

Developments

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Tribute Planned Honoring Ed Friendly

On Sunday, June 17, with the passing of Ed Friendly at the age of 85, owners lost the individual most responsible for the founding of TOC. Friendly served on the TOC Board from its inception until 2000, as TOC's President from 1993-1996, and as Chairman of the Board from 1996-1997.



Benoit Photography

A special tribute to Friendly will be held at TOC's Annual Meeting on August 18 at Del Mar Racetrack. In his honor, the Chairman's Award, presented annually in recognition of a deserving

individual's outstanding contributions and service to the industry, will be renamed the "Ed Friendly Industry Service Award."

Additionally, a special written tribute is planned, and will appear in the Fall 2007 issue of *Owners' Circle*.

Alan Landsburg Retires from TOC Board

After a total of ten years of service, the last three as Chair, Alan Landsburg stepped down from the TOC Board of Directors on May 6. Landsburg was a founding board member of TOC.



Benoit Photography

Landsburg was presented a Resolution by the Board in recognition of his many contributions to the organization, and his efforts on behalf of California horsemen and women in general. His legacy includes numerous educational videos produced for both TOC and the California Horse Racing Board, and the TOC *Owner Handbook* that he created and co-wrote, and which is still in wide use today.

In a bittersweet parting speech at a dinner in his honor, Landsburg said, "I leave you with a vision of better times coming to you. And I leave you with a

simple charge. Turn the sport around, so that the glow of its energy can light the imaginations of another generation. And wherever I am, I will be cheering for you."



TOC's Donna Arnold Honored

TOC Director Donna Arnold was one of six "Outstanding Women in Thoroughbred Racing" honored at the 4th annual ceremony held at Santa Anita on April 11. The event was sponsored by Senator Bob Margett and Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, who presented each honoree a *California Legislature Assembly Resolution* recognizing her achievements and contributions to California racing. Shown above (left to right) are Margett, Arnold, and Portantino.

Arnold was also honored on her retirement after seven years as a director on the TOC Board, with the presentation of a *Certificate of Appreciation* at the June Board of Directors meeting. As a member of the Board since 2000, Arnold served on several committees, including Marketing, Industry Affairs, Medication, Indian Gaming/Slots, and as Chair of the Finance Committee. TOC extends heartfelt thanks for her many efforts to promote and protect the interests of California's Thoroughbred owners, and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

Choper Appointed to CHR B

Jesse Choper, 71, of Lafayette, Calif., was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to the California Horse Racing Board in March, and in May attended his first CHR B meeting as a commissioner. Since 1991, he has served as the Earl Warren professor of public law for Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. Choper has served on the faculty as a professor of law for Boalt Hall since 1965 and was dean for 10 years. He previously taught at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Minnesota Law School, and has been a visiting professor at many universities during his 50-year legal career.

Choper, who has traveled regularly over the years to all of the tracks in Northern California, said, "I've loved the sport ever since a friend took me to Golden Gate Fields in the late 60s."

"I'm encouraged to see Jesse appointed to the Board," said CHR B vice chairman John Harris. "We're fortunate that someone with his knowledge and outstanding legal credentials has come along at a key time for the CHR B."

Choper said, "I am interested in racing from the standpoint of a fan and member of the public who plays horses." He added, "In addition to the entertainment value, there are strong economic reasons to preserve and enhance horse racing in California. It provides an important tax base and it employs thousands of people. Horse racing deserves all of our efforts to help keep it going strong."



CHR B Adopts RMT C Penalty Guidelines

In an effort to standardize and to implement tougher rules nationally, the CHR B adopted the Racing Medication & Testing Consortium's (RMT C) penalty guideline model rules, with some modifications, at its April board meeting. California is the first major racing jurisdiction to adopt the model rules without making significant reductions in penalties. The intent of these new rules is to hold *all* licensees accountable – including trainers, veterinarians, and owners – and to ensure a "level playing field" for medications, making California a more attractive racing environment.

The TOC has worked with other industry groups over the past several years to develop these uniform medication penalty guidelines. The rule changes adopted by the CHR B will incorporate the Association of Racing Commissioners International's (ARCI) five drug classifications as the basis for penalties. Additionally, the new rules provide specific penalty guidelines by drug classification, licensee type, and number of infractions. They also take into account mitigating and aggravating circumstances, and clarify language relating to "suspensions."

Further detail on CHR B Rules 1843.2 and 1843.3 may be found on their website, www.chrb.ca.gov.

Santa Anita to Install Cushion Track

Santa Anita Park announced May 23 that it has contracted with Equestrian Surfaces of the United Kingdom to install Cushion Track, the same synthetic racing surface installed at Hollywood Park a year earlier. Cushion Track is composed of silica sand, mixed with synthetic fibers, elastic fiber and granulated rubber. The material is coated with a blend of wax.

"We believe we have done very thorough due diligence," said Santa Anita President Ron Charles. "We went to racetracks around the world numerous times to evaluate synthetic tracks from the point of view of the horse men, jockeys, fans, weather conditions, and track operators." Among the key factors cited by Charles was the desire to have consistency in type of racing surfaces offered at Hollywood Park and Santa Anita.

The target date for completion is the first week of September, which would allow for approximately three weeks of training prior to the opening of the Oak Tree race meeting on Sept. 26.

CTHF Services During Del Mar

The California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation, a non-profit charitable foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life for backstretch workers at California's major racetracks, fair circuit, and CHR B recognized off-track training centers, has finalized plans to provide medical and dental service for the backstretch community during the Del Mar meet, beginning July 18.

CTHF staff members will be present on the backside Monday through Friday to provide outreach and education, assist with eligibility, and facilitate referral and prescription services. Backstretch workers can use the track first aid clinic on race days and a mobile medical unit on Tuesdays. CHTF also works with California Thoroughbred Trainers (CTT) to provide recreational activities for backstretch workers and their families during the Del Mar meet.



California Edition of Trainer Magazine Debuts

With its Spring 2007 issue, *Trainer* magazine – published in Europe since 2000 – became the official magazine of the California Thoroughbred Trainers. The magazine is published quarterly, and focuses on training and trainer issues, as well as the development of the Thoroughbred as a breed. The summer issue includes articles on equine exercise physiology, horse walkers, colic, and the use of nasal strips. Each issue also contains a trainer profile. More information may be obtained at www.trainer-magazine.com.

