

STAFF ANALYSIS

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

Board Meeting
August 21, 2025

ISSUE:

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board (Board) Rule 2049, Designation and Approval of Horsemen's Welfare Fund, the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc. (CTHF) requested Board approval of the nominated members to its Board of Directors.

BACKGROUND:

Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 19440 provides that the Board shall have all powers necessary and proper for it to carry out the purposes of the Horse Racing Law. BPC section 19641 states that any redistributable money in a pari-mutuel pool subject to payment to a claimant pursuant to BPC section 19598, but not successfully claimed within that period, shall be paid as specified and an estimated payment equal to 20 percent of the preceding year's unclaimed redistributable money shall be distributed to the welfare fund as specified.

Board Rule 2049, Designation and Approval of Horsemen's Welfare Fund, sets forth the requirements for the establishment and designation of a charitable corporation to administer the horsemen's welfare fund for the benefit of horsemen. Board Rule 2049 requires that the charitable corporation have a minimum of five and a maximum of eleven directors who are subject to Board approval. The charitable corporation shall select at least one director or trustee without financial interest in horse racing pursuant to BPC section 19641.2(c).

The CTHF is a self-administered charitable program dedicated to assisting financial needy backstretch workers and their primary dependents. The CTHF offers medical and dental care, prescriptions, eye testing and glasses, financial aid, social programs, free clothing, and household items. The CTHF also provides services and support through the California Thoroughbred Trainers (CTT), the Winners Foundation, and the Chaplaincy program. The CTHF is regulated by the Board and is funded principally through the receipt of unclaimed winning pari-mutuel ticket revenues and a share of Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) receipts. Additionally, donations and support are received from thoroughbred tracks, the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC), and individual donors.

ANALYSIS:

The CTHF nominated three individuals for open board member positions. The following individuals, all returning directors, were re-elected for a three-year term expiring on June 30, 2028.

Stephanie Hronis
Ken Smole
Millie Yakteen

Approval of the nominations keeps the CTHF board at a total of ten members, which is within the range of directors permitted under Board Rule 2049.

In accordance with Board Rule 2049, subsection (a), the nominations are submitted to the Board for approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for Board discussion and action.



CALIFORNIA THOROUGHBRED
HORSEMEN'S FOUNDATION, INC.

KEN SMOLE
President

JOSH RUBINSTEIN
Vice President

ANGIE CARMONA
Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors

RAY BELL

ANGIE CARMONA

DAMASCUS CASTELLANOS

JAMES DUNN, M.D.

STEPHANIE HRONIS

LUCY LAWRENCE

JOSH RUBINSTEIN

ERIC SINDLER

KEN SMOLE

MILLIE YAKTEEN

In Memoriam

NOBLE THREEWITT

Director Emeritus

LEONARD DORFMAN

JORDYN EGAN

Executive Director

Contact:

P.O. BOX 660129
ARCADIA, CA 91066

(626) 446-0169

CTHFCARES.ORG

June 16, 2025

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

Dear Scott:

CHRB Rule 2049 (a) requires our foundation to gain approval of the CHRB for directors elected to our board, whether serving another term, or new directors to our board.

During the recent June Board of Directors' meeting of the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc., the following nominees for open board member positions were unanimously approved by the board. The following individuals, all returning directors, were elected for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2028.

Stephanie Hronis (returning board member). Stephanie and her family have been in horse racing, as owners, since 2010. As her time at the track increased, her attention expanded from the love of watching the horses race to all that goes into getting a horse to the track. She particularly was drawn to the hard work and dedication of the backstretch workers, and she found this community to be very similar to many of the migrant families she worked with as a School Counselor in California's Central Valley. Stephanie serves on additional boards and committees in the industry. She looks forward to serving the backstretch community as a CTHF board member.

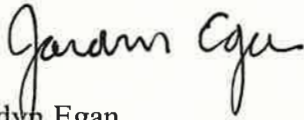
Ken Smole (returning board member). Ken is a retired insurance industry executive with over thirty years of experience in the healthcare area. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and has resided in the Bay Area since 1972. Ken and his wife, Jane, have been horse owners since 1985 and they have long been committed to assisting backstretch workers. Ken has served on the CTHF board since 2007.

Millie Yakteen (returning board member). A native of England, with a bachelor's degree from the Royal Agricultural College, Cirenceter, Millie moved to California in 1995 to be an exercise rider at Hollywood Park. The former amateur jockey worked for Hall of Fame trainers Bobby Frankel, Bod Baffert and Richard Mandella. In 2003, now married to trainer Tim Yakteen, Millie joined the Santa Anita on-air family as a host and reporter with HRTV. In 2015, Millie joined a small group in the launch of XBTV, which has become Thoroughbred horse racing's "go to" platform for morning workouts. A constant presence in morning backstretch activities over many years has provided Millie with a passion of dedication to both the horses and the workers CTHF services.

These nominations keep our board at a total of ten members, within the scope of the number allowed by CHRB Rule. (maximum of eleven) Pursuant to Rule 2049 (a) of the California Horse Racing Board Rules and Regulations, the nominations are submitted to the CHRB for approval at a public meeting of the CHRB's choice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jordyn Egan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jordyn Egan