



CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING SAFETY RECORD

California Thoroughbred Racing is considered the Gold Standard in equine safety, implementing the most stringent regulatory standards and protocols in the nation.

Since 2019, our industry has worked with state policymakers to enact sweeping equine safety reforms that have transformed horse racing in California. These reforms have been incredibly effective:

- **There were zero racing fatalities at Del Mar Racetrack** in 2023, when horses made 3,391 starts.
- **Santa Anita Park saw an 80% decrease in equine fatalities** from 2019 to 2023.
- **Fatal injuries across California have reduced by more than 50%** since reforms went into effect.

Today, California has the safest racetracks in the country, by more than 2x the national average according to the Jockey Club's Equine Industry Database.

A NATIONAL MODEL FOR SAFETY

The highest of equine safety standards and protocols allow our industry to effectively diagnose injuries early, prevent fatalities, and promote best practices in horse welfare and safety. These policies:

- Implement the industry's most stringent medication rules, including specific controls on what medications can and cannot be administered, and when.
- Increase veterinarian oversight and authority to monitor and examine horses more frequently, and require diagnostic imaging to determine when and whether a horse is eligible and able to train or compete.
- Require trainers to participate in a postmortem examination reviews to improve their understanding and ability to prevent future injuries.
- Increase transparency with authorities around veterinary treatments.
- Significantly restrict the use of the crop to prevent harm.

Our work has been so successful that the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) used California as the blueprint for its national Racetrack Safety Program and Anti-Doping Medication Control Program, which went into effect in 2023.



The California racing industry is committed to ongoing investments of millions of dollars in cutting edge advancements to improve safety, including safer racing surfaces and maintenance, research and technology to better monitor horses' performance and health, and innovations in veterinary medicine, including diagnostic technology and surgical interventions, to better diagnose and treat injuries. Through these efforts, we will continue to ensure the safety and welfare of equine athletes for years to come.

About the California Horse Power Coalition: Our mission is to preserve and protect California's vibrant equestrian culture by bringing together industry leaders, workers, families, and fans to illustrate its significant benefits.

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