



**ALAMEDA
COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS**
PLEASANTON

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OAK TREE AT PLEASANTON HORSE RACING RETURNS TO THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

Jockeys Compete for \$1.7 Million in Prize Money

PLEASANTON, CA – MAY 5, 2015 – With \$1.7 million in purses and six stakes races over the 12-day race meet, the Oak Tree at Pleasanton meet, run during the Alameda County Fair, begins Thursday, June 18 and runs through July 5.

The meet will run Thursday-Sunday each of the three weeks. Post time will be 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, with the first race going off at 2:15 p.m. on each Friday.

The meet marks the second consecutive year of the partnership with Oak Tree, the Alameda County Fair and the California Authority of Racing Fairs. Oak Tree is a not-for-profit association with a mission of “horsemen helping horsemen.”

“Oak Tree Racing Association is looking forward to our second meet with the Alameda County Fair, commencing June 18, 2015,” said Sherwood Chillingworth, Executive V.P. of Oak Tree. “Together with the Fair staff we will be initiating some new events that should be helpful to existing horseplayers, and introducing activities that could appeal to the Fair-goers who have not been previously involved.”

“We are very excited for our second year of partnering with Oak Tree,” added Alameda County Fair CEO Jerome Hoban. “Last year the partnership provided fair attendees and racing fans a popular and exciting 12 days of racing at the Alameda County Fair. This year promises to be every bit as fun and is a can't-miss experience.”

The signature race of the meet will be the \$100,000 Oak Tree Distaff to run on Saturday, June 27, which is sponsored in part by the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

“The overall highlight is our purse structure,” said Racing Secretary Tom Doutrich of the \$1.7 million in purses offered. “We are working hard to bring in horses for the races and are looking forward to another great meet.”

The Daily Handicapping Seminar is back as well this year. Join co-host handicapper Dennis Miller and new track announcer Dave Rodman the voice of the Preakness; the two will be joined by special guests each day. The seminars start at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. On Fridays, the seminars will start at 12:30 p.m.

Closing day – Sunday, July 5 – figures to be an exciting finale as in addition to two Thoroughbred stakes races, there will be a pair of Arabian stakes as well. The H.H. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup and the H.H. Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFHR) are scheduled for the second and third races.

Back again this year are a number of popular promotional events. The Win, Place or Show contest and the \$10,000 Putting Contest highlight the daily promotions. Also back again is the Hipity-Hop contest for kids aged 7-10.

This year for the first time, Father's Day falls during Fair dates and will be celebrated between races with a special Father-Child Hipity-Hop competition. Fathers will compete after the first and third races, while the children (ages 7-10) will compete after the second and fourth races.

Also back this year is the "Owner for a Race" contest where one winner each day gets a chance to get the feeling of being an owner of a horse. The winner and a guest get to go in the paddock for the saddling of the horses, watch the race from the Winner's Circle and then have their picture taken with the winning jockey.

New this year to the Fair and the race meet is the "Spin to Win" contest. After entering the *green* admission gate to the Fair, fair-goers will have the chance to spin a wheel for prizes that will be redeemable in the Budweiser Grandstand. Racing education will be available for new fans in the redemption area.

There are two promotional days at the races. On opening day get an Oak Tree at Pleasanton t-shirt sponsored by KKIQ/KKDV. A second promotional day is planned for June 26, with the giveaway item to be announced.

Oak Tree at Pleasanton Horse Racing Information

Dates: Thursday through Sunday - June 18 --21, June 25 --28, and July 2—5

Post times: Thursday, Saturday, Sunday – 1:15 p.m.; Friday – 2:15 p.m.

Admission: Free with Fair admission.

Stakes races: \$50,000 Oak Tree Handicap, Saturday June 20; &50,000 Pleasanton Oaks, Sunday June 21; \$50,000 Oak Tree Distaff, Saturday June 27; \$50,000 Juan Gonzalez, Saturday July 4; \$50,000 Oak Tree Sprint, Sunday July 5; \$50,000 Everett Nevin Stakes, Sunday July 5.

Total purse amount: \$1.7 million

Gate Admission*:

- Adults (13-61) -- \$12
- Seniors (62+) -- \$8
- Kids (6-12) -- \$8
- Children under 6 – FREE

Special Days (ALL SPECIAL PRICING ENDS AT 5 P.M.):

- Military Appreciation, FREE Fair admission with valid Military ID – ALL DAY, EVERYDAY
- Opening Day: June 17 -- \$1 Admission & \$1 Rides, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- \$2 Tuesdays: June 23 & 30 -- \$2 admission, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Seniors FREE Thursdays (62+) – June 18, June 25, & July 2, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Kids FREE Fridays (12 and under) – June 19, June 26, & July 3, UNTIL 5 P.M.
- Support Our Troops: July 1 (Bring 2 items from donation list and receive FREE admission) – UNTIL 5 P.M.