

CA HORSE RACING BILLS
John Chewa Report Content 10 11 2020



Here is a definitive summary of Two Horse Racing Bills passed by California Legislature & Signed by the Governor –

From John Cherwa’s E-Report of October 11, 2020

“ Let’s get to the substance of the bills. **Mike Marten**, the CHRB’s spokesperson, gathered up where all the provisions of these two bills are in the pipeline. You’ll see the point I was making above. The bills become effective the first of 2021.”

SB 800

- The change that provides greater access to veterinary records **does not require** the CHRB to make or amend any rules.
- The change that requires the CHRB to publish racehorse fatalities on its website is **already being done.**
- The changes that amend the confidentiality of positive test samples and require the **CHRB to post positive test results will require an update of CHRB rules** as it relates to confidentiality. The CHRB is developing a webpage to begin posting positive test confirmations beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

AB 1974 [See next page]

AB 1974

- Changes that give the CHRB the authority to adopt rules and regulations to advance the health, safety, welfare, and aftercare of racehorses. **Does not require any action.** (Isn't that what the job of the CHRB is?)
- The new rule that gives track stewards discretion to subject horses to video surveillance who ship in on race days. This **does not require any immediate action by the CHRB.**
- The new rule that codifies restrictions for horses placed on the Veterinarian's List is **already a regulation (CHRB Rule 1688)**. The CHRB will update its existing regulations to align with some of the different layoff periods specified in the bill.
- The new rule that codifies restrictions for horses 4 years or older is already a **regulation (CHRB Rule 1588)**. The CHRB will update its regulations to align with the stricter layoff periods specified in the bill.
- The new rule that implements statutory veterinary monitoring of morning training, medication restrictions, and diagnostic imaging use may require the CHRB to update or create new regulations. **The CHRB is currently reviewing.** (Finally, something new.)
- The new rule that requires a racing association to provide a location where a horse can be observed jogging as part of a prerace exam is for the tracks to do. It's **unclear if the CHRB has to create regulations for implementation.**
- The new rule that requires the CHRB to establish and maintain a whistleblower program is **already in effect.**
- The new rule that creates a fund in the State Treasury for the collection of license fees to support safety measures **does not require regulatory action by the CHRB.**



John Cherwa is a special contributor to the Los Angeles Times. Currently, his major coverage area is horse racing, where he writes a [Racing!](#) newsletter and also covers big races plus does general assignment work for the sports department.

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