



Fairplex Park

Fresh Faces

Fairplex Park offers unique opportunities for all!



Attention Handicappers:

\$5,000 is up for grabs to the most consistent handicapper who plays all three weekends beginning Sept. 6-7 in the **DRF/NTRA National Handicapping Championship Qualifiers at Fairplex Park**. Fifteen qualifying spots are up for grabs as well as up to an estimated \$10,000 in prize money each weekend. Contact Steve Rittenour at (909) 865-4630 to register. **Hurry, available spots are filling up fast!**

Racing at Fairplex Park is about new opportunities for new faces. Trainers with few horses can get their chance to run, and jockeys who struggle to get mounts can ride in several races a day. Owners with smaller pockets can get a chance to bask in the winners' circle.

Trainer J. Eric Kruljac sees the Fairplex meet as a chance for different trainers and owners to get a win. **"They're very good purses for lesser horses. They give opportunities to those types of horses, and I think it's a great place for owners and trainers to have the opportunity to make some money and win some races."** Kruljac races a small stable of horses in Arizona and southern California, basing some at Fairplex.

HRTV host and handicapper Peter Lurie will do Fairplex's in-house television commentary for the 2008 meet. He notes that when handicapping **"you have to look at certain riders who may not get a lot of mounts during the year, but this is a track that they excel at."** He lists trainers Wesley Ward and Mel and Gary Stute, and jockeys Martin Pedroza and Matt Garcia among the ones to watch. While not in the top echelon of American racing, Mel Stute and Pedroza are royalty at Fairplex Park; the former is the first inductee into the Fairplex Park Hall of Fame and the latter is the winningest rider in the track's history.

The racing at Fairplex is also new to many people who have never been to a live horse race, and new faces drift over from the other fair activities to observe the happenings. The Millard Sheets Center for the Arts will feature a **history of horses** for this year's fair, **"Hoofprints"**, and visitors can wander over to see the equine athlete at its best on the racetrack. **Fairplex offers up-close access to the action, with fans being able to stand near the horses in the paddock and on the track, without hedges or obtrusive fences to hamper the excitement.**

While some southern California trainers and jockeys may see the first part of September as a break from the stress of the spotlight, others see their chance to take center stage. Old fans can enjoy a different group of riders and trainers battling for wins, while new fans can experience the pageantry and excitement of horse racing for the first time.

Fairplex Park racing at the Los Angeles County Fair runs Wednesdays through Mondays, September 5-22, 2008.

Live Racing Sept. 5-22 (Dark Tuesdays)

First race Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 1 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday at noon.

L.A. County Fair • Sept. 5-28
Wednesday - Sunday

Presented by **SAN MANUEL**
INDIAN BINGO & CASINO
An Economic Development of The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

fairplex.com
(909) 865-4090

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