



It Pays to Be Cal-bred

In this monthly editorial I frequently mention the ever-growing importance/dependence on California-breds and the lucrative purses and opportunities that are currently offered. Never have these restricted purse benefits been as evident as in the past year. As depicted in the chart below, total restricted purses have risen sharply and are now approaching \$19.5 million. These numbers account for all first- through third-place finishes as

tracked by CTBA for breeder award purposes. While restricted stakes purses were back to roughly \$5 million, the rise in state-bred overnight races fueled the increase in restricted purses earned.

The Cal-bred maiden special weight races accounted for nearly \$8 million, and more than half of the total amount of restricted purses earned for breeders. There were 159 restricted maiden special weight winners and a total of 207 when

factoring in open maiden special weight races. These increases have put some stress on the maiden bonus program, which the CTBA and TOC have jointly addressed and will continue to monitor.

The upward trends in restricted purse opportunities, added with the stability with the incentive award funding through handle, bode well for the future of those investing in breeding and racing in California. It continues to Pay to Be Cal-bred. [CTB](#)

RESTRICTED PURSES EARNED

Total	2018	2019	2020	2021
Restricted Stakes	\$5 Million	\$4.8 Million	\$3.8 Million	\$4.7 Million
Restricted Overnights	\$11.0 Million	\$11 Million	\$11.3 Million	\$14.7 Million
Total	\$16 Million	\$15.8 Million	\$15.1 Million	\$19.4 Million