



## CTBA UNVEILS GROUNDBREAKING INCENTIVES

The California Thoroughbred Breeders Association (CTBA) is thrilled to announce three groundbreaking programs designed to bolster and invigorate the California breeding industry during a time of uncertainty and significant change for California horse racing. CTBA recognizes that now is a critical time for California's thoroughbred breeding industry, and with the recent influx of resources accumulated from selling property, the board is taking action to foster growth, enhance quality, and support our members in continuing to produce world-class racehorses.

### FLAGSHIP FOAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Kicking off with mares bred in 2026 with resulting foals in 2027, CTBA will award \$1,000 for each foal registered as a Cal-Bred, with a cap of 25 foals per breeder. This substantial financial incentive is set to empower breeders by providing direct financial support to offset their investment. This program aims to boost the number of registered foals and strengthen the state's position as a premier Thoroughbred breeding hub. Payments will be made upon CTBA receiving a Cal-bred application and the registration papers from The Jockey Club due December 31st of the foal's yearling year. Payments will be made to the breeder of record only and beneficiaries must be CTBA members in good standing.

### WAIVED REGISTRATION FEES FOR FOALS BORN IN 2025, 2026 AND 2027

CTBA is also eliminating the \$100 foal registration fee for members in good standing beginning for foals born in 2025 and registered as Cal-Breds in 2026. The same \$100 savings will be applied for foals born in 2026 and 2027. Coupled with the foal incentive program, the total monetary benefit for a CTBA member-breeder for foals born in 2027 will be \$1,100. This initiative makes it easier and more cost-effective for breeders to register their Cal-Breds, ensuring broader participation and maximizing the benefits of the Cal-Bred program. By removing this expense, CTBA is paving the way for increased engagement and a thriving breeding community. Cal-bred application is still required.

### PILOT PROGRAM FOR BROODMARE QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

To elevate the quality of broodmares in California, the CTBA is launching an innovative pilot program. For mares purchased at out of state public auctions meeting specified criteria (purchased for \$20,000 or more and 12 years old or younger), breeders will be eligible to receive up to \$3,000 in transportation expense reimbursement paid upon proof that the mare has been bred back to a California stallion. This benefit, limited to five mares per breeder per year, incentivizes the acquisition

of top-tier broodmares, enhancing the genetic pool and positioning California as a leader in producing superior Thoroughbreds. In addition, mares purchased must be in foal, bred back to a California stallion, and the beneficiary must be a CTBA member in good standing.

### A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR CALIFORNIA BREEDING

By providing financial incentives, reducing costs, and encouraging the influx of high-quality broodmares, CTBA is grabbing the reins to embolden a vibrant and competitive breeding industry for the future. These initiatives are expected to attract new breeders, increase foal registrations, and elevate the overall quality of Cal-Breds, ensuring a lasting positive impact on the state's equine industry.

"We are incredibly excited about these programs, which reflect our commitment to supporting our members and advancing California's Thoroughbred breeding industry," said Justin Oldfield, breeder, farm owner and chairman of the CTBA. "With the changes we've seen in 2025, CTBA recognizes we are at a critical time for our industry. Our board was compelled to act and did so unanimously to support the needs of our breeders across the state, both in the north and the south. By investing in our breeders and enhancing the quality of our broodmares, we are building a stronger and more competitive future for California racing." **CTB**