

54th Annual Report of the California Horse Racing Board

A Department of the Business,
Consumer Services and Housing Agency

A Summary of
Fiscal Year 2023–24 Revenue and
Calendar Year 2024 Racing in California

California Horse Racing Board

Dr. Gregory Ferraro, Chair
Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chair
Dennis Alferi, Member
John Carvelli, Member
Damascus Castellanos, Member
Brenda Washington Davis, Member
Thomas Hudnut, Member
Scott Chaney, Executive Director
Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director

This report covers the fiscal year (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024) for revenue purposes, including pari-mutuel handle, fines, taxes, license fees, and the distribution of funds, as well as the report of the Postmortem Program. This report covers the 2024 calendar year for reports on race meets and CHRB meetings, as well as a handle report for the racing year.

The CHRB general office is located at 1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95825. Field offices are located at all operating racetracks. Annual report pdfs are available at: www.chrb.ca.gov (Media Room).

Table of Contents

Message from the Secretary	3
Report from the Chair	4
Racetracks and Training Facilities Map	6
Simulcast Facilities Map	7
The California Horse Racing Board	8
Members of the Board	9
Board and Committee Meetings	11
Operating Budget	12
Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act	13
State Operations	14
Regulatory Changes	15
Enacted Legislation	17
Recommendations	18
Licensing	19
Enforcement	20
Appointed Racing Officials	21
Racing Supervision	22
CHRIMS	23
Laboratory Services	24
Racing Safety Program	26
Equine Postmortem Program	28
Fatalities at CHRB Facilities	30
Starts for All Breeds	30
Jockey, Driver, Exercise Rider Injury/Accidents	31
Equine Injuries	31
Fatalities by Trainer	32
Horse Racing in California/Schedule of Horse Racing Meets	34
Handle 2024	35
Simulcast Facilities	36
Racetracks and Race Meets	37
Horse Racing Revenue	39
Charity Days	39
Uncashed Tickets	40
Distribution by Fund	40
Occupational Licenses and Fees	41
Other Public Revenue	42
Racetrack Commissions	42
Horsemen’s Purses	42
Statistics for Horses Claimed	43
Authorized Horse Sales	43
Horse Breeding Programs	44
Revenue Stream	45
Sources of Handle Chart	47
California Horsemen’s Organizations Welfare Funds	48
Audited Expenses of California Horsemen’s Organizations	48
Audited Financial Statements of California Horse Racing Industry	49

Message from the Secretary



I commend the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) for their commitment to upholding the highest standards of fairness, transparency, and safety for all participants in horse racing. CHRB has worked diligently to enhance the regu-

latory framework that governs the sport in our state, ensuring the welfare of horses and riders.

As Secretary of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH), I see firsthand the impact that our diverse and talented statewide team of more than 8,000 BCSH employees have on improving the lives of all Californians. BCSH is dedicated to supporting California's economic growth, ensuring that businesses of all sizes have the resources and opportunities they need to succeed. At the same time, we have prioritized the protection of consumers, advocating for fair practices and working to ensure the safety and well-being of every Californian.

This year, CHRB took critical steps to improve the health and safety of horses and riders in horse

racing. The ongoing efforts to strengthen veterinary oversight and implement advanced safety protocols have played an essential role in fostering a safer environment. CHRB is dedicated to promoting equine welfare, ensuring that horses are treated with the respect and care they deserve throughout their careers.

In addition to safety, CHRB remains focused on the future of California horse racing and is committed to exploring innovative ways to sustain the sport in an ever-changing landscape.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the CHRB staff for their continued dedication to ensuring the integrity and safety of horse racing in our state, as well as to the horse racing community for their collaboration and commitment to making the sport of horseracing in California both exciting and responsible.

Together, we will continue to build on our achievements, working toward a bright future for the industry and ensuring that California remains a leader in the world of horse racing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tomiquia Moss', written over a blue horizontal line.

[Tomiquia Moss \(Feb 25, 2025 09:53 PST\)](#)

Tomiquia Moss
Secretary, Business, Consumer Services and
Housing Agency

Report from the Chair



In 2024, the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) made significant strides in furthering its mission of ensuring the highest standards of safety and health of both equine and human participants, improving regulatory frameworks, and advancing transparency and accountability in the industry.

The CHRB has worked diligently to modernize and streamline regulatory procedures, adopting more transparent guidelines and utilizing advanced technology for monitoring and enforcement. These improvements help maintain a fair playing field for participants, from trainers and jockeys to owners and fans, while also fostering public confidence in the sport.

We also recognize the importance of preserving and growing California's unique racing culture. Our vibrant industry, with its iconic tracks and historic events, provides significant economic impact and remains a source of pride for our state. From the scenic tracks of Del Mar to the legendary Santa Anita Park, California continues to lead the nation in quality racing, and we remain committed to ensuring its continued success.

Equine Health and Safety

Since 2019, the CHRB has worked with state legislators and the industry to implement the most stringent regulatory reforms in the country. Since these reforms went into effect, fatal injuries in California have fallen more than 50%.

In an unfortunate turn of events not of our own making, some horses arriving from New Mexico brought a virus with them that resulted in the deaths of 12 horses that happened to be stabled at Los Alamitos Race Course, as well as horses in

other states. Fast action by the CHRB and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, with the involvement of the United States Department of Agriculture, prevented the spread of the Equine Infectious Anemia virus. All appropriate steps were taken before, during, and following the outbreak to minimize the dangers.

While the addition of 12 horses on California's list of equine fatalities is unavoidable, we are encouraged that the number of fatalities attributable to actual racing and training remains far below historic levels due to the combined efforts of the CHRB, racetracks, horsemen, and other racing participants.

Breeders' Cup

The Breeders' Cup World Championships returned to Del Mar in 2024, marking the 17th time those races have been staged in California. Hosting the Breeders' Cup is a high honor, as it focuses the world's attention on the venue and generates tremendous revenue to the region, primarily through hotels, dining, and entertainment. Visitors from around the world visited the San Diego area, many for the first time – in particular horses from South Africa and South America made their country's Breeders' Cup debut – and contributed to the atmosphere of color and excitement typical for sporting events of that stature.

Total all-sources, global common-pool handle for the two-day Breeders' Cup was nearly \$180 million, the third-highest total handle in the 41-year history of the event. On-track handle for the two days was an impressive \$18,450,724, primarily due to large crowd of 36,436 on Saturday, the second day of the event and showcase for the signature event, the Breeders' Cup Classic

The Breeders' Cup will return to Del Mar in 2025 when the 42nd edition will be held October 31-November.

Northern California Racing

Northern California stakeholders showed their resilience and commitment following the permanent closure of Golden Gate Fields in June by working together towards the common goal of preserving horse racing in their part of the state. Collectively, they fashioned a thoroughbred meet in Pleasanton, providing the anchor needed to retain horses in the north while the fairs are not running. The CHRB removed as many obstacles as necessary and did everything in the power of a regulator to preserve a racing circuit that has operated for the better part of a century including licensing the new Golden State Racing (GSR) meet at Pleasanton in the last quarter of 2024, interpreting certain rules and earmarking certain simulcast revenue to partially benefit northern interests. The new meet struggled to attract horses, resulting in small fields and low handle, which translated into less revenue for the operators and purses. But the northern stakeholders remain resolute and optimistic that the numbers will improve.

In the end, facing insolvency, those staging the GSR meet withdrew their application for any racing dates in 2025 for Pleasanton, leaving only the racing fairs as the potential operating meets in the north. Those fairs in Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Fresno, Pleasanton, and Ferndale have several months to decide whether they can run successful meets during the summer without an anchor racetrack to hold horses in place for participation during the summer. With the help and financial support of Santa Anita (1st Racing), the training operation in Pleasanton is designed to do just that.

By funding the training operation and paying for shuttling horses from Pleasanton, Santa Anita provided a method for horses to remain stabled in the north, a ready source for the fair meets, while benefitting from the addition of some northern horses for its own struggling race meets. This program will be monitored closely by the CHRB, and all concerned, to determine its viability in the months ahead.

Partnership with Federal Authorities

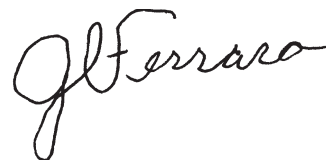
Beginning in 2023, under the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act/Authority (HISA), federal authorities now regulate most of horse racing in North America with the cooperation of state regulators, and no other state has embraced and cooperated with HISA more than California. Racing stakeholders in California have not experienced any disruptions or major problems with the arrival of HISA, and the CHRB has negotiated favorable financial terms with HISA, paid for by racetracks, to cover the costs of equine drug testing, enforcement, and overall safety regulation.

Expressing Our Gratitude

As we move into 2025, the CHRB remains dedicated to meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing landscape, including exploring new revenue streams, enhancing the fan experience, and supporting the long-term sustainability of the industry. We are encouraged by the ongoing collaboration between racing professionals, stakeholders, and government agencies, and we look forward to building upon our shared successes.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow board members, CHRB staff, industry professionals, and all those who support and participate in horse racing. Your dedication and passion are what drive this great sport forward.

We express our appreciation for Wendy Mitchell, who served more than four years as a racing commissioner, and in her personal style, kept us all on our toes. We miss her.



Dr. Gregory Ferraro, Chair
California Horse Racing Board

Names and Locations of Racing and Training Facilities Regulated by the California Horse Racing Board

All but four of these locations are open to the public during their off seasons for simulcast wagering. San Luis Rey Downs, the Humboldt County Fair, and the Sonoma County Fair are closed during their off seasons. Golden Gate Fields is now permanently closed.



Privately Operated Race Tracks

- 1-Del Mar, Del Mar
- 2-Golden Gate Fields, Albany
- 3-Los Alamitos, Cypress
- 4-Santa Anita, Arcadia

Racing Fairs

- 5-Alameda County Fair, Pleasanton
- 6-California Exposition, Sacramento
- 7-Big Fresno Fair, Fresno
- 8-Humboldt County Fair, Ferndale
- 9-Sonoma County Fair, Santa Rosa

Training Facilities

- 10-San Luis Rey Downs, Bonsall

Names and Locations of Simulcast-Only Facilities Regulated by the California Horse Racing Board

(See adjacent "Race Tracks" map for other wagering locations.)

Simulcast-only Facilities

- 1–Antelope Valley Fair, Lancaster
- 2–Commerce Casino, Commerce*
- 3–Derby Room, Sports Grill & Turf Club, Norco*
- 4–Fantasy Springs Casino, Indio
- 5–Firehouse Restaurant, Bakersfield*
- 6–Gaslamp Tavern, Bakersfield*
- 7–Glen Arden Club, Glendale*
- 8–Hollywood Park Casino, Inglewood
- 9–Lake Elsinore Hotel & Casino, Lake Elsinore*
- 10–Lake Perris Sports Pavilion, Perris
- 11–Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona
- 12–Monterey County Fair, Monterey
- 13–National Orange Show, San Bernardino
- 14–OC Tavern, San Clemente*
- 15–Sammy's Restaurant and Bar, Lake Forest*
- 16–San Bernardino County Fair, Victorville
- 17–San Joaquin County Fair, Stockton
- 18–San Mateo Events Center, San Mateo
- 19–Santa Clara County Fair, San Jose
- 20–Santa Clarita Lanes, Santa Clarita*
- 21–Solano County Fair, Vallejo
- 22–Tilted Kilt, Thousand Oaks*
- 23–Ventura County Fair, Ventura
- 24–Viejas Casino and Turf Club, Alpine

* Mini-satellite locations



The California Horse Racing Board

History and Mission Statement

Horse racing in California as we now know it under the pari-mutuel wagering system was made possible when the electorate passed a constitutional amendment in 1933.

The Horse Racing Law has since been regularly modified, amended, and enhanced to provide for regulation of live racing, off-track wagering, interstate and international wagering, and online account wagering, known as Advance Deposit Wagering, or ADW.

The expressed intent of the Horse Racing Law is to allow pari-mutuel wagering on horse races and:

- ◆ Assure protection of the public.
- ◆ Encourage agriculture and the breeding of horses in this state.
- ◆ Provide uniformity of regulation for each type of horse racing.
- ◆ Provide for maximum expansion of horse racing opportunities in the public interest.

To accomplish these objectives, the constitutional amendment authorized pari-mutuel wagering on the results of horse races at licensed race meets and created the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB/Board) to oversee the industry's activities in this state. In addition, the CHRB exchanges information on licensees and disciplinary proceedings with other commissions through the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI).

The CHRB is a seven-member commission appointed by the Governor. It directs a statewide staff in the license and oversight of all race meets in

the state where pari-mutuel wagering is conducted, as well as off-site simulcast wagering locations and ADW companies.

Mission Statement

The mission of the CHRB is to ensure the integrity, viability, and safety of the California horse racing industry by regulating pari-mutuel wagering for the protection of the public, promoting horse racing, breeding, and wagering opportunities, and fostering safe racing through the development and enforcement of track safety standards and regulations for the health and welfare of all participants.

Principal activities of the CHRB include:

- ◆ Adopting rules and regulations to protect the public and ensure the safety of the human and equine participants.
- ◆ Licensing racing associations and racing-industry participants and officials.
- ◆ Allocating racing days and charity days conducted by racing associations and fairs.

- ◆ Encouraging innovative expansion of wagering opportunities, such as mini-satellites.
- ◆ Monitoring and auditing pari-mutuel handle and takeout, and the appropriate use of takeout distributions.
- ◆ Assessing racing surfaces to determine safety standards for the benefit of the participants.
- ◆ Enforcing laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to horse racing in California.
- ◆ Acting as a quasi-judicial body in matters pertaining to horse racing meets.
- ◆ Collecting the state's lawful share of revenue derived from horse racing meets.
- ◆ Enforcing regulations and policies required by the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority/Agency (HISA).

The following pages explore some of these programs and functions in more depth.

Members of the California Horse Racing Board

The Board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor, generally to four-year terms, who are subject to Senate confirmation. Members are eligible for reappointment at the discretion of the Governor. The terms are specific; no more than two of the terms expire in any calendar year.

At least four members of the CHRB must concur in the taking of any official action or in the exercise of any of the Board's duties, powers, or functions. The member commissioners elect their chairperson, who presides over meetings of the Board. The members also elect a vice chairperson or, when necessary, a first vice chair and a second vice chair to preside in the absence of the chairperson.

Commissioners receive \$100 for each day spent in attendance at meetings and are reimbursed for travel and other expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their official duties.

Committees of the Board

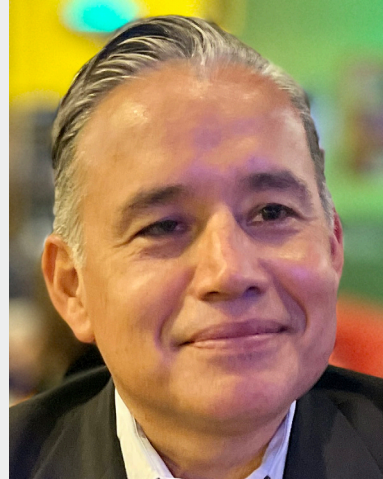
The executive director is directed to provide public notice of committee meetings in accordance with the Bag-

ley-Keene Open Meeting Act. Whenever a Board quorum is expected at any meeting of a committee, the executive director shall give notice that the meeting is a Special Meeting of the California Horse Racing Board limited to the agenda with the items to be discussed at the meeting and the expected commissioners in attendance, so that legal notice may be published.



Dr. Gregory Ferraro,
Chair

Retired Director of the Center for Equine Health at the University of California, Davis. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on June 25, 2019, through January 1, 2023. Reappointed by Governor Newsom though January 1, 2027.



Oscar Gonzales,
Vice Chair

Principal, Oscar Gonzales Consulting. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 9, 2019, through July 26, 2023. Reappointed by Governor Newsom though July 26, 2027.

Members of the California Horse Racing Board



**Dennis Alfieri,
Member**
Managing Member of Mission Real Estate Group, LLC. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. on December 17, 2018, through July 26, 2021. Reappointed by Governor Gavin Newsom through July 26, 2025.



**John Carvelli,
Member**
Retired from Board of Directors and former Executive Vice President for the LIBERTY Dental Plan group of companies; former commissioner and Chair of the CA State Athletic Commission and member of Board of Trustees of The Catholic University of America. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on August 6, 2024, through July 26, 2028.



**Damascus Castellanos,
Member**
Secretary-Treasurer for Teamsters Local No. 495. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 10, 2020, through January 1, 2022. Reappointed through January 1, 2026.



**Brenda Washington Davis,
Member**
Principal in the Brenda Davis Law Group. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on August 26, 2020, through January 1, 2024. Reappointed by Governor Newsom through January 1, 2028.



**Thomas Hudnut
Member**
Search Consultant, Resource Group 175. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on February 28, 2022, through January 1, 2026.



**Wendy Mitchell,
Former Member**
Principal of WM Consulting Inc. since 2006. Appointed to the CHRB by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 9, 2019. Reappointed by Governor Newsom through July 26, 2024.

2024 Board Meetings

Racing commissioners convened 9 public Board meetings in 2024. Noticed meetings are open to the public and include a published agenda.

The following 9 Board meetings were held in 2024:

January 18 — Cal Expo

May 16 — Cal Expo

September 19 — Cal Expo

March 21 — Cal Expo

June 20 — Cal Expo

November 21 — Cal Expo

April 18 — Cal Expo

August 15 — Del Mar

December 19 — Cal Expo

CHRB Operating Budget

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Appropriations	Item	Total
Personal Services	\$7,648,000	
Operating Expenses	\$13,040,000	
Total Appropriation		\$20,688,000
Expenditures — Personal Services		
Salaries and Wages	\$4,642,000	
Staff Benefits	\$3,006,000	
Total Personal Services		\$7,648,000
Operating Expenses and Equipment		
General Expense	\$87,000	
Printing	\$15,000	
Communications	\$32,000	
Postage	\$0	
Travel-in-State	\$255,000	
Travel-out-of-State	\$9,000	
Training	\$6,000	
Facilities Operations	\$235,000	
Contractual & Professional Services–Interdepartmental	\$5,385,000	
Contractual & Professional Services–External	\$6,164,000	
Consolidated Data Center	\$160,000	
Information Technology	\$35,000	
Equipment	\$11,000	
Legal: Attorney General	\$624,000	
- Claims Against the State	\$22,000	
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment		\$13,040,000
Total Expenditures		* \$20,688,000

* Includes year-end accruals and rounded to thousands

Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act

Established when the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act was signed into federal law in 2020, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) is responsible for drafting and enforcing uniform safety and integrity rules in thoroughbred racing in the United States. HISA was created to implement, for the first time, a national, uniform set of rules applicable to every thoroughbred racing participant and racetrack facility in two specific areas: (1) racing safety and (2) anti-doping & medication control.

CHRB Executive Director Scott Chaney and Deputy Executive Director Cynthia Alameda worked closely with HISA in the development of rules and procedures, including reliance on the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at University of California, Davis, for drug testing and research. By agreement, the CHRB accepts and enforces HISA rules and procedures, and horse racing stakeholders fund California's portion of the national oversight.

Two Programs

HISA is comprised of two programs: the Racetrack Safety Program, which went into effect July 1, 2022, and the Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) Program, which went into effect May 22, 2023.

All racing participants (covered persons) are required to register themselves and any horses in their care. Covered persons include those licensed by a state racing commission, those involved with thoroughbred covered horses or thoroughbred covered horse races, and those with access to restricted areas of a racetrack in the ordinary course of their work.

The Racetrack Safety Program includes operational safety rules and national racetrack accreditation standards that seek to enhance equine welfare and minimize equine and jockey injury. The Program expands veterinary oversight, imposes surface maintenance and testing requirements, enhances jockey safety, regulates riding crop use, and implements voided claim rules, among other important measures.

The ADCM Program created a centralized testing and results management process and applies uniform penalties for integrity violations efficiently and consistently across the United States. These rules and enforcement mechanism are administered by a new independent agency, the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU), established by Drug Free Sport International (DFS). HIWU oversees testing, educates stakeholders on the new system, accredits laboratories, investigates potential integrity violations, and prosecutes rule breaches.

Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Leaders

HISA's Chief Executive Officer Lisa Lazarus oversees the Authority's full operations. Lazarus works with stakeholders inside and outside the racing industry to evaluate and improve programs on an ongoing basis. HISA is governed by a Board of Directors who have established two standing committees: Racetrack Safety Committee and Anti-Doping and Medication Control Committee to promulgate regulations in their respective areas. The Federal Trade Commission is tasked with approval of regulations and oversight of HISA. HISA and HIWU have also established several advisory committees made up of stakeholders in order to gain input and insight from those closest to horse racing.

California is well represented at all levels of this structure: (1) Dr. Sue Stover from UC Davis is on the Board of Directors and Chairs the Racetrack Safety Committee; (2) Equine Medical Director Dr. Jeff Blea is on the Anti-Doping and Medication Control Committee; (3) Dr. Heather Knych from UC Davis is on the Furosemide Advisory Committee; (4) Dr. Rick Gold, Thoroughbred Owners of California Board of Directors, is on the Horsemen's Advisory Committee; (5) Tom Robbins, Executive Vice President of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, is on the Horsemen's Advisory Committee; and (6) owner Stephanie Hronis is on the Jockey Mental Health Steering Committee.

State Operations

The CHRB is within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.

Horse racing's specialized and complex regulatory requirements drive the CHRB's organizational structure and determine the responsibilities for its operational divisions.

The Board appoints an executive director to carry out its objectives. Executive Director Scott Chaney is responsible for the Board's operations and regulation of the horse racing industry.

The executive and management team plans and oversees the CHRB's budget and directs the department's operational divisions: Administrative Services, Legislation and Regulations, Audits, Licensing, Information Technology, and Enforcement.

Horse racing's dynamics, complexity, and broad geographical base place a tremendous responsibility on the Board's staff. To assist in this day-to-day oversight, the CHRB contracts with stewards and veterinarians for on-track activities, and with the Uni-

versity of California, Davis, for drug testing and safety-related services.

The horse racing industry operates seven days a week, 365 days a year. Even when there is no live racing, the stable areas and training facilities remain active. To meet the demands associated with this schedule, the executives and key managers remain available at any hour of the day.



Scott Chaney,
Executive Director

A member of the State Bar of California, served as a steward in California from 2005 until he assumed duties as Executive Director on April 16, 2020.



Cynthia Alameda,
Deputy Executive Director

Nineteen-year career in fiscal and administrative oversight for the State prior to joining the CHRB as Deputy Executive Director on February 12, 2020.



Marc Shaw, Former Chief
Enforcement and Licensing

Over 30 years of service to the State in a variety of law enforcement leadership roles prior to becoming the CHRB's chief law enforcement officer on October 1, 2022. He retired at the end of 2024.

Regulatory Changes

The following regulations/rules were amended, repealed, or added in FY 2023-24:

- Regulation/Rule 1500** Name: Apprentice Jockey
Summary: Amendment to align with proposed language for the Association of Racing Commissioners International model rule.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 29, 2023, and effective January 1, 2024.
- Regulation/Rule 1619** Name: Apprentice Jockey Allowance
Summary: Amendment to align with proposed language for the Association of Racing Commissioners International model rule.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 29, 2023, and effective January 1, 2024.
- Regulation/Rule 1632** Name: Jockey's Riding Fee
Summary: Section 100 change without regulatory effect. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19501, which requires the Board to amend Rule 1632 to increase the minimum jockey riding fees for losing mounts whenever California's minimum wage is increased. California's minimum wage increases January 1 annually pursuant to Senate Bill 3.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 30, 2023, and effective January 1, 2024.
- Regulation/Rule 1846.5** Name: Postmortem Examination
Summary: Amendment to expand the scope of authority to require a postmortem examination of every horse that dies or is euthanized in California within 72 hours of leaving a facility under the jurisdiction of the Board.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on March 21, 2024, and effective July 1, 2024.
- Regulation/Rule 1846.6** Name: Postmortem Examination Review
Summary: Amendment to expand the scope of authority to require a postmortem examination review on each equine fatality in California within 72 hours of leaving a facility under the jurisdiction of the Board.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on March 21, 2024, and effective July 1, 2024.
- Regulation/Rule 1866.3** Name: Corticosteroid High-Motion Joint Injection
Summary: Amendment to prohibit administration of a corticosteroid intra-articular joint injection into a high-motion joint of a horse without diagnostic imaging of the joint having been performed within seven days prior to the injection.
Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on April 2, 2024, and effective July 1, 2024.

Regulation/Rule 1867

Name: Prohibited Veterinary Practices

Summary: Certificate of Compliance to make permanent the emergency rulemaking effective March 13, 2023, to provide clarity regarding medications approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on November 8, 2023, and effective November 8, 2023.

Regulations/Rules 1902

Name: Conduct Detrimental to Horse Racing

Summary: Amendment prohibiting licensee participation in or attendance at non-recognized race meetings.

Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on October 16, 2023, and effective January 1, 2024.

Enacted Legislation

The following horse racing bills were chaptered in 2024:

- AB 179 – (Committee on Budget); Chapter 997** Makes statutory changes to continue enabling the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) to conduct federal background checks on licensees. AB 179 also adds CHRB license categories and associated definitions to California Horse Racing Law. Effective date: September 30, 2024
- AB 1768 – (Committee on Governmental Organization); Chapter 354** Modifies various sections of Horse Racing Law and the California Penal Code to improve operational efficiencies for the CHRB. AB 1768 also adds the Pegasus World Cup Invitational to the list of out-of-state thoroughbred races exempt from the 50-race per day limit on imported races. Effective date: January 1, 2025
- AB 1946 – (Assembly Member Juan Alanis); Chapter 366** Adds the Whitney Stakes to the list of out-of-state thoroughbred races exempt from the 50-race per day limit on imported races. Effective date: January 1, 2025
- AB 3261– (Assembly Member Mike Fong); Chapter 439** Raises the existing limit on the importation of out-of-state thoroughbred races for wagering purposes from 50 to 75 per day, with conditions. When the total number of imported races is between 51 and 75 per day, a racing association or fair must obtain the consent of the harness or quarter horse association that is conducting a live race meet commencing after 5:00 p.m. This bill also incorporates changes enacted via Assembly Bill 1768 and Assembly Bill 1946. Effective date: January 1, 2025.

Recommendations

California Business and Professions Code section 19441 requires the CHRB to make recommendations necessary for improved functioning of the horse racing laws. Additionally, section 19441.2 requires a tabulation of injuries, catastrophic injuries, and comparative accident rates for all racing and training venues.

Progress

The CHRB has either completed or addressed all 63 recommendations that arose from the extensive investigation at Santa Anita in 2019 and from the Executive Director's letter at that time to the Governor. Together they outlined the measures being taken to make horse racing safer for its equine and human athletes. Since then, the industry has been working together to make changes to policy and business practices, making health and welfare paramount for all participants. Changes to the rules and regulations take time, but as each one becomes effective the results are seen immediately. Only a few of these recommendations remain to be completed.

Recent developments in this area are:

1. Rule 1867.2 is now in place requiring horses receiving a third intra-articular injection within a 60-day period to be placed on the Veterinarian's List for 30 days.
2. Rules 1846, 1846.1, 1846.2, and 1846.3 are in place requiring a horse that has not recorded a work or race in 90 days to have a veterinary examination for soundness and health. The trainer must submit the horse's treatment records to the regulatory veterinarian.
3. Amended Rule 1878 to require a trainer's veterinarian to examine a horse to determine fitness to race 72 hours before entering a race and to examine a horse to determine fitness before a workout.
4. The CHRB has expanded upon Rule 1867 (Prohibited Veterinary Practices), which limits the use of compounded medications, whereby the horse must have a prescription, and the medication can only be administered by a veterinarian.
5. Rules 1846.5 and 1846.6 have expanded the reporting of a fatality to 72 hours after leaving a facility under the jurisdiction of the Board.
6. Rule 1866.3 (Corticosteroid High-Motion Joint Injection) regulates intra-articular injections, particularly in fetlock and knee joints. It also requires diagnostics prior to injections.

Future Recommendations

Track Maintenance and Protocols

- ◆ Tracks should monitor the speed of surfaces, race by race, adjusting surfaces for class levels. This allows race-tracks to take corrective measures to address issues of

any surface in real time based on measurements, testing, performance, and inspections.

- ◆ Tracks should make surface changes accessible to horsemen via a digital record-keeping system. HISA Regulations 2150 and 2151 require submission of all recorded data collection, measurements, and maintenance records to the Authority.
- ◆ Tracks should consider offering a synthetic surface for either the main course or a smaller course for training only. Santa Anita has installed a synthetic surface on its training track and may race on this surface in the future.

Racing Office

- ◆ The racing secretary should write condition books (proposed races) based on the current horse population. Racing secretaries study horse eligibility from the stall applications to write races that reflect the conditions of the horse population, adding "extra" races when horses' conditions change.

Security

- ◆ Tracks should consider expanding video surveillance at all locations, including racing ovals to monitor training. HISA will be requiring video surveillance in the receiving barn. Consider amending Rule 1920 to have all associations install cameras to cover the barns, backstretch, and stalls. Tracks currently have varying degrees of video surveillance coverage, and some trainers have installed their own cameras.

Facilities

- ◆ Racetracks should consider adding a small, paddock turn-out where horses can be outdoors with more space. San Luis Rey Downs has turn-out pens, round pens, and a swimming pool available to horses year-round. Associations should utilize local farms or stables for their turn-out facilities between starts.

The CHRB will continue to implement policies and protocols and to adopt rules and regulations to help the few remaining recommendations proceed to completion. The CHRB will encourage the industry to continue to cooperate and communicate toward the goal of a safer, healthier industry.

Licensing

The CHRB Licensing Unit is comprised of a Licensing Supervisor and seven Licensing Technicians. They are responsible for the licensing of all personnel affiliated with thoroughbred, quarter horse and harness racing venues. Licensing Technicians are assigned to each CHRB licensed racetrack across the state and to CHRB Headquarters. They are also temporarily assigned to tracks hosting thoroughbred race meetings, such as Del Mar, The Big Fresno Fair, the Alameda County Fair, the Sonoma County Fair, and the Humboldt County Fair.

In FY 2023-24, the Licensing Unit issued 6,937 new, renewal, and duplicate licenses. This included 2,633 owner licenses, 1,295 backstretch worker licenses, 423 pari-mutuel clerk licenses, 285 trainer and assistant trainer licenses, 259 exercise riders, and 96 jockey and apprentice jockey licenses. The issuance of these licenses generated \$780,495 in licensing fee revenue for the CHRB Jockey and Horse Safety Fund.

As a component of the licensing process, Licensing Technicians take digital fingerprints of all applicants for the purpose of conducting criminal history checks. They also utilize computer databases and consult with other racing jurisdictions across the country to ensure each applicant is properly vetted before being issued a license.

The CHRB Licensing Unit verifies all licensed trainers have the required workers compensation insurance, and they review the daily racing programs to ensure all participants are properly licensed.

CHRB Licensing Technicians are trained in the complex circumstances of multiple ownerships and partnerships, racing syndications, stable names, and various types of corporations. This prepares them to explain the intricate details of the licensing requirements to the applicant and allows them to assist the applicant in selecting the appropriate type of license.

Enforcement

The CHRB Enforcement Division is comprised of a Chief, four Supervising Special Investigators, 16 Investigators, and one Enforcement Technician. CHRB Investigators are assigned to each CHRB licensed racetrack and training facility across the state.

Investigators are also temporarily assigned to tracks hosting Thoroughbred race meetings, such as Del Mar, The Big Fresno Fair, the Alameda County Fair, the Sonoma County Fair, and the Humboldt County Fair.

In FY 2023-24, the Enforcement Division investigated 512 violations and other matters that fall within the Board's jurisdiction.

The primary responsibility of the CHRB Enforcement Division is investigation of violations of the CHRB Rules and Regulations, as well as other statutes related to horse racing and animal welfare. Most CHRB violations are handled administratively through a hearing conducted by the Board of Stewards. These hearings are held in response to a Complaint filed by a CHRB investigator, and the proceedings are very similar to any other legal hearing, with a ruling (and penalty when appropriate) issued by the Board of Stewards.

CHRB enforcement personnel are sworn peace officers and have the authority to investigate other crimes such as assault, battery, drug and weapons violations, and fraud, particularly when they occur at a CHRB licensed facility.

All new license applicants, and those who have allowed their license to lapse for three years or more, are required to provide fingerprints through the Live Scan system. The applicant's fingerprints are submitted to the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, where they are checked against a myriad of criminal history databases. All local, state, and federal criminal history records are reviewed by the Enforcement Division, and individuals with a conviction are interviewed by CHRB Investigators to determine their suitability for licensure.

Appointed CHRB Officials — FY 2023–24

Darrel McHargue	Chief Steward	Timothy Grande DVM	Chief Official Veterinarian
Brice Blanc	Steward	Alina Vale, DVM	Official Veterinarian
Calvin Rainey	Steward	Barrie Grant, DVM	Official Veterinarian
David C. Nuesch	Steward	Eduardo E. De La Cruz Ballard, DVM	Official Veterinarian
Dennis Nevin	Steward	Forrest Franklin, DVM	Official Veterinarian
E. Paul Atkinson	Steward	Gary Beck, DVM	Official Veterinarian
George Yniguez	Steward	Jocelyn Lorbiecki, DVM	Official Veterinarian
Grant Baker	Steward	Kathy Jones, DVM	Official Veterinarian
James Dreyer	Steward	Mark Christin DVM	Official Veterinarian
John Herbuveaux	Steward	Nolton Pattio, VMD	Official Veterinarian
John Yinger	Steward	Rebecca Fitzgerald De Alba, DVM	Official Veterinarian
Luis Jauregui	Steward	Marica E. DeLuna	RVT
Patricia “Kim” Sawyer	Steward	Emily Villa	RVT
Richard J. Lewis	Steward	Amy Powell	RVT
Rodney R. Newhart	Steward	Edward J. Weiss	Hearing Officer
Ronald Church	Steward	Patrick J. Kane	Hearing Officer
Thomas McCarthy	Steward	John Herbuveaux	Hearing Officer
Thomas Ward	Steward	Shauna Avrith	Hearing Officer
Steve Carpenito	Steward		
Eddie Rich	Steward		

Racing Supervision

Racing officials appointed or approved by the CHRB are responsible for on-site supervision of race meets. The racing officials are the stewards, safety stewards, paddock judges, patrol judges, starters, clerks of scales, official veterinarians, racing veterinarians, horse identifiers, horseshoe inspectors, and timers.

The stewards have overall responsibility for the conduct of race meets and are strictly responsible to the Board for the conduct of the meet in every particular. Each panel of three stewards has been delegated the powers and duties necessary to ensure the integrity of racing and to oversee compliance with laws and rules.

CHRB Chief Steward Darrel McHargue meets regularly with stewards to discuss and evaluate decisions, rulings, and other actions.

The CHRB directly appoints all stewards and official veterinarians. Other racing officials are nominated by the racing associations subject to CHRB approval. The Legislature provides an annual appropriation to meet the costs of direct racing supervision. The CHRB paid \$2,824,515 for steward and official veterinarian services in FY 2023-24; racing associations pay other officials in the manner prescribed and agreed to by the CHRB.

Acting for the CHRB in matters relating to the race meets assigned to them, the stewards use their delegated authority for the following:

- ◆ Oversee entries, declarations, and the placing of horses for the official order of finish.
- ◆ Preside over examinations required for certain classes of licenses.
- ◆ Conduct administrative hearings on matters involving CHRB and

HISA rule violations and racing infractions.

- ◆ Issue rulings based on hearings, such as suspensions and fines.
- ◆ Make recommendations to the CHRB regarding the qualifications and fitness for licensure of applicants referred to them by the Board's licensing staff.
- ◆ Maintain minutes of all such proceedings for review by the Board and the public.
- ◆ Participate in panel review of horses entered to race.
- ◆ Participate in postmortem examination reviews.
- ◆ Oversee safety concerns for the race meetings.

The stewards attend quarterly Stewards' Committee meetings to receive information and to discuss issues, rule changes, and interpretations of policy. They share views and experiences relating to race reviews, veterinary practices, administrative hearing procedures, and other important work-related matters. The meetings help them remain current on laws, regulations, and policies, helping ensure that all stewards' decisions are made in a fair and consistent manner throughout the state.

Safety stewards enforce compliance with safety standards. They also:

- ◆ Monitor training to ensure exercise riders, outriders, and pony riders observe all rules, including wearing safety vests and helmets.
- ◆ Follow the horse ambulance protocol for quick response during training and racing.
- ◆ Oversee continuing education for trainers.

- ◆ Assist testing for provisional exercise riders and apprentice jockeys.
- ◆ File official reports for all serious racing and training incidents.
- ◆ Attend postmortem reviews and assist with the investigation of horse catastrophic injuries.
- ◆ Assist the stewards in the licensing of jockeys and exercise riders.
- ◆ Take weekly measurements and field samples at all racing association surfaces, training facility surfaces, and fair surfaces.
- ◆ Monitor and observe daily backside activities.
- ◆ Perform pre-meet track safety inspections.
- ◆ Assist official veterinarians in out-of-competition drug testing.

The official veterinarians, overseen by the Equine Medical Director (EMD), Dr. Jeff Blea, and the CHRB Chief Official Veterinarian (COV), Dr. Timothy Grande, enforce regulations relating to veterinary practices, medication, and the health and welfare of the horse. They supervise licensed veterinarians, operations of the receiving barn, the collection of equine samples for testing, and the preparation and documentation of the samples to be transported to the laboratory.

The official veterinarians consult with the EMD, COV, and track veterinarians; examine horses for fitness; maintain a health and racing soundness record for each racehorse eligible to compete at a race meet; review confidential reports of veterinary treatments of horses under their general supervision; maintain records of infirm horses, accidents, and injuries; approve prescribed therapeutic treatment regimens; and otherwise act as the Board's veterinary advisors.

CHRIMS

California is the only state with a statewide pari-mutuel database providing services to racetracks, horsemen, and government entities. Originally named the California Horse Racing Information Management System, now known solely as CHRIMS, it provides services that include data collection, calculation of takeout distributions, database management, software development, pari-mutuel accounting and settlements, money-room balancing, customer resource management, and statistical analysis.

CHRIMS is a not-for-profit, mutual-benefits corporation whose members include Northern California Off-Track Wagering Inc. and Southern California Off-Track Wagering Inc. An eight-member board of directors, which includes representatives from racing associations and horsemen, oversees the CHRIMS operation. The CHRIMS databases contain California wagering and attendance data dating back to 1985.

CHRIMS has been instrumental in helping the California racing industry cope with the demands associated with the changing landscape of pari-mutuel wagering during the past 38 years. Specialized applications enable data technicians to electronically collect wagering data and calculate the distribution of takeout based upon California pari-mutuel horse racing law and contractual business rules.

Each day, CHRIMS downloads pari-mutuel data from various totalisator systems. The data include wagering pools, takeout commissions, breakage, minus pools, runner pay, refunds, uncashed tickets, and voucher information. The raw data collected from totalisator systems are compiled and translated into the CHRIMS database parameters, which conform to California racing law. CHRIMS data can be sorted by a myriad of criteria, including by date, race, pool, host track, location of bet, location type, breed, geo-

graphic zone, zip code, state, and race type. CHRIMS connects to and downloads data from AmTote, United Tote, and Sportech, and receives data from the seven licensed California ADW companies, which include Game Play, Lien Games, NYRAbets, TwinSpires, TVG, XpressBet, and Watch & Wager.

CHRIMS manages the intrastate tote wagering telecommunications network and provides data relating to the specifics of races (runners, distance, surface, age, class, etc.) via downloads from Equibase.

CHRIMS also provides services to racetracks, ADW companies, and racing commissions outside California. Contracts include Amtote, Arizona Downs, Breeders' Cup, Buffalo Raceway, Caliente, Corbin, eBet, Elite Turf Club, Emerald Downs, First Tracks Cumberland, Global Wagering Group, Gulfstream Park, Keeneland, Kentucky Downs, Laurel Park, Lone Star Park, Meadowlands, Monmouth Park, Paribet, Pimlico, Racing UK, Remington Park, Rillito, Sunray, Tampa Bay Downs, The Red Mile, and Watchandwager.com. Racing commissions and horsemen's organizations include the North Dakota Racing Commission, the Iowa HBPA, the Ohio HBPA, and the Louisiana HBPA. CHRIMS Inc. received \$529,765 from unredeemed vouchers during calendar year 2023.

Laboratory Services

To protect horses and jockeys and the integrity of racing, the CHRB requires analysis of samples from horses in competition. The Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory (Maddy Lab) at the University of California, Davis, is the authorized laboratory for California horse racing, funded by wagering revenues.

The Maddy Lab analyzed 4,305 post-race urine and blood samples, including in-depth testing of 2,376 samples for anabolic steroids, 844 bicarbonate (TCO₂) loading blood samples, 60 cobalt blood samples, 153 out-of-competition (OOC) blood samples, 4 OOC and post-race hair samples, 6 evidence submissions, and 90 other samples for various purposes in FY 2023-2024.

Collection of Samples

Urine and blood samples are obtained post-race from the winner of every race, horses finishing second and third in certain stakes races, and from any other horses selected at random from each program. Additionally, other horses may be designated for post-race sampling by the stewards. Post-race testing includes in-depth testing for compounds ranging from controlled therapeutic medications to emerging threats to racing integrity and equine welfare and safety. Special testing for cobalt was added early in 2014 and is continually monitored. Other testing includes injured horses that are vanned off, in addition to necropsy tissue samples and toxicology.

Special Testing

Total carbon dioxide (TCO₂) is conducted on thoroughbreds and harness horses to prevent the prohibited administration of bicarbonate. Thoroughbred TCO₂ testing is done pre-race; harness horse TCO₂ testing is primarily done pre-race, but some sampling is done 90 minutes post-race on winners. The CHRB thoroughbred and pre-race harness TCO₂ programs are in compliance with the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) best practices recommendations and the Association of Racing Commissioners International model rule for TCO₂ testing.

Scrutiny of All Horses

OOC testing is critical and necessary to detect certain prohibited drugs in horse racing. OOC testing targets blood-doping agents, anabolic steroids, beta-2 (β₂) agonists, and other biopharmaceutical agents. The OOC program monitors compliance with reporting procedures for anabolic agents and for surveillance of other drugs of inter-

est. The OOC program also utilizes hair testing to ensure compliance with regulations providing an alternative sampling matrix with extended detection windows for certain compounds.

Samples Retained

The Maddy Lab maintains a portion of every urine sample for retrospective testing in the event new testing methods become available. Samples may undergo retrospective testing for drugs of abuse or emerging threats. The CHRB is prepared for the next generation of performance-enhancing drugs. Dr. Ben Moeller, chief chemist at the Maddy Lab's analytical chemistry division, joined the Maddy Lab in 2016 and has overseen laboratory operations since 2018. Dr. Moeller received his PhD at University of California, Davis, is an active member of the Association of Racing Chemists, and serves on scientific committees for the RMTC and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA).

Full Accreditation

The Maddy Lab is accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) to ISO17025 international standards and was the first laboratory in the country accredited by the RMTC accreditation program. It is one of only six racing laboratories certified as a reference laboratory by the IFHA and the only racing laboratory so certified in the western hemisphere. The Maddy Lab utilizes state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation, including liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS) screening processes. The combined testing panel is designed to address the abuse of doping agents as well as the regulated use of therapeutic medications. The Maddy Lab routinely adds new drugs and updates its procedures as new information becomes available.

The equine pharmacology/method development section is under the direction of Dr. Heather Knych, a University of California, Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine faculty member and the Maddy Lab's Veterinary Pharmacologist, who joined the Maddy Lab in 2008. Dr. Knych received her Veterinary degree and PhD from University of California, Davis, and is a board-certified veterinary pharmacologist. Dr. Knych's dissertation research focused on charac-

terizing drug metabolism in horses. In addition to CHRB support, under the leadership of Dr. Knych, the Maddy Lab Pharmacology section has received funding from numerous outside sources, including the Center for Equine Health, RMTTC, Grayson/ Jockey Club Research Foundation, The Jockey Club, and California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Emphasis on Research

The Maddy Lab pharmacology section conducts ongoing research to improve testing capabilities for potential drugs of abuse and understand the pharmacokinetics and pharmacologic effect of both therapeutic drugs and potential drugs of abuse. The lab seeks to provide horsemen and veterinarians with information to better treat their horses and remain in compliance with horse racing rules. Research is an integral, ongoing part of the CHRB's drug-testing program at the Maddy Lab. Research efforts have improved testing capabilities and understanding of the effects of numerous drugs, including bisphosphonates, corticoste-

roids, NSAIDS, EPO, growth hormone, stimulants, peptide-based drugs, selective androgen receptor modulators, and cannabinoids for example. Maddy Lab faculty have published more than 250 peer-reviewed research papers, including over 15 manuscripts in the past year on veterinary pharmacology and pharmacokinetics, toxicology, equine anti-doping methods, and other related topics.

Partnering with HISA

In the past year, several members of the Maddy Lab team have worked with the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) and the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU) in the development of equine drug-testing protocols, as well as equine standards for laboratories and accreditation that were implemented for all covered thoroughbreds in racing in California. In addition to providing services under HIWU, the Maddy Lab continues to provide services to the CHRB for all quarter horse, standard-bred, and mixed breed events at a total cost of \$4,669,250.

Racing Safety Program

California Business and Professions Code (B&P Code) section 19481 requires the CHRB to establish safety standards to improve the safety of horses, riders, and workers at the racetrack. The CHRB proactively creates and amends rules, regulations, and procedures to reduce injuries or equine and human athletes.

The Racing Safety Program addresses is credited with proactively creating programs that continue to significantly reduce injuries to horses and riders.

The Racing Safety Program includes:

1. Entry review panels at all association and fair meets;
2. Postmortem examination reviews and summaries;
3. Equine catastrophic injury reporting and charts;
4. Equine injury reporting;
5. Jockey/driver/exercise rider accident and injury reporting;
6. The University of California, Davis, California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System (CAHFS) Postmortem Program;
7. Track safety, measurements, monitoring, and testing on all surfaces in California;
8. Racing reform recommendations;
9. Continuing education requirement for licensees;
10. Veterinarian examinations prior to work out or entry;
11. The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) and the resulting Horse Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU);
12. Veterinary examination after a break in training or racing more than 90 days;
13. Limitations on agent and number of intra-articular (IA) injections. Required diagnostics before injection of high-motion joints.
14. Prohibition of licensees participation in unsanctioned racing, and
15. A concussion protocol for jockeys and an increase in the scale of weights.

In Greater Detail

1. The entry review panel now evaluates every horse entered to race at all thoroughbred and quarter horse associations and fairs in California. The panel has been given the authority to prevent a horse from running or require an enhanced examination to race. Each day

following entries a report is generated to flag horses that are at-risk. Eligibility to race or train may not be granted until the horse has performed satisfactorily in a timed workout for a CHRB Official Veterinarian, or diagnostic imaging may be ordered to determine fitness. Regulatory veterinarians will monitor every starter from the time the horses arrive in the receiving barn until they leave the track to ensure all horses are fit to race.

2. Postmortem examination reviews are conducted at all tracks and training facilities for all equine fatalities. Conducting the reviews are a safety steward and the Equine Medical Director or the Official Veterinarian. The trainer attends and provides the horse's records, medication history, diagnostic images, shoeing records, and other requested relevant documents. Upon completion of this review, the panel provides a report of the findings to the owner, trainer, and the Board. The CHRB posts each of these as an anonymous summary on its website with the goal of providing greater understanding for future prevention.
3. Three searchable, user-friendly charts have been created, one for musculoskeletal catastrophic injuries, a second for non-musculoskeletal or other equine fatalities, and a third for infectious disease. The charts list fatalities that occurred from January 1, 2020, to the present and are located under the Veterinary tab of the CHRB website. Listed are all the catastrophic injuries by the year, date, track, activity, horse's name, breed, trainer, and any important notes. Information is added as soon as the CHRB is notified.
4. Equine injury reporting in California has been in place for over 13 years. The numbers are again trending significantly lower. This is due in part to stricter medication rules and regulations, limiting use of the riding crop, more consistent track surfaces, and from the evaluations conducted by the entry panels.
5. Accident/injury reporting for jockeys, drivers, and exercise riders has been ongoing. The CHRB promptly notifies the stakeholders when an incident occurs. The CHRB is currently working with track management to ensure the health and welfare of each of these licensees. Together we are implementing safeguards, addressing issues, and enacting measures that will make racing and training safer for all of our human athletes.

6. The Postmortem Program identifies the pathology related to the death of each horse and provides a scientific understanding of why the catastrophic injury occurred. Postmortem reports by fiscal year are available on the CHRBR website under the Veterinary tab.
7. Track safety addresses the development of standards, racing-surface performance measurement tools as well as surface-material performance testing. Safety stewards take Clegg readings weekly on both turf and dirt surfaces at their assigned racetrack. Data for the past three years indicate these surfaces have been consistent in their level of compaction during this time period. The CHRBR continues to work with track management at all the associations and training facilities to encourage real-time surface monitoring for track maintenance and closures. Future goals include the creation of safe parameters for track metrics.
8. More than 60 racing reform recommendations resulted from the Santa Anita Catastrophic Injury report released in March of 2020. Since then, the CHRBR has been working with track management and the industry to enact specific safeguards that address each. As a result, several rules or regulations have been created or amended, while others have been enacted immediately with a house rule by track management. A small percentage are complex and may take more time to complete; however, they are currently moving forward or are in discussion. The majority of the recommendations have been implemented, contributing to more than a 50-percent decrease in catastrophic injuries over three fiscal years.
9. Trainers and assistant trainers are now required to show proof of having completed 12 hours of approved continuing education (CE) coursework during the preceding 36-month period in order to apply for a license or to renew a license. The majority of trainers completed their CE courses. The CHRBR website is their primary CE resource. It lists with links to all CE courses and webinars. The site also has the forms needed to list completed courses and has waivers for those who qualify. This coursework is currently available on the following websites: The Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit at <https://courses.grayson-jockeyclub.org/course-index>; California Thoroughbred Trainers website at <https://horsemenu.mclms.net/en/package/list>; and CHRBR website at http://www.chrb.ca.gov/CE_webinars.html.
10. CHRBR Rules 1581.1 and 1878 require veterinarian examinations prior to work out or entry, and require the following criteria be met: A horse must be examined by a veterinarian during the seventy-two (72) hours immediately preceding a workout or entry to race to evaluate the horse's fitness. An evaluation will be conducted and recorded by the veterinarian, and a determination made of the horse's fitness to work or race. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, close inspection of the eyes, examination of the legs, and observation of the horse at rest and while in motion. The veterinarian and trainer shall inform the Official Veterinarian of any changes in the horse's fitness after examination or entry and before a workout or race.
11. The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) was signed into law and became effective on July 1, 2022. This is ushering in a new, safer era for the sport and its athletes. HISA will supplement and enhance all the safety regulations that California has forged over the past several years. HISA has also contracted with the Horse Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU), which developed standards, protocols, and procedures for equine drug testing. HISA and HIWU enforce the rules and conduct investigations to maintain the integrity of horse racing in California and the nation.
12. The Board passed a series of regulations requiring multiple veterinary examinations for horses after returning from a break in training of racing longer than 90 days.
13. Limitations on intra-articular (IA) injections, including stand-down times for working and racing post injections, required diagnostics before injection of high motion joints, and limits on multiple IA injections over time and in the same joint.
14. New CHRBR Rule 1902 prohibits the participation of licensees in unsanctioned racing.
15. In collaboration with HISA, a concussion protocol was created to protect jockeys and to establish baseline examinations and a protocol to return to riding after a concussion. Additionally, the CHRBR has increased the scale of weights to promote the health and welfare of jockeys.

Equine Postmortem Program

California horse racing experienced 87 recorded fatalities in FY 2023-24 the second-lowest number of total fatalities since 1990. This is the second-lowest recorded number since the beginning of the CHRB Postmortem Program. Under the guidance and leadership of the CHRB, efforts to reduce equine fatalities in racing, training, and other causes continues to be a priority for horsemen, veterinarians, and all horse racing industry stakeholders.

The State of California monitors all equine fatalities within CHRB racing and authorized training facilities. This is accomplished through the efforts of official veterinarians, safety stewards, the Equine Medical Director, and the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) diagnostic laboratories. CAHFS, under the direction of Dr. Ashley Hill, is part of the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of California, Davis, with laboratories at University of California (Davis), Tulare, and San Bernardino. The goal of the Postmortem Program is to determine the causes and reasons for horse injuries and fatalities to reduce serious non-fatal injuries and prevent catastrophic fatalities on the track. The overarching focus of the program is to study the nature of injuries occurring in racehorses, to determine the reasons for these injuries, and to develop strategies to improve the health, safety, and welfare of racehorses.

Necropsy Required

All horse fatalities occurring within a CHRB facility (and in some cases offsite, in hospitals or clinics) will undergo a comprehensive necropsy at a CAHFS lab as required by CHRB rule. CAHFS veterinary pathologists perform the necropsy and prepare a report for the CHRB. An amendment to CHRB 1846.5 went into effect on July 1, 2024 to require that every horse which dies or is euthanized in California within 72 hours of leaving a facility under the jurisdiction of the Board undergo a comprehensive necropsy at the CAHFS Lab.

Furthermore, to aid in identifying and reducing shoulder fractures, CHRB 1846.2 (Training Soundness Examination) went into effect on July 1, 2023, whereby each and every horse that has not had a recorded work or race within the past 90 days shall be subjected to a veterinary examination for training soundness and health prior to beginning training.

The work of Dr. Carlos Schild, a post-doctoral fellow under the supervision of Dr. Francisco Uzal, a professor of pathology and head of the program for CAHFS, focuses primarily on musculoskeletal injuries, elucidating more information on cause and prevention.

Most Common Causes

Musculoskeletal injuries in racing and training are the most common cause of fatalities at CHRB facilities, making up 60 percent of the total. Of the 52 musculoskeletal fatalities in FY 2023-24, 35 percent occurred in racing, while 52 percent occurred in training, and 13 percent occurred in 'other' activities. Musculoskeletal specimens of special interest or for research studies may be forwarded to the J.D. Wheat Veterinary Orthopedic Research Laboratory (VORL) at the School of Veterinary Medicine at University of California, Davis, for in-depth analysis. In-depth analysis of necropsy specimens at VORL has shown the role of undiagnosed stress fractures contributing to catastrophic fractures of the pelvis, femur, humerus, scapula, tibia, third metacarpal (shin), and other bones.

Dr. Sue Stover and CAHFS pathologists have focused on proximal sesamoid bone fractures for several years. Proximal sesamoid bone fractures and associated fetlock (ankle) injuries are the single major cause of fatal racehorse injuries, both racing and training, accounting for nearly 50 percent of all musculoskeletal fatalities.

Pre-existing pathology at the site of the fatal injury is a re-occurring finding at enhanced necropsy. Much of the pre-existing pathology is not clinically apparent and only detectable using specialized laboratory instrumentation on bench-top specimens. Nevertheless, these pre-existing changes suggest there is an opportunity to incorporate early clinical detection techniques to prevent serious injury. For example, proximal sesamoid bone fractures frequently have pre-existing changes in the bone that are often undetectable with standard diagnostic imaging.

Advanced Diagnostic Equipment

The Advanced Imaging Center, operated and managed by The Southern California Equine Foundation at Santa Anita, provides Nuclear Scintigraphy, standing Positron Emission Tomography (PET), and standing MRI diagnostic services to the racehorse population. University of California, Davis, veterinary radiologist Dr. Mathieu Spriet developed an innovative, first-of-its-kind, standing positron emission tomography (PET) for horses in California, and

it is now in operation at 10 veterinary facilities across the country. These modalities at Santa Anita have significantly advanced injury detection, prevention, and management capabilities, thereby enhancing racehorse safety. The PET, through UC Davis, is also currently available to horsemen in Northern California.

Causes of Sudden Deaths Being Researched

Sudden deaths continue to be a frustrating cause of fatalities, accounting for approximately 13 percent of all fatalities in FY 2023-24. The CAHFS lab and researchers at UC Davis are working earnestly, in collaboration with other investigators, to identify the causes of these fatalities. Morbidity related to cardiovascular failure is often suspected but difficult to determine as an actual cause. The cause of a sudden death episode is often very difficult to determine definitively.

Accidents and disease are unfortunately an issue in horses, and when these occur within CHRB enclosures, prevention is always at the forefront. Accidents occurred in 7 percent and disease occurred in 23 percent of fatalities.

Non-musculoskeletal and other (sudden deaths, accidents, and disease) make up 40 percent of the fatalities. Three percent occurred in racing, 28.5 percent occurred in training and 68.5 percent occurred in other activities.

Extensive Review

The postmortem examination review (CHRB 1846.6), which began in July 2020 with a focus on education and prevention of fatalities, has become standard in many jurisdictions under HISA. Trainer participation is mandatory, and the review is conducted by an Official CHRB Veterinarian, a member of the board of stewards, a safety steward, and the Equine Medical Director. Other licensees may be requested to participate in these reviews. The purpose is to maximize the educational opportunity from each equine necropsy, consistent with the overriding goal of the CHRB and the racing industry to reduce fatalities. This process, in conjunction with CHRB Rule 1503.5 requiring trainers to fulfill continuing education requirements, will further support the goal of not only reducing fatalities, but a better understanding and prevention.

Fatalities by Track and Surface July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Track	Racing*			Training**			Other***	Total
	Dirt	Synthetic	Turf	Dirt	Synthetic	Turf		
Alameda County Fair	1			1			2	4
Cal Expo Harness	2			1				3
California State Fair								
Del Mar	1			4			2	7
Ferndale								
Fresno								
Golden Gate Fields		5			9		7	21
L.A. County Fair at LA	1							1
Los Alamitos	6			4			7	17
Pleasanton				1			1	2
San Luis Rey Downs				3			2	5
Santa Anita	1		1	12	2		10	26
Santa Rosa	1						1	1
TOTAL	13	5	1	26	11	0	31	87

* Racing includes any catastrophic injury associated with racing.

** Training includes any catastrophic injury associated with training.

*** Other includes any non-exercise related catastrophic injury, including stable area accidents. The most common cause of death in the Other group is gastro-intestinal diseases, such as colic, colitis, and enteritis, followed by respiratory disease, primarily pneumonia and pleuropneumonia, and neurological diseases, including West Nile Virus and equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM).

Starts for All Breeds: July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Track	Racing Surface		
	Dirt	Synthetic	Turf
Cal Expo Harness	3,333		
CA State Fair	260		
Del Mar	1,724		1,668
Golden Gate Fields		5,299	809
Ferndale	212		
Fresno	315		
L.A. County Fair at Los Alamitos	1,222		
Los Alamitos	6,017		
Pleasanton	694		
Santa Anita	2,769		3,589
Sonoma County Fair	153		170
TOTAL	16,699	5,299	6,236

Jockey, Driver, Exercise Rider Injury/Accidents: July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Track	Racing	Training		Other		Total
	Jockey/ Driver	Jockey/ Driver	Exercise Rider	Jockey/ Driver	Exercise Rider	
Cal Expo Harness						
Del Mar						
Fairs	3					3
Golden Gate Fields	4		4			8
Los Alamitos	6	1	5			12
San Luis Rey Downs						
Santa Anita	2		8			10
TOTAL	15	1	17	0	0	33

Equine Injuries: July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Track	Injuries	# of Starts
Cal Expo Harness	15	3,333
Cal Expo State Fair	6	260
Del Mar	31	3,392
Ferndale	7	212
Fresno	6	315
Golden Gate Fields	122	6,108
Los Alamitos QH	54	6,017
Los Alamitos TB	12	1,222
Pleasanton	16	694
Santa Anita	115	6,358
Santa Rosa	10	323
Totals	394	28,234

Injuries categorized in this chart are based upon horses that were identified by the Official Vet or reported by the trainer to have sustained a musculoskeletal injury preventing them from racing or training at a particular time.

Fatalities by Trainer: July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Trainer		Fatalities				Breed				Starts
Last	First	Racing	Training	Other	Total	TB	QH	STB	Pony	Total
Knapp	Steve		1	3	4	4				445
McCarthy	Michael		3	1	4	4				309
Papaprodromou	George		2	1	3	3				369
Sherman	Steve	1	1	1	3	3				306
Arrossa	Monty	1		1	2		2			301
Baker	D. Wayne	1	1		2	2				178
Calvario	Samuel	1		1	2	2				328
Glatt	Mark			2	2	2				389
Gomez	Ruben		1	1	2	2				67
McLean	Bill	2			2	2				325
Mendez	Luis	1	1		2	2				106
Nunez	Jesus	1		1	2	1	1			391
Yakteen	Tim	1	1		2	2				179
Agarie	Rick		1		1	1				23
Aguirre	Paul			1	1	1				38
Anderson	Jim			1	1				1	0
Baffert	Robert		1		1	1				301
Becerra	Ivan		1		1	1				39
Blacker	Dan		1		1	1				58
Bonde	Jeff		1		1	1				158
Brinkerhoff	Val		1		1	1				119
Casselmann	Michael	1			1		1			105
Castello	Jose	1			1			1		193
Cisneros	Emilio		1		1			1		81
Cone	Rod		1		1	1				47
D'Amato	Philip		1		1	1				588
Dunham	Daniel			1	1	1				34
Farias	Adan		1		1		1			243
Gallagher	Patrick			1	1	1				87
Galvin	Brendan	1			1	1				82
Garcia	Antonio		1		1	1				158
Gomez	Jaime			1	1		1			146
Hansen	Roger		1		1	1				75
Hanson	Ryan		1		1	1				171
Harty	Eoin			1	1	1				31
Headley	Gus			1	1	1				10
Jauregui	Osbaldo		1		1	1				136
Jones	Paul	1			1		1			256
Ledezma	Sergio			1	1	1				56
Lenzini	Mike			1	1	1				98

Fatalities by Trainer: July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Trainer		Fatalities				Breed				Starts
Last	First	Racing	Training	Other	Total	TB	QH	STB	Pony	Total
Lewis	Craig		1		1	1				139
Lucarelli	Frank		1		1	1				67
Mandella	Richard		1		1	1				175
Mathis	Andy			1	1	1				251
McCanna	Tim			1	1	1				294
Miller	Quentin			1	1	1				35
Miller	Peter		1		1	1				431
Miyadi	Steve			1	1	1				259
Naranjo	Sal			1	1	1				146
O'Neill	Doug		1		1	1				577
Perez	Sergio	1			1	1				65
Pineda	Milton	1			1	1				7
Puype	Mike			1	1	1				151
Quinonez	Rolando		1		1	1				34
Rivera	Sally			1	1	1				144
Rondan	Felix		1		1	1				139
Ruiz	Lorenzo			1	1	1				7
Sadler	John		1		1	1				374
Schneider	Richard	1			1			1		102
Shirreffs	John		1		1	1				111
Specht	Steve		1		1	1				154
Stortz	Marcia			1	1	1				166
Tamayo	Isidro		1		1	1				546
Taylor	Heath		1		1		1			236
Thomas	Ruby			1	1	1				272
Trujillo	Victor	1			1	1				215
Willoughby	Scott	1			1		1			261
Winick	Debbie	1			1	1				34
		19	37	31	87	74	9	3	1	12,418

Horse Racing in California

California Horse Racing Meets During 2024 Racing Season

Thoroughbred Race Meets — Central & Southern Zones		
Santa Anita Park	12/20/23 – 6/16/24	
Del Mar	7/20/24 – 9/08/24	
Los Alamitos Racing Assn	9/13/24 – 9/22/24	
Santa Anita Park	9/27/24 – 10/27/24	
Del Mar	10/31/24 – 12/1/24	
Los Alamitos Racing Assn.	12/6/24 – 12/15/24	
Thoroughbred (and Relocated Fair) Race Meets — Northern Zone		
Golden Gate Fields	12/26/23 – 6/09/24	
Golden St. Racing Pln.	10/19/24-12/15/24	
Quarter-Horse Race Meets — Statewide		
Los Alamitos	12/30/23 – 12/15/24	
Harness Race Meets — Statewide		
Cal Expo	11/17/23 – 5/3/24	
Cal Expo	12/13/24 – 12/28/24	
Fair Meets — Statewide		
Pleasanton	Alameda County Fair	06/14/24-07/07/24
Los Alamitos*	Los Angeles County Fair	06/22/24-07/07/24
Sacramento	State Fair	07/12/24-07/28/24
Santa Rosa	Sonoma County Fair	08/02/24-08/18/24
Ferndale	Humboldt County Fair	08/23/24-09/08/24
Humbolt Fair at Fresno	Big Fresno Fair	09/13/24-09/15/24
Fresno	Big Fresno Fair	09/21/24-10/14/24

* LA County Fair race meet relocated from Fairplex in Pomona to Los Alamitos Race Course in 2014.

Wagers From All Sources (Handle) 2024

Statistics in this report may differ slightly from those released by the racing associations and fairs shortly after their race meets concluded due to updated information on Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) and non-commingled handle.

Host	Thoroughbred Racing Associations																Racing Fairs										Night Meets		Total
	Del Mar Summer	Del Mar Fall (Incl BC)	Golden Gate	Los Alamitos Sept TB	Los Alamitos Winter TB	LATC Winter-Spring 24	LATC Winter-Spring 25	LATC Autumn	Alameda County	State Fair	Big Fresno Fair	Humboldt County Fair	Golden State @ Pleasanton	Los Angeles County Fair	Sonoma County Fair	Watch & Wager	Los Alamitos Quarter Horse												
Cards	31	14	70	6	6	175	16	13	97	29	7	11	11	25	8	9	39	98	639										
Number of Live Races	241	94	354	34	34	4,175	1,147	600	97	251	58	85	41	40	470	2,430	410	5,833	26,663										
Average field size per race	8.55	7.72	6.57	6.40	6.56	7.12	7.56	6.04	6.04	5.71	6.49	5.80	6.72	6.91	6.83	7.19	6.60	8.63	3,942	6.94									
Brick and Mortar Bets in California																													
On-Track	37,529,759	24,474,105	5,679,059	619,406	718,201	39,699,539	6,898,426	2,666,272	629,940	2,220,658	771,988	1,323,520	1,276,737	1,594,536	1,694,536	417,216	6,801,538	13,098,462	133,088,462	133,088,462									
Off-Track (In Host's Zone)	213,750	109,458	3,335,838	102,441	103,276	5,605,474	433,312	343,748	156,139	278,587	84,335	1,161,045	245,763	219,574	219,574	2,574,245	27,486,082	87,046,489	87,046,489	87,046,489									
Races run outside California	4,002,054	1,300,112	7,337,639	1,146,373	1,019,167	20,216,291	446,368	456,049	456,049	382,754	114,974	2,460,357	1,876,205	142,826	142,826	253,516	3,726,344	48,646,475	48,646,475	48,646,475									
Total	41,544,562	25,883,764	16,346,435	1,890,219	1,840,734	65,431,404	10,486,147	3,610,855	1,235,127	2,887,979	971,277	4,944,922	3,398,706	1,966,939	1,966,939	671,132	10,617,982	194,129,888	194,129,888	194,129,888									
Live Races	17,871,176	11,055,643	5,095,990	1,066,962	1,333,150	30,457,688	6,117,600	579,845	210,010	495,888	358,844	1,057,399	2,096,730	561,007	561,007	2,142,744	13,230,713	93,722,288	93,722,288	93,722,288									
Other California Tracks (Intrastate)	1,814,042	1,622,172	8,110,593	382,613	445,322	10,802,060	865,212	866,510	863,786	1,357,911	1,950,524	2,972,849	984,397	1,434,488	1,434,488	5,404,541	20,238,861	34,530,388	34,530,388	34,530,388									
Races run outside California	31,659,328	14,580,413	28,465,274	4,662,195	5,069,739	78,726,228	2,847,686	4,268,165	3,610,553	4,207,579	5,823,269	7,905,983	9,092,937	3,507,109	3,507,109	7,547,266	33,467,574	372,268,189	372,268,189	372,268,189									
Total	51,294,546	27,295,228	41,676,856	6,917,171	6,846,211	119,985,976	2,186,959	5,714,519	1,468,319	6,561,377	8,197,637	11,936,231	12,163,765	5,502,604	5,502,604	12,949,805	53,706,385	718,996,477	718,996,477	718,996,477									
Off-Track Outside Host's Zone	4,559,893	3,059,106	16,163,906	299,371	373,889	11,972,965	2,186,959	1,473,788	443,463	1,107,258	703,327	2,782,305	683,724	1,114,926	1,114,926	n/a	n/a	46,924,880	46,924,880	46,924,880									
ADW in California:	47,750,636	24,521,775	7,032,196	1,896,498	2,245,939	74,817,159	15,114,176	1,295,009	357,345	662,014	361,641	1,361,832	4,272,396	592,409	592,409	2,574,245	27,486,082	212,329,480	212,329,480	212,329,480									
Other California Tracks	1,215,926	9,420,955	16,536,982	244,646	5,196,276	12,342,529	5,306,526	4,805,798	2,611,145	4,297,755	6,550,044	8,431,830	4,622,991	5,295,726	5,295,726	2,574,245	27,486,082	87,046,489	87,046,489	87,046,489									
Races run outside California	85,245,068	28,922,060	94,885,640	15,309,698	9,949,092	241,573,132	7,257,389	11,825,087	11,841,082	11,109,570	12,868,823	30,929,520	25,089,073	9,328,990	9,328,990	32,496,546	75,824,567	740,997,450	740,997,450	740,997,450									
Total	135,211,630	62,864,891	118,458,817	18,439,842	17,391,305	328,732,820	7,337,260	17,925,891	14,809,572	16,069,338	19,780,508	40,723,312	33,984,061	15,215,125	15,215,125	35,071,191	103,309,649	1,040,373,928	1,040,373,928	1,040,373,928									
Outside Host's zone	10,965,892	6,686,628	12,342,529	452,894	510,333	17,917,399	3,651,292	1,263,646	364,391	655,389	312,960	1,789,341	923,293	634,679	634,679	n/a	n/a	58,470,618	58,470,618	58,470,618									
TOTAL GENERATED IN CALIFORNIA	228,050,739	116,006,684	176,482,109	27,210,832	26,080,250	614,150,100	10,070,857	27,251,266	20,729,018	25,512,694	28,869,423	57,604,465	49,546,531	22,674,669	22,674,669	43,289,609	147,396,205	1,606,791,405	1,606,791,405	1,606,791,405									
Exports to Other State	242,468,585	214,477,444	110,208,944	7,491,989	9,125,501	419,019,018	87,004,931	9,404,918	2,306,663	6,202,724	2,747,689	14,736,759	15,741,282	5,002,944	5,002,944	16,263,289	71,613,130	1,233,815,629	1,233,815,629	1,233,815,629									
Non Merged	242,468,585	214,477,444	110,208,944	7,491,989	9,125,501	419,019,018	87,004,931	9,404,918	2,306,663	6,202,724	2,747,689	14,736,759	15,741,282	5,002,944	5,002,944	16,263,289	71,613,130	1,233,815,629	1,233,815,629	1,233,815,629									
TOTAL GENERATED OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA	486,045,108	340,209,862	315,197,488	35,455,086	36,089,973	963,059,442	10,070,857	39,413,617	23,843,556	33,478,066	32,653,399	76,912,869	66,894,820	29,427,218	29,427,218	59,552,898	219,006,335	2,946,002,732	2,946,002,732	2,946,002,732									
PLUS RACES RUN AT HOST TRACK	470,519,323	330,484,127	286,691,053	34,702,821	35,205,751	933,169,118	10,070,857	36,656,483	23,035,701	31,715,418	31,637,112	72,341,223	65,287,813	27,677,613	27,677,613	59,552,898	219,006,335	2,840,607,254	2,840,607,254	2,840,607,254									
TOTAL DISTRIBUTED BY HOST*																													
*Excludes CA bets placed outside host's CA zone																													

Simulcast Facilities by Location

California Simulcast Facility	Total Handle FY 2023–24	Number of Attendees
Cabazon	\$7,171,166	27,947
Commerce Casino	16,247,409	51,240
Del Mar	53,229,658	324,983
Ferndale	499,624	13,483
Firehouse Restaurant-Bakersfield	3,558,887	10,485
Fresno	9,472,441	53,903
Glen Arden	13,277,017	28,196
Golden Gate	30,501,786	92,590
Hollywood Park	42,027,690	110,258
Lake Elsinore Hotel	5,392,543	15,670
Lake Perris	9,491,717	25,059
Lancaster	7,634,460	23,837
Los Alamitos	59,069,787	219,712
Monterey	2,810,312	7,735
OC Tavern	1,714,778	5,898
Pleasanton	20,925,343	105,392
Pomona	32,447,844	118,749
Sacramento	11,325,579	53,987
Sammy’s Restaurant and Bar	15,884,390	34,638
San Bernardino	10,672,311	23,957
San Jose	14,466,076	38,198
San Mateo County	28,900,817	57,215
Santa Anita	125,641,284	814,568
Santa Clarita Lanes	10,012,804	25,633
Santa Rosa	1,753,746	32,551
Sports Grill & Turf Club Norco	7,354,677	18,982
Stockton	10,946,963	22,940
Surfside Race Palace	9,259,994	15,138
Tilted Kilt Thousand Oaks	5,740,847	11,069
Vallejo	8,756,126	20,871
Ventura	5,285,086	14,065
Victorville	3,966,108	10,704
Viejas	9,671,681	24,016
Total	\$595,110,969	2,453,669

Notes: Racetracks that offer simulcast wagering include combined pari-mutuel handle for live racing and simulcast wagering.

California Racetracks

The vast horse racing industry in California includes racetracks that stretch from the Humboldt County Fair near the Oregon border down to Del Mar just north of San Diego and the Mexico border. The racetracks, together with simulcast outlets and Advance Deposit Wagering (telephone and Internet), make horse racing accessible to all of California and the world.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA THOROUGHBREDS AND FAIRS

Racing in Northern California underwent a series of changes in 2024, beginning with the permanent closure of Golden Gate Fields in June, prompting statewide collaborations and strategies that significantly changed the landscape for California horse racing.

California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) faced a major challenge with the closure of GGF. For the past several years, GGF's future was in constant jeopardy. The consensus was if GGF closed, it would put the continuation of thoroughbred racing in Northern California in jeopardy. With only the fairs left, there seemed no future. CARF -- as the major player left in the north -- stepped forward and proposed a plan to ensure the continuation of horse racing at one of the live racing fairs.

The proposal was to transition racing from GGF to one of the CARF member fairs, and Pleasanton became the obvious choice. The Pleasanton community and Alameda County Fair (ACF) Board members have always been strong supporters of horse racing, and the geographic location was key. With Pleasanton only being 32 miles from GGF, the transition difficulty of owners, trainers, and backside personnel was kept to a minimum.

In March of 2024, CARF worked with the ACF, formed Golden State Racing (GSR), and made Pleasanton the permanent home for horse racing in Northern California. CARF and ACF formed two major committees to facilitate the transition and support the new racing organization. A Northern California committee was formed to represent owners, trainers and breeders, while a separate backside committee was formed to oversee the relocation of all services offered in the stable area. Key developments coming out of those committees were the formation of a recreational vehicle park to house all backside workers, enrollment of all children in the school district, and acquainting everyone with the health and welfare services in the Pleasanton area.

CARF took the lead in investing over \$1.5 million in improvements at the ACF, which included installing an additional 690 stalls, providing new year-round facilities for racing personnel, and grandstand and track upgrades.

Despite the hard work and enthusiasm, the new thoroughbred meet in Pleasanton ultimately failed. Poor weather caused the cancellation of several racing programs, and support from the wagering public was far less than expected or hoped for. Total handle for 25 days of racing was \$72,341,223, which resulted in far less revenue than was needed for track commissions and purses. This led GSR to withdraw its request for racing dates in 2025.

In addition to the formation of the GSR meet, CARF also had to restructure the schedules for fair meets. Pleasanton remained a four week meet, with Sacramento running three weeks. The Humboldt County Fair ran a three-week meet with no overlap, for the first time in the history of the meet. Fresno took the greatest leap with going from a two-week meet to five weeks.

As usual, the Alameda County Fair kicked off the summer fair season by offering 13 programs, the same number as 2023. Despite a slight increase in average field size, the handle declined by 10 percent to \$36,656,183. This set the tone for the rest of the fairs. On the plus side, the Pleasanton Mile purse of \$151,350 was the largest purse in the history of the track.

The State Fair at Cal Expo in Sacramento offered seven programs – one more than 2023 – and yet handle declined by \$1 million to \$23,035,701.

Like Pleasanton, the Humboldt County Fair in Ferndale offered a record purse of \$50,000 for one of its races, the Humboldt County Marathon,

The Sonoma County Fair generated handle of \$27,677,613 from nine racing programs.

The Humboldt County Fair generated handle of \$31,637,112 from 11 racing programs.

The Big Fresno Fair generated handle of \$31,715,418 from 11 racing programs.

The shortened schedule for GGF understandably showed steep declines from previous years. Handle of \$286,691,053 from just 70 racing programs bore no resemblance to the previous year's handle of \$493,439,013 from 119 programs.

The final race on June 9 after 83 years of racing at the track on the edge of San Francisco Bay was sad but far from unexpected. GGF had been on the ropes for years with shrinking fields, lower handle, and sparse attendance. Finances were so poor that GGF made a huge reduction in purses during its final meet to compensate for purse overpayments

over the previous few years..

One of the biggest concerns was the status of workers displaced by the closure. But a working committee was formed, and the transition reportedly went smoothly with most workers shifting to Pleasanton and Sacramento.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA THOROUGHBREDS

The Breeders' Cup World Championships program always is the highlight of racing in Southern California whether it is held at Santa Anita Park or Del Mar. Santa Anita holds the edge, having hosted 11 Breeders' Cups in 40 years – the most of any racetrack in North America – but lately Breeders' Cup officials have favored Del Mar three times, and Del Mar will repeat as host in 2025.

The 2024 Breeders' Cup at Del Mar was a great success by any standard. The 14 Breeders' Cup races conducted on Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2, attracted 157 of the best thoroughbreds from throughout the world. In addition to the usual strong group from England, Ireland, and France, this renewal featured horses from Canada, Japan, United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Argentina, and Chile. As it happened, the United States star Sierra Leone impressively overtook all challengers in the premier Breeders' Cup race, the \$7 million Classic, followed by another American runner, Fierceness. The Japanese horse Forever Young ran third, continuing a strong showing in recent Breeders' Cups by horses from that country.

A reported 67,418 guests attended the two-day spectacular, filling hotels and restaurants, a boon to the local economy. Those fans wagered more than \$18 million at the track. Bettors from around the world wagered nearly \$180 million --- third highest handle in the history of the Breeders' Cup.

Unfortunately, the 3-year-old colt Jayarebe, one of the invaders from France, suffered a cardiac event and died after completing the 1 ½-mile Breeders' Cup Turf.

All Breeders' Cups are run in accordance with the indus-

try's most comprehensive safety and integrity protocols, developed in conjunction with leading experts in the field, including enhanced veterinary exam procedures, injury management protocols, racing surface monitoring, maintenance, and testing in the lead-up to the event.

Santa Anita compares favorably to most other racetracks each year but not to its own history. The poor economics of racing in California has hit hard at the Arcadia track, resulting in fewer racing programs, fewer races, and less handle. Santa Anita raced 107 days in the winter and spring of 2014 (its signature meet) with 7,141 starters (horses) competing in 930 races and overall handle of \$1,122,697,736. Ten years later the numbers were down to 75 days and 4,937 starters in 693 races and overall handle of \$933,169,118.

Aiden Butler, a top official at Santa Anita, put it bluntly at the November CHRB meeting when he said the current situation in California is a “disaster,” and running two, competing thoroughbred circuits in the north and the south is “suicide.”

Still, 1st Racing, or the Stronach Group, owner of Santa Anita, continues to invest heavily in the facility and product, hoping to keep racing alive at the storied track at the foot of the picturesque San Gabriel Mountains.

The fall meet at Santa Anita generated handle of \$172,851,889 from 16 racing programs.

Los Alamitos hosts three daytime thoroughbred programs during the year, which run concurrently with night racing. Those three daytime meets generated \$135,196,384 in handle from 22 racing programs.

NIGHT RACING: QUARTER HORSES AND STANDARDBREDS

The closure of Golden Gate Fields and eventual termination of racing by GSR at Pleasanton prompted some Northern California horse owners and trainers to relocate their horses to Los Alamitos for racing at either the night meet there or the meet across town at Santa Anita. Those additional horses greatly helped the Los Alamitos nightly programs. Total wagering on the Los Alamitos night meet came to \$219,008,335 from 98 programs,

Standardbred racing continued at Cal Expo in 2024 with 39 programs and handle of \$59,552,898, which was comparable to the 40 programs in 2023 that generated handle of \$63,772,428

Horse Racing Revenue

Senate Bill 16 (2009 special session) eliminated the license fees paid to the state by racing associations. In lieu of license fees, the horse racing industry is responsible for providing financial support to the CHRB. The CHRB develops a formula in consultation with the industry to determine the share each racing association should pay toward CHRB funding.

During FY 2023–24, the pari-mutuel handle totaled \$2,962,457,349.

CHRB support, purses, track commissions, and other distributions are generated from a portion of the wagering handle referred to as the “takeout.”

The takeout is set by law and is a percent taken from each dollar wagered. The takeouts on conventional wagering (win, place, and show pools) are 15.43 percent for thoroughbred race meets, 17.63 percent for quarter-horse race meets, 17.43 percent for harness race meets, and 16.77 percent for fair race meets.

The takeouts on exotic wagering pools (all pools that are not win, place, or show) are, for thoroughbred race meets, 22.68 percent for wagers involving two runners or legs and 23.68 percent for wagers involving three or more horses or legs; for quarter-horse race meets, 22.88 percent;

for fair race meets, 24.02 percent; and for harness race meets, 24.18 percent.

In general, once the state license fees, breeders and owners awards, equine research, and other mandated amounts have been deducted from the takeout, the remaining funds are divided in a prescribed manner between purses and track commissions.

A pari-mutuel auditor located at each live race meet in California prepares a daily audited report of the precise distribution of the wagering handle. The report is submitted to the CHRB, the racing association, and other interested parties.

Breakage is a term used to describe the monies generated by mathematical rounding during the calculation of winning wagers. After a race is run and the results are made official, the totalizator system calculates the pay-

out for winning wagers.

The payout for each pool is first calculated on a \$1 amount, which is then used as the basis for paying all winning wagers for that pool.

During the calculation of the \$1 payout, amounts for each pool are rounded down (“broken,” thus the term breakage) to the nearest dime. For example, in calculating a win pool, a \$1 payout of \$2.67 would be “broken” to \$2.60. A \$2 wager on that pool would then return \$5.20.

The 7 cents that is broken for each dollar in the calculation then becomes part of the total breakage for that pool, that race, and that day of racing, etc. Breakage in FY 2023–24 totaled \$11,797,988. State statutes require breakage to be split evenly between purses and commissions.

Charity Days

California horse racing associations have distributed many millions of dollars to worthwhile charities over the last 73 years. Their donations in the last fiscal year totaled \$345,296.

Business and Professions (B&P) Code section 19550 requires racing associations to contribute a portion of handle to charity. Associations have the option of selecting a number of racing days determined by the length of their racing meet or two-tenths of one percent of the live handle for the entire race meet. B&P Code section 19556(b) also requires that at least 60 percent of the proceeds be distributed to charitable groups within the horse racing industry. While recognizing the worthwhile nature of all charitable organizations favored by distributing foundations, the CHRB encourages the

foundations to exceed this minimum percentage. On charity racing days, the racing association furnishes the facilities and personnel necessary for the conduct of racing.

The income from all operations of the race meet on charity racing days, less deductions for actual expenses, is dedicated to charitable purposes. The following racing associations distributed funds last year: Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Los Alamitos Racing Association, Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association, Pacific Racing Association, Pacific Racing Association II, watchandwager.com, Los Angeles Turf Club, and Los Angeles Turf Club II.

Uncashed Pari-mutuel Tickets

Winning pari-mutuel tickets can be cashed until May 15 of the year following the year in which the race meet ends. Racing patrons may mistakenly tear up, lose, or forget about winning tickets. After May 15, any unclaimed monies are distributed as indicated below.

Senate Bill 16 went into effect in July of 2009, eliminating the state's portion of unclaimed tickets pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19641.

All such unclaimed money resulting from the thoroughbred, harness, or quarter-horse race meets, excluding the race meets of the California Exposition and State Fair, county, district agricultural association, or citrus fruit fair race meets, shall be distributed as follows:

1. Fifty percent of live races unclaimed pari-mutuel tickets shall be paid to a welfare fund established by the horsemen's organization contracting with the association with respect to the conduct of the racing meet for the benefit of the horsemen, and the said organization shall make an accounting to the Board within one calendar year of the receipt of such payment. During FY 2023–24, the distribution to the welfare funds was \$606, 115.
2. The other 50 percent of live races unclaimed pari-mutuel tickets shall be divided equally between the association

(as commissions) and horsemen (in the form of purses). Notwithstanding the distribution of live races unclaimed tickets, unclaimed ticket monies generated by wagering on intrastate (north/south) thoroughbred and fair races and interstate imports are split equally between purses and commissions. During FY 2023–24, the tracks and the horsemen each received \$1,122,675.

3. Unclaimed refunds totaled \$ \$599,288 for FY 2023–24. Unclaimed refunds provide health and welfare benefits to California licensed jockeys, former California licensed jockeys, and their dependents. The California Jockey Welfare Corporation is the organization designated by the CHRB to receive these funds.

4. Cash vouchers that are not redeemed within 365 days of the close of the racing meeting at which the voucher was purchased are distributed to a nonprofit organization for the purposes of maintaining a database of horse racing information. CHRIMS is the organization designated by the CHRB to receive these funds. During calendar year 2023 uncashed vouchers totaled \$ 529,765.

Statement of Distribution by Fund of Horse Racing Revenue

July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

	Detail	Total
Revenue To Horse Racing Fund		
CHRB Support from Racing Associations	\$19,779,000	
Miscellaneous Income	0	
Income from Surplus Money Investment Fund	\$67,000	
Escheat of Unclaimed Checks, Warrants	\$0	
Total 3153 Fund		\$19,846,000
Revenue to Horse and Jockey Safety and Welfare Account (3380)		
Occupational Licenses	\$803,000	
Fines & Penalties	\$97,000	
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	
Total Fund 3380		\$900,000
Revenue to CA Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (0881)		
Equine Research License Fees	\$1,752,000	
Total Fund 0881		\$1, 752,000
Total Revenue		\$22,498,000

*rounded to thousands

Occupational Licenses and Fees July 1, 2023— June 30, 2024

Type of License	Fees Range	Issued
Stable*	\$100-300	433
Horse Owner-Open Claim	250	6
Officer/Director/Partner*	150-200	93
Horse Owner*	150	2,633
Trainer, Assistant Trainer**	50-150	285
Harness Horse Driver	150	13
Jockey/Apprentice Jockey**	50-150	96
Jockey Agent	150	22
Bloodstock Agent	150	4
Veterinarian	150	41
Association Employee	75	218
Valet/Custodian/Attendant	75	16
Pari-mutuel Employee/Tote*	35-75	423
Horseshoer	75	29
Exercise Rider/Pony Rider	25-75	318
Misc. Employee/Stable Agent Vendor*	35-75	250
Security Guard	35-75	101
Stable Foreman	35-75	65
Authorized Agent	25	278
Replacement License	15	383
Annual Groom/Stable Employee (Original)**	35	268
Annual Groom/Stable Employee* (Renewal)	20-35	962
Total licenses issued		6,937

All licenses are issued for three years except those for groom and stable employee licenses, which are annual licenses.

*Variable Fee.

**Includes reduced license fees.

Other Public Revenue

Horse racing contributes to local economies through sales tax from the sale of claimed horses. During FY 2023–24, there were 939 horses “claimed” at authorized race meets.

The “claiming” of a racehorse is in effect a sale of the horse at a designated price (as established by the conditions of the race) to a qualified person who submits a “claim” for the horse at least 15 minutes prior to the race in which the owner of the racehorse established the competitive value of the horse.

For example, in a claiming race where the claiming price is established by the racing secretary as \$10,000, an owner of a horse may enter the horse in the race if willing to lose the horse to another owner (or qualified person) for the price of \$10,000.

An owner who over-values the horse will find competition in the race too severe and will not win a purse — but probably retain the horse; the owner who under-values the horse

may well win a purse — but in all probability lose title to the horse to a successful claimant. Thus, it is the owner who establishes the true competitive value of a horse in a claiming race.

Inasmuch as the claim of a horse is in fact a purchase, state sales tax is collected on the amount of the claim. During FY 2023–24, the total amount paid for claiming of horses was \$15,297,150, resulting in sales tax revenue of \$1,529,955.

Business and Professions Code 19610.3 authorizes every racing association or fair to permanently elect to deduct up to 0.33 of one percent from all pari-mutuel pools and to distribute the amounts to the city or county where the racing meet is held if the city or county passes an ordinance to accept such fees in lieu of admission taxes and license fees.

During FY 2023–24, \$1,951,729 was distributed to local governments under this provision.

Track Commissions

Under the system known as pari-mutuel wagering, the racing association acts as the stakeholder for all wagers, deducting from each pari-mutuel wagering pool the statutory “takeout,” which includes the state license fee, the per-

centage deduction for purses, and the track’s commission. Commissions retained by California racing associations during FY 2023–24 totaled \$105,897,440.

Purses

As with track operators’ commissions, the purses for race meets are determined by the rate schedules, or in some cases, by agreement with the racing association.

Purses for California race meets during FY 2023–24 totaled \$121,523,626. In addition, \$9,592,313 was paid out as California-bred incentives.

In order for the individual racing associations to establish their daily purse structure for their race meets, the associations must first make a projection of the amount of pari-mutuel wagers they expect to handle.

The actual purses to be paid for any one race, or for the day’s races, initially are determined by the racing secretary’s projections of handle, and then revised during the course of the race meet based on actual handle. The racing association must also execute an agreement with the respective horsemen’s organization representing the horsemen at each race meet in order to establish the percentage of the total purses that may be used for stakes races.

Statistics For Horses Claimed

July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Track Location	Horses Claimed	Amount Paid	Sales Tax
Thoroughbred Race Meets — Northern			
Golden Gate	273	\$2,261,350	\$231,789
Thoroughbred Race Meets-Central-Southern			
Del Mar	215	\$5,574,500	\$487,768
Los Alamitos	29	\$463,000	\$35,882
Santa Anita	239	\$6,650,500	\$687,006
Harness Meets-Statewide			
Watch & Wager	0	0	0
Quarter-Horse Meets-Statewide			
Los Alamitos	124	\$684,450	\$53,122
Fair and Mixed Meets-Statewide			
Alameda County Fair @Pleasanton	11	\$177,200	\$18,163
Sonoma County Fair @ Santa Rosa	11	\$77,850	\$7,201
State Fair @Sacramento	10	\$79,750	\$6,978
Humboldt County Fair @ Ferndale	3	\$13,000	\$1,105
Los Angeles County Fair @ Los Alamitos	13	\$246,000	\$19,103
Big Fresno Fair	11	\$125,000	\$12,863
Total	939	\$15,297,150	\$1,529,955.

Authorized Horse Sales

Each year the CHRB authorizes sales for racehorses or breeding stock used in the production of racehorses when such sales are conducted on the premises of a racing association. During FY 2023–24, there were four authorized sales. Prospective purchasers may review the reported medication record of any horse offered for sale, and purchasers of a horse may request a verifying blood test for horses bought.

The following sales were authorized in FY 2023–24:

Fasig-Tipton

California Fall Yearlings and
Horses of Racing Age Sale September 26, 2023

Fasig-Tipton sold 188 horses for a total of \$5,763,000, which generated \$238,460 in sales tax.

California Thoroughbred Breeders Association Sales

Northern California Yearling and
Horses of Racing Age Sale August 15, 2023

Winter Mixed Sale January 30, 2024

A total of 229 horses was sold for \$2,026,700, which generated \$108,258 in sales tax.

Quarter-Horse Yearling and Mixed Stock Sale At Los Alamitos

Quarter-Horse Yearling
And Mixed Stock Sale September 30 &
October 1, 2023

A total of 168 horses was sold for \$5,710,100, which generated \$43,069 in sales tax.

California Horse Breeding Programs

The Horse Racing Law provides incentives for the breeding and owning of California-bred horses. A principal and stated intent of the law is to encourage agriculture and the breeding of horses.

Every association licensed to conduct a horse racing meet in California must provide, each racing day, for the running of at least one race limited to California-bred horses, provided those races can attract a sufficient number of qualified entrants.

The breeder of a California-bred horse receives a monetary award based on the order of finish for horses finishing in the first three places. A further incentive to own a California-bred horse is provided by owners premiums. Business and Professions Code section 19611 (d) allows for 0.07 percent of the takeout to be distributed as owners premiums to persons owning California-bred horses.

Additionally, stallion awards are issued to owners of qualified thoroughbred stallions standing in California whose progeny win races in California having a certain qualifying gross purse. A breeders award is also paid for a California-bred thoroughbred when the horse wins a graded stakes race outside the state.

These California breeders programs and distribution of awards and premiums are administered by the recognized California breeders organizations of the various breeds.

Thoroughbred Breeders Program

The California Thoroughbred Breeders Association (CTBA) administers the California-bred awards, owners premiums, and stallion awards for thoroughbreds. In addition, the CTBA supervises the California-bred race fund, which has supplemented the very successful California Cup Program each year since 1990. This fund generated \$377,057 for owner's premiums in FY 2023-24 and \$8,741,760 for the breeders' program from the wagering handle.

At California thoroughbred race meets, the amount of 0.54 percent on track and 0.54 percent off track of all pari-mutuel pools is deducted as takeout and transferred to the CTBA for distribution. A further amount equal to 0.07 percent of the handle is specified for owners premiums and transferred to the CTBA for distribution. The CTBA is authorized to deduct five percent for administrative overhead and expenses, including education, promotion, and research.

Standardbred Breeders Programs

The California Standardbred Sires Stakes Committee, Inc., a California non-profit public benefit corporation, administers the Standardbred Breeders Program. The Sires Stakes Committee is authorized to deduct expenses (not to exceed four percent of funds generated) for administering the Standardbred Breeders Program. The program is funded from the breakage at harness race meets and an additional one percent takeout on all exotic wagering at harness race meets. In FY 2023-24, the program generated \$169,809.

Quarter-Horse Breeders Program

Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association, as the recognized breeders' organization, received \$291,307 from the parimutuel handle to fund its program in FY 2023-24. The source of these funds was 0.48 percent of the on-track and 0.48 percent of the off-track handle on quarter-horse racing at the fair race meets, 0.4 percent of the handle at quarter-horse race meets, and a proportional payment of the monies required by the state, the association, and the horsemen.

Paint Breeders Program

The Paint breeders' awards received \$423 for the breeders' program in FY 2023-24. No Paints ran in California. This revenue came from ADW wagers.

Arabian Breeders Program

The California Arabian horse breeders awards received \$111 for the program during FY 2023-24.

Mule Breeders Program

California did not host any mule breed races during FY 2023-24.

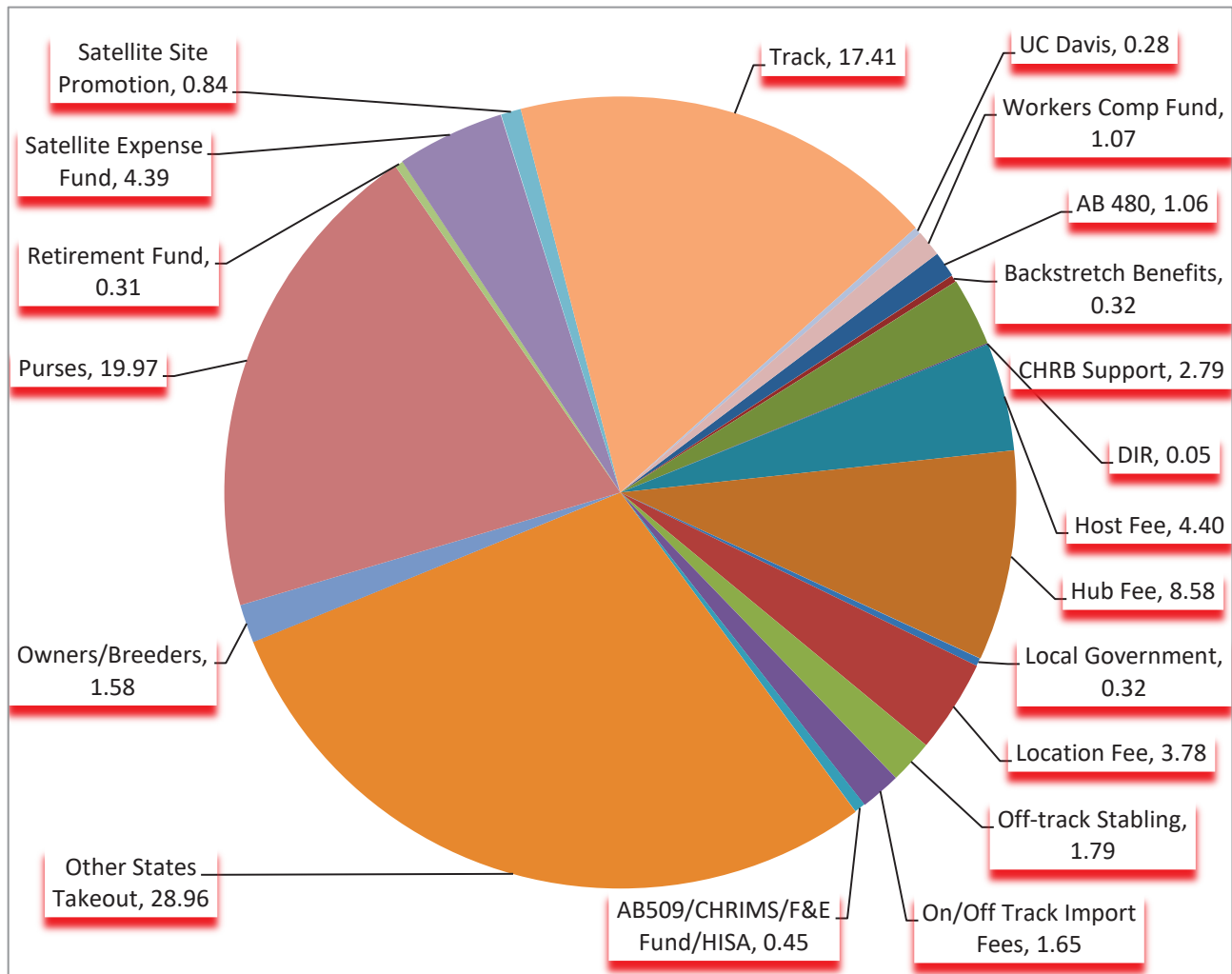
Appaloosa Breeders Program

Appaloosa breeders' awards totaled \$1 in FY 2023-24. No Appaloosas ran in California. This revenue came from ADW wagers.

The Revenue Stream

The Takeout Dollar in California: Where It Goes and How It's Used

A total of \$2,962,457,349 was wagered by fans of California racing during FY 2023-2024 and of the money 79.46 percent (\$2,354,061,562) was returned to winning ticket holders.



Prior to simulcast wagering in 1985, virtually all of the wagering in California races was at the track, but today “on-track” bets make up only 7.00 percent of wagers placed (\$207.37 million). Off-track betting within the state provides 13.09 percent of the handle (\$387.74 million). The balance comes from out-of-state and Advance Deposit Wagers (totaling \$2.37 billion). ADW accounted for \$1,340,014,694 of the handle.

By law, money from uncashed tickets, except for fairs, is split evenly between a welfare fund for the benefit of the backstretch. Money from uncashed tickets at fairs is turned over to the state’s General Fund.

Similarly, money from unredeemed vouchers issued by tracks for use by racing patrons at track self-serve better machines is used to finance the horse-racing revenue database called the California Horse Racing informa-

tion Management System (CHRIMS).

Breakage a byproduct of the pari-mutuel calculation, is distributed evenly between purses and the racing associations. This totaled \$11,797,988 in FY 2023-2024.

Of the \$2.96 billion wagered, \$608.40 million, or 20.54 percent, was withheld as the “takeout” for such purposes as horsemen’s purses, racetrack operations, and government taxation, as follows on the next page:

Horsemen’s Purses

A total of \$121,523,626 was distributed during FY 2023–24 in the form of purses. This money went to the owners of the horses, the jockeys, the trainers, and, through them, to the backstretch employees.

Portions of the purse money also went to organizations that represent owners and other horsemen.

Track Commissions

The racetracks and fairs that host the racing programs collected a total of \$105,897,440 in commissions. Much of that money went toward the cost of operations, such as rent, mortgages, and labor costs, of which pari-mutuel clerks represent a large part. The racetracks are also responsible for marketing the sport with advertising, promotions, and other forms of publicity.

CHRB Support

The allocation of the CHRB budget comes from the horse racing industry through the yearly budget process conducted by the State Legislature. This allocation is used to fund the CHRB’s mission of overseeing the horse racing industry on behalf of the state and the California public.

Incentive Awards

One of the most important uses of horse racing revenue is for incentive awards, which promote the agricultural program in California by encouraging horse breeding. Last year \$9,592,313 in awards was divided between programs for thoroughbreds, standardbreds, quarter horses, paints, and Arabians.

Local Government

For those local municipalities who elect to participate, an additional 0.33 of one percent is withheld from the handle to reimburse communities for costs incurred due to traffic control, security, and other expenditures resulting from horse racing events. Last year \$1,951,729 was withheld for this purpose.

Host Fees

Host fees are negotiated for mandated payments to producers of live horse racing imported by tracks via satellite and offered to the betting public in conjunction with a California track’s live racing program. Last year, California tracks paid \$36,839,194 to out-of-state hosts.

Interstate Wagering Fees

Interstate wagering fees are “takeout” deductions from wagers made on California racing by patrons at off-track betting systems outside of California. These deductions in other states amounted to \$176,172,879.

Equine Research

A mandated deduction goes to University of California, Davis, for equine research. Last year the total for equine research was \$1,730,631.

Simulcast Fees

Simulcast fees are deducted from the off-track handle at California simulcast facilities and are distributed in proportion to each facility’s handle. This revenue goes to the Stabling and Vanning Fund to offset the cost of off-site stabling and transporting horses to the track, the Promotion Fund to be used for the promotion of horse racing, the Expense Fund for the purpose of offsetting the costs of simulcast broadcasting, and to guest-site commissions. A guest site is the term used for an authorized off-track betting system, or simulcast facility, that is an authorized recipient of a live horse race.

These funds received a total of \$65,681,731 last year:

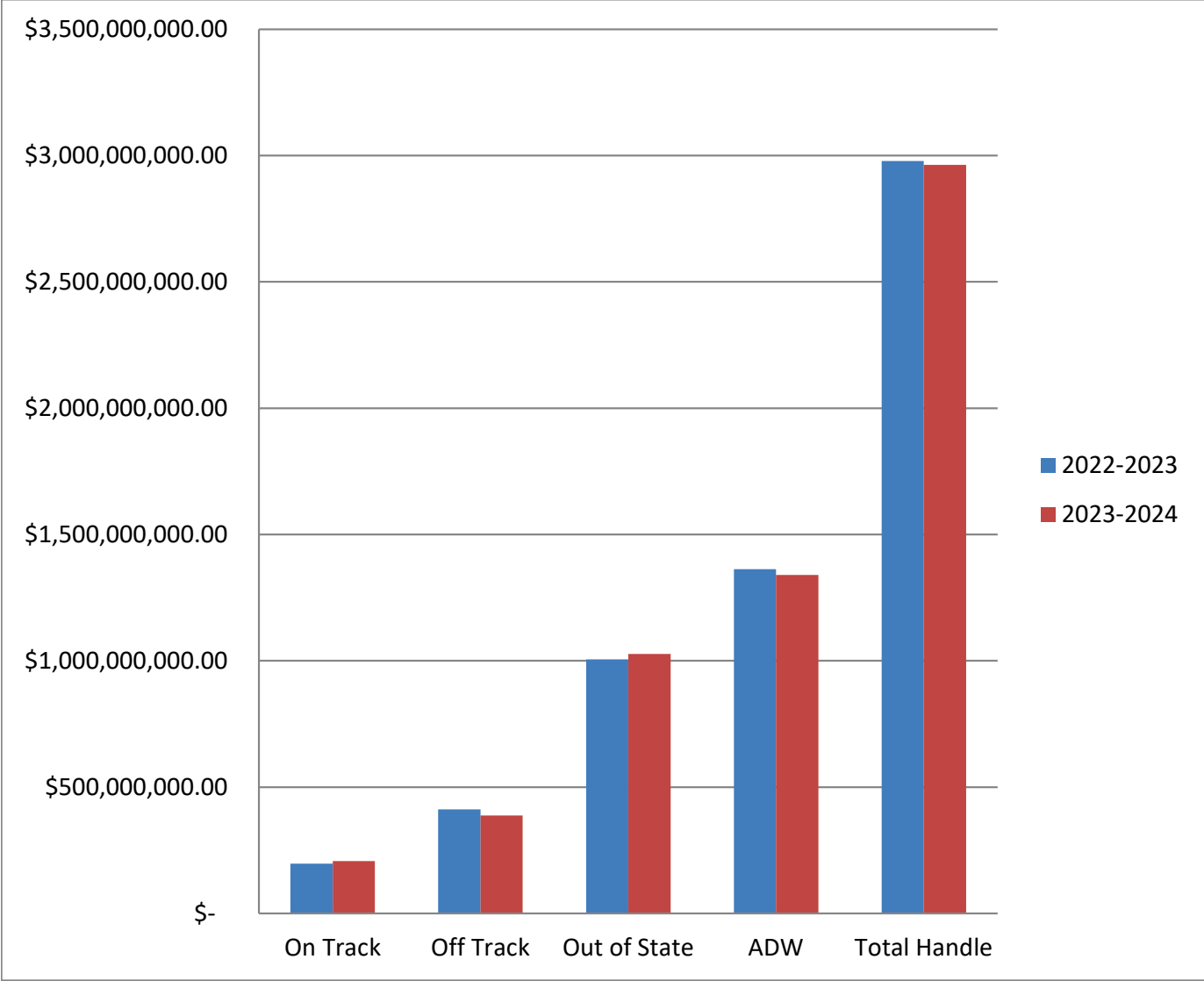
Stable and Vanning Fund:	\$10,888,919
Promotion Fund:	\$ 5,094,303
Expense Fund:	\$26,679,841
Guest Site Fees:	\$23,018,668

Retirement and Welfare

ADW Retirement and Welfare Plans received \$3,806,491 in FY 2023–24. These funds supplement the backstretch personnel pension plan and provide welfare benefits for horsemen and backstretch personnel.

Sources of Handle

Fiscal Years 2022–23 and 2023–24



The on track handle represents wagers at the host track. For FY 2023-24, on-track wagers accounted for 7.00 percent of the total handle. Off-track handle represents wagering at California simulcast locations and accounted for 13.09 percent of the total. Out-of-state handle represents commingled wagers from other US and international sites. Out-of-state wagers accounted for 34.68 percent of the total. Advance Deposit Wager (ADW) represents the handle generated through the 2-licensed California ADW companies. The ADW handle accounted for 45.23 percent of the total.

The Horsemen's Organizations Welfare Funds

The Horse Racing Law provides that 50 percent of the unclaimed redistributable money in pari-mutuel pools (uncashed pari-mutuel ticket amounts) resulting from thoroughbred, harness, or quarter-horse race meets be paid to the welfare fund established by the horsemen's organization contracting with the association for the conduct of the race meet for the benefit of horsemen. These funds are registered with the Office of the Attorney General, Registry of Charitable Trusts. The three horsemen's organizations have established and maintain the following welfare funds:

The California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc.

P. O. Box 660129
Arcadia CA 91006
Registry of Charitable Trusts
No. 052861

Quarter Horse Benevolent Charity Foundation

11278 Los Alamitos Blvd., Suite 243
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
Registry of Charitable Trusts No. 018221

California Harness Horsemen's Benevolent Foundation

1600 Exposition Boulevard. Gate 12
Sacramento, CA 95815
Registry of Charitable Trusts No. CT0202834

Each of the foregoing welfare funds have a state tax-exempt status under the provisions of section 23701 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

The California Horsemen's Organizations

The CHRB determines the organizations to represent California horsemen with respect to each breed.

The following horsemen's organizations were recognized by the Board during FY 2023–24: Thoroughbred Owners of California for thoroughbred owners; California Thoroughbred Trainers for thoroughbred trainers; California

Harness Horsemen's Association for harness horsemen; Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association for quarter horsemen; and the Arabian Racing Association of California for Arabian horsemen.

Audited Expenses of California Horsemen's Organizations

The information regarding the expenditures of these organizations is only one portion of the total audited financial statements submitted to the CHRB. Persons wishing to

obtain a copy of the complete audited financial statements of a horsemen's organization can do so by contacting the CHRB's headquarters office in Sacramento.

Annually Required Reporting of the California Horse Racing Industry

Pursuant to specified Business and Professions Code Sections, CHRB rules and requirements outlined in applicable license applications, recognized industry participants receiving statutory distributions are required to comply with annual reporting requirements as detailed in the table below:

Name of Entity	Audited Financials	Annual Activities Report	Five-Year Budget Plan	Uncashed Receipts	Cal Bred Distribution	Year of Compliance
HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS						
Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Racing Association	✓	✓			✓	2023
California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, Inc.	✓	✓	✓	✓		2023
California Harness Horsemen's Association	✓		⊘	⊘		2023
Permanently Disabled Jockey's Fund*		✓				2023
Thoroughbred Owners of California	✓					2023
California Thoroughbred Trainers	✓					2023
California Thoroughbred Breeders Association	✓				✓	2023
Winner's Foundation Receipts		✓		✓		2023
American Mule Racing Association**	✓					2019
Arabian Racing Association of California**	✓					2016
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS						
California Thoroughbred Business League	✓					2023
Northern California Off-Track Wagering (NCOTWINC)	✓					2023
Southern California Off-Track Wagering (SCOTWINC)	✓					2023
California Thoroughbred Trainers Inc. Backstretch Employees' Cash Balance Pension Plan	✓					2023
California Jockeys' Welfare Corp.	✓					2023
CHRB Defined Contribution Retirement Plan for California Licensed Jockeys	✓					2023

Name of Entity	Audited Financials	Annual Activities Report	Five-Year Budget Plan	Uncashed Receipts	Cal Bred Distribution	Year of Compliance
California Standardbred Sires Stakes Committee*	⊘					2021
California Harness Horsemen's Benevolent Foundation	✓					2023
Southern California Stabling and Vanning Fund Trust	✓					2023
Quarterhorse Benevolent Charity Foundation	✓	✓	✓	✓		2023
California Retirement Management Account Inc.	✓					2023
RACING ASSOCIATIONS						
Golden Gate Landholdings LLC, GGF (Pacific Racing Assn.)	✓					2023
Del Mar Thoroughbred Club	✓					2023
California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARE)	✓					2023
Santa Anita Park (Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc.)	✓					2023
Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association (Quarter Horse Racing, Inc. & Subsidiaries)	✓					2023
Los Alamitos Racing Association (Quarter Horse Racing, Inc. & Subsidiaries)	✓					2023
Cal Expo (WatchandWager.com, LLC)	✓					2023

*Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19613.2 (c) the Board may take disciplinary action against a horsemen's organization that is not in compliance with filing annually with the CHRB its audited financial statements.

**These organizations are either no longer in existence, or no longer race in California. Upon reconstitution, or the commencement of racing in California, they will again be required to file required statements per California State Law.

✓ = document on file with CHRB

⊘ = document required, but not on file with CHRB.