450,634	-\$605,825	-13.6%
Average Purses Generated Per Day	\$120,150	\$127,161	-\$7,011	-5.5%
Total Revenue-Producing Handle	\$95,485,839	\$101,595,488	-\$6,109,649	-6.0%
*Average Handle Per Day	\$2,983,932	\$2,902,728	\$81,204	2.8%
Race Days	32	35	-3	-8.6%

Data from CHRIMS

\*Handle & Purse Generation include all ADW and Brick & Mortar wagering for both Exports and Imports on all races.