

STAFF ANALYSIS
DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY THE BOARD REGARDING THE DISTRIBUTION OF
RACE DAY CHARITY PROCEEDS OF THE DEL MAR THOROUGHBRED CLUB
FROM ITS 2025 RACE MEETINGS

Board Meeting
May 13, 2026

ISSUE:

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club (DMTC) is requesting approval to distribute race day charity proceeds generated at its 2025 race meetings for the periods of July 9, 2025, through September 9, 2025, and October 29, 2025, through December 2, 2025. DMTC is proposing the statutory distribution amount of \$123,257.00 plus a voluntary distribution of \$79,914.00 totaling \$203,171.00. 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 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 months after the last day of the meeting 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 other 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 because 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 recommend that the Board approve the race day charity distribution as presented.

CHRB ANALYSIS

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club Charity Day Proceeds
 July 9, 2025 - September 9, 2025 and
 October 29, 2025 - December 2, 2025

Statutory Distribution:	\$ 123,257.00
Voluntary Distribution:	\$ 79,914.00
Proposed Distribution:	\$ 203,171.00

#	Nonprofit Organization	Statutory Distribution Percentage	Statutory Distribution Amount	Proposed Distribution Amount	Notes	
1	Horse Racing Women's Association- Racing Forward *	minimum 30%	\$ 36,977.10	\$ 5,000.00	a	30% to charities associated with horse racing industry [Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 19556(b)]
2	CARMA *			\$ 122,201.00	a	
3	Edwin J. Gregson Foundation *			\$ 18,000.00	a	
4	Racing Medication and Testing Consortium *			\$ 6,819.00	a	
5	Race Track Chaplaincy / Southern California *			\$ 5,000.00	a	
6	California Center for Equine Health and Performance *			\$ 2,500.00	a	
7	UC Davis - JD Wheat Veterinary Research *			\$ 2,500.00	a	
8	California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation *	minimum 5%	\$ 6,162.85	\$ 6,500.00	b	5% to welfare fund for horsemen/horsewomen and backstretch personnel [BPC section 19556(b)]
9	Winners Foundation *	minimum 5%	\$ 6,162.85	\$ 10,000.00	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%	\$ 24,651.40	\$ 24,651.00	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 13, 2026

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

Executive Director Chaney:

Please find attached, for the California Horse Racing Board's consideration, DMTC's Revised proposed 2025 Charity Days distributions. The DMTC supplement amount to the Charity Days submitted March 14th has been revised to \$79,914.

In 2025 wagering on DMTC's races generated \$123,257 in Charity Days proceeds:

- Summer Meet \$ 77,562
- Fall Meet \$ 9,537
- Breeder's Cup- \$ 36,158
- Revised:
- DMTC Supplement \$ 79,914
- TOTAL \$203,171**

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
2025 Charity Day & DMTC Supplemental Funding**

ORGANIZATIONS	SUMMER 2025	FALL 2025	BC 2025	TOTAL 2025	DMTC CONTRIBUTION	25 COMBINED CONTRIBUTION
California Retirement Management Account (CARMA) *	\$54,293	\$6,676	\$25,311	\$86,280	\$35,921	\$122,201
Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund *	\$15,512	\$1,907	\$7,232	\$24,651		\$24,651
Racing & Medication Consortium *					\$6,819	\$6,819
Winners Foundation *	\$3,878	\$477	\$1,808	\$6,163	\$3,837	\$10,000
California Thoroughbred Horsemen Foundation *	\$3,878	\$477	\$1,808	\$6,163	\$337	\$6,500
Race Track Chaplaincy/Southern California *					\$5,000	\$5,000
Edwin J. Gregson Foundation *					\$18,000	\$18,000
California Center for Equine Health & Performance *					\$2,500	\$2,500
UC Davis - JD Wheat Veterinary Research *					\$2,500	\$2,500
Racing Forward - **Administrator for Horse Racing Women's Association					\$5,000	\$5,000
Totals	\$77,562	\$9,537	\$36,158	\$123,257	\$79,914	\$203,171
* Equine Related Charities	77,562	9,537	36,158	123,257		
Non-Equine Related	0	0	\$0	0		
Percentage of Equine Related Charities	100%	100%	100%	100%		
Total CD funds	77,562	9,537	36,158			



2025 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. Joe Clabes is the group's Executive Director (Contact phone: 859-888-1654; info@pdjf.org / 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 (RMTTC) 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. RMTTC Executive Director is Dr. Michael Hardy, Director of Operations 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/); Jordyn Egan is Executive Director. jordyn@cthfinc.com.

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.