

CALIFORNIA AUTHORITY OF RACING FAIRS
Live Racing Committee
Tuesday, June 7, 2016

MINUTES

A meeting of the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) Live Racing Committee was held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, June 7, 2016. The meeting was hosted at the CARF Board Room, 1776 Tribute Road, Sacramento, California.

CARF Live Racing Committee members attending: John Alkire, Richard Conway, Jerome Hoban and Rick Pickering.

Staff and Guests attending: Christopher Korby, Larry Swartzlander, Heather Haviland, Juliana Gomes, Raechelle Gibbons, Allen Aldrich, John Quiroz, Lauri King and Caroline Titus.

Agenda Item 1 – Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting. The next CARF Live Racing Committee meeting is scheduled for Oct. 11, 2016 in Sacramento.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment. Mr. Alkire introduced Lauri King, Deputy Manager II at the Big Fresno Fair, and noted that Ms. King will be attending all future CARF Live Racing Committee meetings.

Agenda Item 3 – Approval of Minutes. Mr. Hoban moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Conway seconded, unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 4 – Report, Discussion and Action, if any, on 2016 Legislative Program. Item deferred to the CARF Board of Director's Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 5 – Discussion and Action, if any, on Racing Dates for 2017 and Beyond. Mr. Korby reported that the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) has established a new statewide Racing Dates Committee, replacing the previously utilized regional committees. The statewide committee is scheduled to meet June 15 at Santa Anita Park. The CHRB statewide Racing Dates Committee is chaired by Commissioner Winner with Commissioner Krikorian and Commissioner Beneto sitting as members. CHRB staff has requested calendar submissions and accompanying descriptions from each association in advance of the June 15 meeting. CARF staff submitted, on behalf of member fairs, the CARF Live Racing Committee calendar adopted in prior meetings. Subsequently, CARF staff received a copy of the Golden Gate Fields (GGF) calendar submission which was distributed to the group as a handout.

Mr. Korby reported that the calendars already submitted by CARF and GGF show significant differences in August (overlap vs. no overlap during Humboldt) and in late September/early October (racing at Pleasanton vs. GGF). The group discussed the merits of formally approving the portion of the calendar in which CARF and GGF interests align.

Mr. Korby requested that Mr. Quiroz secure a letter of support from CDFA to the CHRB regarding keeping fair dates at fairs, specifically the September dates that were previously run by the San Joaquin County Fair in Stockton.

Mr. Pickering moved to formally support the calendar submitted by Golden Gate Fields in so far as it matches the CARF proposal from Dec. 26, 2016 through August 20, 2017 and Oct. 4, 2017 through the end of the year. Mr. Hoban seconded, unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 6 – Discussion and Action, if any, on Summer Racing Operations. Mr. Swartzlander reported that he and Mr. Doutrich met with Doug Burge to formalize the participation of key breeders in the CARF VIP program. CARF staff will also be targeting owners and trainers that ran on the fairs but did not participate at Stockton and Fresno in order to increase their awareness of the latter meets.

Mr. Hoban requested a VIP list from TOC and CTBA for inclusion in the Oak Tree at Pleasanton Party in the Paddock invitation list.

Mr. Swartzlander reported that the fire clearance and HD installation will be complete at Pleasanton this week. Fire clearance issues in the barn area are becoming more and more strenuous, especially as it applies to live-in tack rooms.

Mr. Swartzlander reported a total of 406 horses are currently stabled at Pleasanton and a number of horses from Washington are expected to join the circuit during or immediately after Sacramento.

Mr. Hoban asked about the status of pending payments owed to the Supplemental Trust for racing officials and assistant starters' pension. Mr. Korby recommended that CARF staff contact Ken Walker to seek a legal opinion from the Federation before engaging with CARF legal counsel.

Agenda Item 7 – Executive Director's Report. Mr. Korby reported that the meeting packets include an *Agreement for CHRB Support Fiscal Year 2016/17* which was recently signed by CARF staff. This type of agreement has been in place since SB 16XX was enacted.

Mr. Korby reported that the meet packets also include a memo circulated by Rick Baedeker from the California Horse Racing Board regarding continuing discussions of reducing the 20-mile satellite protection radius in exchange for an increase in commissions. Mr. Korby noted that this memo was included for information purposes and that CARF has not yet taken a position on any of the proposals outlined in the enclosed memo.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Haviland

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