NOTICE OF MEETING
BY TELECONFERENCE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB/Board) will be held on Monday, July 20, 2020, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19481.7 (c)(2), commencing at 9:30 A.M. via teleconference. The audio portion only of the California Horse Racing Board special meeting will be available online through a link at the CHRB website (www.chrb.ca.gov) under “Webcasts.”

Please be advised, in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, the CHRB will provide a teleconference option for its upcoming public meeting, to be held on July 20, 2020. Board members and members of the public are strongly encouraged to participate using the teleconference phone number provided below so as to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the risk of infection during this current state of emergency. No physical location will be provided.

To participate in the teleconference, dial 888-392-4564 and enter 4642216# when prompted.

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

AGENDA

Action Items:

1. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the Board’s action on July 10, 2020 to place on probation the license to conduct a horse race meet for the Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (QH) at Los Alamitos Race Course, running December 27, 2019 through December 22, 2020, pending a plan of action from the licensee to reduce fatalities, pursuant to CHRB Rule 1435.

Additional information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the CHRB Administrative Office, 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95825; telephone (916) 263-6000; fax (916) 263-6042. This notice is located on the CHRB website at www.chrb.ca.gov. *Information for requesting disability related accommodation for persons with a disability who require aid or services in order to participate in this public meeting, should contact Amanda Drummond. Requests will be swiftly resolved by CHRB staff.
CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD
Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, Chairman
Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair
Dennis Alfieri, Member
Damascus Castellanos, Member
Wendy Mitchell, Member
Alex Solis, Member
Scott Chaney, Executive Director
Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director

Date of Notice: July 10, 2020
LOS ALAMITOS
QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION

EQUINE & RIDER
SAFETY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Revised: July 17, 2020
Los Alamitos Race Course

INTRODUCTION

Los Alamitos whole-heartedly shares the Board’s commitment to improving the health and safety of each and every horse and rider participating in racing and training at our facility.

Since 2008, Los Alamitos has consistently and significantly reduced the frequency of equine fatalities at our facility. Those improvements were the product of conscious decisions and efforts to improve equine and human safety, and reflected Dr. Ed Allred’s personal commitment to the wellbeing of the horses and people who participate in racing at Los Alamitos.

While Los Alamitos’s concerted efforts over the years have reduced the rate of racing and training injuries experienced at the track, our management team has never been entirely satisfied with the progress made. As part of an ongoing commitment to improve safety at the facility, Los Alamito’s management continually evaluates operational changes aimed at enhancing equine and rider safety programs.

This Safety Enhancement Plan reflects a combination of independent internal efforts, and guidance obtained from the CHRB both during the July 10th hearing, and afterward. The Plan approaches these efforts in six phases:

1. Training Practices
2. Pre-Race Procedures
3. Entry Review Panel
4. Post Incident Assessments
5. Equine Illness & Recovery
6. Rules & Conditions

TRAINING PRACTICES

As the CHRB is aware, Los Alamitos Race Course (LARC) is a mixed breed racing and training facility. On average, there are approximately 750 Quarter Horses and 750 Thoroughbreds stabled on the grounds at any given time.

Training practices for the breeds differ significantly, with Quarter Horses typically training far less intensely than their Thoroughbred counterparts, including the frequency and intensity of their works.

Based on data maintained by LARC and that obtained from the CHRB, LARC understands that 2 of the 9 training fatalities occurring in FY 2019/2020 involved Quarter Horses, with the balance identified as involving Thoroughbreds.

Increased Observation

Currently, during training hours, the racing associations operating race meets at LARC employ four experienced outriders and horseman who are all on the track observing horses. They communicate by radio to one another and the track veterinarian as to any horse deemed by an outrider to be traveling in an unusual manner or with altered gait. That information is relayed to the horse's trainer, the barn’s veterinarian, and the track veterinarian.

Based on Commissioners’ comments at the hearing, Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (LAQHRA) understood the CHRB to believe that these practices should be supplemented by the addition of an additional ‘set of eyes’; i.e., a qualified dedicated observer who would also observe horses exiting and entering the track for training, for the purpose of identifying any horse exhibiting signs suggesting unsoundness or other concerns.

Based on that guidance, for that purpose:

• One (1) qualified veterinarian will be added to racing association staffing each
morning the track is open as a dedicated roving observer of horses in training, while entering, exiting, or on the track; and,

- One (1) qualified track-appointed ‘Security Steward’ will be employed to monitor and patrol the LARC backstretch, for the specific purpose of observing veterinary and barn practices, on an unscheduled, daily basis.

The observing veterinarian shall have the authority to inquire of the rider, handler(s), and/or trainer of any horse entering, exiting, or otherwise utilizing the track surface at LARC for the purpose of determining the name, age, attending veterinarian, owner(s), and such other information related to that horse deemed necessary or pertinent by the observing veterinarian to sufficiently identify the condition of the horse, and/or the connections and contacts for further communications/inquiries as to the perceived and/or actual fitness or soundness of that horse.

The ‘Security Steward’ shall have the authority to inquire of any trainer, attending veterinarian, rider, and/or handler(s) of any horse stabled on or transported to the backstretch areas of LARC for the purpose of determining the name, age, attending veterinarian, owner(s), and such other information related to that horse deemed necessary or pertinent by the Security Steward to sufficiently identify the condition of the horse, the nature of any treatment, feed, or supplement being provided or administered to a horse or horses within a trainer’s barn, and/or the connections and contacts for further communications/inquiries.

Qualifying Examinations for Initial Starts

For Quarter Horses qualifying for their initial start, LAQHRA will require trainers to submit a completed Qualifying Examination Form, signed by the trainer and their attending veterinarian, attesting that: (1) the horse is in a serviceable, sound condition suitable for training, working, and/or racing at LARC; and, (2) that it has worked twice, completing the designated distance within the designated time.

PRE-RACE PROCEDURES

Training practices for the breeds differ significantly, with Quarter Horses typically training far less intensely than their Thoroughbred counterparts, including the frequency and intensity of their works.

Recognizing those differences, and assuming entries have been suitably, professionally trained and treated by the licensed trainer and attending veterinarian, the following Pre-Race Procedures shall be implemented and apply to every trainer stabled at and entry accepted by a racing association:

1. Trainers and their attending veterinarians shall be required to sign immediately Los Alamitos Race Course’s Rule and Conditions for Racing and Training (below).

2. Trainer shall not work or enter a horse in any race UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer’s Attending Veterinarian during the specified days immediately preceding the work or race entry day for the express purpose of evaluating the horse’s soundness to work or race; and (3) the horse has been found sound to work or race by the Attending Veterinarian.

3. The attending veterinarian and trainer are obligated to inform the examining veterinarians of any changes in the horse’s fitness and/or soundness after entry and before race day.

4. At the trainer/owner’s expense, the CHRB Official or Track Veterinarian may require diagnostic imaging of any horse stabled at LARC in order to confirm/determine the horse’s soundness/fitness to train, enter to race, or race, or for purposes of determining a horse’s eligibility to come off of the Vet’s List.

5. Trainer shall not enter in any race: a Thoroughbred that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 5
A horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 220 yards in 0:13.2 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.

6. In addition, a horse that is an un-started 4 year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days, or horses that have not raced within 120 days but have raced within 365 days are required to have an examination performed by a regulatory veterinarian within 30 days prior to entry.

7. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection during the Fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the race.

8. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection of cortisone into the fetlock joints within the previous thirty (30) days immediately preceding the race.

9. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received more than two intra-articular injection of cortisone into same intra-articular space within the previous sixty (60) days immediately preceding the race.

10. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer’s care to participate in a timed workout if the horse receives NSAIDs during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the workout.

11. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer’s care to participate in a race if the horse receives a NSAID during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the race or has been treated with a second NSAID that could appear in a post-work or post-race blood or urine test.

Each racing association conducting a live race meet LARC shall make available to horsemen a list of licensed veterinarians, and their contact information, available on designated days for 24-hour emergency calls, when the barn’s attending veterinarian cannot be reached.

**ENTRY REVIEW PANEL**

LAQHRA shall form an “Entry Review Panel,” comprised of the entry steward, a qualified designee of management, and the Track or CHRB Official Veterinarian.

The Panel will review race entries, and based on information deemed of concern to the Panel, in its discretion, may request either the entry of a horse be refused or such entry scratched by the Stewards, in accord with CHRB Rules 1542 and 1580, should any member of the Panel consider that horse unsuitable for any reason of horse and/or rider safety.

The Panel’s decision to request the Stewards deny entry or scratch a horse shall be final.

**POST-INCIDENT ASSESSMENTS**

In the event of a future racing or training injury or fatality, Los Alamitos will continue to conduct a thorough internal review of track condition, surface, and maintenance records and procedures utilizing the expertise of well-respected track consultant Dennis Moore, our track superintendent, and senior management.

Horses deemed to have suffered an injury while racing or training will be examined by the Track Veterinarian, at the earliest opportunity thereafter. Recognizing the disparity of knowledge as to the health
Los Alamitos Race Course

history of the individual horse, responsibility for all treatment decisions will remain that of the owner, trainer, and/or attending veterinarian.

In addition, each fatality occurring on the grounds – regardless of causation – will trigger a ‘Fatality Review,’ conducted by a panel consisting of a qualified representative each from track management and the contracting horsemen’s organization representing trainers at the race meet, the track veterinarian, and the Racing Secretary. As a condition of participation in any race meet conducted at LARC, the trainer and attending/treating veterinarian will be required to attend and participate in the review, as well as any other person(s) or vendor, the racing association believes may have relevant information.

LAQHRA acknowledges that these reviews will be separate and apart from any fatality investigation conducted by the CHRB, including the Rule 1846.6 Postmortem Examination Review.

Equine Illness & Recovery

As noted above, ANY fatality occurring on the grounds will now trigger a Fatality Review with the trainer and attending/treating veterinarian of that horse.

Taking into consideration the size of a stable, the death of two horses on the grounds within the custody and care of any one trainer, which are attributed by the CHRB to the cause “Other” – i.e., a non-racing or training fatality – within any twelve month period will cause that trainer to be informed that his/her status as an invitee of the Association is under ongoing review and could be revoked following the subsequent death of another horse or horses within that trainer’s care and custody, pursuant to CHRB Rules 1436, 1437, and 1485(c).

In accord with Business & Professions Code, §§19431 and 19573, the revocation of that trainer’s status as an invitee of the racing association may be appealed by the trainer to the CHRB. Any trainer wishing to appeal that revocation of invited status/participation privileges at LARC must do so within ninety-six (96) hours of being so notified by the association.

Proposed ‘Rules & Conditions’

Consistent with versions of those implemented by the Del Mar and Los Angeles Thoroughbred Clubs, LAQHRA proposes to adopt the following proposed “Rules & Conditions”: 
RULES AND CONDITIONS FOR RACING AND TRAINING

As a condition to, and in consideration for Trainer being permitted to race, work or train any horse at Los Alamitos Race Course (LARC) or any authorized auxiliary training facility, the undersigned Trainer and Trainer’s Attending Veterinarian hereby agree to be bound by the following:

1. At all times, a horse shall be in serviceable, sound racing condition in order to race, work, or train at LARC. The Trainer acknowledges that it is his/her obligation to confirm the horse is in serviceable, sound racing condition in order to race, work or train at LARC.

2. All horses at LARC or an authorized auxiliary training facility are subject to security and veterinary monitoring during training, and Trainer and his/her employees and agents shall cooperate fully with all requests made by security personnel, veterinarians, and outriders.

3. At the trainer/owner’s expense, the CHRB Official or Track veterinarian may require diagnostic imaging of any horse stabled at LARC in order to confirm/determine the horse’s soundness to train, work, enter to race, or race, or for purposes of determining a horse’s eligibility to come off of the Vet’s List.

4. Trainer shall not work a horse UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer’s Attending Veterinarian during the five (5) days immediately preceding the work for the express purpose of evaluating the horse’s soundness to work; and (3) the horse has been found sound to work by the Attending Veterinarian. The trainer is obligated to inform the Attending Veterinarian of any perceived changes in the horse’s fitness or soundness after the examination, prior to the work.

5. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race UNLESS: (1) the horse is sufficiently fit; (2) the horse has been examined by Trainer’s Attending Veterinarian during the three (3) days immediately preceding the race entry day for the express purpose of evaluating the horse’s soundness to race; and (3) the horse has been found sound to race by the Attending Veterinarian. The attending veterinarian and trainer are obligated to inform the examining veterinarians of any changes in the horse’s fitness or soundness after entry and before race day.

6. For Quarter Horses qualifying for their initial start, trainers are required to submit a completed Qualifying Examination Form, signed by the trainer and their Attending Veterinarian, attesting that: (1) the horse is fit and in a serviceable, sound condition suitable for racing at LARC; and, (2) that it has worked twice, completing the designated distance within the designated time.

7. Trainer will not enter in any race a Quarter Horse that is an un-started 4-year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 220 yards in 0:13.2 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.

8. Trainer shall not enter in any race a Thoroughbred that is an un-started 4-year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days UNLESS, the horse has: (a) worked 5 furlongs in 1:03 or better for an official California regulatory veterinarian; and (b) passed a post-work official test as required by CHRB regulations.

9. In addition to the criteria set forth in Sections 7 and 8, a horse that is an un-started 4-year-old or older or has not raced in the preceding 365 days, or horses that have not raced within 120 days but have raced within 365 days are required to have an examination performed by a regulatory veterinarian within 30 days prior to entry.

10. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection during the Fourteen (14) days immediately preceding the race.

11. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received an intra-articular injection of cortisone into the fetlock joints within the previous thirty (30) days immediately preceding the race.

12. Trainer shall not enter a horse in any race if the horse has received more than two intra-articular injections of cortisone into same intra-articular space within the previous sixty (60) days immediately preceding the race.

13. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer’s care to participate in a timed workout if the horse receives NSAIDs during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the workout.

14. Trainer shall not permit any horse under the Trainer’s care to participate in a race if the horse receives a NSAID during the Forty-Eight (48) hour period immediately preceding the race or has been treated with a second NSAID that could appear in a post-work or post-race blood or urine test.

15. Trainer acknowledges and agrees that the entry of every horse will be reviewed by the association’s “Entry Review Panel.” Based on information deemed of concern to the Panel, should any member of the Panel consider a horse seeking entry to be unsuitable for any reason of horse and/or rider safety, in its sole discretion, the Panel shall request either the entry of that horse be refused or such entry scratched by the Stewards, in accord with CHRB Rules 1542 and 1580. The Panel’s decision to request the Stewards deny entry or scratch a horse shall be final.

16. No veterinarian shall be recognized or considered an Attending Veterinarian unless and until Trainer and such veterinarian have agreed to be bound by this Agreement by submitting a fully executed copy of this Agreement to the Racing Office. Under no circumstances shall an examination conducted by a veterinarian who has NOT been identified as the Trainer’s Attending Veterinarian in compliance with this paragraph constitute a valid examination for purposes of determining a horse’s soundness to race, work, or train at LARC.

17. Regulatory veterinarians employed at LARC shall be entitled to contact, without prior notice, Trainer’s attending veterinarian(s) to confirm that such examinations have been conducted pursuant to these rules, and that any such examination meets LARC’s requirements.

18. Trainer shall not administer, directly or indirectly, or otherwise permit to be administered, any medication to a horse under Trainer’s care that is racing or training at LARC UNLESS such medication is: (1) prescribed for that specific horse; and (2) administered strictly in accordance with CHRB regulations, and the prescription.
19. Both Trainer and Attending Veterinarian shall abide by all rules and regulations of the CHRB, expressly incorporated by reference herein, as they are presently adopted or as they may be amended (collectively, “CHRB Rules”). Trainer and Attending Veterinarian shall be responsible for obtaining and becoming familiar with such rules and regulations.

20. All horses stabled at LARC or an authorized auxiliary training facility are subject to blood testing by CHRB licensed veterinary personnel to confirm compliance with LARC’s and/or the racing association’s training medication policies. Trainer will not refuse to permit blood testing of any horse under Trainer’s care and will ensure that all owners or other persons having care of any such horse fully cooperate in permitting blood testing of such horse.

21. In the event of an equine fatality, Trainer and the Attending Veterinarian of such horse acknowledge and agree that both shall attend a Fatality Review before a panel consisting of a qualified representative each from track management and the contracting horsemen’s organization representing trainers at the race meet, the Track Veterinarian, and the Racing Secretary. The Panel may require the participation of any other person(s) or vendor believed to have relevant information. The death of two horses on the grounds within the custody and care of any one Trainer, which are attributed by the CHRB to a cause “Other” than racing or training, within any twelve month period will cause that trainer to be informed that his/her status as an invitee of the Association is under ongoing review and could be revoked following the subsequent death of another horse or horses within that trainer’s care and custody, pursuant to CHRB Rules 1436, 1437, and 1485(c). In accord with Business & Professions Code, §§19431 and 19573, the revocation of that Trainer’s status as an invitee of the racing association may be appealed by the Trainer to the CHRB. Any Trainer wishing to appeal a revocation of invited status/participation privileges at LARC must do so within ninety-six (96) hours of being so notified by the racing association and the Attending Veterinarian acknowledge that any such Fatality Review will occur separate and apart from any fatality investigation conducted by the CHRB, including but not limited to the Rule 1846.6 Postmortem Examination Review.

22. Attending Veterinarian expressly acknowledges that LARC is situated on private property and that practicing veterinarian medicine on the grounds is a privilege, subject to these Rules & Conditions, as granted to him/her by LARC. Access to LARC shall be denied to an Attending Veterinarian that injects a horse contrary to the provisions of paragraphs 10, 11, 12, or 14, and/or intentionally is a party to the violation/circumvention of these Rules and Condition or applicable CHRB Rules.

23. Any violation of, or failure to comply with, these Rules and Conditions, or the Rules of the CHRB, may result in the immediate expulsion of Trainer and/or Attending Veterinarian from the current Los Alamitos Race Meet. Any such expulsion shall be at the racing association’s sole and absolute discretion.

24. Any failure by LARC to enforce any terms, rules, or conditions of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver by LARC, and shall not affect or impair this Agreement in any way, or the rights of LARC at any time to enforce this Agreement. LARC’s approval or consent to any action proposed by Trainer or Attending Veterinarian shall not affect Trainer or Attending Veterinarian’s obligation to strictly comply with these Rules and Conditions, and this Agreement.

25. As used herein, the term “Attending Veterinarian” shall include the undersigned veterinarian and any veterinarian who is a member of his/her veterinary practice.

26. By signing below, Trainer certifies that Trainer:

(a) Has read and fully understands the above Rules and Conditions for racing and training during the current Los Alamitos race meet;
(b) Will consult with the CHRB official veterinarian if Trainer has any questions regarding such Rules; and,
(c) Will comply fully with such Rules and Conditions.

27. By signing below, the Attending Veterinarian certifies that he/she:

(a) Has read and fully understands the above Rules and Conditions for racing and training during the current Los Alamitos race meet;
(b) Will consult with the CHRB official veterinarian if he/she has any questions regarding such Rules; and,
(c) Will comply fully with such Rules and Conditions.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE FOREGOING RULES AND CONDITIONS AS OF THE DATE SET FORTH BELOW:

TRAINER

Date:________________________

By:________________________

Printed Name:________________________

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN

Date:________________________

By:________________________

Printed Name:________________________
Dear Executive Director Chaney,
Thank you for petitioning to hold the emergency CHRB meeting on 7/10/20. Sadly another two horses have died within three "probational" racing days at Los Alamitos.

Please act again on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for another emergency meeting to be held following your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20. Please don't allow more horses to die at Los Alamitos this coming weekend. Suspend their license on 7/16 or before.

I deeply appreciate all you do to protect the horses. With at least 6 jockeys who raced at Los Al testing positive recently for Covid 19, a suspension of racing at Los Al would likely reduce human casualties as well.

Thank You For Your Consideration,
Bonnie Croker
Concerned Citizen
Dear Executive Director Chaney,

I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.

Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

Please act on CHRB rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.

Thank You!

G.J. Gansky
July 13, 2020

Scott Chaney
CHRB Executive Director

Dear Mr. Scott Chaney,

I am a thoroughbred owner of a horse stabled at Los Alamitos Racetrack. He is trained by a wonderful Kentucky Derby winning trainer who I trust to always make the best decisions for my horse. I am writing you to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open. The current ten day suspension underway seems like not enough time to complete an in depth investigation into all possible causes. Los Alamitos has seen in 2019 a very substantial decrease in horse injury with their protocols in place. The current rise and cluster of injury could be from many factors. I wish just as you that there was a way for horses to never get injured. We all know that horses can become injured at any age, any place and even in the wild. What makes more sense is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury? We are aware that at multiple tracks around the nation where they have implemented new protocols like extra vets or additional checking of horses prior to a race that they have had marked improvement. I am asking that you give Los Alamitos the opportunity to place new protocols in place. As you know it takes time to judge if new protocols are working.

With the shipping in of horses on the day they race this could possibly be something that needs looking into. The vets have never seen the horse before and see it only one time when it arrives at the track and then just prior to the race I believe. Horses may benefit from having to be present at the track 48 hours prior to racing. Seen on the track in a gallop/checked on their first day. Vet checked again on race day. This may seem over burdening to trainers and to their owners but most good owners would want their horses to have only the best.

Horses who are shipped into race should have to have their vet records presented in order to race. There must be a plan for horses who have had shockwave therapy and the appropriate length of time from therapy to return to racing. There is a completely appropriate equine medical use for this form of treatment but it also can be abused. We need to have regulations in place and close monitoring of the horses that have this therapy. I also believe that education of trainers and grooms is imperative to the welfare of horses. I would like to see mandatory education which would be required for trainers and grooms. Continuing education to maintain their license as a trainer and as a groom.

I know that Los Alamitos will have a good plan which may include my thoughts above. I hope that you will keep in mind that the radical animal extremists are truly radicals and use shock value to obtain attention. Please try to keep them on topic and ensure that they address the board with the respect that all of you and fellow board members deserve. Often times they slander those in the industry which I believe should be interrupted immediately.
Los Alamitos provides so much to the surrounding community. I will take a moment and mention only two items. In July each year they host the Annual Weiner Dog Races. The track is packed to standing room only. All to benefit the Seal Beach Animal Shelter, which is a no kill shelter. This event is the shelter’s largest event of the year and generates a huge amount of their yearly needed funding. Many people come to see the little wiener dog races but this also may be a person’s first experience to see horses race. Little kids who live in the city may have never seen a horse up close. This event provides an opportunity to see horses for the first time. The second event I will mention is their yearly Halloween Carnival which provides a safe family oriented fun time for everyone. I have worked at this event and I was amazed at the public turnout. They provide pony rides for free to children at this event which may be a little ones first introduction to a horse. Although Los Alamitos is a small track it provides a family with an opportunity to be together and horse racing is exciting for all ages.

Los Alamitos is a hidden gem and should remain open for the community to experience. It provides a job to many backside workers who live on the premises. These workers are highly trained in the care of thoroughbreds and quarter horses. This is their specialty and they are hard to replace. They love what they do for a living and take pride in the horses under their care. They do not want to be out of work. Most are supporting a family.

Horse welfare and safety continues to improve and this small cluster shows that yes more changes need to be made. More eyes on the horses during training may help and also more Vets. Different Vets may catch different issues.

Please give Los Alamitos time to implement the plans they will present at the end of the probation period. This track means so much to the community of Cypress and surrounding cites who attend the races and their events throughout the year.

Thank You for Time and Service.

Regards,

Jeannetta L. Myers RN
Dear California Horse Racing Board:

The horse deaths continue & I request that stronger action be taken!

*I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.
*Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.
*Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.
*Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.

Thank you for taking this seriously & acting swiftly!

Kind Regards,

Pamala
Pamala Hall
San Bernardino, CA

"A different world cannot be built by indifferent people." ~ Dr. Peter Marshall
Dear Executive Director Chaney,

I am shocked, dismayed and appalled at the horse deaths at Los Alamitos Racetrack.

- I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.
- Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.
- Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.
- Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.

Thank you for your attention.

Jeanne Kataoka
Moreno Valley, CA
Dear CHRB Board Member, I am a lifelong horse racing fan. My concern is about Los Alamitos racecourse. It is with optimism, Los Alamitos will have a plan to resolve unfortunate casualties which have occurred in the past. Animal rights activists have a closed mind about racing and have no clue as to the care and attention horses receive on a daily basis. Other race tracks have implemented new safety protocols, which Los Alamitos could adopt as well. Therefore, as a concerned racing fan, I ask if you could allow Los Alamitos to continue operating. Crucial in this state's economic recovery. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Anita Diaz
Concerned racing fan
Dear chrb board member,

I'm an ex owner, current fan of thoroughbreds and thoroughbred racing.

I write to ask for your consideration to keep the track open in Los Alamitos. I realize that animal activists have written about the deaths. I wish there was a way horses never get hurt. It happens every day on a private ranch or in nature, and wherever a horse goes. What makes the most sense is to see if we're doing everything we can to control injury risk.

I know that several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols have had a remarkable improvement.

We ask that you give the Alamitos the same chance. Life is not risk-free. Removing horses from the track doesn't remove injury risk. What mitigates risks is continually looking for ways to improve it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Meisner
Dear chrb board member,

I am a long time fan of Thoroughbred Racing.
I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open.

I realize the animal activists have written in concern of fatalities. I wish there was a way for horses to never get injured. It happens every day on a private ranch or in the wild, and everywhere a horse goes. What makes more sense, is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury.

I know at several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols they have had marked improvement.

We are asking that you give Los Alamitos the same opportunity.

Life is not without risks. Taking the horses away from the racetrack doesn't eliminate their risk of injury. What does mitigate the risks are to continually look for ways to improve upon that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Terri Bey
Lexington, KY
Dear Chrb board member,

I am an Owner and a Fan. I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open.

I realize the animal activists have written in concern of fatalities. I wish there was a way for horses to never get injured. It happens everyday in the wild, on a private ranch and everywhere a horse goes.

What makes more sense, is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury.

I know at several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols they have had marked improvement.

We are asking that you give Los Alamitos the same opportunity.

Life is not without risks. Taking the horses away from the racetrack doesn’t eliminate their risk of injury. What does mitigate the risks are to continually look for ways to improve upon that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Napier

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Board Member:

Good morning!

I am a horse racing fan, and love the sport, especially here in California!

I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open.

I realize the animal activists have written in concern of fatalities. I wish there was a way for horses to never get injured. It happens every day on a private ranch or in the wild, and everywhere a horse goes. What makes more sense, is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury?

I know at several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols they have had marked improvement. We are asking that you give Los Alamitos the same opportunity.

Life is not without risks. Taking the horses away from the racetrack doesn't eliminate their risk of injury. What does mitigate the risks are to continually look for ways to improve upon that. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy Ho
Dear Board Member:

Good morning!

I am an owner, member of TOC, and am writing to ask for your assistance in keeping the track open in Los Alamitos.

The Animal Rights Activists have been intent on bringing horse racing down, especially in California. My wife and I have been on the rally lines at the racetracks over the course of the past year, rallying in support of horse racing with the group We Support Horse Racing. We have seen, first hand, that these extreme activists do not care about the health and well-being of the horses, but just want to abolish horse racing throughout the U.S. They have no plan for the care of the horses, should racing ever shut down. They don’t care about that. The are on a mission, and ending horse racing is an integral part of their goal.

I have owned racehorses for over 15 years, and never once have I had a horse break down at the track in either races, workouts, or at the barns. I have, however, lost a retired race horse in Kentucky, in a paddock incident. Accidents happen.

Unfortunately, the ARA’s have captured the media’s attention, and continue to torment our
industry with propaganda and misinformation.

I do know that the tracks in California have been committed to taking precautions to ensure that racing in our state is as safe as possible.

I ask you to give Los Alamitos a chance, and allow them the opportunity to make improvements, where necessary, to race as safely as possible, going forward.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Robert Land
B&B Thoroughbred Racing Stables, Inc.
Dear Board Member:

Good morning!

I am an owner, member of TOC, and am writing to ask for your assistance in keeping the track open in Los Alamitos.

The Animal Rights Activists have been intent on bringing horse racing down, especially in California. I have been on the rally lines at the racetracks over the course of the past year, rallying in support of horse racing with the group We Support Horse Racing. I have seen, first hand, that these extreme activists do not care about the health and well-being of the horses, but just want to abolish horse racing throughout the U.S. They have no plan for the care of the horses, should racing ever shut down. They don’t care about that. They are on a mission, and ending horse racing is an integral part of their goal.

I have owned racehorses for over 15 years, and never once have I had a horse break down at the track in either races, workouts, or at the barns. I have, however, lost a retired race horse in Kentucky, in a paddock incident. Accidents happen. Unfortunately, the ARA’s have captured the media’s attention, and continue to torment our industry with propaganda and misinformation.
I do know that the tracks in California have been committed to taking precautions to ensure that racing in our state is as safe as possible.

I ask you to give Los Alamitos a chance, and allow them the opportunity to make improvements, where necessary, to race as safely as possible, going forward.

Thank you for the opportunity!

All the best,
Becky Brockway
B&B Thoroughbred Racing Stables, Inc.
From: Karen Norton
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:48 PM
To: Tips <Tips@chrb.ca.gov>; Casey Phillips
Subject: Keep Los Alamitos Open

Dear chrb board member,

I am an Owner and a Breeder,

I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open.

I am aware the animal activists have written in concern of fatalities. I wish there was a way for horses to never get injured. It happens every day on a private ranch or in the wild, and everywhere a horse goes. What makes more sense, rather than close the track, is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury?

I know at several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols they have had marked improvement.

We are asking that you give Los Alamitos the same opportunity.

Life is not without risks. They don’t shut down the freeway because of car accidents. The activists have an agenda using false narratives to create the illusion that horses that are OFF a racetrack never get injured and die. The only difference? Race horses have 24/7 care to catch illness or injury. Taking the horses away, the racetrack doesn’t eliminate their risk of injury. What does help is to mitigate the risks and to continually look for ways to improve upon that.

The activists have no stake in the racetrack other than their desire to force us all into their extreme vegan lifestyle shared by 4% of the country. The state of CA has a big stake right now in NOT losing any more jobs or tax revenue. Their mythical dream that horse owners are going to set up a sanctuary at our expense for the retired horses is not realistic.

I appreciate your consideration to keep Los Alamitos open.
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Norton
-----Original Message-----
From: Ann Gilbert
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:29 PM
To: Tips <Tips@chrbc.ca.gov>
Subject: Keep Los Alamitos open

Dear CHRB Board Member,

I’m a horse owner, and I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track open at Los Alamitos. I realize that animal activists have written about the horse deaths. I wish there was a way that horses never get hurt. It happens every day on a private ranch or in nature, and wherever a horse goes.

What makes sense is to see if we are doing everything we can to control the risk of injury. There have been other racetracks where they have implemented new protocols which have produced a remarkable improvement. We ask that you give Los Alamitos the same chance.

Life is not risk-free. Removing horses from the track doesn’t remove injury risk. What mitigates risks is to continually look for ways to improve the situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann Gilbert

Sent from my iPhone
To Whom It May Concern:

I joined the 9:30 am CHRB hearing by phone this morning but unfortunately had to get off due to a work-related meeting at 10 am and was not able to comment. I do not know the outcome of the hearing, but I am nevertheless submitting my comments.

I am also copying my Governor, my State Senator, and my Assembly Member.

Please shut down the Los Alamitos Race Course.

Their treatment of the horses is not just unacceptable, it is sickening. It is an on-going equine bloodbath. These magnificent and noble animals are being exposed to shockingly exploitative, inhumane treatment so that a few people, like Ed Allred, vendors, breeders and the sports-betting industry can make money.

Community standards around the treatment of animals in California continue to rise. We've finally reached the point where horseracing deaths are not "normalized," they are being reported by the media. Now everyone knows the "dirty secret" of horseracing.

Los Alamitos Race Course needs to be shut down until they can manage the races so that horses are not injured and/or killed.

Horses need to be protected from the appalling exploitation they have suffered at the hands of the
disgusting horseracing industry.

Please take my thoughts into account. If you polled Californians, I am confident you would find a great majority do not support the cruel treatment of horses for profit.

Best,
Georgia Brewer
I am very strongly opposed to closing Los Alamitos race tracks! This race track supports badly needed jobs. This is not the time to unemployed all these people. I demand CHRB vote against any motion that will close Los Alamitos race tracks.

Sent from my iPhone
From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Subject: Fw: Los Alamitos Racetrack - Call for a CHRB Meeting!
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:08:06 AM

----- Forwarded Message -----  
From: Elaine Livesey-Fassel
To: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020, 11:05:48 AM PDT
Subject: Los Alamitos Racetrack - Call for a CHRB Meeting!

This active citizen is profoundly distressed by the knowledge that 2 more horses were killed in 3 racing days!! And this is since the CHRB put them on PROBATION for already excessive horse deaths. These Los Alamitos Racetracks have also become nothing more than KILLING fields and I am so appalled and shamed by this! PLEASE do your important and vital job and act on CHRB rule 1435 and call for an emergency meeting to be immediately held after your regularly scheduled meeting on July 16th of this year and use your power to SAVE not squander the lives of these magnificent athletes or more people will be calling to BAN this entire Industry!! With respect... Thank you, Elaine Livesey-Fassel (who once owned 'part' of a noted race-horse)
Dear CHRB board member,

I am a both a horse owner and a fan. I am writing to ask for your consideration to keep the track at Los Alamitos open.

I realize the animal activists have written in concern of fatalities. I wish there was a way for horses to never get injured. It happens every day on a private ranch or in the wild, and everywhere a horse goes.

What makes more sense, is to see if we are doing everything possible to manage the risk of injury. We are.

I know at several other racetracks where they implemented new protocols they have had marked improvement.

We are asking that you give Los Alamitos the same opportunity.

Life is not without risks. Taking the horses away from the racetrack doesn't eliminate their risk of injury. What does mitigate the risks are to continually look for ways to improve upon that.

Lastly, I believe it is important to point out the real agenda behind the extremists who want to ban racing. It is neither to save horses, help horses, or to improve our numbers. The truth behind the extremists is that they are truly behind a total end of all horsemanship and all pet ownership. They do not seek improvement in safety, nor do they seek saving the lives of horses, which by their own plan would lead to countless more equine deaths and euthanasia and sterilization of the breed until extinction. It is very important that the board realizes that the extremist, who are few but have a lot of financial backing, lie, distort and manipulate because to them, the end justifies any means. I am fair but I am firm. I truly believe in the “horse first” mentality. Life has few risks. Working to achieve better results is not an end goal but a journey. For the extremists to end racing based on their isolated view or opinions of it is not only unconstitutional but un-American. What we are asking for, is “what is right”. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Robert L Bulger
From: Rose Cook
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:36 PM
To: Race Horse Welfare
Subject: Race Horse Welfare

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a lifelong racing enthusiast but have become aware in recent years of the enormous horse deaths on race tracks in California. The current state and rate of euthanasias are just unacceptable as I am sure you know. I am writing to report 2 horse deaths in 3 racing days at the Los Alamitos track since you put them on probation for excessive mortalities. I urge you to act on Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting on 7/16/2020 and to prevent any additional deaths. Excessive deaths are a violation of your Rule1902.5.

Very Sincerely,
Rose Cook

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
I'm calling as a concerned citizen of California my name is Michelle Walter. Because of the amount of horses that have died 29 + I am urging you to suspend horse racing until we can figure out why this is happening at Los Alamitos Race Track Governor Newsom have passed a bill saying if there were you know a large amount of horses dying that he would suspend the racetrack for investigation but this has never happened I ask you why. Please once again with a Cry in my heart suspend the horse racing until we can determine why all these horses are dying

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.

*Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

*Please act on CHRB rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

*Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.

Thank You!

C. Martinez
San Diego, CA
Dear Executive Director Chaney,

I have watched in horror over the past several years as horse after horse has been killed while racing at Los Alamitos Race Track. Over 29 horses dead in just the past 6 months! The latest 2 were killed over a 3 day period following a probationary period imposed by your organization.

What is going on?! Please schedule an emergency meeting to follow your regularly scheduled meeting for July 16th. If your organization continues to look the other way as these magnificent animals are being killed, I wonder why your organization exists at all.

Thank you for your attention and I sincerely hope action is taken and horses are saved.

Robin Riker
To whom this may concern:

I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.

Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

Please act on CHRB rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.
Thank You!

michele morrow
Dear Executive Director Chaney,

The death of horses racing at Los Alamitos has to stop!
It has to stop. NOW! To let horses continue racing there is to put
the entire sport in jeopardy.

I urge you to address the death of two more horses at Los Alamitos Racetrack
in the three racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

Please act on CHRB rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately
after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

The lives of every horse scheduled to race this coming weekend at Los Alamitos is in your
hands. Please use your authority to save their lives.

Thank you.

Dr. Lo Sprague

Dr. Lois M. Sprague, Ph.D., President
The Guibord Center - Religion Inside Out
www.TheGuibordCenter.org
Dear Executive Director Chaney:

I am writing in regard to the 2 additional horse deaths at Los Alamitos in just three days of racing - during a time in which the track was on probation and told to come up with a plan to reduce deaths. Clearly they are unable to do so, and now a total of 31 horses have been killed. Please act on the CHRB rule 1435 and call for an emergency meeting immediately to take action. The time for warnings and "plans" is over. Please don't let this go on any longer. Thank you.

Jane Cartmill
To the CHRB:

I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.

During the past three racing days, Los Alamitos Racetrack in Cypress, has killed 2 more horses. These deaths occurred AFTER the CHRB put them on 10 days probation for excessive horse deaths.

I am respectfully requesting that you act on CHRB Rule 1435 and call for an emergency meeting to be held after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

Los Alamitos must have their racing license suspended immediately until they can show that adequate provisions and procedures have been put in place to put a stop to the deaths.

Even putting the safety of the horses aside, their failure to adequately put into place protocols for testing staff and jockeys for COVID-19 is apparent as well. Three jockeys have also recently tested positive for COVID after racing at this track.

This track is a death trap!! Owner and the staff have demonstrated an established pattern of disregard for safety of both horses and back staff workers and the jockeys.

Please exercise your authority which Gov Newsom and the State of CA granted you and do the RIGHT THING!

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Gentlepersons:

I am writing to you to report a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare. Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on July 16, 2020. I am requesting you please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives of horses. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris Miller

Jurupa Valley, California
To: C.S. Chaney  
*I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.  
*Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB  
  put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.  
*Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately  
  after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.  
*Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your  
  ability to save lives.  
Respectfully,  
Celia Asebedo  
  
Sent from my iPhone
Dr. Mr. Chaney,

How many more horses have to die? In 2020 alone at Los Alamitos 31 horses dead, and at least 20 from racing or training. And two more since they were put on probation!

Please hold an emergency meeting this Thursday in order to suspend racing at Los Alamitos, not just probation. We who care about animals will be watching.

Thank you.

Lori Woods
Citizen of California
Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a lifelong racing enthusiast but have become aware in recent years of the enormous horse deaths on race tracks in California. The current state and rate of euthanasiás are just unacceptable as I am sure you know. I am writing to report 2 horse deaths in 3 racing days at the Los Alamitos track since you put them on probation for excessive mortalities. I urge you to act on Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting on 7/16/2020 and to prevent any additional deaths. Excessive deaths are a violation of your Rule1902.5.

Very Sincerely,
Rose Cook

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
Hello,

I just wanted to follow up with concerns about the fact that Los Alamitos has killed 2 more horses since you placed them on probation last week.

*Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.
*Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20. Los Alamitos must have their racing license suspended immediately.
*Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please USE your ability to save lives.

Thank you,

Ashley
Animal Defenders International offers the attached statement, joining our supporters and the many Californians to call for a suspension of racing at the Los Alamitos Race Course, and for a full and transparent investigation into the alarming horse deaths and illnesses there.

In June 2019, the governor signed CA SB469, adding Section 19481.7 to the CA Business and Professions Code, declaring the urgency thereof, effective immediately. BPC Section 19481.7 authorizes the Board at any time, to immediately suspend a license … when necessary to protect the health and safety of the horses or riders, which shall remain in effect until the board determines that the matters jeopardizing the health and safety of the horses or riders that are present … have been adequately addressed. This Board’s own rules also describe its authority to suspend licensure and activities which endanger the health and safety of the horses or riders. Per CHRB Rule 1435, conditions demonstrating that the health and safety of horses and riders are endangered include: (A) an above-average number of injuries to horses and/or riders; (B) a condition exists within the inclosure that is likely to endanger the health and safety of the horses or riders; or (C) for any other reason. These conditions have been met.

Current conditions include, among others: (A) 29 horse deaths at Los Alamitos in these first 6 months of 2020 and (B) a global pandemic, with increasing infections and spread throughout the state, as well as incidents of infection at California racetracks particularly. Reportedly, at least 17 positive CoVID19 cases were revealed at Santa Anita, only after its meet, endangering all those who attended or worked that event, as well as those they came into contact with. And in 2019, 23 horses died at Santa Anita racetrack, illustrating longstanding industry problems, attracting worldwide condemnation, and prompting related state and federal legislation. Yet horses continued to die at Santa Anita. After 29 horse deaths, when this Board called on them to cease racing, they defied your request.

To date, neither the disturbing horse deaths or rate of horses dying at California racetracks, nor the CoVID19 pandemic, which continues to batter this state, have been adequately addressed. Horses, riders, track workers, and the public remain at serious risk – Board inaction is unacceptable.

It’s time to protect horses, riders, workers, and the public – we call on the Board to suspend racing at Los Alamitos and to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation of the alarming horse deaths and illness there.

Christina Scaringe, General Counsel
Animal Defenders International
RE: Emergency CHRB meeting July 10, 2020 regarding whether to suspend racing and/or impose conditions on racing at Los Alamitos Race Course.

Animal Defenders International joins our supporters and the many Californians calling for a suspension of racing at the Los Alamitos Race Course, and for a full and transparent investigation into the alarming horse deaths and illnesses there.

In June 2019, the governor signed CA SB469, adding Section 19481.7 to the CA Business and Professions Code, declaring the urgency thereof, effective immediately. BPC Section 19481.7 authorizes the Board at any time, to immediately suspend a license ... when necessary to protect the health and safety of the horses or riders, which shall remain in effect until the board determines that the matters jeopardizing the health and safety of the horses or riders that are present ... have been adequately addressed. This Board’s own rules also describe its authority to suspend licensure and activities which endanger the health and safety of the horses or riders. Per CHRB Rule 1435, conditions demonstrating that the health and safety of horses and riders are endangered include: (A) an above-average number of injuries to horses and/or riders; (B) a condition exists within the inclosure that is likely to endanger the health and safety of the horses or riders; or (C) for any other reason. These conditions have been met.

Current conditions include, among others: (A) 29 horse deaths at Los Alamitos in these first 6 months of 2020 and (B) a global pandemic, with increasing infections and spread throughout the state, as well as incidents of infection at California racetracks particularly. Reportedly, at least 17 positive CoVID19 cases were revealed at Santa Anita, only after its meet, endangering all those who attended or worked that event, as well as those they came into contact with. And in 2019, 23 horses died at Santa Anita racetrack, illustrating longstanding industry problems, attracting worldwide condemnation, and prompting related state and federal legislation. Yet horses continued to die at Santa Anita. After 29 horse deaths, when this Board called on them to cease racing, they defied your request.

To date, neither the disturbing horse deaths or rate of horses dying at California racetracks, nor the CoVID19 pandemic, which continues to batter this state, have been adequately addressed. Horses, riders, track workers, and the public remain at serious risk – Board inaction is unacceptable.

It’s time to protect horses, riders, workers, and the public – we call on the Board to suspend racing at Los Alamitos and to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation of the alarming horse deaths and illness there.

Christina Scaringe, General Counsel
Animal Defenders International
www.ad-international.org
Dear Executive Director Scott Chaney,

In light of the very sad news that two horses, Alltime Favorite and Tacy, have been euthanized as a result of racing at Los Alamitos Race Course this past weekend, I am urging you to petition your board to convene an emergency meeting as early as tomorrow but no later than Friday, to vote to suspend racing at Los Alamitos prior to the races this coming weekend. Perhaps the meeting can be held immediately after the monthly board meeting on Thursday. Please do not wait until next Monday to discuss the fate of racing at Los Alamitos, as more horses may be at risk of potentially fatal injuries this weekend, after 31 horses have already died there in 2020.

Thank you for your attention.
Joe Kaplan
Davis CA
Dear CHRBoard members,

I am extremely upset that more horses have been killed, 2 in 3 days, since you put Los Alamitos on probation for the spike of horses' fatalities. I was one of the callers who begged your board to not consent to their license but you decided to give them 10 days and those extra days have killed more horses.

I beg, plead and ask you to please act on CHRB rule 1435 and call for an emergency meeting at your scheduled meeting tomorrow to vote to not give them their license and to stop these fatalities from continuing.

On another note, I was very disappointed that one of our activists made personal attacks at the last meeting and I want you to know that most of us frown upon such behavior. We can't control people but I want you to know that most of us were very unhappy about that.

Please Suspend their license.

Thank you for your time & attention.
Patty Shenker
Los Angeles, Ca.
Thank you for your time and prompt attention to the matter.

I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for Animal Welfare. Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on PROBATION FOR EXCESSIVE HORSE DEATHS.

Please act on CHRB Rule 1435 to call for an EMERGENCY MEETING to be held immediately after your scheduled meeting on JULY 16, 2020.

PLEASE DON’T LET ANY MORE WONDERFUL HORSES DIE THIS COMING WEEKEND AT LOS ALAMITOS.

PLEASE USE YOUR ABILITY TO SAVE LIVES.

Thank you
Dear Executive Director Chaney, hope this finds you well.

I would like to report a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare. The Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed two more horses in just three racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths. I am urging you to please act on CHRB rule 1435 and call an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting tomorrow, July 16.

Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos.

Thank you for taking prompt action,

Rachel Weil | www.weilpr.com
To whom it may concern at CHRB:

I am reporting a violation of CHRB Rule 1902.5 for animal welfare.

Los Alamitos Racetrack has killed 2 more horses in 3 racing days since the CHRB put them on probation for excessive horse deaths.

Please act on CHRB rule 1435 to call for an emergency meeting to be held immediately after your regularly scheduled meeting on 7/16/20.

Please don't let more horses die this coming weekend at Los Alamitos. Please use your ability to save lives.

Thank You!

Sincerely,

Sandra Zaninovich
Dear Executive Director Chaney,

I am a resident of California and am alarmed and greatly disturbed by the ongoing suffering and increasing number of deaths that are occurring at the Alamitos race track. There have clearly been numerous violations of the CHRB rules. I ask that the race track be closed immediately and disciplinary actions be taken. Please, you have the ability to ensure that not one more life is lost and that not one more horse suffers. Especially during this time of national and statewide emergency with Covid, it only makes sense to close this track.

Thank you for your time and hopefully action on this matter.

Sincerely,

Julia Pennington
Kelly Brinkerhoff
07/15/2020

It has come to our attention that there is concern that Los Alamitos might shut down because of horse fatalities. We ask that Los Alamitos be given the chance to put protocols in place as other tracks have to reduce the numbers. We understand that animal activists have at every turn to use their lies and half truths to alarm people about the plight of racehorses. If they only knew of the love and care we give these beautiful animals and also try and find wonderful humans to love them and give them a new life after their racing days are over. These people truly don’t love or care about horses. They care only about pushing their agenda and ideology. We hope that all of us in the industry can pull together and find ways to improve our sport especially during this time of great stress on our nation. If tracks close the trainers the grooms the jockeys the gallop boys and girls the pony people the hot walkers the gate crew the vets the feed stores and the farmers will suffer along with their families. And also count in the people who have jobs on the track. Security workers and workers who keep the grounds looking good. Security and ambulance services that keep everyone safe. All these people will lose their jobs and in some cases their homes as some of them rely on the housing tracks provide. It doesn’t seem right to appease a minority that hates us as an industry and livelihood. Please consider the impacts I have listed and let us come together and find some answers to keep all our SoCal tracks open.
July 14, 2020

Dear California Horse Racing Board Members,

I am writing in regards to agenda item #1 for the meeting of the California Horse Racing Board to be held on July 20th, 2020.

I am a horse player who has a quite a bit of time getting to know the industry, as well as those who work race horses every day. I have been listening to or attending CHRB meetings each month for over a year.

Ten days is a short time for any track to come up with a cohesive plan to curb fatalities. I believe that it will be a work in progress. Safety plans need to be given time to show results. I believe that it can and will happen, but it will not happen overnight.

Several race tracks in the country, notably Churchill Downs in Kentucky, have seen their fatality rates in 2019 drop below the national averages a result of safety regulations (1.68 per 1,000 starts in 2018). Churchill Downs was the 2nd deadliest track in the country in 2018. Their numbers significantly improved in 2019 (2.73 in 2018 vs. 0.95 in 2019). Santa Anita also saw their fatality rates drop below the national average during the latter part of 2019 with safety regulations in place (1.47 March - December). Los Alamitos should be given the same opportunity.

Los Alamitos racetrack has an abundance of dedicated horsemen and women will be out of a job and a place to live if the track is shut down. These people do not want unemployment, welfare, or PPP funds. They are skilled workers who don’t want other jobs. Most of them are honest horse people who want to see reform, the bad apples removed, and penalties increased for trainers who have violations. Trainers often rely on the advice of veterinarians, who should also be held accountable. Unfortunately a lot of the honest horsemen and women are drowned out by the activists and well meaning “concerned citizens” who have never worked with a race horse and do not have a deep understanding of the industry.

The activists and “concerned citizens” I have heard speak at the meetings during the past year do not want reforms. They want to end horse racing. I observed them using all kinds of tactics that have nothing to do with animal welfare, such as “poor” working conditions, “exploitation” of workers, and concerns about safety of the riders during the pandemic. They have demonstrated on numerous occasions in person and on social media that they do not care about the workers. Some stated that Los Alamitos was “defying the Governor’s orders by staying open” during the pandemic. That is total lie. Governor Newsom deemed horse racing as essential from beginning in the State of California. While animal activists do have a voice in a public forum, these people should never be catered to.

Please give Los Alamitos a chance to improve their numbers during the remainder of the season.

Thank you for your time and service.

 Regards,

 Maria Case