

2007 TOC Election Results

Two New Board Members, Five Incumbents Elected

TOC members elected Pablo Suarez and Kim Kuhlmann, and re-elected Tom Bachman and Marsha Naify, in the “owner” member category. Also re-elected were Bob Baffert, Dave Hofmans, and Phil Oviedo as “owner-trainer” member representatives. The new Board took office on July 1st.

Suarez, an avid racing fan since he was 18, first became an owner in 2001. He races under Suarez Racing, Inc., with his popular Superman silks, having raced such notable graded stakes winners as Sharp Lisa and Thor’s Echo.

Kuhlmann has been a practicing veterinarian on the Northern California racetrack circuit since 1983. He has been an owner and breeder for more than 20

years, having raced or bred stakes winners such as Isaypete, August Queen, Wee Miss Bee, and multiple Grade 1 winner Lava Man.

Bachman currently serves as Vice Chairman – Northern California, and as Chair of the Northern California subcommittee of the Racing Affairs Committee. A racehorse owner since the 1970’s, he owned and operated Pegasus Ranch for 30 years. Bachman has served on various other industry boards,

including CTBA and TOBA, and was recently inducted into the Horsemanship Hall of Fame at Culver Military Academy, his alma mater.

Naify, who has served on the Board since 2004, currently serves as TOC Chair, and has been intensely involved in important issues such as medication and integrity, and equine retirement. Involved in the horse racing industry since 2000, she has campaigned many graded stakes winners, including Dublino, Amorama, Surf Cat, and Blackdown.

A three-time Kentucky Derby winning trainer, Baffert also has three Breeders’ Cup wins. He began training quarter horses in Arizona, making the switch to Thoroughbreds in 1991. As a highly visible and charismatic proponent of California horseracing, Baffert hopes to create a positive image of the sport.

Hofmans, who won his first race as a trainer in 1974, has over the years trained several outstanding classic winners including Alphabet Soup, Dramatic Gold, Touch Gold, Follow the Money, Greg’s Gold, Adoration, Balance, and Desert Code. Through his efforts to promote unity and cooperation among various segments of the industry, Hofmans hopes to make California a

stronger, healthier racing state.

A high school classmate of Baffert’s, Oviedo has been training horses for 30 years, the last 12 in California. A native of Phoenix, he served on the Arizona HBPA board, where he was involved in establishing an extensive off-track wagering program.

In this year’s election, four owner category seats were filled, all for three-year terms. Additionally, three owner-trainer representative seats were filled, with the highest vote getter (Hofmans) receiving a three-year term, the next highest vote getter (Baffert) serving a two-year term, and the final successful candidate (Oviedo) earning a one-year term.

TOC bylaws also require that at least three owner and one owner-trainer representative board members be from Northern California. Representing Northern California on the Board are owner member representatives Marty Bach, Bachman, and Kuhlmann; and owner-trainer member representative Oviedo.

The newly elected Directors join Madeline Auerbach, Bach, B. Wayne Hughes, Jess Jackson, Billy Koch, Harry Pellman, Mace Siegel, and Donald Valpredo.



Pablo Suarez



Kim Kuhlmann



Tom Bachman



Marsha Naify



Phil Oviedo



Bob Baffert



Dave Hofmans