



# THE TEXAS HORSEMEN'S NEWS

## Texas Horsemen's Partnership Meetings at Lone Star Park and Sam Houston Race Park Part of Continuing Examination of Possible 2011 Race Dates in Texas

Every year, the Texas Horsemen's Partnership, the breed organizations (TTA, TQHA, TABA, TPHA), and the Texas racetracks hold a number of meetings to discuss the upcoming year's race dates calendar in hopes of coming to a consensus in time to present a united industry plan to the Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) when it is time for race dates to be considered by the Commission. This year, because of the continuing decline in handle – both live and outbound simulcast – we began our meetings earlier than normal. In addition to race dates, we all wanted to brainstorm ideas to promote our industry, trying to find creative solutions in areas like new wagers and other possible promotional incentives for our patrons.

During these meetings, all parties put their preferences and concerns out on the table, and we have progressively tried to hammer out an agreement on a race dates calendar for 2011 that is acceptable – though not necessarily ideal – to all parties involved.

Concurrently, the TxRC staff talks to all of the involved parties and analyzes all the available data (wagering trends, purse levels, race dates, etc.) every year. Based on this information, the TxRC staff develops a recommendation for a race dates calendar for the following year.

If all the involved parties come to an acceptable agreement on dates and the TxRC staff approves of the plan, this is what the TxRC staff recommends to its Commissioners. If no agreement is reached, or if the TxRC staff does not like the agreement that is reached, the TxRC can recommend its own alternate plan to its Commissioners. In the end, it is the TxRC that has the power to set the racing calendar, at which time it is each track's choice as to whether to run the dates granted to it, request a change in dates or number of days, or refuse to run the dates it was granted and face any consequences of doing so.

Wagering levels, and thus purse levels, have dropped in Texas for the last four consecutive years. At the same time, the racing states that surround us (Oklahoma, New Mexico,

Louisiana, Arkansas) and with which we compete for horsemen and horses have all benefited from alternative forms of gaming supplementing their purse structures. Once competitive in the region, Texas purses are now lagging behind all of its competitors, and the resulting exodus of horses and horsemen have led to smaller and smaller field sizes and a lower quality of racing – a combination that has caused wagering on Texas racing to slip in recent years. As a result, all of the parties involved in Texas racing acknowledged early this year that we would have to consider some very difficult choices regarding 2011 race dates this year, so the discussions and meetings commenced earlier than usual.

Many ideas and scenarios have been researched and discussed, and many widely varying opinions on all of those scenarios have been considered. In an effort to make sure horsemen had a chance to hear an accurate depiction of where the negotiations currently stand, the Texas Horsemen's Partnership held a meeting for its member horsemen at Lone Star Park on Thursday, July 1 and at Sam Houston Race Park on Friday, July 2. In attendance at both meetings were representatives from the THP's Board and each of the state's three Class One racetracks.

Approximately 150 horsemen attended the meeting at Lone Star, and approximately 80 attended the meeting at Sam Houston. At both meetings, the Texas racetracks laid out their current proposal for 2011 race dates.


According to the tracks' current proposal for 2011, Lone Star Park will race Thoroughbreds starting the first week in April for 60 days for an average daily purse distribution of \$230,000. Sam Houston would have a 25-28 day mixed meet in June and July, and Retama Park would have a 25-day mixed meet starting in early August. The exact dates of the mixed meets are still undecided and can be adjusted to meet the needs of the horsemen.

Retama Park will have a 16-day Thoroughbred meet this year beginning on September 3rd.

*continued on p. 7*



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# Texas Horsemen's Calendar of Events



Date	Event	Place	Time
Every Sunday	Chapel Services	Chapel, Retama	11:00 am
Every Wednesday	Bible Study	Chapel, Retama	11:00 am
Every Thursday	Bible Study	Silks Lower Level, LSP	12:00 pm
Jul. 29 (Thurs.)	TQHA Consigner & Buyer Free BBQ	Great SW Equest. Center, Katy	5:30 pm
Jul. 30 (Fri.)	TQHA Yearling Sale	Great SW Equest. Center, Katy	10:00 am
Jul. 30 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	Chapel, SHRP	3:00 - 5:00 pm
Jul. 31 (Sat.)	TQHA Yearling Sale	Great SW Equest. Center, Katy	10:00 am
Aug. 1 (Sun.)	Chapel Services	Chapel, SHRP	11:00 am
Aug. 2 (Mon.)	Chaplaincy Bowling Tournament	Copperfield Bowling, Houston	6:30 pm
Aug. 3 (Tues.)	Bilingual Service	Chapel, SHRP	7:00 pm
Aug. 4 (Wed.)	Horsemen's Festival	Pavilion, SHRP	5:00 pm
Aug. 6 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	Chapel, SHRP	3:00 - 5:00 pm
Aug. 8 (Sun.)	Chapel Services	Chapel, SHRP	11:00 am
Aug. 10 (Tues.)	Bilingual Services	Chapel, SHRP	7:00 pm
Aug. 13 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	Chapel, SHRP	3:00 - 5:00 pm
Aug. 14 (Sat.)	Closing Day of Quarter Horse Meet	Sam Houston Race Park	7:00 pm
Aug. 29 (Sun.)	Closing Day of Mixed Meet	Gillespie County Fairgrounds	1:00 pm
Aug. 30 (Mon.)	Zero Date for Foal Papers	Racing Office, Retama	12:00 pm
Aug. 30 (Mon.)	Fasig-Tipton Texas Summer Yearling Sale	TTA Sales Pavilion, LSP	10:00 am
Aug. 31 (Tues.)	First Day of Entries for Thoroughbred Meet	Racing Office, Retama	8:00 am
Sep. 3 (Fri.)	Opening Night of Thoroughbred Meet	Retama Park	6:45 pm
Sep. 13 (Mon.)	TX Racing Commission Meeting - Dates	Austin, TX	10:30 am
Sep. 14 (Tues.)	First Day of Entries for Quarter Horse Meet	Racing Office, LSP	8:00 am
Sep. 17 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	First Aid Room, LSP	4:00 - 8:00 pm
Sep. 17 (Fri.)	Opening Night of Quarter Horse Meet	Lone Star Park	6:45 pm
Sep. 20 (Mon.)	Off-Track Shuttle	Chapel, LSP	12:00 pm
Sep. 21 (Tues.)	Spanish Services	Chapel, LSP	5:30 pm
Sep. 24 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	First Aid Room, LSP	4:00 - 8:00 pm
Sep. 27 (Mon.)	Off-Track Shuttle	Chapel, LSP	12:00 pm
Sep. 28 (Tues.)	Spanish Services	Chapel, LSP	5:30 pm
Oct. 1 (Fri.)	Free Medical Services	First Aid Room, LSP	4:00 - 8:00 pm
Oct. 4 (Mon.)	Off-Track Shuttle	Chapel, LSP	12:00 pm

**NOTE: All events subject to change. Please check THP website and track bulletin boards at racetracks for changes.**

# So Many Questions ...

**Question:** Why is there so much media coverage and why are there so many industry rumors about race dates this year? My owners are getting worried and are hesitant to purchase anything at upcoming sales.

**Answer:** This is the issue occupying most horsemen's minds and the hot topic of conversation each year at this time. The Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) formally opens the application period for racetracks to submit their race date requests for the next eighteen (18) months in July. Those requests are then submitted to the TxRC, and the Commissioners allocate dates at their September meeting.

Discussions on race dates surfaced earlier than normal this year for a variety of reasons, and the press began covering the story in a lot of media outlets.

Handle, both live and simulcast, drives allocation of race dates. The racetracks, horsemen's organization, the TxRC, and the breed organizations all spend considerable time preparing projections of future handle for the upcoming year and look at how the projected purse earnings can be best allocated.

When the handle is down, as it has been across Texas for the last few years, the available purse money earned from that handle is down as well. Purse money is earned from handle and from horsemen's fees, in the case of stakes races. It is not contributed by the racetracks, as some people still believe.

We are often told, "Well, just make the tracks overpay purses."

The reality, though, is that tracks do not pay for overpayments. We do. When a track allows an overpayment

of purses, which means that they have used all of the available purse money, it is basically making a loan to the horsemen. In the event of an overpayment, the track pays purses when all of the earned purse money is gone, but when the meet is over, all of that money is repaid to the track as it is earned from simulcast generated purse revenue. That means that there will be less money available for purses during the next meet at that track. Continuing to overpay purses year after year just continues the decline in the daily average purse distribution for subsequent meets. This means we can afford fewer and fewer racing opportunities each year. Fewer live dates means less purse money earned from live handle, which means fewer dates the next year. And on and on goes the downward cycle.

We have had horsemen tell us that they would rather have lower purses and more days. We then have to go back to what drives live race days. Handle. When you lower purses enough, the betting public responds by losing interest in your product. Handicappers want full fields, high purses, and a quality product. They want a reasonable expectation of determining the outcome of a race. We should never forget that our industry is a partnership of racetracks, horsemen, race animals, and the betting public. Take away any one of these components and there is no racing.

We are losing one race track this summer. Manor Downs has announced the closing of its facility as early as this month. This is devastating news for our members – especially the Quarter Horse and Paint portion of our membership. Retama Park continues to suffer financial losses, Sam

Houston Race Park forecasts dire predictions without an increase in handle and attendance, and Lone Star Park is still waiting for the TxRC to finalize approval of its new ownership.

When information like this is made public, the press will, of course, respond with coverage. Keep in mind that there has been a lot of misinformation, misquotes, and downright misleading reporting.

The issue of 2011 race dates is far from being resolved. The Texas Racing Commission will hold another public forum in August for stakeholders to provide input. The horsemen's organization, breed organizations, and TxRC staff are all working on solutions and recommendations to this complex issue. When it is all said and done, it will be the Texas Racing Commissioners who will make the final determination.

There will be racing opportunities for everyone next year, regardless of the size of your stable or level of horse you have. There will be good purses to run for and good stakes programs.

We would encourage your owners to make plans to be in Texas to run for those purses. We would also encourage people to attend the upcoming sales, buy racing and breeding stock, and plan for the future. Things might look bad right now, but Texas racing will survive, and we sincerely believe now is the time to look forward with optimism instead of criticism and defeat.

We continue to get interesting questions for this section of our newsletter and hope that you will find the answers informative. If you have a question for your horsemen's organization, just drop us an email at [Marsharountree@texashorsemen.com](mailto:Marsharountree@texashorsemen.com) or give us a call at (512) 467-9799. 🐾

- Texas Horsemen's Partnership Staff



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Texas horse racing industry news

continued from p. 1

Negotiations are still ongoing, and the horsemen are waiting for a proposal from the racetracks regarding the very important Spring Quarter Horse dates that have been lost as a result of Manor Downs announcing that it will not apply for dates for 2011.

The THP, the breed organizations, and the tracks will continue this annual negotiation process in hopes of coming to an agreement on a 2011 race dates proposal we can jointly submit to the TxRC for consideration. As this arduous process continues, the THP welcomes the input of its member horsemen and women.

According to THP Executive Director Marsha Rountree, "Nothing has yet been decided regarding 2011 race dates in Texas. For some time, the THP has been in constant contact with the management of the Texas racetracks, as well as its member horsemen, concerning a number of proposals that have been suggested regarding 2011 race dates in Texas."

Rountree continued, "The THP will continue to meet with all involved parties and examine every possible option for 2011 race dates in Texas. Based on those meetings

and continued input from its member horsemen, the THP Management Committee will meet and endorse a recommended 2011 race date calendar for Texas that it believes will best serve the needs of its member horsemen during a very difficult time for horse racing in Texas."

In addition, the Texas Racing Commission will be holding meetings of its Race Dates Working Group, which includes representatives from all the major Texas racing industry stakeholders, to discuss Texas race date options for 2011. The Texas Racing Commission stated in a recent press release that it expects to consider the racetracks' requested race dates at its scheduled September 14, 2010 meeting

The THP acknowledges that this is a very important issue for all horsemen and women racing in Texas, and the members of the Boards of Directors of the THP's partner organizations, THBPA and TTHBPA, Inc., are trying very hard to find the right mix of race meets, race dates, and attainable purse levels based on current and projected wagering levels in order to offer the best opportunities possible for horsemen racing in Texas during this very difficult time. 🐾



**For Updates on Legislative Issues Impacting the Texas Racing Industry, Visit:**  
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## Texas House Committee Holds Hearing on Gambling

On July 8, the Texas House Licensing and Administrative Procedures Committee, chaired by Edmund Kuempel (R-Seguin), held a hearing and listened to track owners, casino proponents, Indian tribe representatives and bingo hall operators discuss effects of expanded gambling in Texas. The committee was doing some advanced work in preparation for Texas' 2011 Legislative session that will start in January. With the state facing an estimated budget shortfall of \$18 billion over the next biennium, gambling is one of many things being looked at as possible new revenue streams.

More than 20 House members were in attendance for part or all of the six-hour hearing.

According to a report in the *Austin American-Statesman*, many of the gambling proponents' arguments sounded essentially the same as they did in years past. However, the estimated budget shortfall makes the possibility of increased gambling a viable one for the upcoming session according to proponents.

"It feels like there's a little bit more urgency," said Mike Lavigne, who represents racetrack owners.

Speaking for Win for Texas, a racetrack group, John Hockenyos said allowing slots at tracks would stop the leaking of cash out of state and recapture Texans' money that has been left in other states with broader gambling, such as Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Hockenyos, who works for the economic policy consulting firm TXP and prepared the study for the Texas racing industry, said slots at racetracks would generate about \$1 billion a year in taxes for Texas.



"Billions of dollars are leaving Texas and ending up in neighboring states' economies," he said in a statement. "Much of this is preventable if Texas allows slot machines at its racetracks."

Texas Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (Texas HORSE) spokesmen were Jimmy Eller, both a TTA and TQHA member and operator of Granada Farm near Bryan-College Station, and former TTA Executive Director Jeff Hooper, who now holds a similar position with the National Cutting Horse Association. The THP is a member of Texas HORSE.

Jack Pratt, chairman of the Texas Gaming Association, testified about the benefits of casinos in Texas. He's asking for the establishment of up to 12 "world-class destination resort casinos" across the state.

Pratt said that if Texas gets the opportunity to have casinos, they should be bigger and better than ones in nearby states.

State and local tax revenue would be between \$3 billion and \$4.5 billion per year,

the association said.

People representing charitable bingo halls and three Indian tribes in Texas also testified at the hearing. They all said that they want to be part of any discussion about increased gambling in the state.

The Christian Life Commission voiced its opposition to any gambling in Texas.

Several other states have considered gambling in the past couple of years as they have faced similarly bleak economic outlooks. As of May 12, lawmakers across the country have introduced more than 20 measures, according to data from the National Conference of State Legislatures. 🐾



### Lone Star Park Revises Stable Area Entry Requirements



The following new entry requirements went into effect on Monday, July 26, 2010. This policy is for all horses shipping into the stable area of Lone Star Park regardless of their origin.

A negative Piroplasmosis cElisa test for *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi* that has been performed in the last year will now be mandatory.

Horses currently stabled on the grounds will also have to provide negative tests to the racing office no later than Wednesday, August 4, 2010.

And, as usual, you must also provide the stable gate a negative Coggins test within the past twelve (12) months and have a valid health certificate dated within 45 days when entering the stable area.

For more information, the Lone Star Park racing office can be reached by phone at (888) 4RACING or (972) 237-1130 or by e-mail at [racing@lonestarpark.com](mailto:racing@lonestarpark.com).

### TQHA Names Barbara Linke as Executive Director



The Texas Quarter Horse Association has named Barbara Linke as its new Executive Director. Linke comes to TQHA from the American Quarter Horse Association, the TQHA's parent organization, where she developed her background of serving the Quarter Horse industry.

Most recently serving as the Senior Director of Public Policy and Competition Administration, Linke brings 29 years of industry experience to the TQHA.

"I am so pleased to become a part of the Texas Quarter Horse Association team, developing relationships and programs for the benefit of all aspects of the Texas Quarter Horse industry. I look forward to working for the great horse people of our great state," said Linke.

Linke will join the TQHA's team of six employees, overseeing all aspects of the organization including racing, showing, and youth programs.

"At AQHA, Barbara has proven year after year how valuable she is to the horse industry. We are so fortunate to have her joining the TQHA team," says President Robin Frid.



### Lone Star Park Training Center Summer Session Begins August 1st

Lone Star Park will open its training center summer session on Sunday, August 1, 2010. Details are as follows:

Cost: \$6 per day  
\$20 ship in and train (work or gallop)  
\$100 dorm room rent per month

Training Hours: Monday – Saturday  
6:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
Track closed on Sundays

Clocking: Official workouts will be available Tuesday through Saturday. You must have a copy of foal papers in the racing office, and the exercise rider must be identified and licensed by the Texas Racing Commission to get an official workout.

Gates: The starting gate will not be open during this time. First day of schooling will be Monday, August 30.

For more information you may contact the racing office at 888-4 Racing or 972-237-1130.

### LOPE Texas Receives Grant from TCA



On July 8, LOPE Texas announced that it had received a grant from the Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA).

In the past 19 years, TCA has granted more than \$16 million to over 200 organizations in 38 states. TCA is the largest non-profit organization in the Thoroughbred industry, and it works year round to raise funds and awareness to assist groups

in five different Thoroughbred related areas, including rescue and retraining, equine research, therapeutic riding, jockey and backstretch programs, and education/scholarship outreach.

According to LOPE Texas founder and executive director Lynn Readon, "The support of TCA over the years has been key in our efforts to rehab and re-home ex-racehorses into second careers, and we are proud to be a grant recipient."

### More Than 360 Horses Consigned to Fasig-Tipton Texas Summer Yearling Sale



The annual Fasig-Tipton Texas Summer Yearling Sale, sponsored by the Texas Thoroughbred Association, is set for August 30 at 10 a.m. at the Texas Thoroughbred Sales Pavilion at Lone Star Park. A total of 363 yearlings have been consigned to the sale, which is

nearly equal to last year's 370.

Among the nationally-prominent stallions represented in the sale are Afleet Alex, Awesome Again, Birdstone, Closing



Argument, D'Wildcat, El Corredor, Forestry, Forest Wildcat, Smarty Jones and Stormy Atlantic.

There are 101 Texas-breds in the sale representing many of the state's top sires, including Captain Countdown, Early Flyer, Lexicon, Magic Cat, Midway Road, My Golden Song, Primal Storm, Sand Ridge, Special Rate, Supreme Cat, Touch Tone, Too Much Bling, Uncle Abbie, Valid Expectations and Wimbledon.

Last year's sale grossed \$1,889,400 with 185 yearlings sold from 319 offered for an average of \$10,212 and a median of \$5,000.

As in past years, the TTA will host two special events in conjunction with the sale. On Sunday, August 29, a horse sale seminar will be presented covering topics such as buying, the sale company, bloodstock agents, insurance, vetting and the repository. The seminar, which runs from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the sales pavilion, will feature a number of speakers followed by a question and answer period. Attendance is free, but RSVPs are requested to (512) 458-6133 or [maryr@texasthoroughbred.com](mailto:maryr@texasthoroughbred.com).

Also on August 29, the TTA, Fasig-Tipton Texas and Lone Star Park will present a pre-sale party starting at 6:00 p.m. in the sales pavilion. The event will feature hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, door prizes and music from Alan and Ali. The party is also free, and RSVPs are not needed.

The catalog is available online at <http://www.fasigtip-ton.com/catalogues/2010/Texas-Summer-Yearlings/Texas-Summer-Yearlings.asp>.

### TAHC and TAMU College of Veterinary Medicine Team Up

In cooperation with the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, has recently developed a mobile Veterinary Emergency Team (V.E.T.) to respond to disasters that affect animals state-wide.

The new team is deployable under the state animal response plan in a disaster situation where there is need for additional veterinary assessment, triage and care. Currently, the team is made up of 13 members and consists of A&M faculty, resident veterinarians, veterinary technicians and veterinary students who have completed a disaster medicine elective. The team is fully self-sufficient with their own lodging, food, generators and supplies for responders. Their equipment includes two large climate-controlled tents, one multi-purpose trailer and one clinic trailer with limited surgical capability. The team also has obtained trucks to haul trailers and equipment, as well as an ambulatory medicine truck. Team members are divided into strike teams that can be targeted at either large or small animal issues.

"As the lead agency responsible for dealing with animals affected by disasters, the Texas Animal Health Commission

has done an outstanding job of developing one of the premiere animal issues in disasters plans in the country. TAHC personnel have brought together an impressive array of governmental and non-governmental agencies all focused on preserving the health and welfare of animals. The Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences is proud to be part of this effort. Under the leadership of the TAHC the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences will field a team capable of assisting in assessment and providing triage capabilities," said Dr. Wesley Bissett, TAMU's lead faculty member in this effort.

"Our two organizations have put together an impressive array of equipment and personnel that will have the ability to limit and prevent animal suffering as disasters occur. In addition, the TAHC has provided us the opportunity to increase our efforts in teaching emergency response in the veterinary medical curriculum. Ultimately this will lead to increased numbers of veterinarians committed to and trained in emergency response. The end result will be strengthening the foundation of local governmental emergency response efforts. Texas is a 'can do' state, and the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences appreciates the opportunity to play a role in making sure that we can enhance the efforts of local and state governmental entities during times of disaster."

The Texas A&M V.E.T.s' first field exercise was held in College Station April 23-25. While they are still finalizing the acquisition of necessary supplies, the team is fully operational and mission-ready in time for the 2010 hurricane season.

Under the animal response plan, this team will deploy with TAHC field personnel in a large-scale disaster and will work under the same incident command structure.

### Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators for June 2010

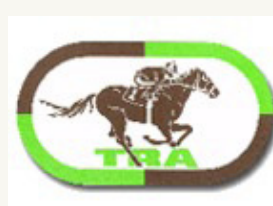
On July 4, Equibase Company released its "Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators" for June of 2010. Compared to June of 2009, wagering on U. S. racing\* was down 5.82%, purses were down 1.21%, and race days were down 3.23%.

For the first half of 2010, decreases were seen across the board as compared to the first half of 2009. Wagering on U. S. racing\* is down 7.99% (slight over \$500,000,000), purses are down 5.57%, and race days are down 6.04%.

*\*Includes worldwide commingled wagering on U.S. races.*

### Pari-Mutuels as a Source for Purses Trending Down

A review of United States purses by the Thoroughbred Racing Associations (TRA) indicates an increasing reliance upon alternative gaming as a source of purse funding as 29 percent of the total U.S. purses in 2009 were derived from non-pari-mutuel sources such as video lottery terminals,





video poker, slot machines, card rooms, and direct casino or state subsidies.

According to annual handle and purse statistics assembled by Equibase Company, LLC and CHRIMS (California Horse Racing Information Management Systems) and published by The Jockey Club, U.S. pari-mutuel handle on Thoroughbred racing in 2009 was \$12.315 billion, a 9.8% decrease of \$1.333 billion from 2008. Total U.S. Thoroughbred purses, however, only declined by 5.7%, or \$66.8 million, in 2009 as alternative gaming revenue or subsidies for purses increased \$21.3 million. Non-pari-mutuel revenue money directed to purses in 2009 was \$318,580,638.

Although pari-mutuel Thoroughbred handle has declined almost \$3 billion since the record high of \$15.18 billion in 2003, purses since then have risen slightly from \$1,055,500,000 to \$1,098,200,000. The record high for purses was \$1,180,600,000 in 2007, but even with the addition of another \$63 million in purse subsidies from non-pari-mutuel sources during the past two years, total purses have declined seven percent in that time period.

"What is disturbing about this trend is the real or potential downstream effect," TRA President Roy Arnold said. "American racing depends upon a national distribution network of track and retail wagering locations to sustain and grow an essential base of customers.

"Tracks without other gaming revenue are finding it necessary to consolidate their live racing dates, which impacts not only their handle but also reduces the amount of wagering produced by their fans on imported simulcasts. If we settle for gaming subsidies 'replacing' pari-mutuel wagering revenue, rather than 'enhancing' it, pari-mutuel wagering simply will continue to decline."

West Virginia was the first state to authorize expanded gaming options in 1993, but since then Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Indiana, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, and Pennsylvania have passed and implemented alternative forms of gambling as a source of industry funding. In addition, New Jersey racing has received legislatively-mandated funding for purses from the casino industry eight of the nine years during 2001-2009. The state of Maryland also supplemented purses with money from the state's general fund from 1999-2009 to help its racetracks compete with the VLT-supplemented purses in Delaware and West Virginia.

Purses derived from pari-mutuel wagering were 6.33% of the total U.S. handle in 2009. That percentage has varied since 1993 from a high of 7.26% in 1995 to a low of 5.97% in 2003, but has remained around 6.3% during the past three years. Variations in simulcast takeouts and fees are responsible for the fluctuation in return from year to year.

"Returns to the industry are higher for each dollar wagered at a racetrack, so understandably the rate of return was higher before simulcasting, particularly with the expansion of account wagering, became the principal source of revenue to the industry," TRA Executive Vice President

Chris Scherf said. "Despite the growth of third-party account wagering companies and their retention of some of the take-out, the racetrack industry has recovered some revenue through higher simulcast fees to those outlets.

The percentage of U.S. handle directed to purses still exceeds other major racing countries as Australia and Japan are next with a less than four percent return.

### Churchill Downs Incorporated Completes Merger with Youbet.com, Inc.



On Wednesday, June 2, Churchill Downs Incorporated announced that it had completed its merger with Youbet.com, Inc.

"We are happy to now be able to move forward and continue the development of new technology-enabled features and services that Youbet.com and TwinSpires.com customers want, and that can attract new customers to racing," said Robert L. Evans, CDI President and Chief Executive Officer. "In a recent survey we conducted, we learned that 34 percent of new TwinSpires.com accounts were established by people who say they have never wagered on Thoroughbred racing previously. We find that an exciting development for racing and for the future growth of our online wagering business."

Also effective upon the completion of the merger, CDI's Board of Directors appointed Michael Brodsky as a Class III director to serve until the 2011 annual meeting of shareholders, increasing the size of the Board of Directors to fourteen members. Mr. Brodsky will also serve on the Board's Executive Committee and Strategic Planning Committee.

Effective immediately, Rohit Thukral, CDI's Executive Vice President of Technology Initiatives and President of TwinSpires.com, will assume the leadership role for Youbet.com and begin the integration of TwinSpires.com and Youbet.com. Ben Murr, the current Chief Information Officer of CDI, will assume the role as president of United Tote. Ben Murr's replacement as CDI's Chief Information Officer will be made at a later date.

The merger does not change any services available to Youbet.com or TwinSpires.com customers. Customers of both Youbet.com and TwinSpires.com may continue to use their existing account number, username, password and PIN. Customers will continue to be able to access their favorite features and functions, free handicapping data, race replays and live streaming video.

### mobile.equineline.com Launched with Free 5-Cross Pedigrees



Free five-cross Thoroughbred pedigrees from equineline.com, which are

downloaded more than 200,000 times each month, are now also available in a customized format for mobile devices fol-



lowing the launch of [mobile.equineline.com](http://mobile.equineline.com) by The Jockey Club Information Systems (TJCIS).

According to TJCIS Chairman and President Carl Hamilton, the popularity of the five-cross pedigrees made that feature a natural first step in the development of [mobile.equineline.com](http://mobile.equineline.com).

"Industry professionals conduct business at any time of day and in any number of locations, and having immediate access to a five-cross pedigree will make it even easier to do that," he said.

"The free accessibility of five-cross pedigree information designed for a mobile device also complements The Jockey Club's Tattoo Identification Services by providing an additional tool to individuals and organizations involved with Thoroughbred retirement and re-training.

"With published reports indicating that mobile phones could surpass PCs as the most common web access device worldwide by 2013, we envision [mobile.equineline.com](http://mobile.equineline.com) becoming an integral part of how customers access Thoroughbred information in the years ahead."

To access the free five-cross Thoroughbred pedigrees from a mobile device, simply go to [mobile.equineline.com](http://mobile.equineline.com) or click on the free five-cross pedigrees link on [www.equineline.com](http://www.equineline.com).

### NTRA Launches Interactive Virtual Horse Racing Game



On June 7, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) announced the official release of the NTRA Virtual Horse Racing Game on its Website at [www.NTRA.com/virtualracing/](http://www.NTRA.com/virtualracing/).

The NTRA Virtual Horse Racing Game provides both entertainment and education value by allowing racing enthusiasts, from beginners to the most experienced handicappers, to participate in a virtual world of breeding, owning, training and racing their own stable of horses. Each player has the ability to manage every aspect of his or her horse's career. In addition, the game also allows fans to simulate upcoming major stakes races with the actual contenders and their real-life attributes depicted under simulated racing conditions.

"The Fantasy Horse Racing Game provides a unique and entertaining platform for fans to engage in Thoroughbred racing," said Keith Chamblin, Senior Vice President of the NTRA. "It is a key component of our social networking strategy designed to grow the online community of horse racing fans in a manner that allows them to engage with our sport on their terms and at a level and pace of their choosing."

The NTRA Virtual Horse Racing Game is operated by Horse Racing Simulation LLC, a leading developer and

distributor of horse racing entertainment platforms, and has more than 100,000 active players worldwide. Fans can register to play the game by logging onto [NTRA.com](http://NTRA.com). The game offers a variety of levels of play and can be accessed for free.

"The power of the NTRA Fantasy Horse Racing Game is its ability to bring together all levels of fans. Most importantly, it allows new racing enthusiasts the chance to learn all about the sport," said Michael Calderone, CEO of Horse Racing Simulation LLC. "The game and community will provide endless hours of entertainment whether you want to climb aboard some of the greatest Thoroughbreds who ever lived like Man o' War, Pharlap or Zenyatta, or actually manage a full stable of virtual horses and compete for prizes and awards."

### Farish Steps Down as Vice Chairman of The Jockey Club; Janney Named as Successor



William S. Farish, who has served as vice chairman of The Jockey Club since 1983, is stepping down from that position and will be succeeded in that role by Stuart S. Janney III, effective immediately. Farish will continue to serve his term on the Board of Stewards, which expires in 2013.

The change was announced by Ogden Mills Phipps, chairman of The Jockey Club, following a Board of Stewards meeting on Monday, June 21.

Farish became a member of The Jockey Club in 1970 and was serving his second term on The Jockey Club's Board of Stewards when he became vice chairman in 1983.

Janney became a member of The Jockey Club in 1992 and was serving his third term on the Board of Stewards when he was named vice chairman. He has also served as chairman of The Jockey Club's Thoroughbred Safety Committee, which he will continue to lead.

### Churchill Downs to Host 2011 Breeders' Cup World Championships



For the first time in its history the Breeders' Cup World Championships will be held at Churchill Downs, Inc. in consecutive years as officials from Breeders' Cup Ltd., Churchill Downs and Commonwealth of Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear made the announcement at a news conference on June 11 at the racetrack.

The 2011 Breeders' Cup World Championships, Thoroughbred racing's most prestigious two-day event, annually attracts the best horses from North America and Europe. It is the richest prize money event in sports, with more than \$26 million in purses offered over the two-day event, which will be held on Friday, November 4 and



Saturday, November 5, 2011. The Breeders' Cup will be televised on ABC/ESPN and to more than 130 countries around the world.

The 28th Breeders' Cup will mark a record eighth time that the Championships will be held at Churchill Downs - the legendary home of the Kentucky Derby. This year's Breeders' Cup will be conducted on November 5 and 6. Previous editions of the Breeders' Cup were held at Churchill Downs in 1988, 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000 and in 2006.

"I am thrilled that Kentucky's iconic Churchill Downs, home of the legendary Kentucky Derby, has been selected to host the 2011 Breeders' Cup World Championships," said Gov. Steve Beshear. "The 28th Breeders Cup will mark a record eight times that Churchill has hosted the Breeders' Cup and will be the first time it has hosted this prestigious race for two consecutive years. Jane and I congratulate Churchill Downs on this accomplishment, and we look forward to joining the thousands of spectators who will attend these events."

Governor Beshear was joined by Breeders' Cup Chairman William S. Farish Jr. and Breeders' Cup President and Chief Executive Officer Greg Avioli, Churchill Downs Incorporated President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Evans, Bill Carstanjen, Chief Operating Officer of Churchill Downs, Inc., and Churchill Downs Racetrack President Kevin Flanery.

Over the past four years, the, Breeders' Cup World Championships has experienced unprecedented growth, with total races expanding from eight to 14, and total purses increasing from \$14 million to \$26 million. This year's Breeders' Cup will be the first at Churchill under the two-day format. It will also be the first Breeders' Cup in which both days of the Championships will finish under the lights.

### The Jockey Club Adds Auction History to Tattoo Identification Services



On June 15, The Jockey Club announced that it has enhanced its free Tattoo Identification Services by adding access to the auction sales history of identified Thoroughbreds.

Tattoo Identification Services was launched in April 2009 to help owners identify tattooed but unknown Thoroughbreds in their possession, and it has been visited more than 200,000 times since then. A link is now provided to the [equineline.com](http://equineline.com) Free Auction Results Search for the identified horse so that an individual can view public sales results, including the last purchaser at auction, as an aid in researching the horse's history. Links to a five-generation pedigree from [equineline.com](http://equineline.com) and to racing information from [equibase.com](http://equibase.com) are also provided.

"Adding the auction sales history provides additional information to potential owners of off-the-track Thoroughbreds and to all of the re-training and retirement groups that provide post-racing care for Thoroughbreds,"

said Andrew Chesser, customer service coordinator for The Jockey Club. "We have worked closely with these groups in developing and enhancing Tattoo Identification Services, and we will continue to communicate with them and seek additional ways to assist them in their efforts."

Comprehensive information on Tattoo Identification Services is available at [www.jockeyclub.com](http://www.jockeyclub.com) and [www.registry.jockeyclub.com](http://www.registry.jockeyclub.com).

### Equine Injury Database Statistics Discussed at Third Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit; Videos of the Summit Available Online



Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit

At the third Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse

Summit held at Keeneland on June 28 and 29, Dr. Tim Parkin, noted epidemiologist from the University of Glasgow's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, presented a preliminary analysis of racing fatalities in North America from data compiled in the Equine Injury Database™.

Fatality information was based upon a year's worth of data beginning November 1, 2008, from 378,864 total starts in Thoroughbred flat races at 73 racetracks participating in the Equine Injury Database at that time.

The conclusions presented by Dr. Parkin included:

- The incidence of fatality in two-year-olds for the one-year period was significantly lower than that of older horses, three years of age and up
- The incidence of fatality in fillies, mares and geldings for the one-year period was significantly lower than that of intact males
- The incidence of fatality for the one-year period was not significantly different for horses racing at different distances or carrying different weights
- The incidence of fatality for the one-year period was not significantly different for dirt, synthetic and turf racing surfaces, or condition of the dirt and turf racing surfaces

"This preliminary analysis just scratches the surface," said Parkin, who serves as a consultant on the Equine Injury Database. "As the number of starts recorded in the database continues to grow, more complex statistical analyses can focus upon multiple variables studied in concert to better understand the myriad of factors which may contribute to fatal and non-fatal injuries. In addition, differences that may not have achieved statistical significance after one year of data collection may do so with additional observations recorded in the database."

"The work presented today represents a starting point, not a destination," said Dr. Mary Scollay, equine medical director for the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission and a consultant on the Equine Injury Database. "This begins to answer the question of what is happening. The 'how' and 'why' remain to be determined."

"The creation and existence of the Equine Injury



Database serves as a shining example of what can be achieved when industry stakeholders work together under a shared goal to improve the health and safety of our equine athletes,” said Matt Iuliano, the executive vice president and executive director of The Jockey Club. “Dr. Parkin’s work illustrates the importance of a database such as the Equine Injury Database, supplemented with other information to support our decision makers with good science for analyzing and solving problems facing our industry. We look forward to the continued development and integration of additional information resources to assist our industry leaders.”

The Jockey Club, through two of its for-profit subsidiary companies, InCompass and The Jockey Club Technology Services Inc., has underwritten the cost to develop and operate the Equine Injury Database as a service to the industry. By agreement with the participating racetracks, from time to time The Jockey Club may publish certain summary statistics from the Equine Injury Database, but will not provide statistics that identify specific participants, including racetracks, horses or persons. The Equine Injury Database contains a suite of reports for racetracks to analyze data collected at their respective facilities.

A list of racetracks participating in the Equine Injury Database can be found at [jockeyclub.com/initiatives.asp](http://jockeyclub.com/initiatives.asp). Video files for each public session at the third Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit, held June 28 and 29 at Keeneland, are now available for download from [www.grayson-jockeyclub.org](http://www.grayson-jockeyclub.org) and [www.jockeyclub.com](http://www.jockeyclub.com).

“While the live video stream of the summit received approximately 900 hits from locations around the globe, people who weren’t able to watch it live now have the opportunity to view any or all of the proceedings at their convenience,” said Edward L. Bowen, president of Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation.

ers who register their horses through The Jockey Club’s Interactive Registration™ platform now have the opportunity to make a voluntary payment to the NTRA’s Foal Fund for federal lobbying on behalf of the Thoroughbred industry.

The Foal Fund, established in 2009, is one of two voluntary funding programs designed to include owners and breeders in the association’s legislative efforts in Washington, D.C. The Fund complements the NTRA’s voluntary ¼% check-off program that enables buyers and sellers at Thoroughbred auctions to support federal lobbying.



Both voluntary funding programs enable NTRA to represent horse racing on Capitol Hill while providing the opportunity for owners and breeders to contribute to lobbying efforts on issues including taxation, Internet gaming and immigration.

“The NTRA is delighted to offer owners and breeders a convenient way to support federal legislative work every time they use The Jockey Club’s Interactive Registration system to register a foal,” said Peggy Hendershot, NTRA senior vice president of legislative affairs. “We appreciate The Jockey Club’s leadership and its support for this initiative.”

“The Jockey Club is pleased to facilitate support for federal legislative advocacy that benefits every sector of the Thoroughbred racing and breeding industry,” said Matt Iuliano, executive vice president and executive director of The Jockey Club.

Contributions to The Foal Fund can be made via The Jockey Club Interactive Registration platform or the NTRA’s website, [www.thefoalfund.com](http://www.thefoalfund.com), as well as by mail to The Foal Fund, 2525 Harrodsburg Rd., Suite 400, Lexington, Kentucky, 40504. Contributions begin at \$50 per foal. All contributors to The Foal Fund are eligible to receive discounts on products and services through NTRA Advantage.



**NTRA and The Jockey Club Partner on NTRA’s Foal Fund to Support Legislative Work**

The National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) and The Jockey Club announced on June 25 that owners and breed-



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# News from TTHBPA Director of Racing Terry Blanton



Terry Blanton

The final week of racing at Lone Star Park wrapped up on July 18 with numbers of races and field sizes being similar to the past two years. The product that we put out to attract wagering locally and across the country is scary, with overnight purses averaging \$113,000. Even with the lowest overnight purses being paid, the meet ended \$400,000 plus overpaid in purses.

The question to owners and trainers is, "Where do we go from here?" The economy plus a 9.5% unemployment rate continues to scare away our average baby boomer wagers. Thursday nights' on-track wagering numbers are now below \$200,000. That equates to \$14,000 earned for purse accounts. With purses coming solely from simulcasting and on-track wagering, we cannot continue to do the same thing that we have been doing in past years and expect different results. The year 2011 must become a hallmark to save what is left of Texas racing.

Reduction of race dates and transfer of purse accounts is inevitable, and how we do that and how that affects

everyone is on the table. The Texas Horsemen's Partnership, which consists of both a Thoroughbred Board of Directors (TTHBPA) and a Quarter Horse Board of Directors (THBPA), continues to work with the tracks and the Texas Racing Commission as they endeavor to come up with a viable plan by September 14, 2010. The final plan will be posted on our website at [www.texashorsemen.com](http://www.texashorsemen.com).

I have heard from many owners and trainers, and I encourage everyone to continue calling me as I relay all opinions to our TTHBPA Board for its consideration.

Lone Star Park has agreed to allow horsemen to board and train at no charge through August 1, 2010. As of August 2, boarding goes to \$6.00 per day through November 23, 2010. Horses shipping in for works or galloping will be charged \$20.00. The track will be open on Mondays through Saturdays from 6:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., with no break, and will be closed on Sundays. Official works will be available Tuesdays through Saturdays. Be sure to have a copy of the foal papers in the racing office, and you will need to identify your exercise rider whom must be licensed by the Texas Racing Commission. After November 23, the stable area and track will close for some much needed maintenance. You may contact the racing office for further information at (972) 237-1130.

Retama Park has agreed to allow

horses to move in on August 1 through August 15, 2010 for the reduced rate of \$2.50 per day. After August 15, there is no stall rent for those participating in the Thoroughbred Fall meet. You may contact Retama's racing office for further information at (210) 651-7000.

Before shipping your horses into any Texas tracks, make sure you contact the racing offices for entry policies. As of July 26, 2010, all horses shipping into Lone Star Park will be required to have a negative Piroplasmosis test certificate, as well as the usual negative Coggins and valid health certificate.

Tami Hare tells me that the chaplaincy at Sam Houston Race Park offers free medical services from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. each Friday for all licensed horsemen.

On August 4, Hall of Fame jockey Pat Day will be at Sam Houston for the Horsemen's Festival. It begins at 5:00 p.m., with food being provided and door prizes that will be raffled off. There will also be music and lots of fun activities are planned for the kids such as bouncy horse races, face painting, and balloon animals. If you are licensed with the Texas Racing Commission, you are welcome to attend.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (214) 384-9547 or Tami Hare at (214) 850-6821. 🐾

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# Manor Downs Ceases Racing and Simulcasting Operations

At the conclusion of business on Saturday, July 25, the oldest pari-mutuel horse racing track in Texas, Manor Downs, shut down simulcast operations. The track has not applied for live race dates for 2011 and has no plans to apply for dates in the future.

In a press release, the track attributed "the recent significant drop in handle due to the economy along with the migration of horses to our neighboring states" as the primary reasons for closure.

Manor CEO Howard Phillips said business at the track is off 40 percent since 2008.

"The economic downturn, plus the migration of our horses and our horse industry in the neighboring states, has really put a damper on the handle," commented Phillips.

Phillips said what is particularly galling to him is that those tracks in neighboring states are able to raise purses because they are attracting Texas bettors.

"I feel like I'm being shot with my own bullets," he said. Before pari-mutuel betting was legalized in Texas,

Manor Downs was perhaps best known for showcasing artists such as Stevie Ray Vaughan, the Grateful Dead and Johnny Cash. When legislation did pass, it was the first track to hit the ground running, and it recently concluded its 21st season of live pari-mutuel racing.

Phillips pointed out that other Class 2 tracks in the state did not last nearly as long.

"We've been there the whole time and never wavered," he said.

According to the release, the track is considering alternative uses for the facility, including the possibility of a live concert venue. Prior to the closure, track CEO Howard Phillips indicated that the track could reopen if it were to be sold or if legislation was passed to help the horse racing industry.

Outstanding tickets may be cashed up to one year from the date of issue. Tickets may be cashed in the business office opposite the Turf Club between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Tickets may also be mailed to: Manor Downs, P.O. Box 141309, Austin, TX 78714.



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# Sam Houston Race Park 2010 American Quarter Horse Meet Stakes Schedule

Date	Race	Conditions	Distance
<b>July</b>			
Fri., Jul. 30	<b>TQHA Summer Showdown</b>		
	\$35,000-added Ancira Ford Classic (RG3)	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	400 Yards
	\$30,000-added Barnmaster Sprint Stakes (RG3)	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	250 Yards
	\$30,000-added Gulf Coast 4 Star Trailer "550" Stakes (RG3)	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	550 Yards
	\$15,000-added Jones Bloodstock Insurance Starter Stakes***	3 YO & Up, TX-Bred	350 Yards
Sat., Jul. 31	\$100,000-added TQHA Sale Futurity (RG1)+	2 YO, TX-Bred	350 Yards
	\$35,000-added Adequan Texas Derby Challenge (G3)**	3 YO	400 Yards
<b>August</b>			
Fri., Aug. 7	\$15,000-guaranteed Woodland Stakes	3 YO	870 Yards
Fri., Aug. 13	\$35,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Classic (G2)	3 YO & Up	440 Yards
Sat., Aug. 14	\$20,000-added Colors of Houston Futurity (G2)	2 YO Paints	350 Yards
	\$15,000-added TPHBA Maturity (G3)	3 YO & Up Paints	350 Yards
	\$15,000-added Sam Houston Maiden Classic, presented by Spring Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge	3, 4, 5 YO Maidens as of July 6, 2010	350 Yards

\*restricted to horses sired by eligible stallions.

\*\*restricted to AQHA Racing Challenge enrolled horses.

\*\*\*restricted to horses which have started for a claiming price of \$5,000 or less in 2009-2010.

+restricted to horses which passed through the 2009 TQHA Yearling Sale Ring.



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# Texas Racing Commission Hosts Horse Race Dates Committee Meeting: Difficult Choices, Decisions Ahead



On Friday, July 16, the Texas Racing Commission hosted a Horse Race Dates Committee meeting at Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas. Representatives from the horsemen, breed registries, Texas horse tracks, staff from the Texas Racing Commission and various members of the public attended the meeting chaired by Robert M. Schmidt, Vice-Chair of the Texas Racing Commission.

Track officials — noting that they could not continue to run the same schedule in the face of the double-digit decline in handle over the last two years — laid out their strategy for the 2011 racing season. The tracks described a plan that includes: a single 60-day Thoroughbred meet at Lone Star Park during the summer; a fall Quarter Horse and Minor breed meet at Lone Star Park; a mixed meet, predominantly consisting of Quarter Horses, at Sam Houston Race Park; and, potentially, a 24-day mixed meet in the fall at Retama Park. Commissioner Schmidt asked that the tracks bring a formal written proposal to the next committee meeting.

The horsemen and members of the public generally acknowledged that the industry faces a significant problem and that change must occur. However, there was no clear consensus that the plan presented by the tracks represents an appropriate solution.

For example, with the pending closure of Manor Downs, the Texas Horsemen's Partnership stressed the need for and importance of a Quarter Horse meet in the spring. One supporter of the Texas Thoroughbred circuit submitted a formal alternative Thoroughbred racing schedule to the committee. Commissioner Schmidt said the committee would consider the alternative plan as part of its review.

After the meeting, Commissioner Schmidt said, "This is just the start of the process. These are hard times right now, and everyone in the industry faces difficult choices. We understand that the race date calendar affects everyone in this industry."

"What might be the best time for a spring Quarter Horse meet and where should it be held? And how can the industry ensure that there are sufficient opportunities for Texas-based owners and breeders at every level? These are the kinds of things we're working to resolve. We look forward to the next meeting at Sam Houston Race Park as the process moves along."

The committee meeting was the

first of two scheduled before the Commission grants race dates. The meetings provide a forum for interested stakeholders and the public to discuss the potential number and locations of race dates and the purse levels for those dates. The Horse Race Dates Committee will meet again at Sam Houston Race Park on Friday, August 13.

The committee welcomes input on whether each racetrack's proposed race meeting will serve to nurture, promote, develop or improve the horse industry in Texas. Among the factors the Commission may consider are: the current condition of the association's racetrack and facilities for patrons, race animals and occupational licensees; the anticipated effect of the proposed race meeting on the continuity of racing during the year; the live race dates requested by other associations licensed to conduct races for the same species of animal; the anticipated effect of the race meeting on the horse breeding industry in Texas; the anticipated effect of scheduled race meetings in neighboring race states on the proposed race meeting; and the anticipated availability of race animals for the race meetings.

The agendas for these committee meetings will be available at [www.txrc.state.tx.us](http://www.txrc.state.tx.us). For more information regarding race date allocation, please email [info@txrc.state.tx.us](mailto:info@txrc.state.tx.us), or contact Bill Childs at (512) 833-6699. 🐾

## Texas Race Track Chaplains

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### Sam Houston Race Park

Chaplain Billy Wheeler  
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# Handle Dips, Average Daily Attendance Increases Slightly During Lone Star Park Thoroughbred Meet

Despite a national trend of diminishing attendance at most other racetracks across the country, Lone Star Park ended its 60-day, 2010 Spring Thoroughbred Meet with a one percent increase in average daily attendance.

Average daily attendance increased to 6,952 compared to 6,883 for 65 days in 2009. Overall, 417,096 racing fans came through the turnstiles during the meet, which was run from Thursday, April 8 through Sunday, July 18. Last year, 447,426 attended the 65-day meet.

Despite the increase in attendance, wagering was down across the board. On track, average daily wagering on live racing was \$290,569 down nine percent from last year's average of \$320,709. A total of \$17.4 million was wagered on live racing at Lone Star Park this year compared to \$20.8 million with five extra days in 2009.

\*Average all-sources wagering slipped 23.3 percent, from \$1.96 million last year to \$1.63 million in 2010. Total all-sources handle was \$97.8 million for the 60 days of racing this year. The 2009 total for 65 days was \$127.5 million.

\*Average daily wagering on simulcasting into Lone Star Park dropped 4.8 percent, from \$531,358 in 2009 to \$505,889 this year.

However, the biggest decline in wagering during 2010 was on Lone Star Park's outgoing signal. Off-track simulcasts of the track's live racing decreased by 25 percent, from \$1.1 million per day to \$834,000.

"We are pleased that we were able to attract more fans per day to Lone Star Park at a time that other tracks across the country are seeing lower attendance numbers," said Lone Star Park President and General Manager Drew Shubeck. "It demonstrates that Lone Star Park continues to be one of the top entertainment venues in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and shows that our marketing plan, which emphasizes major event days, including our Lone Star Music Series, Fourth of July Fireworks, Triple Crown Days, Party at the Park, and Dollar Days, are excellent entertainment opportunities and a great value for our fans. We would like to thank our dedicated and loyal horsemen and employees who continue to create winning experiences for our customers.

"Obviously, the decline in our wagering handle is disappointing," explained Shubeck. "The biggest drop, in our off-track numbers, is consistent with other

tracks in the state, indicating that the quality of Texas racing has declined to the point where it's becoming irrelevant on the national level. Racing fans in other states are telling us that they are not interested in wagering on our races. It's a strong message that we need to improve the quality of racing at Lone Star Park."

"The other decreases in on-track wagering and all-sources handle are consistent with what's happening throughout the country and are largely due to the slow national economic recovery and the continued penetration of Internet wagering into our market despite the fact that it is illegal. At a time when 'every dollar counts,' Texas' prohibition of advanced deposit wagering is costing us jobs and horsemen valuable purse dollars," added Shubeck.



On the track, there were a total of 4,689 runners in 564 races during the 60-day, 2010 Lone Star Park meet, for an average field size of 8.3 per race, a decrease of 0.4 (4.6%) from last year's average of 8.7, when 5,385 starters ran in 616 races.

Average daily purses decreased by 15 percent, from \$177,089 last year to \$150,871 in 2010.

With 101 wins, last year's leading jockey, Chris Landeros, successfully defended his title and fell just one victory shy of tying Lone Star Park's record of 102 wins in a season, set by Corey Lanerie in 1999 and tied by Cliff Berry in 2006. Landeros was able to ride those 101 winners in just 60 days, while Lanerie won 102 in 72 days and Berry in 66. Junior Chacaltana was second with 60 winners and Lone Star Park all-time leading jockey Cliff Berry was tied with Bryan McNeil for third with 43.

In 2010, trainer Bret Calhoun captured his first-ever Lone Star Park training

title with 62 wins, 14 more than Danny Pish's 48 trips to the winner's circle. Lone Star Park all-time leading trainer, Steve Asmussen, finished third with 45 wins.

For the third straight year, the owner's race was won by Tom Durant, who set a new season record with 37 victories. Durant surpassed the previous mark of 30 set by Heflin and Driver Racing, GP in 2007. This marks the fifth owner's title at Lone Star Park for Durant, who previously won the award in 2009, 2008, 2005 and tied for leading owner during the 2004 Fall meet. End Zone Athletics Inc. was second with 12 victories, and Heiligbrodt Racing Stable finished third with 11 wins.

Redding Colliery, winner of the Grade 3, \$300,000 Lone Star Park Handicap on May 31, was named the Horse of the Meet, as well as Champion Older Male.

Also on the track, Clarence Scharbauer Jr's Coyote Legend, trained by Bret Calhoun and ridden by Bobby Walker, Jr, won the meet's opening race, the \$50,000 Premiere Stakes then went on to win the \$100,000 Texas Stallion Stakes on May 8 and \$75,000 Assault Stakes on July 10 to earn the meet's Champion Texas-Bred Male Award.

In the Grade 3, \$200,000 Texas Mile on April 24, Peachtree Stable's Mythical Power, trained by Bob Baffert and ridden by Martin Garcia, became the first horse in Lone Star Park history to win both the Lone Star Derby (2009) and the Texas Mile.

The Baffert-Garcia duo returned on May 8 to claim their second graded stakes of the meet together in the Grade 3, \$200,000 Lone Star Derby with Game On Dude. That victory, his first graded stakes win, earned Game on Dude Champion Three-Year-Old Male honors.

Off the racetrack, season highlights included the 87,040 fans that attended seven Lone Star Music Series concerts, topped by the 19,367 who saw Eli Young on June 11, the sixth-highest attendance ever for a show at Lone Star Park.

Even with heavy rains during the weekend, nearly 40,000 came out to track for the annual Lone Stars & Stripes Fireworks on July 3 and 4, including the season's highest attendance of 26,677 on the Fourth of July.

Live racing at Lone Star Park will resume on Friday, September 17, 2010 with opening night of the 26-day Fall Meeting of Champions for American Quarter Horses. 🐾

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# Benefits of Membership

Every person that starts a racehorse at a licensed Texas racetrack is automatically considered a member of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership for that year and is entitled to membership privileges.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership (THP) is officially recognized by the Texas Racing Commission as the organization representing owners and trainers of horses racing in Texas. The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is a partner-

ship between the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association and the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is an affiliate of the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, as well as a member of Texans Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE). Certain members also may qualify for assistance through a trust fund administered by the THAFI to assist qualified horsemen with certain medical needs. In 2008, the THAFI paid out over \$169,000 in benevolent assistance to horsemen.

Funding for the THP is derived from several sources, including a contractual deduction from the purse accounts at each track, corporate sponsorships, revenue generating programs initiated by the THP and interest from treasury management. Therefore, no direct dues are required from any single member.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership conducts numerous programs and services aimed at improving efficiency and enriching the lives of ALL horsemen at our tracks in Texas. This benefits package is second to no other racing jurisdiction in the country.

Below are some of the benefits that the Texas Horsemen's Partnership provides for its members:

**Centralized Horsemen's Bookkeeping System:** This revolutionary system was conceived and implemented by the THP and brings a branch-banking approach to our members. Horsemen are now able to consolidate all of their financial activity associated with horse racing at the various Texas tracks on one account and have one comprehensive statement. This allows for easier accounting and simplified tax reporting.

**Free subscription to *The Texas Horsemen's News*:** Every member who signs up at our website is e-mailed *The Texas Horsemen's News*, the official publication of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership. The THP's goal in producing and distributing this publication is to keep all of our members up to date on the news that affects our industry. We also want to give horsemen a "behind-the-scenes" look into many of the issues and personalities that shape our sport.

#### **Interactive Website:**

- Latest industry news and information affecting Texas horsemen
- Access to online Horsemen's Bookkeeper account balances
- Organization information such as structure, bylaws, meeting minutes, etc.
- Information on benefits available to members

**Chaplaincy Services:** The THP and each racetrack cooperatively provide funds for a chaplain at all tracks. The chaplain conducts Sunday church services, weekly bible studies, offers counseling, facilitates drug intervention treatments when necessary and, in some cases, teaches an English/Spanish course. The Chaplain also assists horsemen with obtaining GEDs and gives classes in computer use.

**Complimentary Fire, Disaster & Vanning Insurance coverage:** \$25,000 per horse fire insurance coverage against death by fire, disaster & vanning for horses currently racing or in training to race at a participating race track in the U.S. or P.R. or in transit between them.

**Groom Elite Educational Program:** Groundbreaking groom training program offered at all Class One racetracks in Texas to improve the skill level of the people working with racehorses in Texas on a daily basis. Offered in both English and Spanish. The program has been endorsed as the national groom-training program of the National HBPA, and beginning in 2002, it became available in other racing jurisdictions outside of Texas.

**Compass Bank Bonus Banking Package:** This program offers free checking, discounts on installment loan rates, first check order free, customized THP checks, free online banking for 90 days, and more.

**Free subscription to Equineline.com Portfolio Service:** The THP, in cooperation with the Jockey Club Information Systems, offers a free 90-day chance to try this great service that includes access to online condition books, horse tracking, nicking reports, etc. at no risk.

**Group rates on Equine Liability Insurance:** This is a cost effective group-rate policy to protect your assets in case of an injury or damage to property arising from your equine activities.

**Discount at Sheplers Western Wear:** All members are eligible to receive a 20% discount at selected Sheplers Western Wear super stores by presenting your TRC license at the checkout stand.

#### **Representation in:**

- Purse negotiations with racetracks
- Texas Racing Commission (TxRC)
- National HBPA (NHBPA)
- Legislative matters
- Texas Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE)
- Thoroughbred Horsemen's Group (THG)

#### **Other Member Benefits Include:**

- On-track doctor services for trainers, grooms, and stable foremen
- Off-track shuttle services for members living in the stable area
- Continuing education seminars for owner and trainer members
- Outings to special events during live meets
- Horsemen's appreciation dinners

# Chaplain's Corner: The Way In

by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie

Some time ago, a friend sent me a story entitled "Heaven's Entry Requirements." Seems a man died and went to heaven. Of course, St. Peter met him at the Pearly Gates and said, "Now, here's how it works ... you need 100 points to make it in. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I'll give you a certain number of points, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man said, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her, not even in my heart."

"That's wonderful," said St. Peter, "that's worth three points!"

"Three points?" exclaimed the man. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministries with my tithes and service."

"Terrific!" said St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point."

"One point?!!"

The man continued, "And I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans."

"Fantastic, that's good for two more points," said St. Peter.

"Two points!!!" Exasperated, the man cried out, "At this rate, the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God!"

"Bingo, 100 points! Come on in," said Peter with a welcoming gesture.

We've all heard a jillion of those old St. Peter -- Pearly Gates jokes, and while Peter was the Lord Jesus' right-hand man, there's not much scripture to indicate that Peter is standing guard at the Eternal Gate. Still, this is probably my favorite of all those old stories, mainly because it points out how a lot of us grew up thinking about heaven and how to get there. This, in spite of going to church and hearing that

accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Savior is the only way to heaven ... in spite of that often-quoted passage, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

It's so easy in this competitive, performance-oriented culture in which we live to begin thinking that God's system operates the same as man's, when it's really almost opposite! Certainly God wants us to live good, moral lives, to work hard, avoid laziness, and love our neighbors. However, the Bible makes it mighty clear that no amount of good works puts us in His stable. Salvation is strictly a free gift that cannot be earned.

Only one man ever lived this life perfect and actually qualified for heaven by his work -- Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, who came to earth as a man, lived that sinless life, and then went to the cross where he actually became our sin (everybody's), then went into Hell and paid the price for all those sins -- the price that you

and I should have paid. It was the great exchange: our sins for his righteousness! But there's just one stipulation -- you gotta believe it!

That's pointed out in Romans 10:9-11, "...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." (Isaiah 28:16)

What a deal! It seems almost too simple, too easy. Somehow, the culture we live in -- and a great deal of religion -- has made it complicated to get in. It's really not! 🙄

*Somehow the culture we live in -- and a great deal of religion -- has made it complicated to get in. It's really not!*



## Retama Park 2010 Fall Thoroughbred Meet Stakes Schedule

Date	Race	Conditions	Distance/Surface
<b>September</b>			
Sat., Sep. 11	\$20,000-guaranteed Texas Arabian Derby (Gr. III)		C&G, 4YO 1 1/16 Miles
	\$15,000-estimated Texas Arabian Oaks		F, 4YO 1 Mile
Sat., Sep. 25	\$100,000-guaranteed My Dandy Texas Stallion Stakes		C&G, 2YO 6 Furlongs
	\$100,000-guaranteed Darby's Daughter Texas Stallion Stakes		F, 2YO 6 Furlongs
<b>October</b>			
Sat., Oct. 23	\$75,000-guaranteed M2 Technology La Seniorita Stakes*		F, 2YO 1 Mile (T)
	\$75,000-guaranteed SKYY El Jovan Stakes*		C&G, 2YO 1 Mile (T)

\*\$100 Nomination Fee due July 2nd and \$200 Sustaining Fee due August 6th, or \$500 Late Penalty Fee.

# Retama Park's Shortened Thoroughbred Meet to Begin September 3

At its July 7 meeting, the Texas Racing Commission approved a request from Retama Park's to reduce the San Antonio area track's upcoming Thoroughbred meet from 30 nights of racing to 16. The shortened meet will now begin a week later than originally scheduled, on September 3, and run through October 23 racing on Friday and Saturday nights. The meet was originally scheduled to run from August 27 through November 6.

Retama Park CEO Bryan Brown indicated that the reduction in dates would enable the track to maintain its previous purse structure of approximately \$80,000 per day. Brown also indicated that the track chose to race on Friday and Saturday nights because those nights have accounted for the track's highest handle figures.

First post time each race day will be 6:45 p.m., and the track's popular "50 Cent Night" will be held every Saturday night during the meet. The "50 Cent Nights" included free admission, children's and other activities, fifty cent cokes and

programs, \$1 hot dogs, and \$1.50 draft beer.

The meet will feature four Thoroughbred stakes and two stakes for Arabians. Retama's premiere stakes, the \$75,000-guaranteed El Joven Stakes and \$75,000-guaranteed La Senorita Stakes (fillies) for two-year-olds at a mile on turf, will both be run on October 23. On September 25, the track will offer the \$100,000-guaranteed My Dandy Texas Stallion Stakes for Texas-bred two-year-old colts and geldings and the \$100,000-guaranteed Darby's Daughter Texas Stallion Stakes for two-year-old fillies, both at six furlongs on the main track.

Arabians will take center stage on Saturday, September 11 with the running of the \$20,000-guaranteed Texas Arabian Derby (Gr. III) for four-year-old Arabian colts and geldings going 1 1/16 miles on the dirt. Also that night, four-year-old Arabian fillies will square off in the \$15,000-estimated Texas Arabian Oaks at one mile on the dirt. 🐾



## 2010 Race Dates for Texas

### Gillespie County Fairgrounds

Mixed Meet: July 3, 4, 17, 18, August 14, 15, 28, 29 (8 days)

### Laredo Race Park

Mixed Meet: August 28-29 (2 days)

### Lone Star Park

Thoroughbreds: April 8-July 18 (60 days)  
Quarter Horses: September 17-November 13 (29 days)

### Manor Downs

Mixed Meet: March 6-April 18 (14 days)

### Retama Park

Thoroughbreds: September 23-October 23 (16 days)

### Sam Houston Race Park

Thoroughbreds: January 1-April 3 (45 days)  
November 26-December 31 (16 days)  
Quarter Horses: April 30-August 14 (45 days)

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## 2010 Fall Live Thoroughbred Meet


**Approved Revised Racing Calendar and Post Times**  
 (Approved by the Texas Racing Commission on July 7, 2010)

**September 3 through October 23**  
**Friday and Saturday**

6:45 PM Post (Central)

Sep-10						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Oct-10						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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SEPTEMBER 17 - NOVEMBER 13, 2010 (26 RACING DAYS)

September						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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