

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HORSE RACING BOARD

In the Matter of:)

)

Regular Meeting)

)

LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE

FINISH LINE ROOM

4961 KATELLA AVENUE

LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

9:30 A.M.

Reported by:

Elise Hicks

APPEARANCES

BOARD MEMBERS

Gregory Ferraro, Chair

Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair

Damascus Castellanos, Commissioner

Dennis Alfieri, Commissioner

Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner

Thomas Hudnut, Commissioner

STAFF

Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Jeff Blea, Equine Medical Director

ALSO PRESENT

Jack Liebau, Los Alamitos Racing Association

Cathy Monji, Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association

Eric Sindler, Los Angeles Turf Club

Nate Newby, Los Angeles Turf Club

David Duggan, Los Angeles Turf Club

Rick English, Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association

Bill Nader, Thoroughbred Owners of California

Cliff Goodrich, Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Wilson

Lynn Freudenberg

APPEARANCES

PUBLIC COMMENT (cont.)

Bonnie Croker

Martha Sullivan

Ellen Ericksen

Amy Zimmerman, Santa Anita Park

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>Action Item:</u>	
1. Approval of the minutes of October 19, 2023	3
2. Discussion and action on adopting the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority's (HISA) recommended national concussion protocol for jockeys, dependent on the Federal Trade Commission's approval of HISA's proposed rule.	4
3. Discussion and action by the Board on the Application for License to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of the Los Alamitos Racing Association (LARA) at Los Alamitos Race Course, commencing December 6, 2023, through December 19, 2023, inclusive.	7
4. Discussion and action by the Board on the Application for License to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of the Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (LAQHRA) at Los Alamitos Race Course, commencing December 20, 2023, through December 24, 2024.	14

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>Action Item:</u>	
5. Discussion and action by the Board on the Application for License to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of the Los Angeles Turf Club (LATC), at Santa Anita, commencing December 20, 2023, through June 18, 2024, inclusive.	21
6. Discussion and action by the Board on the Application for License to Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of the Pacific Racing Association (PRA), at Golden Gate Fields, commencing December 20, 2023, continuing through June 11, 2024, inclusive.	32
7. Discussion and action by the Board on whether to elect to collect and remit fees on behalf of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority for calendar year 2024.	40
8. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the Distribution of Race Day Charity Process of Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association, from its 2022 Race Meeting.	42

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>Action Item:</u>	
9. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the request to modify the distribution of market access fees from Advanced Deposit Wagering for wagering conducted by the signatory racing associations for 2024 to include a distribution to be utilized to fund a California co-op marketing program.	43
10. Discussion and action by the Board regarding the request for approval of the nominated members to the Board of Directors of the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc., pursuant to CHRB Rule 2049(a), Designation and Approval of Horsemen's Welfare Fund.	46
11. Reports	56
A. Executive Director's Report	
B. Equine Medical Director's Report	
12. Public Comment: Communications, reports, requests for future actions of the Board. Note: During the public comment period, a total of 30 minutes will be allowed for public comments	71

INDEX

PAGEAction Item:

via the teleconference line. After 30 minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to two minutes.

13. Closed Session: For the purpose of receiving advice from counsel, considering pending litigation, reaching decisions on administrative licensing and disciplinary hearings, and personnel matters, as authorized by section 11126 of the Government Code. --

Closed Session:

- A. The Board may convene a Closed Session to confer with and receive advice from its legal counsel regarding the pending litigation described in the attachment to this agenda captioned "Pending Litigation," and as authorized by Government Code section 11126(e).
- B. The Board may convene a Closed Session to confer with and receive advice from

INDEX

PAGEClosed Session:

its legal counsel regarding the pending administrative licensing or disciplinary matters described in the attachment to this agenda captioned "Pending Administrative Adjudications," as authorized by Government Code section 11126(e).

- C. The Board may convene a Closed Session for the purposes of considering personnel matters as authorized by Government Code section 11126(a).

Adjournment

78

1
2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 9:35 A.M.

4 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Good morning, ladies and
6 gentlemen. This meeting of the California horse racing
7 Board will please come to order. If you'll all take your
8 seats, we appreciate it.

9 This is a regular notice meeting of the California
10 horse racing Board on Thursday, November 16th, 2023 in the
11 Finish Line Room of the California Horse Racing Board. This
12 meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 23, in the
13 finish line room of the California horse racing Board,
14 Cypress [sic], California.

15 Present at today's meeting are: myself, Dr.
16 Gregory Ferraro, Chair; also Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair;
17 Dennis Alfieri, Commissioner; Damascus Castellanos,
18 Commissioner; Brenda Washington Davis, Commissioner; Thomas
19 Hudnut, Commissioner; and Scott Chaney, Executive Director.
20 Commissioner Wendy Mitchell is not able to join us today.

21 Before we go into the business of the meeting, I
22 need to make a few comments. You've all heard them before.

23 The Board invites public comment on the matters
24 appearing on the meeting agenda. Procedurally, the Board
25 will first hear from those directly involved in the agenda

1 item. I will then invite public comment on the agenda item.
2 The Board will not answer questions. This item is for
3 comments only, not questions.

4 Unsolicited speakers are limited to two minutes.
5 During all public comments a sign will be raised after the
6 first 90 seconds, meaning a speaker will have 30 seconds
7 remaining to conclude their remarks. At two minutes, a
8 second sign will be raised, and a tone will sound to
9 indicate the speaker's time is up. The Board may ask
10 questions of individuals who speak, which may extend their
11 two-minute time limit.

12 There are public comment sign-in sheets located at
13 the designated table to my right for each agenda item on the
14 Board which invites comments. I will now invite public
15 comment period for matters not on the Board's agenda if it
16 concerns horse racing in California. Please print your name
17 legibly on all sign-in sheets.

18 When a matter is open for public comment, your
19 name will be called. Please come to the podium and
20 introduce yourself by stating your name and organization.
21 This is necessary for the court reporter to have a clear
22 record of all who speak.

23 When your two minutes are up, I'll ask you to
24 return to your seat so that others can be heard. I will ask
25 that all speakers stay strictly on topic for each agenda

1 item. If the speaker strays off topic, I will ask to move
2 to the next speaker. If the speaker repeats themselves, I
3 will ask if the speaker has any new comments to make. If
4 there are none, the speaker will be asked to let others make
5 comments to the Board.

6 If anyone has comments of a more general nature
7 that are not general nature that are not specific to earlier
8 agenda items, those comments must wait until agenda item
9 number 12, Public Comment. There will be a 30-minute time
10 limit for public comment. In order to allow as many
11 individuals to speak as possible within that half hour, I
12 will enforce the two-minute time limit.

13 And with that, we will begin our meeting by asking
14 for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 19th,
15 2023 meeting.

16 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So moved.

17 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Second.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

21 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes. I can't hear you
22 on the mic.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

24 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

1 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

3 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Do you vote yes, as
6 well, Mr. Chairman?

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Oh, yeah, I do vote yes. Yeah. I
8 forgot about me.

9 All right, number two, discussion and action on
10 adopting the Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Authority,
11 HISA, recommended national concussion protocol for jockeys
12 dependent on the Federal Trade Commission's approval of
13 HISA's proposed rule.

14 Mr. Chaney?

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Sure. Good morning,
16 Commissioners.

17 As you may recall, about a year and a half ago,
18 CHRB was required by HISA to create and adopt our own
19 concussion protocol, which we actually were happy to do and
20 did it accordingly. Going forward, HISA has created their
21 own concussion protocol. Frankly, it's very similar to what
22 we have. And each track, as you may recall, adopts it as
23 part of their licensing process.

24 So this requirement probably won't be going into
25 effect until January, but we thought it prudent to have the

1 Board adopt it as California's policy, given that you're
2 considering four race meet apps this morning. And if
3 approved, then that would -- the racetracks would be
4 agreeing to HISA's new policy. And it will be a national
5 one going forward once the FTC adopts it.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
7 Board?

8 Do we have a public comment, Mike?

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Heather Wilson. Just
10 one.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Just one?

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yes.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Heather Wilson?

14 MS. WILSON: Good morning, Commissioners.

15 The Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine published a
16 study in 2020. Amateur and professional jockeys were
17 surveyed who were never medically diagnosed but suspected
18 that they had sustained a concussion. Jockeys displayed
19 good knowledge of concussion signs and symptoms, yet one in
20 two jockeys would still continue to ride out the same day if
21 they suspected they had a concussion. The reasons include
22 not considering a concussion as serious, risk of losing the
23 ride, not wanting to let anyone down, and they considered it
24 a sign of weakness.

25 We spend considerable time every week watching

1 live racing. And a repeated theme, when a jockey is tossed
2 off their mount, nobody pulls up, and the race is very
3 rarely stopped. I have literally seen the surviving horses
4 in the field jump over the mortally injured bodies of their
5 comrades, and they're not foes. Horses are herd animals,
6 their comrades. Horses will be steered to try to avoid the
7 jockeys that are lying on the ground because this is the
8 culture of horse racing, you must cross that finish line
9 first at any cost. This is not a sport. This is a
10 battlefield.

11 Earlier this year, when Damar Hamlin they
12 collapsed and needed CPR during a professional football
13 game, both teams joined arms and refused to continue
14 playing. That's because that is sportsmanship, and football
15 is a real sport.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

17 Any other public comment? None, huh?

18 Do we have further questions or comments from the
19 Board? If there are none, we'd entertain a motion.

20 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis moves.

21 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Second. Hudnut.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Second. That was a first and
23 second. Okay.

24 Commissioner Davis?

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

2 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

4 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

6 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

8 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes. I
10 remembered myself this time. Okay.

11 All right, number three, discussion and action by
12 the Board on the Application for License to Conduct a Horse
13 Race Meeting of the Los Alamitos Racing Association at Los
14 Alamitos Race Course, commencing December 6th, 2023, through
15 December 19th inclusive.

16 And we have no staff presenter on this.

17 Mr. Liebau?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yeah. The only
19 comment is that the application is fully complete.

20 MR. LIEBAU: Happy to have you here.

21 As far as our meet is concerned, it's a two-week
22 meet, starting on December the 6th. There are five stakes
23 races, three of them being graded. The Starlet is a Grade
24 II, the Futurity is a Grade II, and the Bayakoa is a Grade
25 III. And there are two Cal Bred races.

1 We urge you to approve our application. Thank you
2 very much.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: By the way, thank you for the
4 hospitality you show here. It's quite nice, actually.

5 MR. LIEBAU: Oh, that's -- the next one up, it's
6 Cathy, not me, so --

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Cathy, thank you very much.

8 Any questions or comments from the Board? None?

9 Lynn? I can't read the writing. Anyway, go
10 ahead. What's your last name? On the mic, please.

11 MS. FREUDENBERG: Good morning. My name is Lynn
12 Freudenberg. I'm with Kill Racing Not Horses.

13 Many reasons not to grant an application to race
14 horses at Los Alamitos. First of all, is a failure to
15 protect them, and their unknown whereabouts, lack of
16 monitoring.

17 October 20th, the Board reported its 68th horse
18 death in California's 2023 season. At Los Alamitos, a five-
19 year-old gelding, Club Cal, was entered at race seven and is
20 now listed as musculoskeletal or other for his death cause.
21 Cal Club is a 17th horse death reported at Los Alamitos
22 Course so far this season.

23 The 17th of this 2023 is also a Noisy Burglar,
24 also listed as non-musculoskeletal death.

25 No legitimate sport would tolerate that 17 of its

1 athletes in 10 months of competition at one venue, much less
2 68 of its athletes in the 10 months of completion in just
3 one state.

4 So along with having horse deaths, we also have
5 missing horses in action horses where there's no monitoring.

6 On July 2nd, 2022, Seven Exes was placed fifth,
7 bled, by Doug O'Neill. I found her listed for sale and sold
8 on an EquineNow database, and with a caption underneath the
9 ad saying, "I am putting my horse up because I don't have
10 the time." It appears that Seven Exes did not make enough
11 money.

12 One day later, on July 2nd, 2020, I Am Not
13 Uncertain, a colt born April 2020, two-year-old colt, first
14 and only start, another O'Neill horse, placed fourth, earns
15 3K, no further workouts or races. I Am Not Uncertain ran
16 its first and only race at Los Alamitos Thoroughbreds, then
17 was vanned off the track, not seen since.

18 If this license is approved without fail, more
19 horses will bleed and more horses will get injured and
20 vanned off.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Bonnie Croker?

23 MS. CROKER: Good morning. Bonnie Crocker with
24 Kill Racing Not Horses.

25 Do not grant a racing meet license to the Los

1 Alamitos Racing Association. This track has killed 18
2 horses this racing year so far.

3 I am specifically mentioning two thoroughbred
4 horses for this particular agenda item.

5 On 07/02/23, a 6-year-old mare named 27 Trots
6 (phonetic) was in the lead in the stretch when she suffered
7 a front limb catastrophic injury. She collapsed on her
8 face, absolutely horrific. She became the tenth dead horse
9 for Los Alamitos this year.

10 I have her gut-wrenching, leg-breaking death race
11 on video on my phone if racing fans here have the guts to
12 watch it, or if there are any media persons here who need it
13 for reference. It was obtained from a public source.

14 I am inquiring as to the whereabouts of another
15 thoroughbred named Lalic from France. She is, or was, a
16 mare born at 03/05/17. On 09/17/22, in the seventh race she
17 was unable to run faster when her jockey beat her with his
18 whip. She was eased, then walked off, placing last. She
19 was then dumped at Golden Gate Fields where she is reported
20 to have run one race and received two workouts. Then she
21 disappeared from public record as of 10/22/22.

22 We are here at this meeting today because the
23 racing industry believes that none, none of these horses'
24 lives matter enough to stop the equine death races. My
25 colleagues and I are here to state that the life of each and

1 every horse matters as much as our own human lives.

2 CHRB, stop rubber stamping licenses for the horse
3 killers. Thank you.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

5 Martha Sullivan?

6 MS. SULLIVAN: Good morning. I'm Martha Sullivan.
7 I'm with Kill Racing Not Horses. Welcome back to Southern
8 California. It's one of our few opportunities now to
9 comment in your meetings.

10 I monitor the live horse races in Southern
11 California every weekend. When I monitor the Los Alamitos
12 thoroughbred meet, particularly this last one, the fields
13 are pathetically small, which from my perspective is a good
14 thing because fewer horses' lives are being risked and
15 possibly taken.

16 But when we know from scientific research that
17 this Board has shared since 2006 that 90 percent of
18 catastrophic injuries are the result of repetitive injuries,
19 it is truly indefensible to continue to license such a
20 pathetically small meet. It is indefensible to risk horses'
21 lives and have them taken.

22 You need to really consider both the lives that
23 you're risking and that you're taking and what you're doing
24 it for. It's gambling. It's awful all the time, but it's
25 really awful when it's for such a small number of

1 participants in the races. It's just pathetic.

2 It's time to stop perpetuating at least this
3 particular meet. It's time to put it out of its misery.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Heather Wilson?

7 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

8 Regarding the Los Alamitos thoroughbred meet,
9 Forgotten Vows was raced at Los Al Thoroughbreds on June
10 25th, 2022. This chestnut gelding was born in California on
11 January 3rd, 2019, and his story is sad yet very typical.

12 On February 5th last year, he ran at Santa Anita.
13 After three starts and no wins, he was downgraded to the
14 doomed Golden Gate track. There he ran with two starts and
15 he was still a maiden. He was then sent back to Southern
16 California for the last time, running at Los Alamitos
17 thoroughbreds, where he was pulled up and DNF. Back to
18 Northern California, he goes, finally breaking his maiden at
19 Santa Rosa. One more race at Golden Gate, and then he was
20 done racing in California.

21 After only ten months, Forgotten Vows was dumped
22 out of state. November 2022, he resurfaced in Arizona,
23 racing at Turf Paradise and Rillito. The next stop in the
24 Southwest Circuit was SunRay, New Mexico. He then went all
25 the way to Energy Downs, Wyoming. The last state on his

1 U.S. tour was Montana at the Great Falls track.

2 Forgotten Vows is now running at Lethbridge in
3 Alberta, Canada. The Canadian charts callously refer to his
4 performance as "No threat, void early speed, and mild bid."

5 He is now almost six years old. With 29 starts and only
6 two wins, nobody cares about this animal.

7 Forgotten Vows is definitely long forgotten in the
8 eyes of the CHRB and Los Alamitos thoroughbreds, and any of
9 his California connections. This horse has been trafficked
10 for well over 4,000 miles. He has raced between five states
11 and Canada at ten different racetracks. He is now in a
12 country that openly slaughters and eats horses.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Any further comments or questions from the Board?
15 Can we entertain a motion?

16 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes. Gonzales, I move.

17 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Second.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

21 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

23 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

2 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: The Chairman votes yes.

4 Moving on to item number four, discussion and
5 action by the Board on the Application for a License to
6 Conduct a Horse Racing Meeting of Los Alamitos Quarter Horse
7 Racing Association at Los Alamitos Race Course, commencing
8 December 20th through December 24th.

9 Cathy?

10 MS. MONJI: Good morning. Good morning, Chairman
11 and Commissioners, Director Chaney. I'm Cathy Monji. I'm
12 President of the Pacific -- the Los Alamitos Quarter Horse
13 Racing Association. I'm joined this morning by Dr. Allred,
14 the owner of the racetrack, and our staff.

15 Next year we're looking forward to an outstanding
16 stakes' schedule. We're headed by the 2024 Champion of
17 Champions, which will feature a nine -- I mean a \$1 million
18 purse for only the second time in its 52-year history.

19 I'm sorry, I'm nervous.

20 Los Alamitos will host three of the richest
21 futurities in the nation, led by some million-dollar races
22 in the fall.

23 This morning we're respectfully requesting
24 approval of our 2023-2024 race meet application.

25 Earlier this year, Dr. Allred has earmarked up to

1 \$1 million in backstretch improvements, and I'm pleased to
2 announce that we've completed the first phase of that. Dr.
3 Allred's commitment to horse racing in California and to Los
4 Alamitos is as strong as ever.

5 I would also like to highlight a project that is
6 very dear to me, our meals and activities for backstretch
7 workers. Los Alamitos Race Course, in cooperation with the
8 Quarter Horse Benevolent Foundation and the Racetrack
9 Chaplaincy of America, provide -- will continue to provide
10 programs of hot meals, soccer, and other outings in 2024.

11 Our management staff, along with volunteers from
12 these organizations, come together each week to serve, to
13 cook, and clean up after each meal. It's a wonderful time
14 for fellowship for members of our racetrack community. We
15 listen to music, we have prizes, and we just get to know
16 each other. It has truly been a rewarding experience to
17 engage directly with the hardworking workers of our
18 backstretch community.

19 Thank you for your time, and we're here to answer
20 any questions. I'm sorry I was so nervous.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
22 Board? Thank you.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Same four speakers.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Oh, okay, same four.

25 Martha, why don't we start with you this time?

1 MS. SULLIVAN: Thank you. On Tuesday of this
2 week, this Board reported the 76th horse death of the 2023
3 racing calendar in California, Cactus Jack, a Quarter Horse
4 who died apparently on Monday after racing at Los Alamitos
5 on Sunday. This is the 76th death as I mentioned. It was
6 the third death that you reported in two days. This is not
7 looking good for you guys. At this point last year, you had
8 reported 54 deaths. This is a 41 percent increase in horse
9 deaths.

10 This track, Cactus Jack was the 18th horse death
11 for Los Alamitos Race Course. Cactus Jack was the seventh
12 Quarter Horse of these.

13 Cactus Jack was a four-year-old Quarter Horse. He
14 was raced 19 times, all at Los Alamitos Race Course,
15 starting in April of 2021. He earned \$59,000 for his owner
16 and his breeder, Los Alamitos owner Ed Allred and his
17 trainer Scott Willoughby.

18 As I said, the horse deaths this year are not
19 looking good, a 41 percent increase over this point last
20 year. You've reported three deaths this week.

21 What does it take? What does it take for you to
22 put the brake on this? I'll be speaking to this more later
23 in the meeting, but I will tell you that as the daughter of
24 a 27-year FBI agent who rose to assistant director of the
25 Los Angeles region --

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Martha. Your time is
2 up, Martha.

3 MS. SULLIVAN: -- I was very proud of 60 Minutes
4 this Sunday night.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Time is up, Martha.

6 MS. SULLIVAN: Thank you.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Let's move on to somebody else,
8 please.

9 Bonnie Croker?

10 MS. CROKER: Bonnie Croker with Kill Racing Not
11 Horses.

12 Do not grant a racing meet license to Los Alamitos
13 Quarter Horse Racing Association. Not only has this track
14 killed 18 horses during this racing year, they have injured
15 numerous other horses, some of whom have disappeared
16 suspiciously from public record.

17 For example, Wynona (phonetic) Dash, a filly born
18 03/27/20, on 09/23 she pinballed, place last in her race,
19 looked lame on camera, zero workouts posted thereafter on
20 Cal Racing.

21 Brittany Breeze, a filly born 03/26/19, on
22 05/28/22 she was pulled up from her race and vanned off
23 after the camera appeared to show a problem with her left
24 hind leg.

25 Bee Siesta, a filly, born 02/29/20, on 06/05/22

1 she went off path during her race, appeared on camera to be
2 dragging her hind legs. She got pulled up in the gallop out
3 after placing last. She was then raced one more time on
4 07/10/22, placing last out of six. Then Bee Siesta
5 disappeared from public record.

6 CHRB, please do not rubber stamp a racing license
7 meet -- or racing meet license for this soon-to-be-closed
8 track. They need to be held accountable for the horses they
9 kill and injure every year. Ed Allred keeps threatening the
10 CHRB, saying he will turn his remaining property into more
11 real estate investments if we don't give him his licenses on
12 his terms. Please invite him to sell his track sooner
13 rather than later. The Cypress City plans are drawn.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

16 Lynn Freudenberg? I'm still working on it, I'm
17 sorry.

18 MS. FREUDENBERG: Lynn Freudenberg, Kill Racing,
19 Not Horses.

20 Many reasons, again, not to grant a license to the
21 thoroughbred meet. First of all, it's debts, and then
22 there's missing horses with lack of monitoring, so many
23 missing Los Alamitos horses.

24 June 26, '22, Branch Rickey, a gelding born March
25 2019, flipped, gate injury, scratched, on the vets list.

1 January 1st, Lovely Evening, a filly born April
2 2nd, 2019, flipped, gate freakout, scratched, placed on the
3 vets list, listed as a gate injury.

4 February 4th, 2023, Fort Bridger, a gelding born
5 March 8th, 2019, race number seven, placed third and vanned
6 off, nothing on video, put on the vets list as unsound.

7 Horses freakout and get injured routinely at Los
8 Alamitos. If they loved to race so much, the starting gate
9 would not be such an issue. It's exactly opposite of what a
10 horse would, where they would want to be.

11 Where are these horses now?

12 Also, there's many deaths here at Los Alamitos
13 Quarter Horse. September 10th, 2023, the death of a two-
14 year-old Quarter Horse filly, Thundering Eagle, she placed
15 sixth on the eighth race during a 50-yard sprint. Per the
16 official record, she broke in, lacked kick, vanned off.
17 Thundering Eagle's death is listed as muscular skeletal and
18 pending as per the Board. She is the number 57th horse
19 death reported by the Board this year.

20 Let's see.

21 No legitimate sport would tolerate the death of 76
22 of its athletes, yet alone in one state.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

25 Heather Wilson?

1 MS. WILSON: Regarding the Los Alamitos Quarter
2 Horse meet and amending Rule 1902 to include match racing,
3 taking effect January 1st next year, CHRB licensees will not
4 be allowed to participate in unsanctioned racing. How are
5 you going to enforce this?

6 Rancho Los Alamos is still openly flaunting its
7 deep ties to this racetrack. Oscar Parra, or Parra's
8 Racing, continues to actively enter horses at both tracks.
9 Ed Allred's horses with that one-of-a-kind Rolling A brand
10 on their left hip are still running at both tracks.

11 Next, after Tap the Wire won the race on May 5th,
12 2020 -- or May 9th, he was killed, yet not listed on the
13 fatalities list. CHRB Rule 1846.5 was then updated to
14 include horses who lost their lives within 72 hours after
15 leaving a CHRB enclosure.

16 So all these horses that are running at Rancho Los
17 Alamos and all the illegal tracks, if they perish within 72
18 hours after leaving Los Alamitos and then going to these
19 tracks, how are you going to know? There's no way you're
20 going to know.

21 I picked up this horseshoe at Rancho Los Alamos.
22 How do we know that this horseshoe didn't belong to an Ed
23 Allred horse or a horse that used to run here?

24 We have no idea how many horses will be losing
25 their lives who ran at these illegal tracks that ran here

1 within 72 hours after leaving.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 Questions or comments from the Board? May I
4 entertain a motion?

5 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Motion.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

7 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Second.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

9 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

11 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

13 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

15 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

17 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes.

19 Moving on to item number five, discussion by the
20 Board on the Application for a License to Conduct a Horse
21 Race Meeting of the Los Angeles Turf Club at Santa Anita,
22 commencing December 20th, 2023, through June 18th, 2024,
23 inclusive.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Just one note for --

25 CHAIR FERRARO: There they are.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: I'm sorry.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead. Go ahead.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Just one not for the
4 Commissioners, the TOC agreement wasn't in after we
5 published the Board packet, but the one online has been
6 updated. If anyone needs a hard copy, you can find them on
7 Mike Marten's table over there.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Very well. Carry on.

9 MR. SINDLER: Good morning. Eric Sindler here on
10 behalf of the Los Angeles Turf Club, joined by Nate Newby
11 and Jason Egan.

12 As the Executive Director stated, we're applying
13 for a license from December 20th, 2023, through June 18th,
14 2024. And of course, opening day of live racing will be as
15 traditional, December 26th.

16 MR. NEWBY: Good morning Mr. Chairman,
17 Commissioners, and Director Chaney. We're very much looking
18 forward to the start of our upcoming meet and we want to
19 capitalize on the momentum from a successful Breeders' Cup.
20 The Santa Anita facility looked amazing for an audience on
21 NBC, and we hosted over 100,000 people at the track with a
22 total handle of \$176 million, so that was the highest handle
23 for a Santa Anita Breeders' Cup and third largest in BC
24 history.

25 Our season kicks off the traditional opening day,

1 the day after Christmas. Our big event days continue to do
2 well. Last year's opening day set an all-time handle record
3 for Santa Anita's 89-year history for opening day and we're
4 pleased with that, looking to do similar results, and then
5 capitalize moving into the new year with the audience in
6 Pasadena for Rose Parade and Rose Bowl, keep the momentum
7 going.

8 Also want to mention our promotion with Mathis
9 Home, who will be back for opening day, and that's a plush
10 toy horse giveaway offered with a donation to CARMA. Last
11 year we were able to raise over \$60,000 on opening day for
12 aftercare.

13 Let's see here, oh, I wanted to give an update on
14 the construction project. So the Tapeta training track
15 installation has begun, it's underway. We have a 300,000
16 square foot tent in our parking lot that's currently mixing
17 materials as they arrive. And we're on schedule, barring
18 any crazy rain over the next month or two, to complete that
19 project in early January. So working with our horsemen on
20 that. Everybody's been great and happy to report that we're
21 on schedule there. That's a \$7.5 million project that's
22 underway.

23 So beyond that, it's a busy season.

24 Jason Egan's here to answer any questions on the
25 races. We have 90 stakes, 53 graded during our season, so

1 it's a busy, busy season. And happy to answer any
2 questions.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions from the Board? I have
4 one.

5 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I just want to make a
6 comment.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

8 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Just congratulations. The
9 Breeders' Cup was phenomenal. Reminded me as a kid growing
10 up and above the track there in Santa Anita and coming out
11 and seeing, you know, a full grandstand, you know, and
12 excitement. You know, families were out there, a lot of
13 kids, a lot of mom and dads. People were enjoying the day,
14 the two days, so it was great. You really presented it
15 well, so congratulations.

16 MR. NEWBY: Thank you very much. A lot of hard
17 work by our team and the Breeders' Cup team and we were
18 thrilled with it, but thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Last year, I think the year before
20 actually, we had a break. You had a break halfway through
21 the meeting. Are you planning on doing it again this year?

22 MR. NEWBY: Yeah, so a similar schedule. We are
23 planning a break after Santa Anita Derby weekend. So the
24 weekend of April 12th through 14th, we would take off. It
25 gives us a chance to do some turf course maintenance and

1 other things, so that will be our weekend off.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: And given inclement weather, will
3 that affect your week off in between or no? It shouldn't.

4 MR. NEWBY: It shouldn't.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay.

6 Any questions from the Board?

7 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: While we're tossing kudos
8 your way, we may have well toss one for the Tapeta course.
9 Thank you for getting started on that. We look forward to
10 seeing it.

11 MR. NEWBY: Thank you. Appreciate that.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay, gentlemen, we have public
13 comments here.

14 Ellen Erickson?

15 MS. ERICKSEN: Good morning. Ellen Ericksen,
16 activist from San Diego.

17 There are now 24 reported horse deaths at Santa
18 Anita this year with Geaux Rocket Ride and Practical Moves
19 last Thursday. And added two-year-old colt, Nestucka in
20 training at Santa Anita Park, described as a muscular
21 skeletal, is now among the 76th reported by this Board,
22 2023, this racing season. That is up 109 percent from this
23 point last year at Santa Anita and up 41 percent from this
24 point last year for all California race deaths. Maybe you
25 can reference your own website and look at exactly how many

1 horses are dying in this state.

2 Nestucka is the 24th horse death reported at Santa
3 Anita Park. At this point in 2022, 12 horses were reported
4 at Santa Anita. The number of horse deaths has doubled in
5 one year. Nestucka's trainer, Luis Mendoza, has a second
6 horse who died in his five-year care on August 5th at Del
7 Mar. Episode Five, also a two-year colt, listed by this
8 Board as muscular skeletal and pending.

9 Nestucka earned \$4,160 for his owner, Eric Jensen,
10 and trainer Luis Mendoza and jockeys. Is that what this
11 horse's life was worth, \$4,000?

12 No legitimate sport would tolerate the deaths of
13 two athletes under the same coach in less than four months,
14 nor 24 athletes at one venue in less than 11 months, nor 76
15 of his athletes in one state in less than 12 months. We ask
16 that you do not issue a license to race at Santa Anita,
17 December 20th to June 18th.

18 And also, we realize that this decision is already
19 made before we go through all the motions at this Board.
20 Not one member here ever says no.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Bonnie Croker?

23 MS. CROKER: Bonnie Croker, Kill Racing Not
24 Horses.

25 Do not grant a racing meet license for Santa

1 Anita. They have killed 24 horses this year so far,
2 including two Breeders' Cup hopefuls, Practical Move and
3 Geaux Rocket Ride. Santa Anita had the audacity to show
4 Practical Move as scratched from her Breeders' Cup race on
5 simulcast. She was dead.

6 Santa Anita also has several injured horses whose
7 whereabouts are in question. This year, we are looking for
8 One Mo Eddie, a two-year-old filly. On 02/19/23, in the
9 ninth race, she was pulled up, walked off, unable to finish
10 the race. We're looking for Tucker's Tribute, a four-year-
11 old gelding placed second to last in the first race, was
12 then vanned off, showed up on the vet list as unsound. Our
13 Magic Girl, a two-year-old filly, on 03/19/23, she had to be
14 eased in the ninth race and was unable to finish. She
15 showed up on the vet list as unsound.

16 CHRB, please make Santa Anita accountable for
17 their killed and injured horses. Do not grant them a racing
18 meet license. Thank you.

19 And by the way, there are plenty of members on
20 this Board that said no at one time to Ed Allred. But then
21 they let him call in and interrupt the meeting as it was
22 continuing. He bullied you into giving him his race license
23 on his terms. As I said earlier, let him sell this place.
24 Close it down.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

2 Heather Wilson?

3 MS. WILSON: Liar Liar, a tragically ironic name,
4 is a handsome California Bred thoroughbred gelding born in
5 2017. He started out at Santa Anita in May of 2022, then
6 went to Los Al Thoroughbreds. After breaking his maiden
7 there, he returned to Santa Anita. But offering no more
8 wins, he was downgraded to the Los Al mixed races. His most
9 recent start was at Los Al, 08/19/23, placing first. It was
10 a dirt cheap claimer for \$3,200. Even though he won, the
11 claim was voided because he was put on the vet list as
12 unsound.

13 In October, just less than two months later, he
14 popped up in a posting on Auction Horses Rescue at Mike's
15 Auction in Mira Loma, California. Update, this is a copy
16 and paste from the website from the Horses Rescue, Auction
17 Horses Rescue, we have confirmed, Liar Liar is back at the
18 auction this evening just one month later in worse shape.
19 He is considerably skinnier.

20 We do not know why, but this is sadly a common
21 descent for thoroughbreds at auctions. His pictures are
22 public. You can check it out. The Santa Anita horse is now
23 appearing at an auction, skin and bones, a Santa Anita
24 horse. This is what happens when you grant these licenses.
25 This is what happens to Santa Anita horses. They are going,

1 going, gone.

2 How many more Liar Liars will there be when you
3 rubber stamp the approval for this racing meet? Again, we
4 will never, ever know.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

6 Lynn?

7 MS. FREUDENBERG: Two more horses whose last known
8 whereabouts were at the great disgrace place called Santa
9 Anita. February 11th, 2023, Sierra Pass, a gelding born
10 April 2018, placed second to last, then vanned off, on vet
11 list as unsound. Incidentally, the same day, three horses
12 were vanned off; the other two were confirmed dead, Merit
13 Song, and then Decorated My Life, whose birthday was
14 February 11th, was killed on her race date and birth date.

15 Could it be three dead in one day? Of course, it
16 behooves Santa Anita to conceal a third fatality if this is
17 the case. Where is she? You could visit YouTube, Google,
18 Sierra Pass, and find the video.

19 February 17th, 2023, Distorted Queen, a filly born
20 05/06/19, lost her footing on hindquarters, traileed,
21 weakened, placed last. With 13 starts and only 1 win, she
22 was not considered very valuable. Where is she now?

23 On -- this is another one -- 10/12/23, Big Update
24 was your 18th horse death at the 2023 season in Santa Anita,
25 a three-year-old filly, Big Update, non-musculoskeletal and

1 other. During that time, it was a 38 percent increase over
2 the same point in 2022.

3 Big Update is the fourth race horse bred by George
4 Krikorian from his sire Mr. Big to die so far in 2023 race
5 season, per the Board.

6 January 8, Big Future died, training at Los
7 Alamitos course, scapula fracture.

8 February 20, Big Talker died, racing at Santa
9 Anita, sudden death.

10 February 22, Big Laugh died of gastrointestinal
11 colic at Golden Gate Park.

12 Thank you so much for the time.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Martha?

15 MS. SULLIVAN: Martha Sullivan with Kill Racing
16 Not Horses.

17 I just have to respond to Santa Anita's
18 characterization of the recent Breeders' Cup. 834,000
19 people watched it on TV on Breeders' Cup Saturday, the big
20 day, in comparison for the college football games that day,
21 anywhere from 2.4 million to 8.6 million people watched
22 college football games.

23 Santa Anita is on the front row of the Titanic.
24 They're speeding ahead straight for that iceberg. They had
25 two very prominent deaths of Breeders' Cup contenders the

1 week before the breeders, Geaux Rocket Ride and Practical
2 Move. There were four reported injuries on Breeders' Cup
3 Friday. You know, there was a bleeding horse reported, two
4 musculoskeletal injuries reported -- well, actually three
5 musculoskeletal injuries reported. This is not what you
6 call success.

7 Again, I've been saying this for a long time, this
8 Board and this industry needs to face reality and start
9 planning for the transition of your workforce, including
10 your horses, out of racing because it's coming. And it's
11 coming faster and faster as you get closer to that iceberg.

12 Do not grant this license. Thank you.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

14 Do we have any further comments or questions from
15 the Board regarding this application?

16 MS. ZIMMERMAN: Chairman Ferraro?

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead. I'm sorry, I didn't see
18 you.

19 MS. ZIMMERMAN: Hi, I'm Amy. I wanted to go ahead
20 and put it in. I just wanted to respond to a couple of
21 things that were said. Amy Zimmerman on behalf of Santa
22 Anita Park and California Horsepower Coalition.

23 Yes, Martha, the 800,000 that you cited was the
24 NBC number. That does not include the hundreds of thousands
25 that watched on FanDuel or any other ADW website. So that

1 number is not correct as we sit there and look at it.

2 Additionally, as we talk about the number of
3 fatalities, it's important to keep things in context. At
4 Santa Anita, I won't discuss the numbers for the other
5 racetracks since I don't know, but at Santa Anita, we run
6 more than 300,000 trips over the racetrack in a year. So,
7 yes, those fatalities are important. Every single one of
8 them we all take personally and we lean into them. But,
9 again, context is important. And as we discuss here on the
10 public record, it should be instituted that way.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

13 Questions or comments from the Board? Can we
14 entertain a motion?

15 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So moved.

16 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

17 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Second.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay. Commissioner Davis?

19 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

21 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

23 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

25 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

2 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes.

4 Thank you, gentlemen. Good luck on your meeting.

5 MR. SINDLER: Thank you.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Have a safe one, will you?

7 MR. NEWBY: Thank you.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: And number six, discussion and
9 action by the Board on the Application for a License to
10 Conduct a Horse Race Meeting of the Pacific Racing
11 Association at Golden Gate Fields, commencing December 20th,
12 2023, continuing through June 11th, 2024.

13 MR. SINDLER: Good morning. Good morning. Eric
14 Sindler here, with Dave Duggan, General Manager of Golden
15 Gate Fields, and William Rizzuto, Assistant Manager of
16 Golden Gate Fields.

17 As the Executive Director mentioned, we're
18 applying for our license to run from December 20th, 2023,
19 through June 11th, 2024.

20 Also, as a note, in the Board package, it mentions
21 that we're going to be racing on Mondays. But we have
22 alerted CHRB staff that we are changing back to a Friday
23 through Sunday schedule, and CHRB has been provided updated
24 data.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Correct.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Also, sorry, I should
2 have jumped in before that. The TOC agreement is the same
3 with Golden Gate Fields as well. We did receive that. The
4 packet online has been updated, and there are copies of the
5 Golden Gate Fields ones on the table over there if you care
6 to peruse.

7 MR. DUGGAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Vice
8 Chair, Executive Director Chaney, and members of the Board.

9 What you have is an application from the Pacific
10 Racing Association, Golden Gate Fields, to run the race
11 meeting on the dates that we have asked for. It's a long
12 meet, right the way through until June of 2024. Hopefully,
13 the weather will be a little bit kinder to us this year.

14 We've got all our normal marketing plans in place,
15 and the highlight of the meet will be the San Francisco
16 Mile, which has been run in April.

17 So we would be very obliged if you would grant us
18 a license for that time. Thank you very much.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
20 Board?

21 I would like to express some gratitude for your
22 running that meet, because that was not part of the original
23 intention when you were going to close Golden Gate, and I
24 believe the entire industry is grateful for the next six
25 months. Thank you.

1 MR. DUGGAN: Thank you, Mr. Hudnut, yes.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Lynn, you want to start off this
3 time?

4 MS. FREUDENBERG: Lynn Freudenberg, Kill Racing
5 Not Horses.

6 Golden Gate Fields application should not be
7 approved, and because of a video that I watched, it was
8 Carolina Mia. She was raced on 05/21/23, a six-year-old
9 mare. She was pulled up, did not finish, dangling left leg,
10 fetlock and metatarsal fracture. Her death went viral on
11 national news. As she was beaten, during this race she was
12 beaten as her left leg was dangling, practically snapped
13 off.

14 Another death was October 30th, the 71st horse
15 death of California's 2023 season, six-year-old gelding Kind
16 of Gallant's death. It is listed as a training today,
17 October 30th, at Golden Gate Fields, muscular skeletal.
18 Kind of Gallant is the fourth reported horse death in
19 October at Golden Gate Field, three of which are training
20 deaths and the 15th horse reported by the CHRB to have died
21 at Golden Gate Fields at this time.

22 This is one reason. The horse deaths are the
23 reasons why I hope you do not approve this application.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

1 Heather Wilson?

2 MS. WILSON: All right, the swan song. A very
3 common trafficking pattern for California racehorses is to
4 run at Golden Gate and the Northern California fairs, then
5 they get dumped out of state and killed.

6 Class Proof was a gelding born in California,
7 2018, with five starts at the doomed track, plus one each at
8 Fresno and Sacramento. His last California start was at
9 Golden Gate, 11/19/22, a cheap \$5K claimer. But his claim
10 was voided due to unsoundness, yet he still managed to cross
11 state lines and go to Arizona, where he was raced without a
12 soundness exam. He suffered a life-ending injury at Turf
13 Paradise on January 28th, 2023, and the sad story of Class
14 Proof was published in the Paulick Report.

15 Then there is Juana Gallo, a filly born in
16 California, 2020, so she was a baby, raced at Golden Gate
17 four times and at three different Northern California Fairs.
18 After racing in California for a grueling five long months,
19 she's dumped in Arizona around the same time as Class Proof.
20 In her third start at Turf Paradise, Juana Gallo went wrong,
21 and it ended her life on February 26th, 2023.

22 Incidentally, another California dump named Gypsy
23 Rosie fell on top of her as she lay in the dirt,
24 catastrophically injured.

25 So instead of approving of this racing meet, what

1 we should be doing is phasing out the racing at Golden Gate,
2 less racing days, smaller fields, less focus on where are
3 these horses going to go so you can mitigate the numbers of
4 horses that get dumped and killed out of state or who end up
5 in feedlots and kill pens just like Liar Liar. We should be
6 reducing the racing at this track because this is the last
7 racing meet that Golden Gate will ever have.

8 So let's take care of these horses that we claim,
9 pun intended, that we claim to love so much. What are we
10 going to do with all these hundreds of horses when Golden
11 Gate shuts its doors? Where are they going to go? Let's
12 focus on that now while the track is still open and you have
13 all your resources there.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

15 Martha?

16 MS. SULLIVAN: Martha Sullivan with Kill Racing
17 Not Horses.

18 I find it very troubling that as we head into the
19 final meet for this racetrack, we just had your Board report
20 the death of a horse there. You reported it this last
21 Monday, but the horse actually died on November 4th, a two-
22 year-old unraised gelding named Comeupance listed as an
23 other death with no other information provided.

24 Comeupance's trainer is listed on your fatalities
25 list as Samuel M. Calvario, who has had two other horses die

1 in his care reported by this Board in June and July at the
2 Pleasanton Racetrack in Alameda County. Rio King is listed
3 as a musculoskeletal vertebrae other death on June 9th, and
4 Psychodar (phonetic) is listed as a racing musculoskeletal
5 fetlock death on July 3rd.

6 I am very concerned that as this track winds up
7 its operations, it will become even more lax about the care
8 of the horses. The fact that it took ten days to report
9 Comeuppance's death, I don't know where the responsibility
10 for that lies, but that does not bode well. The fact that
11 his trainer, this is now the third horse that died in this
12 trainer's care since June, does not bode well at all for
13 what is going to happen in the last several months of this
14 track's operation.

15 So I suggest that you consider this very
16 carefully, whether there are additional conditions that you
17 need to place on this track as it winds up its operation.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Bonnie Croker?

20 MS. CROKER: Bonnie Croker with Kill Racing Not
21 Horses.

22 Do not grant this last racing meet license for
23 this soon to be shut down track. Golden Gate Fields has
24 killed 16 horses so far this year. How many more horses
25 will you condemn to death by rubber stamping one last legal

1 license to kill?

2 This Stronach-owned track should be concentrating
3 fully on helping their employees transition to other work.
4 They should be dismantling their decrepit backstretch
5 housing and all structures that exist on their property so
6 that they can fully disappear from the face of the earth by
7 June of 2024.

8 May the horses Golden Gate Fields killed this year
9 run free and rest in peace with the hundreds, probably
10 thousands of others they've killed over the past years. The
11 2023 death list so far is Tap Union, Emma's Dance, Big
12 Laugh, Ultimate Diva, Heza Valentine, LExcellent, Crazy
13 Dreams, Carolina Mia, Great Story, Gardees World, Weeping
14 Willows, Navy Queen, Hangin at Heaven, Zakaya (phonetic),
15 Kind of Gallant, Comeuppance. Shame on this heartless
16 industry that killed you for blood money.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

18 Are there any further questions or comments? Can
19 I entertain a motion please?

20 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Motion.

21 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Second.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Commissioner
25 Castellanos?

1 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

3 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

5 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

7 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes here. Motion

9 approved.

10 Item number seven --

11 MR. SINDLER: Thank you.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, gentlemen. Sorry.

13 Discussion and action by the Board on whether to
14 elect -- to conduct and remit fees on behalf of the Horse
15 Racing Integrity and Safety Authority for calendar year
16 2024.

17 Mr. Chaney, please?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Yes. Good morning,
19 Commissioners. There is a misprint in the agenda. It
20 should say calendar year 2024.

21 As you recall, you've made this decision twice
22 before. This is really just a question of whether the CHRB
23 will remit the assessment fees to HISA on behalf of the
24 stakeholders in California or if tracks will be responsible
25 for that directly. With our stakeholders, we decided the

1 best route in order to do that is for the CHRB to collect
2 the fees and then remit that to HISA.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
4 Board? This is something we decided last year. No change.

5 Heather, do you have a comment to make?

6 MS. WILSON: Thank you. Regarding collecting and
7 remitting fees on behalf of the Authority, which according
8 to the meeting packet will cover California's share of the
9 Horse Racing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Program and
10 the Racetrack Safety Program, so as we know, HISA only
11 covers thoroughbreds. What about the Standard Breds at Cal
12 Expo? What about all these Quarter Horses? And what about
13 the mixed races with Quarter Horses and thoroughbreds?

14 So all these fees that you're collecting, is this
15 going to improve the safety and the medication testing on
16 all these other horses that HISA does not cover? And I
17 apologize if this has already been discussed. Because a
18 huge contingent of race horses in our state are conveniently
19 exempt from HISA. So are we going to lead the way in racing
20 safety? And what kind of protection do all these other
21 horses get?

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

23 Questions or comments from the Board? Entertain a
24 motion?

25 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Motion.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

2 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

6 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

8 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

10 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes.

12 Thank you.

13 Item number eight, discussion and action by the
14 Board regarding the distribution of race day charity
15 proceeds of Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association
16 from the 2022 race meeting.

17 Go ahead, Mr. English.

18 MR. ENGLISH: Good morning, Chairman,
19 Commissioners. My name is Rick English.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Put your mic on, please. Is your
21 mic on? Push the button.

22 MR. ENGLISH: Can you hear me now? My name is
23 Rick English, representing Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing
24 Association.

25 We presented a list of qualified charities that

1 we'd like to distribute the proceeds from our charity days
2 of racing. And we're here to request the approval of the
3 Board.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments from the
6 Board? This is the same, pretty much, distribution as last
7 year; correct?

8 MR. ENGLISH: Yes, it is.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Yeah.

10 Heather?

11 Thank you, Rick.

12 MS. WILSON: Regarding the charity proceeds,
13 before Ed Allred was fully into racing, he is reported by
14 Forbes to have made \$70 million annually at his Family
15 Planning Associates. And according to Equibase, he has
16 earned over \$700,000 this year in racing alone and a
17 lifetime earnings of over \$23 million. The Rolling A Ranch
18 horses that he breeds and sells is another very lucrative
19 business.

20 And by the way, any update on Vinnie Bednar? Are
21 you helping him out or is he still relying on a GoFundMe
22 page?

23 \$4,000 for the Permanently Disabled Jockey Fund
24 is nothing. It is a drop in the ocean. And you are
25 generously donating \$15,000 to be split between four

1 different charities. I mean, \$4,000 is nothing. For a
2 catastrophically injured jockey, that is absolutely nothing.
3 It's nice that you make a donation, but you really need to
4 be a little bit more generous. You've got a lot more money
5 than \$15,000 to donate.

6 CHAIR FERRARO: And I would comment that this is
7 not the only source of contributions that Los Alamitos
8 makes.

9 Are there any questions or comments from the
10 Board? Can I have a motion to approve?

11 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So moved.

12 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Second.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

14 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

16 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

18 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

20 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

22 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes.

24 Thank you all.

25 Number nine, discussion and action by the Board

1 regarding the request to modify the distribution of market
2 access fees from advanced deposit wagering for wagering
3 conducted by the signatory racing associations for 2024 to
4 include a distribution to be utilized to fund California Co-
5 op Marketing Program.

6 Mr. Nader?

7 MR. NADER: Good morning, Chairman Ferraro, Vice
8 Chair Gonzales, Commissioners, Executive Director Chaney.

9 This is no change from present year, so status quo
10 to carry it forward to 2024.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Okay.

12 Questions from the Board? Nothing? Well, let's
13 have a motion.

14 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: I move approval.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Second?

16 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Second.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: I'll take the second from
18 Commissioner Davis. It's her turn.

19 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Oh.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

21 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

23 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

25 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

2 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes. Motion is
6 approved.

7 Where are we? Number ten, discussion and action
8 by the Board regarding the request for approval of the
9 nominated members to the Board of Directors of the
10 California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc.,
11 pursuant to Rule 2049, Designation and Approval of a
12 Horseman's Welfare Fund.

13 Cliff, before you start, I want to thank you for
14 the service that you've given us over the years, not only in
15 this organization, but in many others. You've been a
16 stalwart in the industry, and we certainly appreciate it.

17 MR. GOODRICH: It's been my pleasure. This item,
18 Chairman Ferraro and Commissioners, normally comes up in
19 earlier times, but after June, we lost two more Board
20 members, and we're down to seven. And we are allowed up to
21 11 directors. And according to Rule 2049, any time we elect
22 new directors or reelect existing directors, it has to come
23 before approval of the Board.

24 We have been fortunate. We have sought out three
25 worthy candidates, Stephanie Hronis, Lucy Lawrence, and Dr.

1 James Dunn. Their brief bio is in the communication I sent
2 to the Board. The one thing we looked for, more than
3 anything else, was a passion to help those less fortunate,
4 and in this case, obviously, the backstretch workers that we
5 provide health care service for.

6 I remember a couple years ago, and properly, Vice
7 Chair Gonzales pointed out, I think we had eight men and one
8 woman on our Board. Well, it's become ladies' day, and
9 rightfully so, because I think the men have ruled this world
10 long enough. I think it's time for the ladies to start
11 taking over, and in a micro sense, that's what's happening
12 with our Board and we couldn't be happier.

13 So I ask for your approval of these three
14 directors.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Questions or comments?

16 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So move to approve them.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Do we have public comment?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: No.

19 CHAIR FERRARO: No? Okay.

20 So we have a move from Alfieri. Do I have a
21 second?

22 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Davis seconds.

23 CHAIR FERRARO: You're too late.

24 Commissioner Hudnut?

25 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

1 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

2 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

3 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

4 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

5 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellano?

6 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Sorry, Mr. Chairman, I,
7 being a Board member of the CTHF, I will recuse myself,
8 because I already agree.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Correctly done. Correct.
10 Commissioner Davis?

11 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

12 CHAIR FERRARO: And the Chairman votes yes.

13 MR. GOODRICH: Thank you.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: The motion is approved.

15 We get to the best part of the program now --

16 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Well, one more thing.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: -- the Executive Director's
18 Report.

19 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Point of personal
20 privilege, Mr. Chairman?

21 Cliff, you you'd come back up, please?

22 MR. GOODRICH: Damascus knows how much I love
23 this.

24 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yeah, I know. So,
25 Cliff, I've had some, some help, and of course, good old Ken

1 helped me out with some things, and we have a few things
2 that we want to speak about, and then Oscar will conclude
3 it. I'd like to remind everybody here of a little
4 background. I'm going to give you a little background that
5 you maybe recall or don't recall.

6 In 1965, a tall, young man named Cliff Goodrich
7 was hired in the Admissions Department at Hollywood Park by
8 another young man named Alan Balch.

9 Where's he at? There you go. How you doing,
10 Alan?

11 Cliff outgrew that initial role, and over the
12 years, rose to become General Manager of Golden Gate Fields,
13 and then President of Santa Anita Park. In search of the
14 Midwestern winter experience, he later moved to Chicago and
15 became President of Arlington Park for several years before
16 retiring in 2006 and returning to California. Eventually,
17 sleeping late and playing golf took a back seat to the
18 desire to serve and in the racing industry in a meaningful
19 way.

20 Therefore, in 2015, Cliff accepted the position of
21 Executive Director of the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's
22 Foundation, which is dedicated to improving the lives of the
23 backstretch workers, primarily through the rendering of
24 medical and dental services. His commitment to serve for
25 two or three years has stretched into eight, and his impact

1 on a daily basis, as well as his leadership during crises
2 such as the San Luis Rey Downs fire and pandemic has been
3 substantial. His wisdom and character and the desire to
4 always do the right thing has benefited the backstretch
5 workers, the CTHF staff, and the overall racing industry.

6 I myself have been on the Board for a few years,
7 three years, four years, something like that, I think it is.
8 I haven't worked with you those many years as some people in
9 this room, but the few years that I have, I've learned a
10 lot. I'm very humbled with the education that you have
11 given me in how to present things and how to conduct myself,
12 and I thank you very much on my behalf and, of course, on
13 everybody else's behalf that are here and are not able to be
14 here.

15 So with that, I'll turn it over to Oscar.

16 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Well, good afternoon, Cliff.
17 I just want to say thank you. It's been an honor in the
18 four years that I've been on this Commission to have worked
19 with you and partnered with you. I think we have seen
20 increased attention to the importance of the backstretch
21 personnel, and it's been in big part because of you and the
22 coalition that you've developed. You've never hesitated
23 whenever I've called for insight, for advice on how to make
24 sure that we're making sure that we are the voice of the
25 backstretch workers.

1 I also want to thank you for bringing your wife
2 with you today. I know it's a sacrifice that you make for
3 every minute that you spend. Beyond the normal work hours,
4 it's one minute taken away from personal responsibilities,
5 including the home front.

6 I had time to spend with the local assemblyman,
7 Mike Fong, who represents Santa Anita. And when I told him
8 that we were losing a good one, somebody who really put
9 workers first, he said, "Oscar, why don't we pull together a
10 certificate?"

11 So I want to read to you on behalf of Assemblyman
12 Mike Fong, who represents the 49th District, which includes
13 Santa Anita. This certificate of recognition reads,

14 "On behalf of the California State Assembly, it is my
15 privilege to present you with this Certificate of
16 Recognition in honor of your retirement as Executive
17 Director of the California Thoroughbred Horseman
18 Foundation. I commend your years of service in the
19 horse racing industry and also as an advocate for
20 frontline workers. You leave behind a tremendous
21 legacy. Congratulations and best wishes, Assemblyman
22 Mike Fong."

23 So, Cliff, I want to just say thank you very much,
24 sir.

25 MR. GOODRICH: That's very nice. Thank you.

1 (Applause)

2 MR. GOODRICH: If I may, once I accept that, I
3 hope after 58 years, and I'll try and stay within the two
4 minutes, that I can make some observations, if that's all
5 right, Mr. Chairman?

6 CHAIR FERRARO: Yes.

7 MR. GOODRICH: Thank you.

8 One, as Damascus knows best, this has been a long
9 goodbye. I've had several salutes. I'm embarrassed by it,
10 but believe me, I am grateful. In the end, I just did my
11 job, as everybody else here tries to do their job. So if I
12 accomplished anything that I'm proud of, I always try to do
13 the best at my job.

14 Goodness knows, and I've made some notes, and this
15 includes the Chairperson, when I ran Santa Anita, helped run
16 Santa Anita, along with Alan Balch, who did hire me, we had
17 it easy, we just didn't know it. I looked around the room
18 today. Doc Allred was here earlier. Alan, Jack Liebau,
19 Mike Marten, Rick English, Darrell Haire, Craig Fravel, kind
20 of in the middle of things, came in at about the mid-'80s,
21 and we thought we had it tough. Bill Nader, he was in New
22 York at the time, but he can relate to what I'm about to
23 say. We had it easier than we thought. There are
24 significant challenges facing racing nowadays that hopefully
25 can be overcome.

1 And I'm going to say some things that sound a
2 little bit pedantic. I don't mean to be. They're going to
3 sound old. I am old, but it's a few things I've learned as
4 I've moved along.

5 When things were going probably at their pinnacle
6 in the early, mid-'80s, early-'90s, boy, we were bitter
7 rivals with Hollywood Park, I mean bitter rivals. That
8 didn't mean we didn't sit down and fight over some things,
9 laugh over some things, at times cry over some things, but
10 we sat down face to face, looked each other in the eye, and
11 talked to each other. Then it was a question of what can we
12 do to beat next year? How can we do even better to make
13 sure we topple Hollywood Park?

14 Now we're in survival mode. I understand the
15 plight of this industry, where instead of planning five and
16 ten years ahead, the industry is more focused on what do we
17 do to get to next year, and the next year, and the next
18 year.

19 Understandably, that can wear you down. And you
20 have to love this industry and love this sport to stay
21 dedicated to it, because it will wear you down. Just the
22 tone of today's meeting, and I've been going to Board
23 meetings since 1976, would wear anybody down. But
24 hopefully, that doesn't mean you give up. There's always
25 hope, but as others have said, hope is not a strategy.

1 As I look to the future, and it's easy for me to
2 criticize, point out things that everybody knows without
3 offering solutions, I don't have the solution, but I will
4 tell you one thing, and this is where I'm going to sound a
5 little old, everyone needs to get together, not on Zoom, but
6 in the same room. Believe me, it makes a difference when
7 you're sitting next to somebody and you're arguing, or
8 you're fighting about something, to look them in the eye and
9 state your position. Damascus does this all the time in his
10 job with the Teamsters. He can relate to that.

11 In my day, we fought, we laughed, but the one
12 thing missing now is we had fun. Somehow, some way, this
13 industry has to find a way to have a little fun as they
14 battle to determine what's in the best interest of this
15 industry going forward.

16 Whatever success I've had professionally, and
17 really personally, but more professionally, I attribute it
18 to really one thing, trying to always make the decision that
19 was in the best long-term decision of racing and not in the
20 best short-term decision of the company. It doesn't mean I
21 or we were always right, but I'll tell you, at the end of
22 the day, you can look yourself in the mirror and be proud
23 that you tried to do the right thing even though it didn't
24 work out.

25 And so whether it's my cohorts in racing or you

1 regulators at the Racing Board, always have the long-term
2 interest of racing at heart, try and do the right thing. In
3 retrospect, at times you will miss, but you would have tried
4 and you will feel a lot better doing just that.

5 Before I make just a brief closing remark, I would
6 hope my successor Jordan Egan could be here today. She will
7 attend her last TOC Board meeting tomorrow. She's helping
8 Bill put together the agenda. And I know she is listening.
9 But whatever anxieties people have had over me leaving,
10 those will be quickly gone once you see Jordan in action.
11 This is in Jordan's DNA and she's going to thrive in the
12 position. And I know the workers and this Board in this
13 industry will be very happy to have her. She's just going
14 to do a great job.

15 Chairman Gonzales -- Vice Chairman Gonzales
16 mentioned my wife Karen. And I could make a snide remark.
17 I heard something one time, "I'd rather bring her along than
18 kiss her goodbye." Well, that's not the case here, I can
19 tell you. She's been my partner for 51 of the 58 years I've
20 been in racing. And I'll tell you, when you have a tough
21 day at the office, it's nice to go home to a family
22 situation that you look forward to with my two kids and now
23 my three grandkids.

24 So Karen, thank you very much.

25 The last thing I want to say is, I was going to be

1 a major league ball player. I went to SC, tore my rotator
2 cuff, and all of a sudden my dreams were shot. I became a
3 school teacher, didn't like it. I wanted to teach, to
4 coach, but just couldn't get through the teaching to be a
5 coach.

6 And I got introduced to the racetrack at Hollywood
7 Park in 1965, worked two summers, had some mentors along the
8 way who wanted me to stay in racing. And I sat my mom and
9 dad down after my USC education and said, "Mom and dad, I'm
10 going to leave teaching to go to work at the racetrack." A
11 picture is worth 1,000 words. They didn't say anything, but
12 let me tell you, the look on their face was, you have to be
13 racing.

14 It was the best and most important decision I ever
15 made in my life. I have no regrets. I've loved virtually
16 every moment. And I just wish everybody good luck in this
17 industry. Don't give up. Stay at it and try and do the
18 right thing. It makes a difference.

19 Thank you so much.

20 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Thank you, Cliff.

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Thank you.

22 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Cliff. Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 CHAIR FERRARO: Well said, my friend.

25 We move on now to items number 11, the reports,

1 Executive Director first.

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHANEY: Well, that seems a bit
3 mundane.

4 Congratulations, Cliff.

5 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and good morning,
6 Commissioners.

7 I will begin with the handle report. For the
8 month of October, day racing handle was down 13 percent,
9 night racing was down 9 percent, and total handle down 12
10 percent as compared to October 2022. Year to date, day
11 racing is down 7 percent, night racing is down 8 percent,
12 and total handle is down 7 percent as compared to the first
13 10 months of 2022.

14 Next, I'd like to mention to stakeholders and
15 licensees that the regulation passed by this Board a few
16 months ago regarding unsanctioned or match racing will
17 become effective on January 1st. This new rule makes it a
18 CHRB violation to participate in or be present at any event
19 involving unsanctioned and unrecognized racing. While there
20 is clearly more work to be done to combat this challenge to
21 animal welfare, this is an important step in eliminating the
22 practice. I believe it to be the first of its kind in the
23 country.

24 On October 31st, I received the 2024 assessment
25 from HISA, as well as the outline of possible credits for

1 the work done by the CHRB, the Lab at Davis, and
2 stakeholders. This is the beginning of the negotiation with
3 the expectation that we will agendize the memorialization of
4 this discussion with a voluntary agreement at the December
5 meeting.

6 As the Board knows, the Breeders' Cup World
7 Championships was held at Santa Anita two weeks ago. It was
8 a relatively safe two days of racing, lots of exciting
9 racing, and some compelling equine and human stories. Total
10 all-sources global common-pool handle for the two days was
11 \$176 million, boosting overall handle for the 19-day fall
12 meet to \$373 million. Breeders Cup' announced attendance of
13 109,000 for the two days, and they also announced the World
14 Championships will be held for the next two years at Del
15 Mar, making California the home for three consecutive years
16 and four of the last five.

17 In that vein, I'd like to thank CHRB employees and
18 contractors who worked very hard to make Breeders' Cup a
19 safe and successful weekend, Doctors Blea, Grande, Patio,
20 Stead, and the entire team of regulatory veterinarians who
21 make the difficult decisions and do excellent work under
22 extreme scrutiny.

23 The Board of Stewards and Safety Stewards, Grant
24 Baker, Luis Jauregui, Kim Sawyer, David Neusch, and Paul
25 Atkinson under the leadership of Darrell McHargue.

1 Countless CHRB employees, including Mike Martin,
2 Cynthia Alameda, and all the headquarters staff contributed
3 significantly as well.

4 Lastly, I'd like to thank Chief of Enforcement
5 Marc Shaw and his team of investigators and licensed
6 technicians. Licensing processed approximately 500 licenses
7 for the event and did so with professionalism, efficiency,
8 and good humor.

9 I am sure that there are folks on the CHRB team I
10 have failed to mention. Just know that I sincerely
11 appreciate everyone's work. Regulators are rarely praised
12 and often criticized, but the team I get to work with is the
13 best in the business.

14 A few members of the team are here today, which I
15 have heretofore not mentioned, at a prior Board meetings,
16 Investigator Barrett Halcomb and Licensed Technician Aaron
17 Eisenhart. I think those are turned up back there. Thank
18 you for your work. Really appreciate it.

19 And lastly, just a housekeeping thing, we will
20 post the Board meeting schedule for next year, later today,
21 or tomorrow on our website. It will largely follow last
22 year's schedule -- this year's schedule, mostly following on
23 the third Thursday of each.

24 And that, Mr. Chairman, is my report.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

1 Commissioners have any questions for Mr. Chaney?

2 Dr. Blea?

3 DR. BLEA: Good morning. Chairman Ferraro, Vice
4 Chairman Gonzales -- now it's on -- and fellow
5 Commissioners, and Executive Director Scott Chaney.

6 I'll start my report with a vesicular stomatitis
7 update. California continues to be affected by vesicular
8 stomatitis, with quarantine premises located mostly in the
9 Central Valley. Forty-seven premises currently remain
10 quarantined in California. Counties with current vesicular
11 stomatitis virus quarantines are Fresno, Inyo, Madera,
12 Mariposa, and Tuolumne counties. I had to learn how to
13 pronounce Tuolumne, which was a challenge.

14 Documentation restrictions for horses entering a
15 CHRB facility have been lifted. Much appreciation is
16 extended to all the stakeholders for their diligence and
17 compliance regarding shipping requirements that was
18 implemented in late May.

19 Adding to the Breeders' Cup recap, a very
20 successful, exciting, and safe two days of racing was hosted
21 by First Racing at Santa Anita Park first weekend of
22 November. There were two race day fatalities that were
23 reported in the press that occurred on Friday at Breeders'
24 Cup. First one was a non-displaced condylar fracture, which
25 was repaired surgically, standing the following day. A

1 biaxial sesamoid fracture injury occurred in the undercard
2 race on Friday, and that horse underwent an arthrodesis
3 procedure two days later. And I'm happy to report both
4 horses are doing well post-operatively.

5 Tremendous organization, communication,
6 collaboration, and support was executed on track to
7 immediately take care of the injured horses. There was a
8 pre-race plan that was implemented, was reviewed, it was
9 practiced, and it was obviously executed appropriately on
10 race day. The collaborative effort of all stakeholders,
11 including Breeders' Cup, First Racing, The Stronach Group,
12 CHRB veterinarians, and staff deserve an abundance of credit
13 and accolades for the diligent efforts during the days and
14 weeks leading up to the event. This event was not just a
15 two-day event. There was a lot of prep work that went into
16 this to ensure the safety of both horses and riders.

17 It most certainly demonstrated what could be
18 accomplished relative to horse safety and the effects of
19 many of the safety initiatives in California were repeatedly
20 highlighted throughout the week.

21 Regarding fatalities in October in California,
22 there were no racing fatalities. However, three
23 musculoskeletal fatalities occurred in training. Seven
24 other fatalities occurred in October with two sudden deaths,
25 three gastrointestinal disease complex cases that were

1 referred to local hospitals, and two presumptive deaths that
2 are still pending.

3 The Maddy Lab. In October, the Maddy Lab analyzed
4 309 primary blood and urine samples, including 8 work
5 bloods. Additionally, 157 out-of-competition samples were
6 submitted and tested. HIWU continues to post their positive
7 notifications on their website for both controlled and
8 banned substance.

9 Last month, we've talked about a Veterinary
10 Student Program. That will be occurring Friday, December
11 1st, through the generous sponsorship of Del Mar
12 Thoroughbred Club. Currently, that program has 125 people
13 registered. We have 110 students that will be coming up
14 from the AAP Convention Center. Del Mar is sending two
15 buses to bring them up. We have 12 veterinarians who have
16 volunteered their time and services to tour the backside
17 with them, talk to them in small groups, one-on-one
18 interaction. And then Del Mar, again, is generously offered
19 to host them for lunch and the races.

20 So the goal of this is to expose veterinary
21 students to horse racing and provide an opportunity for them
22 to witness some of the opportunities available in horse
23 racing through their veterinary career.

24 To that, last month, Commissioner Davis asked,
25 what could CHRB do to help with veterinary students because

1 of the shortage of veterinarians, particularly equine
2 veterinarians?

3 The California Thoroughbred Foundation. The
4 California Thoroughbred Foundation is a 501(c)(3) company
5 which is committed to supporting and encouraging equine
6 veterinary students at UC Davis and Western University of
7 Health Sciences, Pomona, through annual scholarships. A
8 tax-deductible donation to the CTF can be very helpful in
9 assisting these students with their education through
10 scholarship donations.

11 For full disclosure, I have to/I will disclose
12 that I am, in fact, a trustee of the CTF.

13 And lastly, the California Animal Health and Food
14 Safety Musculoskeletal Pathology of Race Horse Fellowship at
15 UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Carlos Shield is
16 in his second year. The Graduate Clinical Continuing
17 Education Committee reviewed the Musculoskeletal Pathology
18 of Race Horse Fellowship Program under the standard three-
19 year review cycle.

20 In summary, the review stated the following,
21 quote,

22 "The fellowship is recognized as a unique program and
23 has been successful in improving the welfare of
24 California racehorses."

25 This is an excellent fellowship program in a very

1 specialized area of musculoskeletal pathology and race
2 horse. Since the start of that program, it has had a
3 decrease in caseload, which is not affecting the quality of
4 the program. In fact, one of the reasons for this decrease
5 in caseload is the finding of the program and preventative
6 measurements discussed with horse racing regulatory agents.
7 Funding of this program is provided by the California Horse
8 Race.

9 This concludes my report, and I'm happy to answer
10 any questions.

11 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Mr. Chairman?

12 CHAIR FERRARO: Go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I just personally want to
14 thank Dr. Blea, and this Board should. I observed you
15 during the Week of Breeders' Cup. You stepped up, you're a
16 leader, you're a professional. You put the horses first.
17 You put the people second. But you were going 24/7 that
18 whole week. And others that work with you at Santa Anita,
19 Dr. Benson, great, and it was great to see. And you had a
20 hell of a team. I've never seen so many veterinarians. I
21 think they were stepping all over each other everywhere you
22 turned.

23 But, you know, we hear a lot about the horses and
24 horse deaths and things. And your professionalism just
25 gives me relief that I know that we are doing the best we

1 can at all times for safety, for the horses, the jockeys,
2 and everyone else.

3 So thank you, accolades to you, and you really
4 proved that you are the best medical equine director I've
5 ever witnessed or any of us have seen, so thank you.

6 DR. BLEA: Well, thank you for that. I will
7 generally state, to takes a village. And Tim Grande and his
8 crew, and Dr. Benson and her crew, and Will Farmer and his
9 crew, it takes a village. And it was nice to see the effort
10 and the collaboration of all the veterinarians working
11 together.

12 And with your kind words, I'll make sure I have my
13 mother's cookies in my office for the next two Breeders'
14 Cups, which I think you enjoy.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: And your comments, his comments
16 are well-deserved.

17 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: I forgot my peppers.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Any other Commissioners have
19 comments?

20 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Question, please?

21 DR. BLEA: Yes, sir.

22 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: The vet students who are
23 coming up to Santa Anita, have they previously indicated a
24 potential interest in --

25 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Del Mar.

1 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: -- coming to Del Mar, excuse
2 me, and indicated an interest in being equine vets, or is
3 this sort of a lark for them who might end up being cat
4 vets?

5 DR. BLEA: They've taken that next step to show
6 their commitment to becoming equine veterinarians by
7 attending the convention.

8 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Great.

9 DR. BLEA: The convention is the American
10 Association of Equine Practitioners. So they're coming as
11 potential equine practitioners --

12 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Great.

13 DR. BLEA: -- to that. So, yes, there is some
14 commitment.

15 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So it's a self-selecting
16 bunch? That's terrific.

17 DR. BLEA: It's starting to filter down into
18 species, yes.

19 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Thank you.

20 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

21 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I just wanted to say thank
22 you, Dr. Blea, for following up on my question, giving me an
23 answer.

24 DR. BLEA: You're welcome.

25 CHAIR FERRARO: We have some public comments. You

1 want to handle this for me?

2 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Sure thing, yes.

3 I'll be taking over a public comment period for
4 Chairman Ferraro.

5 Ellen Ericksen, please. And we have a total of three
6 on my list. So if there's any others, let me know, but
7 Ellen Ericksen is up first.

8 MS. ERICKSEN: Three fractures have been reported
9 in Breeders' Cup day-one races. Two-year-old filly, Tamara,
10 heavily favored to win the Juvenile Fillies instead placed
11 seventh, and was reported the following Monday to have
12 sustained a fracture to the splint bone in her left hind
13 limb, which doesn't require surgery but extended rest.

14 Two-year-old Mountain Bear finished second in the
15 Juvenile Turf, but was vanned off after the race, and
16 subsequently reported to have a non-displaced condylar
17 fracture of his left leg, for which he reportedly underwent
18 surgery.

19 Three-year-old gelding Bus Buzz was ambulated
20 from the day's final race. And as Dr. Blea just stated, the
21 horse did have surgery.

22 All these fractures, despite wide reporting of
23 unprecedented level of veterinarian scrutiny of horses
24 during the Breeders' Cup, scientific research has told us
25 for 17 years that 90 percent of catastrophic injuries in

1 horse racing are from preexisting conditions. Each of these
2 young horses are now at an even greater risk for
3 catastrophic industry. Will this Board allow these horses
4 to race again? If these horses are raced, they will likely
5 die. Knowing this is taking great risk for horses' lives.

6 And I want to just state, a few years ago, there
7 was a big media stink about Santa Anita buying millions of
8 dollars of equipment to pre-screen horses before race day
9 with MRIs and CT scans. And it doesn't appear that this
10 equipment is even being utilized.

11 Thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Next up, Martha Sullivan.

13 MS. SULLIVAN: Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: You can read the minutes.

15 MS. SULLIVAN: It's really disrespectful when
16 you've got public comment on the Equine Medical Director's
17 Report and he doesn't stay in the room.

18 With that said, I will say I do appreciate, I
19 think for the first time ever, we had an Equine Medical
20 Director of this Board report on the condition of two horses
21 that were injured in the first day of the Breeders' Cup. It
22 was good to hear that Mountain Bear and Bus Buzz had their
23 surgery and are reported to be recovering. And I would urge
24 Dr. Blea and his colleagues to continue to do that, to
25 report on the status of horses that have been injured.

1 We, Kill Racing Not Horses, send emails to the
2 CHRB after every horse injury we observe watching the races
3 or that we become aware of and ask about the status. And
4 all we get is a canned response, never any specifics.

5 I also want to ask for the third time that the
6 CHRB's veterinarians list online have San Luis Rey Downs
7 added as a search option for horses that are on the
8 veterinarian list. You have Bay Meadows, Hollywood Park,
9 any number of other tracks that no longer exist on that
10 search list. But San Luis Rey, which you report fatalities
11 for, is not on that list. And Santa Anita was once more
12 reported, you know, in the news as saying that San Luis Rey
13 is going to be elevated, you know, in horse racing in
14 Southern California. They're going to be using it more
15 intensively.

16 So please, if you can work with InCompass to
17 cross-reference the workout and the veterinarian list
18 databases, I think you can at least add San Luis Rey Downs
19 as a search option for the veterinarian list.

20 Thank you.

21 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Next up, we have Heather
22 Wilson. And this will be the final comment that's on my
23 list here.

24 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

25 I do wish we could know in advance what these

1 reports are going to include. The Equine Medical Director
2 and the Executive Director's reports are never, ever
3 included in the meeting packet. So we never know what
4 you're going to talk about.

5 But one thing that is always mentioned are how
6 many fatalities there are. And I have yet to hear the
7 Equine Medical Director use any of the horse's names. Every
8 single horse who has sacrificed their life for this industry
9 deserves to be properly acknowledged, and that means saying
10 their names. We never say their names.

11 And all these accolades about the Breeders Cup,
12 multiple horses have suffered fractures. One horse was, you
13 know, visibly bleeding from exercise-induced pulmonary
14 hemorrhage. And then we have another horse who dropped dead
15 listed as a scratch, even though everybody knew that this
16 horse was no longer with us and she's listed as an entry but
17 scratched. I mean, that's tacky. I mean, if there is a way
18 to update who's entered in these races when they're -- I
19 mean, when they're dead, they just shouldn't be entered. I
20 mean, that's tacky.

21 Another issue I've noticed is that horses continue
22 to break through the starting gate, and they are not
23 scratched. And a few years ago, we all heard about the
24 maybe Practical Games, or I forget the -- Modern Games,
25 thank you, something Games. This horse was scratched at the

1 Breeders' Cup at Del Mar because we just thought that the
2 horse broke through the gate but the assistant starter had
3 actually opened the gate. And then this move was defended
4 by the Equine Medical Director because when a horse breaks
5 through the gate, they can suffer a shoulder fracture, a
6 humeral fracture.

7 Okay, well, that's great, but these horses are
8 continuing to break through the gates all the time, and they
9 are not scratched. And these are known breakthroughs. And
10 it happens most frequently at Los Alamitos. And it seems
11 like the only time that horses are scratched is when they
12 take off running, and they cannot be apprehended, which is a
13 great word, they're not criminals, they're horses. But when
14 these horses take off running and they cannot be caught,
15 that's the only time that they're scratched, so these horses
16 could very well have fractures.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you. That finishes the
18 comments on the Directors and veterinarians report.

19 We'll now move into item number 12, public
20 comment. I have a list here of people wishing to comment.

21 We'll start with Lynn.

22 MS. FREUDENBERG: Lynn Freudenberg, Kill Racing
23 Not Horses.

24 The article I want to read to you is found in the
25 Paulick Report, and it is called "Racing in Crisis: Thoughts

1 from a Passionate Fan, Horse Racing News." This is a letter
2 to the editor by Mark Paul of Beverly Hills. He states,

3 "I have bred my own horses, have invested in 30 horse
4 racing partnerships," in quotes, "don't tell my wife,
5 and I have written the greatest gambling story ever
6 told, the best selling horse racing books and
7 Seabiscuit. In short, I'm all in."

8 He further states,

9 "No one likes to eat at an empty restaurant. Walking
10 through the nearly empty cavernous Santa Anita stands
11 on all but a few big Saturdays is depressing to me. I
12 love buying horses and public partnerships, sharing
13 with fellow owners and celebrating our wins, and
14 convening in the bar after our numerous defeats. I
15 enjoy bringing my wife and friends to the races,
16 especially the excitement new attendees show when
17 seeing a powerful, sleek, stunningly beautiful
18 thoroughbred up close enough to touch in the paddock
19 barn or winner circle.

20 "Now the track usually resembles that empty restaurant.
21 When I ask my friends to join me for a day at the
22 races, they mention the racing deaths they read about
23 while looking at me like I am an axe murderer."

24 I know, Commissioners, you said you'd listen to us
25 when we talk. I truly hope that still remains so. Thank

1 you.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 Ellen Ericksen.

4 MS. ERICKSEN: Thank you again for allowing us to
5 be present at this meeting and speak. It is appreciated.

6 It's a little disturbing, though, that as I turn
7 around and look, there's no one here but us and a couple
8 other people. So clearly, people in this industry don't
9 want to hear what is going on in their industry. When we
10 report the truth, we speak the horse's names and their
11 deaths and injuries.

12 So, you know, I, myself, and I know the rest of us
13 are a little confused about the California Horse Racing
14 Board's purpose and what your job truly is. We give you
15 reports and facts about horses that die and are injured at
16 racetracks that are criminally committing crimes to these
17 horses, and you still grant license to race with all the
18 facts that we give you. And they're facts. They're not our
19 facts. They're true facts.

20 So the total deaths in California for 2023, which
21 does not include the horses that are going to die at Del Mar
22 in the next three weeks, are Santa Anita, 24 dead, Golden
23 Gate, 16 dead, Los Alamitos, 18 dead, Del Mar, 7 dead, San
24 Luis Rey, 3 dead, Pleasanton, 5, Cal Expo, 1 dead, Sonoma, 2
25 dead. That's 76 dead horses this year. And this is not

1 including Cave Rock, another dead horse owned by Bob
2 Baffert, which makes the dead horse count 77. And I'm sure
3 there's many more dead horses that have not been reported
4 that were killed off track.

5 So these deaths are musculoskeletal and non-
6 musculoskeletal. The causes are sudden death. No one
7 really knows what that even means. Neurological, colic,
8 vasculitis, cardiovascular, pneumonia, of course, accidents
9 in stalls, and the starting gates --

10 CHAIR FERRARO: Ellen? Your time has expired,
11 Ellen.

12 MS. ERICKSEN: -- breaks, ribs, pelvis, vertebrae,
13 humeral, fetlock, sesamoid, metacarpal.

14 CHAIR FERRARO: Your time has expired. Thank you
15 very much.

16 Martha?

17 MS. SULLIVAN: Martha Sullivan with Kill Racing
18 Not Horses.

19 My father worked for the FBI for 27 years. He
20 came out of World War II, combat in the Pacific, was a high
21 school teacher after he completed the GI Bill, and was
22 recruited in the FBI. And he rode to the level of Assistant
23 Director of the Los Angeles region.

24 This last Sunday, I was extremely proud to see an
25 FBI agent talk about the abuse of racehorses by the

1 industry. And the FBI's investigation and the resulting
2 indictment and conviction of 30 people in the industry is
3 the tip of the iceberg. That FBI agent is now running the
4 Horse Racing Integrity and Welfare Unit, or co-running the
5 investigation, which I'm also really glad to see, because
6 clearly he recognizes what's going on in the industry. And
7 the FBI, I can tell you, does not mess around.

8 This is the tip of the iceberg. He talked about
9 in 60 Minutes the fact that the dopers, all they have to do
10 is change one molecule in the drug to evade testing. That's
11 why the FBI used wiretaps to prosecute these individuals.
12 Drug testing is not going to do it because the criminals
13 know how to evade the testing.

14 So again, as an FBI daughter, Sunday night, I was
15 extremely proud. And I look forward to more of that coming
16 from the FBI and from the FBI agent who's now running HIWU

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you, Martha.

19 Heather Wilson?

20 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

21 Another way was just another gambling chip for
22 this bloody industry, a California-bred brown gelding
23 brought into this world by Ed Allred on January 26th, 2019.
24 He ran eight times at Los Alamitos but he never won. His
25 last start was at Los Alamitos in California on November

1 19th, 2022.

2 Another Way was then dumped in New Mexico. Just
3 eight days later, from his previous start, he ran at Zia
4 Park on November 27th, placing eighth. And in that same
5 race, another horse fell and was vanned off and probably
6 killed.

7 Then one month later, still a maiden, he ran at
8 Sunland Park, where he fell and was vanned off, most likely,
9 a catastrophic life ending. The head-on replay was never
10 aired, and the New Mexico Racing Commission refuses to
11 answer any inquiries about this former Allred-bred Los
12 Alamitos horse.

13 This is what the industry, not the sport, the
14 industry of horse racing does. Horses change owners
15 multiple times. They are dumped in claiming race after
16 claiming race, dropping in class, and dropping in so-called
17 value. They are ran over and over and over until they
18 literally drop.

19 Another Way mattered, and we are here to remember
20 him.

21 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

22 Bonnie Croker?

23 MS. CROKER: Bonnie Crocker with Kill Racing Not
24 Horses.

25 I honestly doubt there is anyone in this room who

1 has not watched or heard of the November 12th, 2023 CBS 60
2 Minutes presentation, which posed the question: Can horse
3 racing be reformed? 60 Minutes, thankfully, was actually
4 bold enough to show racing horses being catastrophically
5 injured.

6 I imagine that even members of the CHRB were
7 astonished, however, to hear the trite almost childish
8 statements made by Lisa Lazarus, the Chief Executive Officer
9 of HISA, the Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Authority.
10 Responding to interviewers' questions about the possibility
11 of cleaning up the rampant criminal horse doping and
12 reducing the gargantuan number of race horse deaths, Lazarus
13 replies, "HISA is here now, and we're going to address
14 this."

15 With all due respect to the FBI members that are
16 going to make a difference, I still think it's going to be a
17 very ineffective Board.

18 Oh, and how sweet, Lazarus has fond memories of
19 going to the racehorse track with her dad, as if that
20 justifies killing horses for sport.

21 CHRB, sincerely thank you for trying to regulate
22 and clean up this monstrous blood sport. Unfortunately, you
23 don't have a chance. You can't fix this archaic, immoral,
24 decaying travesty. And more bureaucratic nonsense from HISA
25 cannot upright this fatally broken monster.

1 Euthanize horse racing. Thank you.

2 CHAIR FERRARO: Thank you.

3 That concludes our public comment period. I'd
4 entertain a motion to adjourn.

5 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: So moved.

6 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Second.

7 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Davis?

8 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Castellanos?

10 COMMISSIONER CASTELLANOS: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Gonzales?

12 VICE CHAIR GONZALES: Yes.

13 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Alfieri?

14 COMMISSIONER ALFIERI: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERRARO: Commissioner Hudnut?

16 COMMISSIONER HUDNUT: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERRARO: Chairman votes yes. Meeting is
18 adjourned. Thank you all for attending.

19 (The regular meeting of the California Horse Racing Board
20 adjourned at 11:28 a.m.)

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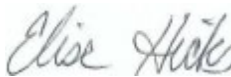
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of November, 2023.



ELISE HICKS, IAPRT CERT**2176

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And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

November 27, 2023