

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

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 **Thursday, June 30, 2005**, commencing at **10:00 a.m.**, at the **Alameda County Fair Satellite Wagering Facility, Pleasanton, California**. (Directions to the satellite facility are: Enter the Alameda County Fair at Gate 12, off of Valley Avenue. The Satellite Wagering Facility is on the right. For easy access to Valley Avenue, take I-680 and exit at Bernal Avenue. Turn right on Bernal, go three stoplights and turn left on Valley). 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.

A G E N D A

1. Discussion and action regarding the **race dates for the 2006 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

Commissioner Richard B. Shapiro, Chairman
Commissioner John C. Sperry, Member

Date of Notice: June 20, 2005



June 13, 2005

George R. Haines, II
Vice President and General Manager

Mr. John Reagan
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95825

Dear John:

Enclosed is a dates calendar setting forth our proposed schedule for the 2005-2006 Santa Anita meet. As you can see, our proposal is consistent with the historical Santa Anita race dates with the meet commencing on the day after Christmas and continuing for 17 weeks.

Should you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

George R. Haines, II

GRH:mr

Enclosure

2005-2006

SANTA ANITA DATES PROPOSAL

87

TOTAL RACE DAYS

Dec-05						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	2	3				
	9	10				
	16	17	18			
	23	24				
29	30	31				

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		6	7			
		13	14			
		21	22			
		27	28			

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		6	7			
		13	14			
		20	21			
		27	28			

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		3	4			
		10	11			
		17	18			
		25	26	27	28	29

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30	31		

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28
	30	31				

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	20	21	22	23	24	25
	27	28	29	30	31	

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	31			

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29
	31					



HOLLYWOOD PARK

A Churchill Downs Company

Memo

To: John Reagan, CHRB

From: Rick Baedeker

Date: June 8, 2006

Re: Race Dates Proposal

John;

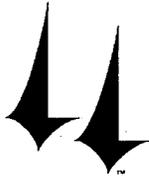
Attached with this email are four spreadsheets containing two proposals, versions A & B, for 2006 races dates at Hollywood Park. Those proposals are shown both with and without anticipated dates for other associations.

1. The first proposal, 2006 A, mirrors the calendar approved by the Board for 2005. The only change is the elimination of Wednesday racing following Memorial Day.
2. The second proposal, 2006 B, is offered in response to Santa Anita's anticipated proposal to extend its winter meet by one week. The same argument was made last year, at which time we reminded the Commissioners that the week in question was eliminated by the CHRB in 2001 when it mandated a Christmas break. Please note the following from a letter I sent to the CHRB a year ago:

Christmas Break. Magna has argued that running through Christmas Eve has been the traditional calendar. But to refresh both fans and the horses, the CHRB mandated a Christmas break in 2001 and began a new tradition.

In mandating the break, the Board reasoned that it would be unfair to penalize Hollywood Park by cutting off the final week of its Fall meet while rewarding Santa Anita with a business windfall for the beginning of its ensuing winter meet. In other words, Santa Anita would have been dramatically helped, Hollywood Park dramatically harmed. So the Board shifted the calendar forward, eliminating the final week of the Santa Anita winter meet.

Our proposal "B" provides an alternative for the Board if it determines that Santa Anita should receive an extra week of racing. The calendar is returned to its pre-2001 format with the calendars for all associations



HOLLYWOOD PARK

A Churchill Downs Company

moved forward (towards the end of the year) by one week, thus eliminating the Christmas break.

Please note that Proposal A is our strong preference.

Finally, Hollywood Park is open to experimenting with four day weeks during the final two weeks of our Fall meeting, should the Board, after concurring with labor and horsemen, desire to do so.

Please contact me or Eual at any time with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Rick Baedeker
President

2006 - Proposal A

Dec-05						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	26		28	29	30	31

Track / Race Days	
Santa Anita	83
	63
Del Mar	43
	26
	16
	36

TOTAL RACE DAYS	
267	
Full Card Simulcast	2

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20		
	24	25	26	27	28	29

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	5	6				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				5		
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	2	3				
		10				
	16	17				
	23	24				
	30	31				

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	6	7				
	13	14				
	20	21				
	27	28				

Dec-06						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	4	5				
	11	12				
		19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

2006 - Proposal B

Dec-05						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	26	27	28	29	30	31

Track / Race Days	
	83
	63
Del Mar	43
	26
	15
	35

TOTAL RACE DAYS	
265	
Full Card Simulcast	2

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			5	6	7	8
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		3	4	5	6	7
		10	11	12	13	14
	16	17	18	19	20	21
	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31			

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	6	7	8	9	10	11
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	20	21	22	23	24	25
	27	28	29	30		

Dec-06						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Reagan, John

From: Craig Fravel [Craig@dmtd.com]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 7:56 AM
To: Reagan, John
Subject: RE: 2006 DATES

Hopefully you got Tamara's e-mail yesterday but just in case we are requesting the same schedule as in 2005 closing the Wednesday after Labor Day. Thanks. Have a good weekend.

From: Reagan, John [mailto:JohnR@chrb.ca.gov]
Sent: Thu 6/9/2005 9:45 AM
To: Craig Fravel; Mike Ernst
Subject: 2006 DATES

Need something for 2006 by Friday morn...Package will go out soon for June 30 dates meeting.



Sherwood C. Chillingworth
Executive Vice-President

MEMORANDUM

To: Racing Dates Committee of CHRB
Richard Shapiro, Chairman
John Sperry, Commissioner
Marie Moretti, Commissioner

Date: June 9, 2005

From: Sherwood Chillingworth

Subject: 2006 Racing Dates

Oak Tree would like to request alternative racing dates:

Alternative 1

Should Hollywood Park no longer be owned and operated by Churchill Downs Inc., Oak Tree requests the following dates for 2006. Open on Friday, September 29, and run through December 10 with the exclusion of Mondays and Tuesdays occurring during this time period except for Columbus Day, October 9, when we would operate.

We are asking for a later than normal opening to allow a break between Fairplex's closing Monday and Oak Tree's opening day and, in addition experiment with a Friday opening which would provide for good racing the entire weekend. We would propose ending the meet on December 10 (54 days) to allow a 15-day break before the commencement of Santa Anita's historical opening. This break has been sought by TOC over recent years and we believe it should be attempted on a trial basis.

Alternative 2

Oak Tree's policy has been not to request dates normally allocated to other racing association; therefore, if Hollywood Park continues to be owned and operated by Churchill Downs, Inc., we would request the dates September 27 through October 29 excluding all Tuesdays falling within this time period and all Mondays within this time period except Monday, October 9, Columbus Day. (26 Days)

2006 RACE DATES

ALTERNATIVE 1

September

October

November

December

January

February

March

April

Oak Tree

29

10

Santa Anita

26

29 approx.

ALTERNATIVE 2

Oak Tree

27

29

Santa Anita

26

29 approx.

Reagan, John

From: Bernie Thurman [bthurman_us@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 1:05 PM
To: richard@wincoasset.com; thesperryranch@aol.com
Cc: Reagan, John
Subject: 2006 Racing Calendar Request for Proposal

Commissioners:

Per the attached chart which displays our suggestions for the 2006 racing calendar, Bay Meadows and the San Mateo County Fair propose the following:

Bay Meadows Racing Association:

Racing on a Wednesday through Sunday schedule, with exceptions noted:

Winter/Spring meet: 70 days
 Wednesday, February 1st through Sunday, May 7th
 Exception to normal schedule--open Monday, February 20th (Presidents' Day), dark
 Wednesday, February 22nd

Fall meet: 33 days
 Saturday, September 2nd through Sunday, October 15th
 Exceptions to normal schedule--open Monday, September 4th, (Labor Day), dark
 Thursday, September 7th (assumed to be a dark day in Southern California)
 Open Monday, October 9th (Columbus Day)

Total 103 days, one less than in 2005

The proposed schedule is similar to that in place for 2005, excepting the elimination of the six day live race week conducted during the Presidents' Day holiday week.

San Mateo County Fair:

Racing on a Wednesday through Monday schedule, no exceptions:

12 days, Wednesday, August 9th through Monday, August 21st

Bay Meadows/San Mateo County Fair Dates Proposal for 2006

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Legend:



January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	6	7				
	13	14				
		21	22			
	27	28				
						20

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	6	7				
	13	14				
	20	21				
	27	28				
						23

April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3	4				
	10	11				
	17	18				
	24	25				
						22

May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2				
	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
						5

June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
		5		7		
	11	12				
	18	19				
	25	26				
						21

October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2	3				
		10				
	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				12

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

2006

Northern California Thoroughbred Meets

	101
SMCF	

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25		27				
BM	0				GG	5

2	3					
9	10					
		17	18			
23	24					
30	31					
BM	0				GG	21

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9				
	15	16				
	22	23				
	30					
						GG 17

	5	6					
	12	13	14	15			
	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	
							GG 12

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17					
	23	24					
	30	31					
							GG 10

	6	7					
	13	14					
	20	21					
	27	28					
							GG 22

	4	5					
	11	12					
	18	19					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							GG 17

Reagan, John

From: Melodie Knuchell [mknuchell@losalamitos.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2005 6:18 PM
To: richard@wincoasset.com; TheSperryRanch@AOL.com; Reagan, John
Subject: 2006 Racing Calendar-Los Alamitos

In response to the CHRB Race Dates Committee Memorandum, here is the proposal from Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association. The only changes made were relative to the way holidays fall in 2006.

2. DATES OF MEETING

A. Inclusive dates for the entire meeting: December 26, 2005 through December 17, 2006

B. Actual dates racing will be held:

December 26, 29-30, 2005	(3)	July 1-2, 6-9, 13-16, 20-23, 27-30	(18)
January 1, 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, 26-29	(17)	August 3-6, 10-13, 17-20, 24-27, 31	(17)
February 2-4, 9-12, 16-19, 23-26	(15)	September 1-3, 8-10, 14-17, 21-24, 29-30	(16)
March 2-5, 9-12, 16-19, 23-26, 30-31	(18)	October 1, 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, 26-29	(17)
April 1-2, 6-9, 13-16, 20-23, 27-30	(18)	November 2-5, 9-12, 16-19, 24-27, 26-30	(16)
May 4-7, 11-14, 18-21, 25-28	(16)	December 1-3, 7-10, 14-17	(11)
June 1-4, 8-11, 15-18, 22-25, 29-30	(18)		

C. Total number of days or nights of racing: 200

D. Days or nights of the week races will be held:

Wed - Sun Tues - Sat Other (specify) Thursday through Sunday

E. Number of days or nights of racing per week: 4 nights - except December 31, February 5, September 7 and Thanksgiving November 23, 2006.



CAL EXPO

June 6, 2005

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

Dear Members,

On behalf of the California Exposition & State Fair, I respectfully request the allocation of harness racing dates at Cal Expo for the period January 1 through December 31, 2006.

This period represents approximately 200 racing days for the calendar year.

Your consideration of our request is sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully,
CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION & STATE FAIR

David Elliott,
Assistant General Manager, Racing Events

cc: Cal Expo Board of Directors
Ms. Ingrid Fermin
Mr. Norb Bartosik
Mr. Roy Minami
Mr. John Reagan
Mr. Christopher Schick
Mr. Kim Hankins

SACRAMENTO HARNESS ASSOCIATION

2335 AMERICAN RIVER DRIVE, SUITE #406
Sacramento, CA 95815
(916) 622-7223, FAX (916) 244-0298

June 13, 2005

California Harness Racing Board
Date Allocation Committee
Richard Shapiro, Chairman
Marie Moretti, Member
John Sperry, Member

Dear Commissioners,

Sacramento Harness Association would like to express strong support for the 2006 Harness Dates request by the California Exposition & State Fair. The 2005 Standardbred date allocation giving the industry a virtual year-round schedule has paved the way for the industry to recover. This allocation has brought joy and optimism throughout the entire industry. Our view is that the 2005 allocation should not be changed in anyway for 2006.

Respectfully yours,



Christopher J. Schick
General Manager

FAIRPLEX

June 13, 2005

Ms. Ingrid Ferman
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, Ca. 95825

RECEIVED
CHRB
2005 JUN 16 PM 12:03

Dear Ms. Fermin:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our proposed racing dates for the 2006 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. 8, 2006 thru Sept 25, 2006
Dark Days: Sept 12 and Sept 19
2. Number of Race Days: 16

Please note that these requested dates are subject to the success of our experiment in 2005, which has us closing one day a week instead of operating seventeen straight days as in years past. Should this experiment prove unsuccessful, we will be asking to return to a seventeen day racemeet from September 8, 2006 through September 24, 2006.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Seder
Vice President
Chief Financial Officer

Cc: John Reagan



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

June 10, 2005

Commissioner Richard Shapiro
Chairman, Racing Dates Committee
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way
Sacramento, CA 95815

Dear Mr. Shapiro,

The California Authority of Racing Fairs, on behalf of San Joaquin Fair, Alameda County Fair, Solano County Fair, Sonoma County Fair, Humboldt County Fair, San Mateo County Fair, California State Fair and Fresno District Fair, would like to thank you for the opportunity to respond to your request for proposals regarding the 2006 Racing Calendar.

Northern California racing Fairs propose that June 14 through September 4, 2006, and October 4 through October 15, 2006, inclusive, be allocated as Fair racing dates in Northern California. This schedule represents a total of 89 racing days. We request that these dates be allocated with no overlapping dates in the Northern zone.

As the Board deliberates on the 2006 Racing Calendar, we ask that it bear in mind the following considerations.

1) Fairs have the longest commitment to racing in this state, having conducted racing in California for over 150 years. Fairs and racing also share a political heritage, one that has served the racing industry well for over seventy years. To this day, horse racing law cites "supporting the network of California Fairs" and "Encouraging agriculture and the breeding of horses in this state" as the statutory reasons for allowing parimutuel wagering on horse racing. Fairs are a vehicle through which the Legislature has chosen to distribute the economic benefits of horse racing to local communities and to the agricultural sector. Revenues derived from horse racing help sustain overall Fair activities, activities which are an important part of the fabric of California life.

2) Development of fan base: Last year over 2,650,000 Californians attended the Northern California Fairs that conduct racing. Fairs represent one of the best ways to create new racing fans. Last year over 2,650,000 Californians attended the eight Northern California Fairs that conduct racing. Fairs are strengthening

their fan education programs to introduce new fans to racing. Come to the races at Pleasanton or Santa Rosa or Fresno and you'll find a Grandstand filled with racing fans. Fairs connect racing to wholesome, family-oriented activities.

3) Fairs have a major stake in the future of California racing. Seven of the nine race tracks in Northern California are located at Fairs. In the last five years, the seven Northern California Fairs that own and operate race tracks have invested over \$8,000,000 in racing facility improvements: \$ 5,000,000 in back stretch improvements and \$3,000,000 in racing surface upgrades through our Race Track Safety and Maintenance program. In addition, Sonoma County Fair has just invested \$3,000,000 in a new Turf Course. Statewide, Fairs operate twenty-three satellite wagering facilities; these facilities represent a substantial capital commitment to horse racing. In that same five-year time frame, Fairs have invested over \$7,500,000 in satellite facilities; \$3,500,000 in satellite facility equipment, maintenance and upgrades plus another \$4,000,000 to build a new satellite facility in Lancaster. These investments reflect Fairs' commitment to California racing for the long run.

4) Fairs are publicly-owned venues that will continue to offer racing after privately owned race tracks are developed for other purposes. Privately owned race tracks are coming under increasing economic pressure to develop the real estate on which they sit. We are seeing that scenario unfold as the present owners of Bay Meadows actively pursue plans to develop their race track property for commercial and residential use. Fairs, on the other hand, are planning for and investing in a long, active future in racing. We believe that economic forces will move California racing toward the prevailing economic model for most major league sports: privately-owned franchises operated at publicly-owned venues. Fairs intend to be a part of that future. Del Mar, one of the most successful racing operations in the country, already operates under such a model, with grounds and grandstand owned by the San Diego County Fair leased to the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

5) Fairs need racing dates without overlap to ensure that they will be financially strong, viable and active participants in the future of racing in Northern California. It's the consensus of most industry observers that overlapping dates are not good for racing. Fairs agree. We propose that a simple standard be applied to the decision: reduce overlapping dates in favor of those who are investing and building for the future. Fairs are investing in their racing facilities in anticipation of a long future in the racing industry. Why should Fairs, who have demonstrated a commitment to racing, be obliged to conduct racing on dates that overlap with a race track whose owners' stated intention is to leave Northern California racing? We urge the Board to lay the groundwork for a successful future beyond 2006, when the Northern California Racing Calendar may no longer include both the privately-owned race tracks that presently operate.

6) California's Central Valley is one of the fastest-growing regions in the state; San Joaquin Fair, State Fair and Fresno Fair deserve dates without overlap to present high quality racing in this important and growing market. We ask that the Board consider population trends as it considers the public interest in the allocation of dates. The California public is on the move: population is shifting from coastal urban areas to inland locations. San Joaquin Fair (Stockton), the California State Fair (Sacramento) and Fresno District Fair are all located in this important and growing inland market. Californians in these markets deserve the same high quality racing as that offered at other venues in Northern California.

In closing, we would like to emphasize again that Fairs have the longest heritage of racing in California and that Fairs are committed to preserving the value of that heritage by investing and building for the future. Fairs have a major stake in California racing, owning nine race tracks and twenty three satellite facilities. Fairs are publicly-owned entities whose racing profits stay in California and are re-invested in their local communities, generating jobs and significant economic impact. Fairs will continue to be an important part of California's social fabric and agricultural economy long into the future.

As an indication of the Fairs' commitment and accord, this letter is signed by CEO's of Fairs that conduct racing in Northern California.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


Christopher Korby
Executive Director

Cc: CHRB Members

Signatures attached.

HUMBOLDT COUNTY FAIR

June 9, 2005

BOARD MEMBERS

Irv Parlato
President

Bill Branstetter
1st Vice President

Valerie Davis
2nd Vice President

Don Becker
Clarence Bugenig
John Burger
Ken Christen
Al Cooper
Jeff Farley
Don Giacomini
Jay Hight, D.V.M.
Wiley Lacy
Travis Low
Eugene Lucas
Jack Macdonald
Cindy Olsen
Herb Peterson
Robert Prior
Tim Renner
Johanna Rodoni
Wayne Wilson

Stuart Titus
General Manager

**Commissioner Richard B. Shapiro, Chairman
Dates Committee
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825**

Dear Chairman Shapiro:

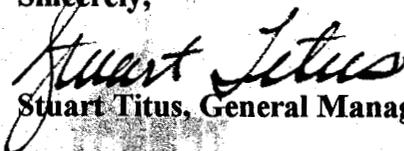
In response to recent correspondence distributed by the California Horse Racing Board, please accept this letter as representing the Humboldt County Fair Association's request for racing dates in 2006.

The Humboldt County Fair requests the dates of August 10-20, 2006. Looking even further into the future, and depending on the nature of upcoming discussions, Humboldt would similarly be requesting the dates of August 9-19, 2007 and August 8-18, 2008.

Like everyone else, we at Humboldt are aware of significant changes that may occur over the next few years, regarding the future of horse racing in California. We join our partners in the California Authority of Racing Fairs in offering whatever we can to ensure that the industry remains a strong, diverse and vital part of the agricultural industry. To that end, we request that the interests of everyone be considered in the decision making process, including those of Humboldt.

Thank you for your continued service to horseracing.

Sincerely,


Stuart Titus, General Manager

Cc Chris Korby, CARF

HUMBOLDT COUNTY FAIR
FERNDALE, CALIFORNIA

1250 5th Street • Ferndale, CA 95536

email: humcou1@northcoast.com • www.humboldtcountyfair.org

707.786.9511 ~ 707.725.1306 (P) • 707.786.9450 (F)