

STAFF ANALYSIS
DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE BOARD REGARDING THE DISTRIBUTION OF
RACE DAY CHARITY PROCEEDS OF THE DEL MAR THOROUGHBRED CLUB
FROM ITS 2024 RACE MEETINGS

Board Meeting
May 15, 2025

ISSUE:

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club (DMTC) is requesting approval to distribute race day charity proceeds generated at its 2024 race meetings for the periods of July 10, 2024, through September 10, 2024, and October 30, 2024, through December 3, 2024. DMTC is proposing the statutory distribution amount of \$123,606.00 plus a voluntary distribution of \$90,898.00 totaling \$214,504.00. The attachment lists the amounts to be distributed to the selected charitable organizations. Staff notes that 100 percent of the proposed charity distributions are made to equine and/or horse racing-related charity organizations.

BACKGROUND:

Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 19550 states that the Board shall require each licensed racing association that conducts 14 weeks or less of racing to designate three racing days, and each licensed racing association that conducts more than 14 weeks of racing to designate five racing days during any one meeting, to be conducted as charity days by the licensee for the purpose of distribution of the net proceeds therefrom to beneficiaries through the distribution agent. No racing association shall be required to pay to a distributing agent for the purpose of distribution to beneficiaries more than an amount equal to two-tenths of one percent of the association's total on-track handle on live races conducted by the association at the meeting. BPC section 19555 requires that proceeds be distributed to beneficiaries within 12 calendar months after the last day of the meet during which charity days were conducted. BPC section 19556 provides that the distributing agent shall make the distribution to beneficiaries qualified under this article. At least 30 percent of the distribution shall be made to charities associated with the horse racing industry. An additional five percent shall be paid to a welfare fund for horsemen/horsewomen and backstretch personnel, and another five percent shall be paid to a nonprofit corporation, the primary purpose of which is to assist horsemen/horsewomen and backstretch personnel who are being affected adversely as a result of alcohol or substance abuse. In addition to the above distributions, a separate 20 percent shall be made to a nonprofit corporation or trust that has as its sole purpose the accumulation of endowment funds, the income on which shall be distributed to qualified disabled jockeys.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for Board discussion and action. Staff recommends that the Board approve the race day charity distribution as presented.

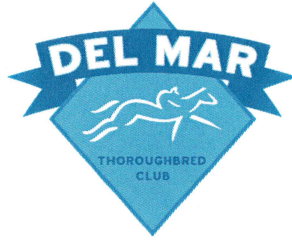
CHRB ANALYSIS

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club Charity Day Proceeds
(7/10/24-9/10/24) (10/30/24-12/3/24)

Statutory Distribution:	\$ 123,606.00
Voluntary Distribution:	\$ 90,898.00
Proposed Distribution:	\$ 214,504.00

#	Nonprofit Organization	Statutory Distribution Percentage	Statutory Distribution Amount	Proposed Distribution Amount		Notes
1	Racing and Medication Consortium*	minimum 30%	\$ 37,081.80	\$ 4,557.00	a	30% to charities associated with horse racing industry [Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 19556(b)]
2	CARMA *			\$ 120,225.00	a	
3	Edwin Gregson Foundation *			\$ 30,500.00	a	
4	California Center for Equine Health & Performance*			\$ 2,500.00	a	
5	Race Track Chaplaincy/Southern California*			\$ 5,000.00	a	
6	UC Davis-JD Wheat Veterinary Research*			\$ 2,500.00	a	
7	Racing Forward, Horse Racing Women's Association*			\$ 10,000.00	a	
8	California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation *	minimum 5%	\$ 6,180.30	\$ 6,500.00	b	5% to welfare fund for horsemen/horsewomen and backstretch personnel [BPC section 19556(b)]
9	Winners Foundation *	minimum 5%	\$ 6,180.30	\$ 7,000.00	c	5% to nonprofit organization for horsemen/horsewomen and backstretch personnel adversely affected by alcohol or substance abuse [BPC section 19556(b)]
10	Permanently Disabled Jockey's Fund *	minimum 20%	\$ 24,721.20	\$ 25,721.00	d	20% to nonprofit organization that benefits qualified disabled jockeys [BPC section 19556(c)(1)]

*Equine and/or horse racing-related organization



Josh Rubinstein
President

April 25, 2025

Mr. Scott Chaney
Executive Director
California Horse Racing Board
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825

Executive Director Chaney:

The Del Mar Thoroughbred Club ("DMTC") is proud of our long-standing commitment to industry charities. In 2024 wagering on DMTC's races generated \$123,606 in Charity Days proceeds through the following:

- Summer Meet – \$74,658
- Fall Meet – \$12,047
- Breeder's Cup - \$36,901

DMTC is also supplementing its Charity Days distributions with an additional \$90,898 of funds in 2024 for a total of \$214,504.

Please find attached, for the California Horse Racing Board's consideration, DMTC's proposed 2024 Charity Days distributions. Also attached is a description of each charitable organization.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you need further information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Rubinstein".

Josh Rubinstein
President

cc: Sandra Shinn, DMTC
Mike Ernst, DMTC
Lynn Wright, DMTC

**Del Mar Thoroughbred Club
2024 Charity Day & DMTC Supplemental Funding**

Organizations	Summer 2024	Fall 2024	BC 2024	Total 2024	DMTC Contribution	24 Combined Contribution
California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) *	52,260	8,433	25,831	86,524	33,701	120,225
Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund *	14,932	2,409	7,380	24,721	1,000	25,721
Racing & Medication Consortium *					4,557	4,557
Winners Foundation *	3,733	602	1,845	6,180	820	7,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen Foundation *	3,733	602	1,845	6,180	320	6,500
Race Track Chaplaincy/Southern California *					5,000	5,000
Edwin J. Gregson Foundation *					30,500	30,500
California Center for Equine Health & Performance *					2,500	2,500
UC Davis - JD Wheat Veterinary Research *					2,500	2,500
Racing Forward, Horse Racing Women's Association*						
Racing Forward Sponsorships dba Horse Racing Women's Associate						10,000
Totals	74,658	12,047	36,901	123,606	90,898	214,504
* Equine Related Charities	74,658	12,047	36,901	123,606	90,898	
Non-Equine Related	0	0	0	0	0	
Percentage of Equine Related Charities	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	214,504



2024 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS – SUMMER/FALL

CARMA – The California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) provides funding for retirement of California-raced Thoroughbred horses and serves as an educational resource for the public and racing community. CARMA is a charitable 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2007 to raise money for retired racehorses. It is responsible for hosting fundraising events, educating owners and trainers on equine retirement, raising awareness and working to unify the racing industry in support of its equine athletes. Ways in which this is accomplished include facilitating the transition of racehorses off the track through its Placement Program and showcasing the breed's versatility as equestrian mounts at its Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show. It is dedicated to the goal of providing funding for their rehabilitation, retraining and/or retirement. CARMA collects funds from racehorse owners, racetracks and other racing groups and organizations, then redistributes the funds to those farms and facilities that prove themselves worthy and capable of fulfilling the group's goal. Madeline Auerbach is CARMA's Founders Chair, Billy Koch-President, and Samantha Siegel-Secretary. (Contact phone: 626-574-6654; www.carma4horses.org)

Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund – Promotes awareness of the needs of permanently disabled jockeys – Provides financial support to permanently disabled jockeys – Provides financial support and assistance in obtaining medical coverage for permanently disabled jockeys – Promotes medical research dedicated to reducing catastrophic injuries within the horse racing industry. Founded in 2006, it is a collaborative effort of many leaders in the horse racing industry, including racetracks, jockeys, horsemen and many others who had a vision of a program that would bring much-needed financial assistance to a group of athletes who have given so much to the sport of horse racing. The PDJF is governed by an independent board comprised of stakeholders from a broad cross-section of the horse racing industry. The mission of PDJF is to promote financial support to permanently disabled jockeys living with a catastrophic on-track injury; provide financial support and assistance for permanently disabled jockeys; and to promote medical research dedicated to reducing catastrophic injuries within the horse racing industry. Nancy LaSala is the group's president. (Contact phone: 630-595-7660; www.pdjf.org/)

Racing Medication and Testing Consortium -- Striving to develop and promote uniform rules, policies and testing standards at the national level; coordinate research and educational programs that seek to ensure the integrity of racing and the health and welfare of racehorses and participants; and protect the interests of the racing public. Founded in 2000 by a cross-section of racing leaders, the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) has a primary goal of developing and promoting uniform rules, policies and testing standards at the national level for racehorses. The tax-deductible organization strives to develop and promote uniform rules, policies and testing standards at the national level; coordinate research and educational programs that seek to ensure the integrity of racing and the health and welfare of racehorses and participants; and to protect the interest of the racing public. It is currently governed by a Board of Directors consisting of 23 racing industry stakeholders. RMTC Executive Director and COO is Dr. Michael Hardy, Administrative Manager is Ms. Dianne Oakes; www.rmtcnet.com/).

Winners Foundation – The Winners Foundation was established in 1984 as a non-profit organization to provide information, support and referral sources to employees and family members of the California horse racing community who are being adversely affected as a result of mental illness, alcohol and/or substance abuse. There is no charge to anyone seeking aid through the group, which has aided and guided thousands of individuals since its inception. It is currently headed by Darin Scharer, Executive Director. (Contact phone: 626-574-6498; <http://winnersfoundation.org/>)

California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation – The California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation (CTHF) is a non-profit charitable foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life in the community of stable workers at California's racetracks and training centers. It was founded in 1983 and, among its other projects, currently conducts Monday through Friday medical and dental clinics in both Northern and Southern California that are free for stable workers and their families. Ken Smole is President and Chair of CTHF. (Contact phone: 626-446-0169; www.cthf.info/)

Race Track Chaplaincy/Southern California (RTCA/SC) – The RTCA/SC is a nonprofit organization that was established in 1971 and ministers to the spiritual, emotional, physical and social/educational needs of horse racing's workers. RTCA/SC is an affiliate of Race Track Chaplaincy of America, which has 77 chaplains serving over 117 race tracks throughout the United States and Canada. RTCA/SC offers support, direction and guidance, as well as Church services, at Santa Anita, Los Alamitos and Del Mar. Contact: Chaplain Eli Hernandez, (Contact phone: 626-574-6438; <http://rtcasc.com/>).

Edwin J. Gregson Foundation – The foundation has a primary goal of benefitting and enhancing the quality of life of California’s backstretch workers and their families. It was originally founded by the California Thoroughbred Trainers (CTT) in 1998 and renamed in memory of veteran trainer and past CTT president Edwin J. Gregson, who was the driving force behind its start. Notable among its benefits are the college scholarships it provides annually to family members of backstretch workers. Jenine Sahadi heads the foundation. (Contact phone: 626-447-2145; www.gregsonfoundation.com)

California Center for Equine Health and Performance – The Center for Equine Health (CEH) was established at University of California Davis School of Veterinary Medicine in 1973. The primary purpose of CEH is to serve as an administrative and academic umbrella for research into means and methods of improving equine health, welfare and performance. The team brings together research facilities, students, veterinary residents, researchers and veterinarians to tackle important problems affecting horse health. In conjunction with this, it produces a series of publications that disseminate its findings and pertinent information. Additionally, it serves as the West Coast’s quarantine and treatment station for the potentially devastating venereal disease contagious equine metritis. The center’s current Director is Dr. Carrie J. Finno, DVM, cjfinno@ucdavis.edu. Emeriti Directors include renowned veterinarian Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, as well as Claudia Sonder, DVM.

UC Davis - JD Wheat Veterinary Orthopedics Laboratory Research Laboratory, School of Veterinary Medicine – The JD Wheat Veterinary Orthopedics Laboratory at UC Davis has been in the forefront of the state’s efforts to understand, treat and prevent musculoskeletal injuries in horses. Using research, education and a range of training tools and methods, the JD Wheat Laboratory has been a key cog in stemming catastrophic equine losses and providing means and methods to enhance safety on the racetrack. Contact: Martha Orozco, Gift Specialist, mforozco@ucdavis.edu

HRWA – Horse Racing Women’s Association - Racing Forward–oversees and administers disbursing charitable funds to worthwhile causes. Racing Forward handles all of the compliance, fiscal and fiduciary obligations associated with the charitable donation. Racing Forward, 122A E. Foothill Blvd. #435, Arcadia, CA 91006, contact Kellie Hill Galligan, Kellie.a.hill@gmail.com. Fiscal sponsor of the DMTC Equine Related Cause: **Horse Racing Women’s Association** – bringing together people from all facets of the horse racing industry with the mission of connecting and empowering women in horse racing to Engage, Elevate and Invest! The HRWA efforts and contributions are invaluable to the horse racing industry. Committee Chair, Stephanie Hronis, contact@horseracingwomen.com.