



CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

PRESS RELEASE

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SUMMARY OF CHRB ACTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS 9-9-2026

The California Horse Racing Board conducted a meeting on Wednesday, September 9, Los Alamitos Race Course. Chairman Gregory Ferraro chaired the meeting, joined by Vice Chair Oscar Gonzales and Commissioners Dennis Alfieri, Damascus Castellanos, and Peter Stern.

The audio of this entire Board meeting is available on the CHRB Website (www.chrb.ca.gov) under the [Webcast](#) link, accessed through the Media Room tab. In brief:

- Dr. Jeff Blea, the CHRB equine medical director, reported that three of California's regulatory veterinarians are using an AI-powered application to objectively look for indications in a horse's gait suggesting possible musculoskeletal issues. Along with the veterinarian's subjective evaluation, the information from the Sleip app allows regulatory veterinarians to discuss problems about the horses' asymmetry (invisible to the naked eye) with their trainers and attending veterinarians. To date, 351 Sleip tests have been performed on 294 horses in California.

In this report, Dr. Blea referenced an earlier discussion let by Commissioner Stern concerning the use of technology in horse racing. Commissioner Stern, who held executive positions with Oracle and Salesforce, along with numerous other leadership positions with other prominent technology companies, noted during a discussion of the future of horse racing that he has been in the technology industry for 25 years and he's never seen it move as fast. "It's really going to impact all of us," he stated. He suggested that horse racing should embrace developing technology by enlisting information and support from a variety of entrepreneurs and technologists.

On this same note, Vice Chair Gonzales referred to programs in other states focused on detecting metabolic markers in horses that suggest possible physiological abnormalities in the horse. Given the number of sudden deaths in all of horse racing, he recommended that California look further into those programs.

- The Board approved the license application for the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club to conduct a meet in Del Mar with racing from November 6 through November 29. First post will be 12:30 p.m. all days except 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving (November 26).
- The Board renewed the license of Xpressbet to provide ADW wagering in California. The vote for approval was 4-1, with Vice Chair Gonzales in opposition. He suggested the CHRB give more scrutiny to ADW applications that provide few or no restrictions on computer-assisted wagering (CAW).
- The Board approved amendments to its Conflict of Interest Code designed to update outdated position titles and legacy classifications that are no longer utilized concerning positions that are required to file Statements of Economic Interests under the Political Reform Act.
- In his report, Executive Director Scott Chaney noted the CHRB has added a new section on Track Surface Data to its website on the Racing Safety page. He also reminded that the next Board meeting will be held Wednesday, November 18, at the U.C. Davis Maddy Laboratory.