

racing dates.

Monday, August 1, 2011 3:28 PM

From:

To: info@txrc.state.tx.us

I am no one special, but i have a half million dollar business that would love to keep it running in Texas but with no racing i am forced to move out of Texas.... everyone wants bigger purses and bigger fields, but with no racing then its impossible to have horses there to run and bigger purses are generated with the gambling on them running.... i see the associations wanting to have shorter meets because they make more money that way and the hell with the horsemen who try to make a living working with the horses 365 days a year... forcing owners out of business is not a good thing owners have to races to run at and the long breaks in between meets is forcing people to leave... two days a week last year for retama was great why they went to three this year is crazy they could of keep to two days and extended the meet to help close the gaps..... SAM Houston 10 races a day 10 horse fields is what they would like that's a 100 horses running a day four days a week is 400 horses running a weekend... they have 1100 stalls allotted 800 to thoroughbreds and three hundred to quarter horses stalls with no quarter horse racing, my point is half your barn area is supposed to run one weekend and the other half run the other its not going to work so we end up having short fields because horses can't run that often... so that meet was a bust before it even got started..... associations complain because it cost so much to open well management needs to advertise and get people from the community to come out and enjoy our product not cut back on race dates because the promotional and advertisement is not working... Lone Star does a excellent job in promoting Horse racing and they are doing OK always could be better, Houston 4 million people plus San Antonio Austin area 3 million plus and Dallas fort worth area 4 million plus and only one track can hold its own... i am guessing we need the Houston and San Antonio associations to work hard to promote our horse racing instead of getting rid of horse racing... sorry for misspelling and bad punctuation i would love to run year around in texas but with the long breaks i am force to race elsewhere, i am no genius i like retama and sam houston but somewhere in management or advertising something is not working....

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Thanks

J.R. Caldwell Training Stable

832-724-7223

Fwd: Race Dates

Tuesday, August 2, 2011 10:21 AM

From: ...
To: "info" <info@txrc.state.tx.us>
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2011 9:06:47 PM GMT -06:00 US/Canada Central
Subject: Race Dates

I want to thank the TRC for its efforts to allow the horsemen to have a voice in racing opportunity in Texas. I am Joe Kerby and have a backyard TB breeding operation in Salado, Tx. This is my sole source of income and has been for over a decade. I cashed in my Oklahoma State Retirement fund in order to make the down payment on this farm and as far as I know, we are the only self supporting TB breeding farm left in Texas. My interest in the race dates issue is pretty simple, 98% of our clients breed to race in Texas and without year round racing we will lose a large portion of our clients and business. So my interest is in the survival of my farm and family in this business.

The large gaps in the racing circuit create a huge expense for the owners and trainers and do nothing but diminish the racing opportunity and industry in Texas. The dates have to be rearranged to allow these horsemen the opportunity to make a living and if that can not be done, then there is no point in renewing the licenses of the tracks that refuse to accept their responsibilities to this industry.

If I may be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call. Joe Kerby, 254-527-3679 @ Key Ranch.

Zimbra Collaboration Suite

TXRC Racedates meeting

Tuesday, August 2, 2011 2:18 PM

From:

To: info@txrc.state.tx.us

Good afternoon,

I am writing the letter in an effort to have my concerns addressed with the upcoming Race dates meeting tomorrow at Retama Park.

The issues facing the Racehorse owners and trainers in this state are currently very challenging. It has become increasingly difficult for a person to make ends meet, and to justify the countless hours of work, and seemingly endless financial burden associated with this very rewarding, yet challenging business.

Tomorrow is the input meeting for the public conducted by the racing commission with regards to the allocated race dates for 2012.

There are 2 primary areas of concern, and they are over purse money allocated for the horses, and over the number of live racing dates. This has been an increasingly challenging point of contention for the past several years, and it appears that the horses, and their connections are fighting a losing battle.

6 years ago I got back into the racehorse business in Texas. There were at that time about 170 racing days a year, for 2011 there are only about 100 days, and not much better news for the next year. To compound the problem we have very large spaces between the racing dates going from track to track. As an example, this fall there will be nowhere to race in this state for almost 11 weeks! The bills continue, the horses still have to eat, the help still has to be paid. A race horse that isn't racing has NO chance of supporting himself or herself financially.

Thanks,

Theophilus Scales, Jr.
512-529-3417