



ATTENTION THOROUGHBRED TRAINERS

CTT News February 16, 2010

San Luis Rey Downs Closure Imminent

Citing economic circumstances, Magna Entertainment Corporation has announced their decision to close San Luis Rey Downs as a thoroughbred training center by March 15, 2010. San Luis Rey Downs has been designated an approved auxiliary training facility by the California Horse Racing Board since 1984. Over the years, San Luis Rey Downs has been the home for thousands of thoroughbreds contributing to California's racing industry.

Recent reallocation of SCOTWINC Stabling and Vanning funds have, no doubt, contributed to the economic conditions which have led to the decision to close San Luis Rey Downs. Previously, Stabling and Vanning funds had been proportionately distributed to Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, Fairplex, and San Luis Rey Downs. Last year, the SCOTWINC Stabling and Vanning Committee voted to cease funding offsite stabling at Fairplex and San Luis Rey Downs. Shortly thereafter, Fairplex closed its stable area to offsite stabling.

The California Legislature passed laws to sustain and encourage the growth of California's Thoroughbred Industry. An amount of up to 1.25% of handle of southern and central satellite wagering was set aside to reimburse costs from offsite stabling and vanning. Decisions regarding the allocation of this fund were placed in the hands of the SCOTWINC Stabling and Vanning Committee, a committee composed of Thoroughbred racing associations, racing fairs, and the organization representing horsemen. The horsemen's vote was transferred from the CHBPA to the TOC following the dismantling of the CHBPA. Consequently, the organization representing California trainers, the CTT, has had no representation and no enforceable rights under the current SCOTWINC formula. The CTT has, however, recently formed a strong working relationship with TOC and intends to meet with TOC to discuss the current San Luis Rey Downs closure. We invite the comments and suggestions of any interested members regarding this issue. Please contact the CTT at newsletters@caltrainers.org

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