

Cal-Breds At A Premium Value



by **DOUG BURGE**

Nowhere is the value of a California-bred more evident than the current Del Mar Thoroughbred Club meet. The Southern California track has begun its 75th anniversary meet with record purses for Cal-breds.

To put this in perspective, Cal-bred purses in restricted maiden special weight races are \$70,000, more than 10 percent higher than last year's meet. Plus, with the additional \$17,500 bonus paid to the winning owner, the net maiden purse to the winner is \$59,500.

Both the restricted and open first condition allowance races carry purses of \$71,000. With Cal-breds able to run in both the restricted and open non-winners (the restricted win is not considered for eligibility purposes), the total earning potential with maiden bonus and owner award money in open company is nearly \$160,000. This is just through the first condition (see table below).

Cal-bred Earning Potential at Del Mar					
Race Type	Total Purse	Winner's Share		Owner's Bonus	Total to Winner
Maiden Restricted First Condition	\$70,000	\$42,000	+	\$17,500	= \$59,500
Allowance Restricted First Condition	\$71,000	\$42,600	+	\$0	= \$42,600
Allowance Open	\$71,000	\$42,600	+	\$12,780	= \$55,380
Total Through First Condition					<u>\$157,480</u>

Stakes races from the newly formed, roughly \$5 million, Golden State Series will also be featured during the meet. Historically, eight restricted stakes races were offered over the 37-day race period with total purses of \$800,000. For this year, those eight stakes races will now carry total purses of \$1.1 million. The purse increases lie in the two-year-old and three-year-old stakes, where the initial emphasis of the new purse money was placed in the statewide Golden State Series.

Golden State Series Races at Del Mar				
Friday, July 20	CTBA Stakes	Two-Year-Old Fillies	5 1/2 Furlongs	\$100,000
Sunday, July 22	California Dreamin' Handicap	Four-Year-Olds & Up	1 1/16 Miles (Turf)	\$100,000
Saturday, July 28	Fleet Treat Stakes	Three-Year-Old Fillies	7 Furlongs	\$200,000
Wednesday, August 1	Graduation Stakes	Two-Year-Olds	5 1/2 Furlongs	\$100,000
Friday, August 3	Real Good Deal Stakes	Three-Year-Olds	7 Furlongs	\$200,000
Sunday, August 19	Solana Beach Handicap	Four-Year-Olds & Up, Fillies & Mares	1 1/16 Miles (Turf)	\$100,000
Wednesday, August 29	Generous Portion Stakes	Two-Year-Old Fillies	6 Furlongs	\$150,000
Monday, September 3	I'm Smokin Stakes	Two-Year-Olds	6 Furlongs	\$150,000

With the value of a Cal-bred now higher than ever for breeders/owners, the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association (CTBA) continues to explore both existing and future means of marketing our product. The CTBA Sales Committee, along with Barretts Equine Limited, is reviewing all options to take full advantage of this demand for Cal-breds.

We ask all breeders to supply input as to how to best serve the marketplace. We are definitely committed to maximizing the return to those investing in the production and ownership of Cal-breds.

Have a good summer of racing.