



DOUG BURGE

CTBA PRESIDENT

Opportunities for All Ages

The CTBA is pleased to release the 2015 Golden State Series of races, which offer continued growth in both the number of opportunities and purses. Now in its fourth year, the Golden State Series will offer record purses of \$5.575 million, up from \$4.85 million in 2012 (the year of inception).

When the Series was first introduced, the focus was on offering enhanced purses and opportunities for 2- and 3-year-olds in order to provide a quick return and stimulate the breeding of horses in the state. Such an emphasis was vital in stabilizing, and ultimately increasing, the production of California-breds.

With the live foal crop and mares bred numbers trending upward, it has been our long-term goal to provide a balanced stakes program that rewards young horses as well as older ones.

As you can see from the table at right, the number of races and amount of purse dollars for the various ages are allocated proportionately in order to provide financial incentive for many categories of horses. The 2015 Golden State Series will offer 18 opportunities and \$3.15 million in purses for 2- and 3-year-olds, as well as 19 races

and \$2.425 million in purses for 3 & up and 4 & up, Cal-bred/sired runners.

For the upcoming year, we did make some changes with the dates of some races in order to maximize field sizes and handle better. These changes affected Golden Gate Fields' turf races for 3-year-olds, and the Gold Rush program that was run

at Santa Anita for the first time this past spring.

The Silky Sullivan and Campanile Stakes at Golden Gate Fields will be moved from their previous spot in early June to Sunday, April 26. We are expecting these two stakes for 3-year-olds to be accompanied by California-bred restricted maiden special weight and allowance races, therefore making this a mini Cal-bred Day in Northern California.

The other significant shift was the movement of Gold Rush Day at Santa Anita to Memorial Day weekend. This will provide more spacing from California Cup/Sunshine Millions Day and should significantly increase the participation from horsemen. Gold Rush will continue to feature lucrative purses for both 3-year-olds and older horses with races on the main track as well as on the turf course.

It is through the support of the breeders' nominations, the Thoroughbred Owners of California, the various racing associations, and the California Marketing Committee that we are able to offer such a rewarding program for California-bred/sired horses. A complete list of the 2015 Golden State Series is on page 41.

Happy Holidays. **CTB**

RACES BREAKDOWN BY AGE		
2-YEAR-OLD	NO. RACES	PURSES
Dirt Male	4	\$650,000
Dirt Female	4	\$650,000
Turf Male	0	0
Turf Female	0	0
Total	8	\$1,300,000
3-YEAR-OLD	NO. RACES	PURSES
Dirt Male	3	\$650,000
Dirt Female	3	\$600,000
Turf Male	2	\$300,000
Turf Female	2	\$300,000
Total	10	\$1,850,000
3&UP/4&UP	NO. RACES	PURSES
Dirt Male	5	\$600,000
Dirt Female	4	\$450,000
Turf Male	5	\$725,000
Turf Female	5	\$650,000
Total	19	\$2,425,000



RICK SAMUELS

Gold Rush Day at Santa Anita is being moved to Memorial Day weekend to allow more time between California Cup/Sunshine Millions Day