

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
July 8, 2026

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, 2029.

Angie Carmona
Dr. James Dunn
Eric Sindler

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

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June 11, 2026

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

Dear Mr. Chaney:

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, 2029.

Angie Carmona – Returning Board Member

Angie Carmona has been serving California Thoroughbred horse racing for over forty years. Now Deputy Director of the California Thoroughbred Trainers, Angie came to Santa Anita in 1983 and has been an advocate for the interests of the backstretch community ever since. She was elected to the CTHF board in 2014. She also serves on the board of the nonprofit Edwin J. Gregson Foundation, dedicated to improving the quality of life for backstretch workers and their family members through education programs and scholarship grants, as well as social and recreation programs.

Dr. James Dunn – Returning Board Member

Dr. Dunn is a recently retired physician but is still motivated to help others in the medical arena. Dr. Dunn feels a connection with the largely Hispanic population we service. As a child, he lived in Venezuela for eight years then moving back to the United States he trained at LAC-USC in East Los Angeles, then practiced in Santa Barbara, California, where he now resides. He treated a large agricultural population and participated in several missions to Honduras and Guatemala, ironically where many of the backstretch workers are from. Dr. Dunn also has a background at the racetrack with his grandfather, uncle and cousin, all being horse trainers. He is a small-scale owner of Thoroughbreds, giving him another perspective of racetrack life.

Lucy Lawrence – Returning Board Member

Lucy has been fully engaged in California Thoroughbred racing as an owner, breeder, syndicate partner and the aftercare of Thoroughbreds. She recognizes the athletes are most successful when the team that cares for them (grooms, hotwalkers, riders, trainers) are taken care of. Lucy also serves on LRF Cares Board focusing on the aftercare of Thoroughbreds. She strives to continue improving the opportunities for all in the Thoroughbred racing ecosystem.

Eric Sindler – Returning Board Member

Eric has been a fan of horse racing since he first went to Pimlico Racecourse with his father over 30 years ago. After graduating from law school, he nevertheless wanted to get back into racing and obtained his Master's Degree from the Arizona Race Track Industry program. Eric is currently General Counsel, Racing Operations for 1/ST, LLC. Eric also serves as a board member for SCOTWINC, the Stabling and Vanning Committee, and the CTBL (Workmen's Compensation). Like all our board members, Eric appreciates the work our foundation does on behalf of the backstretch workers.

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,



Jordyn Egan