

State of California

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MEMORANDUM

Date: March 20, 2019

To: Racing Committee
California Exposition & State Fair

From: Rick K. Pickering, CEO
California Exposition & State Fair

Subject: General Horse Racing Updates

UPDATES

1. State Fair Horse Racing

2019 State Fair Racing License Application is due to the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) on April 12, 2019. The CHRB will review the annual Licenses Application at its Board meeting of May 23, 2019 at Santa Anita. The 11 days of State Fair Racing will take place during the annual California State Fair July 12-28. (1st weekend of Racing will be Friday-Sunday; the 2nd and 3rd weekends of racing will be Thursday-Sunday.) The California State Fair Race Meet has had an impeccable safety record, with zero horse fatalities over the past two years. (Summary attached.)

2. Watch & Wager Harness Racing

Watch & Wager continues with its successful Harness training and Harness racing operations at Cal Expo each September through May. The current Harness Race meet is scheduled to conclude by May.

3. Santa Anita

Santa Anita has experienced a number of horse fatalities since December of 2018. A variety of equine experts continue to review the specifics of each injury and fatality. Other than this recent experience at Santa Anita, California continues to lead the nation in racing safety. The California racing industry and the CHRB are considering the adoption of additional regulations aimed at further enhancing the welfare of race horses.