

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



NOTICE OF RACE DATES COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **California Horse Racing Board's Race Dates Committee** will be held on **Friday, July 25, 2003**, commencing at **10:00 a.m.**, at the **Del Mar Satellite Wagering Facility**, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., **Del Mar**, California. Non-committee members attending the Board's committee meeting may participate in the public discussion, but shall not participate in any official committee vote or committee executive session.

AGENDA

1. Discussion and action regarding the **race dates for the 2004 racing year**.

Further information regarding the committee meeting may be obtained from John Reagan, Senior Management Auditor, at the CHRB Administrative Office, 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, California, 95825; telephone (916) 263-6000 or fax (916) 263-6042. A copy of this notice can be located on the CHRB website at www.chrb.ca.gov

RACE DATES COMMITTEE

Chairman Roger Licht, Chairman
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella, Member

Date of Notice: July 14, 2003

**STAFF ANALYSIS
2004 RACE DATES**

**RACE DATES COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 25, 2003**

Background:

Included in this package is a bar chart of the 2004 dates consistent with the requests of the racing associations and fairs. There is also a comparison of the estimated number of 2003 dates versus the proposed 2004 dates. Finally, the letters received from the racing associations and the fairs regarding their ideas for the 2004 race dates are included in this package.

Given that this is the first Race Dates meeting to discuss the 2004 dates, all parties are certain to be ready to put forth their proposals for the upcoming race year.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Committee hear from industry representatives regarding the 2004 race dates.

2004 RACE DATES YEAR TO YEAR COMPARISON CHART

DRAFT

South	2003	2004	Change
Santa Anita	85	84	-1
HP-Spring	65	65	0
Del Mar	43	43	0
LACF	17	17	0
Oak Tree	32	26	-6
HP-Fall	30	36	6
	<u>272</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>-1</u>
North	2003	2004	Change
GG-Winter	70	74	4
BM-Spring	55	55	0
BM-Fall	50	49	-1
GG-Fall	35	31	-4
	<u>210</u>	<u>209</u>	<u>-1</u>
No. Fairs	2003	2004	Change
Stockton	10	10	0
Pleasanton	11	11	0
Vallejo	10	10	0
Santa Rosa	12	12	0
San Mateo	12	12	0
Humboldt	10	10	0
Sacramento	12	12	0
Fresno	11	11	0
	<u>88</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>0</u>
Quarters	<u>208</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>-5</u>
Harness	179	204	25

July 11, 2003

The Honorable Roger H. Licht
Chairman
Racing Dates Committee

The Honorable Sheryl L. Granzella
Member
Racing Dates Committee

California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way
Suite #300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Commissioners Licht and Granzella:

For the 2004 California racing year, the California racing associations propose the following racing dates:

Southern California:

Los Angeles Turf Club: December 26, 2003 – April 18, 2004 – 84 race days.

Hollywood Park Spring: April 21 – July 18, 2004 – 65 race days.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club: July 21 – September 8, 2004 – 43 race days.

Los Angeles County Fair: September 10 – September 26, 2004 – 17 race days.

Oak Tree Racing Association: September 29 – October 31, 2004 – 26 race days.

Hollywood Park Fall: November 3 – December 20, 2004 – 36 race days.

Northern California:

Golden Gate Fields Winter: December 26, 2003 – April 4, 2004 – 74 race days.

Bay Meadows Spring: April 7 – June 20, 2004 – 55 race days.

Bay Meadows Fall: September 3 – November 7, 2004 – 49 race days.

Golden Gate Fields Fall: November 10 – December 20, 2004 – 31 race days.

San Mateo County Fair: August 11 – August 23, 2004 – 12 race days.

Attached are color calendars showing all the above-mentioned race dates for both Southern and Northern California.

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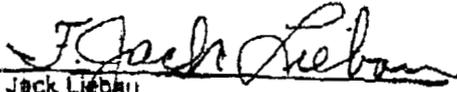
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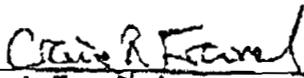
Respectfully Submitted,



F. Jack Liebau
President
Los Angeles Turf Club
Golden Gate Fields
Bay Meadows Racecourse



Rick Baedeker
President
Churchill Downs California



Craig Fravel
Executive Vice President
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club



James Henwood
President
Los Angeles County Fair

Michael Seder
V.P.



Sherwood Chillingworth
Executive Vice President
Oak Tree Racing Association



San Mateo County Fair
Jennifer Burleson
Fair Manager



July 14th

Roy Wood
CHRB
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Wood:

Pursuant to your request, we submit the following summary of our proposed 2004 racing dates request. We will submit the formal application as directed by your office.

2004 Dates

Los Alamitos plans to open its 2004 season on Friday, December 26th 2003. We will run three days per week for the first two weeks and resume our four-day per week schedule on Thursday, January 8th. We plan to operate four days per week, Thursday through Sunday, throughout the year with the exceptions as follows; we will not conduct live racing on

Sunday, January 25 th	(Super Bowl Sunday)
Thursday September 9 th	(No daytime racing conducted)
Thursday, November 25 th	(Thanksgiving Day)

Additionally, in order to capitalize on American Quarter Horse racing's biggest national day, we will request a daytime race card for Quarter Horse racing on Monday, September 6th, 2004. The All American Futurity is run that day at Ruidoso Downs and is an important link in the national pattern of Quarter Horse racing. That proposal would be made contingent upon receiving the cooperation from the then-operating tracks, fairs, and labor groups. We would withdraw the proposal in absence of that approval.

Our closing day will be December 19th, 2004. The above racing calendar results in 203 racing night during the 2004 season. Our post timers will remain at 7:15 PM on Thursdays and Fridays, 6:30 pm on Saturdays, 5:30 pm on Sundays. The post time for the Monday, September 6th card would be at a mutually agreeable time, preferable at 15 minutes prior to Del Mar's First post that day. Thank you in advance for yours and the board's consideration of our proposal.

Best regards,

Jeff True
General Manager
Los Alamitos race Course



CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION & STATE FAIR

July 3, 2003

Commissioner Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella
Racing Dates Committee
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the California Exposition & State Fair, I respectfully request the allocation of approximately 176 harness racing dates at Cal Expo for the periods January 2 through August 1, 2004 and September 24 through December 31, 2004.

As you may be aware, the current lease with Capitol Racing terminates July 26, 2003. However, the termination date is being disputed by Capitol Racing and this litigation is pending in Sacramento Superior Court. Capitol believes that it has a contract until July, 2005. In any case, Cal Expo wants to continue to be the home of harness racing in California. We remain hopeful that this litigation will be resolved in the near future.

The actual number of race days is still to be determined and we will provide the information as soon as possible. We do not anticipate any major changes in the racing schedule from 2003 which is as follows:

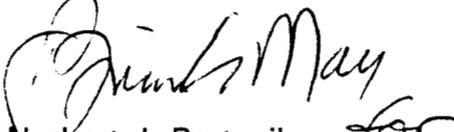
January-	5 programs per week
February -	5 programs per week
March -	4 programs per week
April -	4 programs per week
May -	4 programs per week
June -	4 programs per week
July -	3 programs per week

Commissioner Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella
July 3, 2003
Page 2

September - 3 programs per week
October - 3 & 4 programs per week
November - 4 programs per week
December - 4 programs per week

Your consideration of this matter is sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully,
CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION & STATE FAIR


Norbert J. Bartosik *for*
General Manager/CEO

cc: Board of Directors
Dave Elliott
Brian A. May

SAN JOAQUIN
FAIR
JUNE 11-22, 2003

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2003 JUL 11 AM 11:33

July 10, 2003

Mr. Roy Wood
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, Ca 95825

Dear Mr. Wood:

The San Joaquin Fair would like to request twenty-six (26) nights of harness racing commencing August 6, 2004, and ending October 2, 2004. Capitol Racing LLC will run a varied schedule made up mostly of three nights per week.

The dates we are requesting are new to the existing harness racing schedule. We believe it will enable the harness industry to run year-round, which will only enhance their overall program.

Your consideration of this request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Forrest J. White
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Chairman Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzela



July 7, 2003

California Horse Racing Board
2004 Date Allocation Committee
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Race Date Allocations for 2004

Dear Chairman Licht & Commissioner Granzella:

In response to your recent memorandum requesting date allocation proposals for 2004, Capitol Racing LLC submits the following proposal for harness race meets to be conducted at the Cal-Expo race track facilities in Sacramento and at the San Joaquin Fairgrounds race track in Stockton:

Winter thru Summer Race Meet at Cal-Expo in Sacramento . . . Friday, December 26, 2003 thru Saturday, July 31, 2004 (31 Weeks & 3 Nights);

Summer Race Meet at the Stockton Fairgrounds. . . Wednesday, August 4, 2004 thru Saturday, October 2, 2004 (8 Weeks & 3 Nights);

Fall Race Meet at Cal-Expo in Sacramento . . . Thursday, October 7, 2004 thru Friday, December 24, 2004 (10 Weeks & 3 Nights).

Race weeks during these three periods of time will be made up of several 3-night weeks, mostly 4-night weeks and 5-night weeks in January and February, 2004.

The dates proposed for Cal-Expo are generally consistent with those allocated by the Board in 2002-2003. The dates proposed for the Stockton Fairgrounds are basically new dates for that facility.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this schedule or any related matters.

Sincerely,

Alan B. Horowitz
General Manager

CALIFORNIA HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT:
David Neumeister
VICE-PRESIDENT:
Ben Kenney
TREASURER:
Billie Schwartz
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:
Alan B. Horowitz
LEGAL COUNSEL:
Irving Reifman

[43 Years Of Service To California Harness Racing]

P.O. Box 254767
Sacramento, CA 95865-4767

★ ★ ★

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 215
Sacramento, CA 95825

PHONE (916) 263-7888, FAX (916) 263-7887

DIRECTORS:
Paul Blumenfeld
Ben Kenney
Alan Kirschenbaum
Dr. Wayne Knittel, D.V.M.
David Neumeister
Jim Perez
Rick Plano
Billie Schwartz
Dr. Harvey Stein, D.V.M.

July 7, 2003

California Horse Racing Board
2004 Date Allocation Committee
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

RE: Race Date Allocations for 2004

Dear Mr. Reagan:

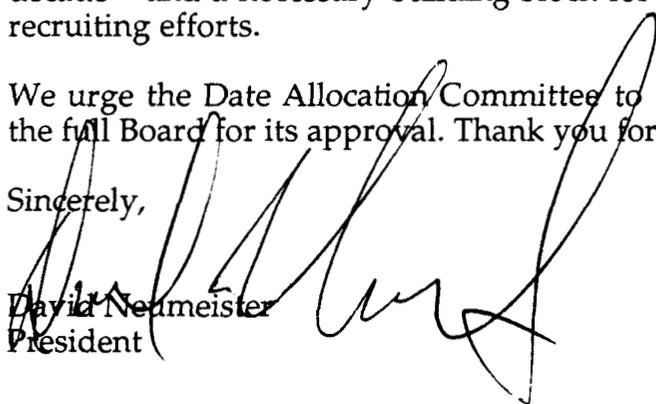
Pursuant to your recent letter requesting date allocation proposals for 2004, the Board of Directors of our horsemen's organization unanimously endorse the proposed schedule that has been submitted to the Board by Capitol Racing.

More specifically, we support proposed racing dates for harness racing at Cal-Expo from December 26, 2003 thru July 31, 2004, then new race dates at the Stockton Fairgrounds from August 6, 2004 thru October 2, 2004, to be following again by dates at Cal-Expo from Oct. 7, 2004 thru Dec. 24, 2004.

The dates proposed for Cal-Expo are generally consistent with those allocated during last year's allocation process. The new dates at the Stockton facility would provide a year-round racing schedule for our horsemen - the first in more than a decade - and a necessary building block for our continued success and national recruiting efforts.

We urge the Date Allocation Committee to recommend this racing calendar to the full Board for its approval. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


David Neumeister
President



a California joint powers agency

1776 Tribute Road, Suite 150
Sacramento, California 95815
Office: 916.927.7223 • Fax: 916.263.3341
www.racingfairs.org

Member Fairs

ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR
Pleasanton, CA

ANTELOPE VALLEY FAIR
Lancaster, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR
Sacramento, CA

DEL MAR FAIR
Del Mar, CA

EARL WARREN SHOWGROUNDS
Santa Barbara, CA

FARMERS FAIR & EXPOSITION
Perris, CA

THE BIG FRESNO FAIR
Fresno, CA

HUMBOLDT COUNTY FAIR
Ferndale, CA

KERN COUNTY FAIR
Bakersfield, CA

MONTEREY COUNTY FAIR
Monterey, CA

NATIONAL DATE FESTIVAL
Indio, CA

NATIONAL ORANGE SHOW
San Bernardino, CA

REDWOOD ACRES FAIR
Eureka, CA

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FAIR
Victorville, CA

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY FAIR
Stockton, CA

SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR
San Mateo, CA

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FAIR
Santa Maria, CA

SHASTA DISTRICT FAIR
Anderson, CA

SOLANO COUNTY FAIR
Vallejo, CA

SONOMA COUNTY FAIR
Santa Rosa, CA

STANISLAUS COUNTY FAIR
Turlock, CA

TULARE COUNTY FAIR
Tulare, CA

VENTURA COUNTY FAIR
Ventura, CA

July 10, 2003

Mr. Roy Wood
Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way
Sacramento, CA 95815

Dear Roy,

The Board has asked industry representatives for considerations with respect to the 2004 Racing Calendar. The California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) would offer the following considerations on behalf of the Fairs that conduct live racing in Northern California.

- 1) We ask that the Board allocate no fewer dates to Northern California Fairs than were allocated in 2003.
- 2) We ask that the Board consider reducing Northern California racing dates that overlap with San Joaquin Fair, California State Fair and the Fresno District Fair.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Korby
Executive Director

SAN JOAQUIN FAIR

JUNE 11-22, 2003

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2003 JUL 11 AM 11:34

July 10, 2003

**Mr. Roy Wood
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, Ca 95825**

Dear Mr. Wood:

The San Joaquin Fair would like to request ten (10) days of racing commencing June 16, 2004, and ending June 27, 2004. We plan on repeating the same schedule as the successful 2003 meet which had one hundred and four (104) races carded.

In addition, we would appreciate you considering eliminating overlap during the first week of our meet. The Fair is committed to horse racing for the long term. Our Fair was the first parimutuel track in California in August of 1933, and we have every intention of staying in this business in the future. Our Fair has made major investments in its facilities which include waste water and tack room compliance, a new paddock, a new grandstand sound system, and introduction of the jumbo-tron tv at the 2003 meet. These improvements, alone, speak to our commitment to the sport, and we plan on continuing our improvement projects. My hope is that this commitment will be rewarded by the elimination of overlap. Overlap had its time and place in history, but under today's conditions, I believe it is in the best interests of the sport to discontinue this practice.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



**Forrest J. White
Chief Executive Officer**

**cc: Chairman Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzela**

ALAMEDA
COUNTY FAIR

RECEIVED
CHRB

www.alamedacountyfair.com

2003 JUL 11 AM 11:52

4501 Pleasanton Avenue • Pleasanton, CA 94566 • (925) 426-7600 • FAX (925) 426-7599

Roy Wood
CHRB
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

July 7, 2003

RE: 2004 Race Dates - Alameda County Fair

Dear Mr. Wood:

The Alameda County Fair respectfully requests to run 11 days in 2004. It is anticipated that roughly 120 races will be ran, as in 2003 and 2002. We were pleased that our number of horses increased by 5% this year. Our "average starts per race" also increased to 7.72; we were at 7.33 in 2002.

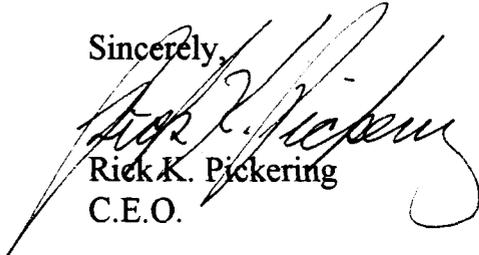
With regard to actual race dates, it is our understanding that the entire Northern California Fair racing schedule shifts a week in 2004 due to Leap Year. Consequently, our race meet would be Wednesday, June 30 through Sunday, July 11; dark on Tuesday, July 6.

2004 REQUEST:

- * Pleasanton
- * 11 days of racing
- * 120 live races
- * June 30th - July 11th (Dark on Tuesday, July 6th)

Thank you for your assistance in forwarding this information to the Dates Committee.

Sincerely,


Rick K. Pickering
C.E.O.

cc: CARF
Rod Blonien

SOLANO COUNTY FAIR

900 FAIRGROUNDS DRIVE, VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA 94589-4003

(707) 551-2000

(707) 642-7947 FAX

WWW.SCFAIR.COM

July 2, 2003

CHRB Race Dates Committee
Roger H. Licht, Chairman
Sheryl L. Granzella, Commissioner
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chairman Licht and Commissioner Granzella:

In response to your memo relative to racing dates for the 2004 racing season, the Solano County Fair proposes a similar schedule to this year to consist of 10 days of racing, Wednesday through Sunday from July 14 through July 25, 2004. As in past years, the racing program will feature approximately 12 races per day depending on the number of horses available. As always, the Solano County Fair wishes to cooperate in every way with all members of the horse racing industry to further the business prospects of the sport. Accordingly, if the southern California racetrack that is operating concurrently with our fair is conducting additional days of racing during the inclusive dates of the fair meeting, we would respectfully request to operate on those same days in order to maximize revenue to the fair, the State, the horsemen and the racetracks.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and I look forward to working with you and the board in the best interest of horse racing.

Sincerely,



Kim I. Myrman
General Manager
Solano County Fair Association

*Sonoma
County*
FAIR

July 12, 2003

Sonoma County Fairgrounds
Post Office Box 1536
1350 Bennett Valley Road
Santa Rosa, California 95402
Tel (707) 545-4200, Ext. 201
Fax (707) 573-9342

Roy Wood, Executive Director
California Horse racing Board
1010 Hurley Way
Sacramento, CA 95815

Dear Mr. Wood,

In response to the request for comments regarding 2004 Racing Calendar:

The Sonoma County Fair respectfully requests to operate its Fair race meet beginning Tuesday, July 28 and ending Monday, August 9. As has been the practice in the past, there would be no racing on the Tuesday, August 3.

If approved, the Fair would program ten races on each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. It would program twelve races on Saturday and Sunday. It would program thirteen races on Friday.

The plan would be to card three Emerging Breed races each day except Friday, which would include four Emerging Breed races. The purpose of having the thirteenth race on Friday is to maintain our starting post time while programming, at least to a limited extent, into the late post at Del Mar.

The proposed schedule would result in ninety-six Thoroughbred races during the two weeks and thirty-eight Emerging Breed races, which have been the numbers the past several years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly yours,

Jim Moore, Fair Manager

HUMBOLDT COUNTY FAIR



June 28, 2003

BOARD MEMBERS

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IRV PARLATO
1st Vice President

BILL BRANSTETTER
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JEFF FARLEY
DON GIACOMINI
JAY HIGHT, D.V.M.
WILEY LACY
TRAVIS LOW
EUGENE LUCAS
JACK MACDONALD
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MELVIN ROBERTS
JACK RUSS
DON TELFORD
JAMES TIMMONS
LES WESTFALL

Mr. Roger Licht, Chairman
CHRB Race Dates Committee
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Licht:

Pursuant to the June 20, 2003 CHRB Memorandum regarding the 2004 Racing Calendar, please accept this letter as representing the Humboldt County Fair's intentions to apply for racing dates next year.

Next year will mark the 108th year in which the Humboldt County Fair will be held in Ferndale. Our intentions include applying for 10 racing days in August, 2004. We plan on retaining our position in the summer fair circuit, wherein we will immediately follow the Sonoma County Fair and immediately precede the California State Fair. We anticipate that our 2004 racing dates will coincide with those of the San Mateo County Fair, which runs its races at Bay Meadows.

If my information is correct, we will be applying for the dates of August 13-23, 2004. Our dark day will be Tuesday, August 18, 2003. Our application will include plans to produce between 70-75 live racing events.

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to participate in this important process.

Sincerely,

Stuart Titus, General Manager

Humboldt County Fair Association
1250 5th Street, Ferndale, CA 95536
707.786.9511 or 707.725.1306 • FAX 707.786.9450
Email: humcou1@northcoast.com

July 2, 2003

Commissioner Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella
Racing Dates Committee
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825



Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the California Exposition & State Fair, I respectfully request the allocation of 12 non-overlapped racing days to run concurrently with the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club for the period August 25 through September 6, 2004.

The annual dates allocation issue has been understandably contentious. I have personally submitted requests to the CHRB on behalf of Cal Expo for the allocation of non-overlapped racing days since 1993. There have been occasions in recent years the CHRB Dates Committee has been close to eliminating or reducing the overlap period between Bay Meadows and Cal Expo. We sincerely appreciate the time and effort put forth by the CHRB in addressing this matter.

Our annual fair is unquestionably one of the finest fairs in the country offering first class entertainment for more than **1 million guests**. Without overlap, our racing program could attain the same first class status as our fair enjoys.

There have been many arguments put forth by the associations against eliminating overlap. One of the arguments has been the loss of some jobs for four days at Bay Meadows. Without overlap, Bay Meadows would still be open as a satellite and the actual number of jobs lost for the four live racing days is in our opinion, minimal. However, we are willing to address those concerns by employing janitorial staff, pari mutuel staff and other personnel who may have concerns related to this issue. Personnel employed by Cal Expo that are represented by unions accumulate a minimum of 25,000 work days on an annual basis. Our annual payroll is approximately \$12.9 million and again, we would welcome the opportunity to employ those personnel who may have a concern with the reduction or elimination of overlap related to their loss of work days.

Obviously, Bay Meadows is concerned with the loss of revenue if overlap is eliminated. We would support a Bay Meadows request to "make up" the four live racing days at another time in the calendar other than during the annual State Fair. It is also important to note that because of the increased and growing interest in ADW, during the calendar period an association is allocated race days those associations generate commissions and purse funds on days they are not running a live program. For instance, during the

Commissioner Roger Licht
Commissioner Sheryl Granzella
July 2, 2003
Page 2

recently concluded Bay Meadows Spring meet (April 2-June 15) approximately \$151,000 was generated through ADW for track commissions and purses on the 22 dark days, normally Mondays and Tuesdays, during this calendar period. The approximate amount of revenue generated on dark days for the upcoming Fall meet (19 days) will be \$131,000 bringing annual total revenue for commissions and purses to about \$282,000. Keep in mind this revenue is generated on days when no live racing related expenses are incurred and can be considered net revenue. If the Golden Gate Fields meets of 105 days are included in the calculation, the net revenue generated during these dark days should easily surpass the amount of revenue loss to Magna if overlap were eliminated.

In closing, we respectfully request the allocation of the aforementioned non-overlapped racing days for 2004. We would simply like to be afforded the opportunity to operate our race meet on a level playing field as is afforded to every other racing association and most fairs in California.

Respectfully
CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION & STATE FAIR



David Elliott
Assistant General Manager, Racing Events

cc: Mr. Roy Wood
Mr. Norbert Bartosik

FAIRPLEX

June 30, 2003

Mr. Roy Wood
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, Ca. 95825

Dear Mr. Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our proposed racing dates for the 2004 Los Angeles County Fair Association racemeet. We anticipate running this meet on dates concurrent with the dates of the Los Angeles County Fair. The racing event format below is consistent with the longstanding tradition of offering both thoroughbred and emerging breed races during the Fair meet. The Fair Association respectfully requests your consideration of the following proposal:

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | Dates: | Sept. 10, 2004 thru Sept 26, 2004 |
| 2. | Number of Race Days: | 17 |
| 3. | Number of Live Races: | Thoroughbred races per day – 10
Emerging Breeds – 2 per day |

Roy, the Los Angeles County Fair Board will be reviewing the option of extending the dates of the annual Fair by one week during 2004. In the event that this happens, we are considering the possibility of adjusting our racing dates request, retaining the 17 days of racing but spreading them over a slightly longer timeframe. We hope that the CHRB will give us the flexibility to alter our dates request slightly in the event that we move to a four week Los Angeles County Fair.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Seder
Vice President
Chief Financial Officer



July 9, 2003

Mr. Roy Wood
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Subject: 2004 Racing Schedule

Dear Mr. Wood,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the California Horse Racing Board of Directors for your continuing efforts to improve and enhance the horse racing industry in the State of California and to ensure its continuing growth and success for many years to come. To this end, the Big Fresno Fair would like to submit our concerns regarding the issue of overlap.

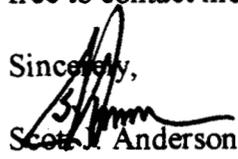
As you are aware, the Big Fresno Fair's live racing dates are the only dates in the State that operate under full overlap in both Northern and Southern California by the private racing associations. As a result, the competition for horses between our racing fair and the private racing associations is becoming increasingly challenging. We would like to convey to you that, given the current horse population and without getting into great detail, overlap should be seriously looked at in 2004. Further, due to the horse population, the debate that there is a different class of horses running at the private tracks rather than at racing fairs is no longer a credible argument. This is based off of what we have seen written into Bay Meadows, condition book over the past few years. Years ago the private tracks would never consider writing a claiming race for less than \$8,000. Today, they're writing \$3,200 claimers, which are typical races that would normally be found on the racing fair circuit, in an effort to fill races.

We are concerned with what we've seen over the past few years and even more concerned over what the future holds if overlap is continued. We've seen the horse population on our backside dwindle from a high of over 1000 head of horses in the early 1990's to just over 500 head last year in 2002. As you know, small field sizes equate to smaller handles, which lead to minimal purse structures and minimal purse structures simply can't justify an owner or trainer shipping horses into our meet. We fear that in the future this vicious cycle may lead to the ultimate demise of Fresno's long-standing tradition of horse racing which would be a tragedy to our industry if preventative action is not taken soon.

Mr. Roy Wood
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In conclusion, we respectfully request your consideration in reducing or eliminating overlap at the Big Fresno Fair. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,


Scott V. Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

Cc. Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors