

Colorado Thoroughbred Breeders Association
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NEWSLETTER

April 24th, 2025



I've been wanting to update the membership on what the situation is concerning this year's dates, purses, and any related concerns the membership might have. However, any information available was not factual and written in stone except for the fact we would have a 30-day race meet this year.

We now know Arapahoe Park will have a 30 day meet, starting August 16th and ending October 21st. Probably each race day will have 7 or 9 race cards if the horse population is sufficient. In my conversation with Shannon Rushton, he couldn't, as-of-yet, pinpoint exactly the conditions of the purse structure. However, he did say the purses would probably be very similar to two years ago. Hopefully, these conditions will facilitate a horse population that will enable us to have a credible meet.

Last year because of track restrictions and the lack of electricity in the barn area, HISA didn't allow Arapahoe Park to send its signal to the outside world. Naturally, this affected our breeders' fund money that is negatively affected when we have no signal going to the outside world. However, I have been told this year we will have HISA approval on sending our signal. This should have a positive effect on our breeder's fund total at the end of the year.

At the last CTBA board meeting we set the dates for our stakes schedule this year. Our Colorado bred stakes will run at a \$25,000.00 estimated value. This was the best the board felt was possible because of last years HISA restrictions. Hopefully, Colorado breeders will support all of our stakes with suitable numbers and participation so we can run every stakes race as scheduled. I can't emphasize enough how badly we need to have Colorado breeders support all the Colorado bred races and stake races at the track this year. Your participation is so important for the next year when we ask Arapahoe Park for monetary participation in our Colorado bred racing program.

Nomination forms for our stake races are included with this newsletter. Please see the "Dates to Remember" for important deadlines. Our registrations are up slightly this year with the CTBA. Hopefully, this means we will have more Colorado bred horses running.

If anyone is interested in running for the CTBA Board, please notify Tonya immediately. Resumes are due in the CTBA office no later than 3pm Friday, May 9th, 2025. The Annual Meeting will be held at Arapahoe Park in the Director's room (unless told otherwise) at 10:30am on Saturday, June 14th.

Have a prosperous summer, and here is hoping Arapahoe Park can have a very successful meet this year. Just a final note, Shannon Rushton is doing one fine job in trying to make Arapahoe Park and Colorado racing successful.

F.H. "Hecky" Heckendorf

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, May 9th
 Friday, May 30th
 Saturday, June 14th
 Monday, June 30th
 Wednesday, July 30th
 Saturday, August 30th
 Saturday, September 20th
 Saturday, September 27th
 Saturday, October 4th
 Saturday, October 18th

CTBA Board - Resumes Due in office – 3:00pm
 1st Nominations Due – Postmarked
 CTBA's Annual Meeting – Arapahoe Park – 10:30am
 2nd Nominations Due – Postmarked
 3rd Nominations Due - Postmarked
 The LarriLou and Aspen Stakes Race
 The Oaks & Derby Stakes Race
 The Lassie & Laddie Stakes Race
 The Mt. Elbert Stakes
 The Spicy Stakes



In Memory of...

Jacqueline Weimer (1939-2025)

Jacqueline “Jackie” Weimer, a trainer of thoroughbred racehorses for over 40 years, died Saturday, March 15, 2025. She would have celebrated her 86th birthday on March 19th. She was the beloved wife of our very own CTBA board member Jim Weimer, who at one time was our CTBA president. They had been married for forty-six years.

Born in Flushing, New York, she lived on her ranch, Prairie Hill Ranch, in Bennett, for the past 30 years. Jackie started training racehorses in 1982 after a 30-year career as a loss prevention manager, and cared for, and raced, her horses until recently.

Jackie was referred to as the “best hearted person you’ve ever met”. “She would do anything, for anyone, if she could” Besides her husband, she is survived by her son, Michael Surratt and his wife, Roberta, of Bennett, CO; Deborah Jenkins and her husband, Walter of Thornton, CO; her grandchildren: Krysten Ryan of Peoria, AZ, Amy McMurray of UT, Heather Lyons of Westminster, CO, and Cameron Lee of Bennett and Bross Lee of Johnstown, CO; her stepchildren: Shelly Churchill and her husband, Steve, of Florissant, CO; Stacey Pepe and John of Boynton Beach, FL; and 9 great grandchildren. Jackie will be deeply missed within the horse racing community.

Board of Directors 2024-2025

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