



Fall Newsletter

October 2026

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY BILL NADER

Dear Members,

After hosting the Breeders' Cup for each of the last three years and for 10 of the last 14 years, California will pass the torch to Keeneland on October 30-31 and next year

to Belmont Park. Belmont Park last hosted the Breeders' Cup in 2005 when it was a single-day event, and the temperature was 46 degrees when the field entered the gate for the Classic. Both venues are worthy selections. Keeneland is rich in tradition with a massive network of Thoroughbred horse farms in Lexington and Belmont Park is reborn. I fully expect to see the Breeders' Cup return to sunny California in 2028 to avoid a scenario last seen in 2007 when California was not in the rotation for three consecutive years.

I worked at NYRA when the Breeders' Cup was held at the old Belmont Park in 1995, 2001, and 2005, and no one will doubt the championship aura of a racetrack that has been the home of so many greats. And although I was raised in New England where we are taught at a young age to hate the Yankees, you can't ignore the big-time feel of New York. My most memorable day in racing was the 2001 Breeders' Cup at Belmont, which did so much to restore a normal way of life to the New York-based racing fraternity that was still recovering from the tragic events of 9/11 just six weeks prior. That was a day when the healing power of horses was at its best. Most TOC newsletter readers remember that day as one where California-bred Tiznow defeated the foreigner, Sakhee, by a nose to win the Classic "for America."

Continued on Page 2

DATE	TRACK	WINNER
July 25	Del Mar	Listenupchance
Aug. 1	Del Mar	Eunomia
Aug. 22	Del Mar	Sorrento Sky (IRE)
Aug. 22	Del Mar	Knightsbridge
Aug. 29	Del Mar	Test Score
Aug. 29	Del Mar	Iron Man Cal
Sept. 26	Santa Anita	Cabo Spirit
Sept. 26	Santa Anita	Forged Steel
Sept. 26	Santa Anita	Listenupchance
Sept. 27	Santa Anita	Super Corredora
Sept. 27	Santa Anita	Hughes
Oct. 3	Santa Anita	Domain Expansion
Oct. 3	Santa Anita	Shore Turf
Oct. 3	Santa Anita	Thought Process

BREEDERS' CUP WIN AND YOU'RE IN CHALLENGE SERIES - CALIFORNIA

Congratulations to the owners of the 13 Breeders' Cup Challenge Series winners of races run at Del Mar and Santa Anita, and best of luck at Keeneland.

[VIEW SERIES WINNERS](#)

President's Message, Cont.

Turning our attention to the Del Mar Summer Meet, there were many encouraging signals. Total handle was up despite a decline in computer-assisted wagering (CAW), which is a healthy indicator. Average field size was 8.6, a remarkable achievement when you consider the national trend, and the racing lived up to the lofty expectations. Gold Phoenix became the winningest stakes horse in Del Mar history when he won the Grade 2 Eddie Read, Journalism, a poster horse for California, went out on a winning note by doing what he did best – overcoming trouble – to win the Grade 2 San Diego, and Knightsbridge elevated his status to top level with a sensational win in the Grade 1 Pacific Classic.

In addition to the traditional method of compiling Owner standings, the TOC also tracked the standings by managing owner for the first time. We show both sets in the newsletter. The new method is a way to recognize owners who might otherwise be overlooked by the traditional format. On both scorecards, J. Paul Reddam emerged as leading owner with nine wins and purse earnings of \$810,040. Congratulations to Paul on a great meet.

CAW handle gets its fair share of attention these days and it is something the TOC Board has made a priority item over the last four years. In coordination with Del Mar, we implemented a cutoff at two minutes to post in the Win pool from CAW on July 31, 2025, and that policy has remained in place at Del Mar and Santa Anita ever since. We have also worked behind the scenes to increase pricing on CAW to benefit our purse account and create a more balanced playing field for all customer segments participating in our wagering content. Our pricing is believed to be the highest or among the highest in the country. These measures, along with other contributing factors, have helped eliminate a massive deficit in our purse account. We now have a balanced budget and have increased purses in multiple phases along the way. This sets us up for another round of increases in 2027.



**HORSE RACING
INTEGRITY
AND SAFETY
AUTHORITY**

HISA Portal for Owner Access to Veterinary Treatment Records

(Designated) horse owners are permitted to log into the HISA portal to review the veterinary treatment history of their horse(s).

For newly acquired horses via the claim box, the new (designated) owner is also permitted to review the prior veterinary treatment history of the horse claimed on the HISA portal – noting that it may take days or possibly weeks to allow for the claim to be completely processed. To expedite the process, the new trainer or the trainer's staff should ensure the correct designated owner is noted in the portal when a horse claimed under the name of a stable, partnership or syndicate.

Please call the HISA Help Desk at 877-513-2919 for assistance if needed.

Here is a brief illustration of some of the forward momentum. A maiden allowance at Santa Anita was the recipient of a \$10,000 purse increase from \$60,000 in January 2025 to \$70,000 in January 2026 during the Classic Meet and is on tap for another increase in 2027. Maiden allowance races have climbed the ladder from \$54,000 to \$60,000, to \$65,000 at the Santa Anita and Del Mar autumn meets and are positioned for another step forward next year. A maiden allowance at Los Alamitos has increased in purse from \$39,000 in December 2024 to \$50,000 this December and further increases are anticipated in 2027. Del Mar Summer continues to make steady progress and is set for another record leap forward next year. We are marching forward.

This progress has also helped the California breeding program, which benefits greatly from the increased purse structure. And the legitimate complaints about a six-month delay in getting paid for winning a CTBA maiden bonus award have been silenced and payments are now made in a timely manner. In the end, it is always about creating the best possible value proposition and the best possible experience for our members. We are moving in the right direction.

Statistics

U.S. Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator (Sep)	Sep-26	Sep-25	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$769,215,129	\$737,267,424	4.33%
U.S. Purses Available	\$133,432,207	\$128,522,855	3.82%
U.S. Race Days	329	354	-7.06%
Indicator (Jan ~ Sep)	2026	2025	% Change
Wagering on U.S. Races*	\$8,329,538,595	\$8,679,077,624	-4.03%
U.S. Purses	\$975,251,028	\$975,533,496	-0.03%
U.S. Race Days	2,754	2,837	-2.93%
US Races	22,306	23,046	-3.21%

*Includes worldwide commingled wagering on U.S. races. Data from Equibase.

California Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators

Indicator (Sep)	Sep-26	Sep-25	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$90,858,477	\$88,698,619	2.44%
CA Purses*	\$7,829,000	\$7,512,000	4.22%
CA Race Days	14	13	7.69%
Indicator (Jan ~ Sep)	2026	2025	% Change
Wagering on CA Races*	\$973,031,113	\$1,012,856,618	-3.93%
CA Purses*	\$67,500,500	\$66,742,500	1.14%
CA Race Days	125	123	1.63%
CA Races	1,141	1,177	-3.06%

*Figures for wagering on CA races are from all locations - ADW and Brick and Mortar - on CA live Thoroughbred races (excluding Breeder's Cup races)

California Stakes Schedule

SA

DMTC

CA-Breds

[VIEW EXPANDED
2026 SCHEDULE HERE](#)

TRACK	2025	STAKE	AGE	SEX	FURLONGS	SURFACE	GRADE	PURSE
Santa Anita	24-Oct	Senator Ken Maddy	3+	F	*6.5	T (H)	L	100,000
Santa Anita	24-Oct	Tokyo City Cup Stakes	3+		8	D	BT	85,000
Santa Anita	25-Oct	Autumn Miss Stakes	3	F	8	T	3	100,000
Santa Anita	31-Oct	Golden State Juvenile	2		7	D	CA	175,000
Santa Anita	31-Oct	Golden State Juvenile Fillies	2	F	7	D	CA	175,000
Santa Anita	31-Oct	Goldikova	3+	F	8	T	3	100,000
Santa Anita	1-Nov	Twilight Derby	3		9	T	2	200,000
Del Mar	6-Nov	Let It Ride Stakes	3		8	T	BT	100,000
Del Mar	7-Nov	The Chosen Vron Stakes	3+		7	D	CA	100,000
Del Mar	8-Nov	Betty Grable Stakes	3+	F	7	D	CA	100,000
Del Mar	14-Nov	Desi Arnaz Stakes	2	F	7	D	L	100,000
Del Mar	15-Nov	Bob Hope Stakes	2		7	D	3	100,000

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club F&B Vouchers

Licensed owners can purchase \$300 of vouchers for \$200 once a week or a \$30 voucher for \$20 each day. Vouchers may be used for any food and beverage from a Del Mar vendor. The frontside racing office will handle the transaction.

Owner Spotlight



[WATCH NOW](#)

Paul Reddam: Two Kentucky Derby Wins, His Racing Journey & Advice for New Owners

From Windsor Raceway in Canada to the winner's circle at Churchill Downs, Paul Reddam's journey in horse racing has been quite the ride!

He shares how his passion for racing began with harness horses in Ontario, his early days visiting Santa Anita while studying at USC, and the unforgettable experiences of winning the Kentucky Derby twice — with I'll Have Another (2012) and Nyquist (2016).

Reddam also offers his perspective on the future of California racing and shares valuable advice for anyone considering taking the plunge into Thoroughbred ownership.

Top Performers - Del Mar Summer

Ranked by Wins

1. Reddam Racing LLC	9
2. Hronis Racing LLC	6
3. Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners.....	5
3. Run Fast Racing	5
4. Six owners tied with 4 wins	4

Ranked by Earnings

1. Reddam Racing LLC	\$810,040
2. Godolphin, LLC	\$600,000
3. Calumet Farm	\$427,920
4. Harris Farm, Inc.	\$411,776
5. Hronis Racing LLC	\$411,260

Statistics generated from Equibase.com

Del Mar Owner Standings (by Managing Owner)

(July 17 through September 7, 2026) - FINAL

	1st	2nd	3rd
Reddam Racing, LLC	9	7	6
Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners	8	2	0
Jeff Lambert	6	8	7
Hronis Racing LLC	6	5	7
Michael Nentwig	6	4	7
By Talla Nentwig LLC	5	3	2
Les Blake	5	1	5
Great Friends Stable	5	0	2
Run Fast Racing	5	0	1
Little Red Feather Racing	4	5	4
Nick Alexander	4	5	1
Harris Farms Inc.	4	4	4
Phil Lebherz	4	2	2
Dutch Girl Holdings LLC	4	1	1
Mike Pegram	4	0	1
Legacy Ranch, Inc.	3	3	3
Muir Hut Stables, LLC	3	2	3
Calumet Farm	3	2	3
Rancho Temescal Thoroughbred Partners	3	1	1
Rainmaker Racing LLC	3	1	0
Saints or Sinners	3	0	3
Amesbury LLC	3	0	1
	3	0	0
	3	0	0
	2	5	6
	2	3	4
	2	3	2
	2	3	2
	2	3	0
	2	2	4
	2	2	3
	2	2	3



Click to View

TOC also tracked the standings by managing owner for the first time. This new method is a way to recognize owners who might otherwise be overlooked by the traditional format.



Samantha Siegel and Gary Fenton



Annual Meeting & Awards Recap

We kicked off the Summer Events at Del Mar with the Annual Meeting Breakfast on Saturday, August 15 at the Veranda Café, where we welcomed 120 guests.

Bill Nader delivered an opening address highlighting key milestones from the past year, followed by a thoughtful Q and A session with the Board and membership.

Samantha Siegel was honored with the TOC Chairman's Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to Thoroughbred racing and equine aftercare. It was truly a special occasion to celebrate Ms. Siegel's generosity and enduring commitment to the sport and the well-being of its equine athletes.

Other Award Recipients:

J. Paul Reddam, Reddam Racing — Total Purse Earnings

Nick Alexander — Most California Wins

Owner Education Seminar: Preparing for Yearling & 2-Year-Old in Training Sales

On Sunday, August 16, we gathered once again for a dynamic and engaging presentation featuring Bloodstock Consultant and Racing Advisor Nick Hines and Veterinarian Dr. Ryan Carpenter. Together, they shared valuable insights into what to look for when attending thoroughbred sales, offering an in-depth discussion and answering questions from attendees. Their expertise and practical advice made for an informative and engaging experience for all.

Charity Event

On Thursday, August 20, the TOC hosted its Charity Event in the Del Mar Directors Room, with all proceeds benefiting the Winners Foundation.

Guests enjoyed an informative presentation by Darin Scharer, Executive Director of the Winners Foundation, who shared insights into the organization's mission and its important work.

A special tribute was also read honoring Winners Foundation Co-founder and President Gino Roncelli and Chairman of the Board Joe Harper, recognizing their decades of dedicated service and unwavering commitment to the Foundation and its efforts to support those in need.



Darin Scharer speaking to attendees



Team CARMA Heads to Kentucky for the 2026 Thoroughbred Makeover

Team CARMA is Kentucky-bound! Graduates of the CARMA Placement Program and their riders are preparing to take the national stage at the Retired Racehorse Project's 2026 Thoroughbred Makeover, held October 7–10 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

The Messineo Makeover Scholarship, established through a generous legacy gift from longtime CARMA supporter Nancy Messineo, supports their journey. The program helps offset transportation costs for CARMA Placement Program graduates traveling to Kentucky, removing one of the largest barriers facing West Coast competitors.

This year's Team CARMA includes Emma Rosas with Anisette; Liz Miller with St. Eligius; Kathleen Boyle with Stubborn; Madison Curcie with Prince Abama; Kiersti Wylie with Savel and Classical Cat; Ariel Jones with Sasafran; Teegan Carthew with Beach Hero; Allie Silvera with Pacific Tide; and Jileann Pinhero with Cali Bay (IRE).

The road to the Thoroughbred Makeover can come with unexpected turns. Paisley Phelps with Little Silver Girl and East Coast CARMA Ambassador Leliah Ubungen with Adherent will sit out this year after their horses were unable to continue their Makeover preparations. Both riders will be cheering on Team CARMA and hope to return with new CARMA graduates next year.

For California-connected Thoroughbreds competing at the Makeover, there is even more to celebrate this year. CARMA extends a special thank you to the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) for presenting the Golden State Award, a \$5,000 cash prize awarded to the highest-placed eligible California horse.

To qualify for the Golden State Award, a horse must have either made the majority of its lifetime starts at a California racetrack—including Santa Anita Park, Del Mar, Los Alamitos, Golden Gate Fields, or a California Authority of Racing Fairs track—or have retired through CARMA.

The Golden State Award provides meaningful recognition for California racehorses as they transition from the racetrack into new careers and gives owners another reason to follow their former runners as they compete on the national stage.

The Thoroughbred Makeover is the largest retraining competition for recently retired racehorses, bringing together trainers, riders and Thoroughbreds from across North America to compete in disciplines ranging from eventing and show jumping to dressage, ranch work and more. Beyond the competition itself, the event demonstrates the athleticism, versatility, and potential Thoroughbreds carry after racing.



St. Eligius Prepping for Makeover



Stubborn Prepping for Makeover

Throughout Makeover week, Team CARMA riders also serve as ambassadors for Thoroughbred aftercare, sharing their experiences and giving racing fans and owners a behind-the-scenes look at the journey from the track to a second career.

Follow Team CARMA throughout October 7–10 on CARMA's social media channels (social links can be found on carma4horses.org) for updates from Kentucky, and stay tuned as we cheer on this year's competitors and begin looking ahead to the next group of CARMA graduates making their way toward the Thoroughbred Makeover next year.

California Backstretch Services

Learn about the services available and how you can help!



California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation



Provides comprehensive medical, dental, and optometry services.
Referrals to specialists, on-site lab work, prescription assistance
Diabetes education classes and discounted gym memberships
Partners with tracks on complimentary backstretch meals

cthfcares.org



Edwin J. Gregson Foundation



Supports programs that enhance the quality of life for members of the backstretch community and their families.

On and off site recreational activities
College scholarships and career guidance
English Language Learner classes

gregsonfoundation.com



Race Track Chaplaincy of California



Focused on the spiritual, emotional, physical, social, and educational needs of those persons involved in all aspects of the horse racing industry.

Interdenominational church services and daily prayer
Provides food, clothing, transportation, and support services
Visits the sick and injured workers in hospitals

rtccal.org



Winners Foundation



Helps front and backside employees who are troubled by alcohol, drugs, or gambling problems, as well as mental illnesses.

Provides an array of services for transition back to gainful employment
Crisis Intervention in the form of immediate and short-term psychological care
Referrals to 12-step programs, detox centers, sober living environments, etc.

winnersfoundation.org



Scan the QR code to watch a video about each organization's impact