



NM Horsemen's Association's Weekly Update February 23, 2026

Settlement Meeting

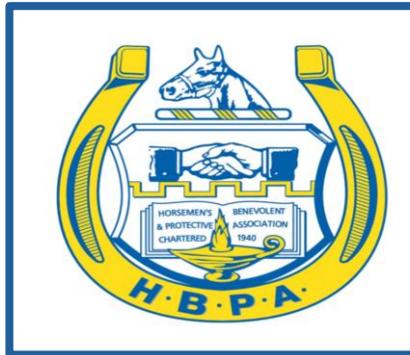
Wednesday, February 18, 2026, NMHA, NMRC, DAA and the Breeders had an important discussion regarding settlement of lawsuits and ways to move forward for our industry. The best news out of the meeting is that there will be a mixed meet run at Albuquerque this summer and into the fall. The exact dates are forthcoming.

Sunland Park Local Committee Meeting

Saturday, February 21, 2026, the Sunland Park Local Committee had an open Horsemens meeting with management.

Key points:

- All muck must be placed in designated bins.
- Security protocols are in place so that loose horses are announced over the loudspeaker.
- Bart Hone will coordinate with the Racing Secretary to proofread the condition book.
- Monitor track moisture level.
- Paul Jenson to attend HBPA National conference.



**Join us in Hot Springs,
Arkansas for the 2026 Annual
HBPA Conference - Book
Rooms Soon**



Join us in Hot Springs, Arkansas for the 2026 Annual HBPA

Conference.

We are excited to go back to Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort and have a full conference planned.

*NMHA Sunland Park
Committee
Paul Jenson, President
Marci Cross
Delinda Green
Danna Buechler
Bart Hone
Dick Cappellucci
Casey Lambert
Tim Gleason*

**Horsemen submit
complaints
regarding steward
authority directly to
the Racing
Commission.**

*Sunland Park to consider
moving the Sunland Derby
to February 21 next year.
This move would aim to
secure better weather and
avoid competition with the
NFL.*



Word is that the DAA will run a mixed meet this summer into the fall. No confirmation for exact dates.



No Update.



Track surface conditions remain a contentious topic; Horsemen request a greater consistency in moisture levels. Management acknowledges the need for potential consultation or support to insure consistent surfaces.



San Juan County is challenging to plan to move the racino from Farmington to Clovis. They are now seeking a judicial review of that decision, saying they did not have a fair opportunity to weigh in on the proceedings.



No Update

NMHA State Office Contacts

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Sunray Park stall applications are due Monday, March 2nd, 2026.

AGENDA FOR 2026 NHBPA CONFERENCE



Tuesday March 3

2:00p – 6:00p Registration – Oaklawn
5:00p – 7:00p Welcome Reception

Wednesday March 4

7:30a – 8:30a Breakfast
8:30a – 5:00p Registration

9:00a – 9:20a Opening Remarks
9:25a – 10:45a Presentation: HISA: Law, Litigation, and the View from the Inside Rail
10:50a – 11:50a Presentation: owner/trainer Q and A, hosted by Tom Law
Noon – 2:30p Conference RSVP Lunch and Awards Presentation (RSVP only)

12:45p – 1:15p Recognition NHBPA 2025 Claiming Horse of the Year

1:20p – 1:50p Recognition and Resolution Presentations

1:55p – 2:05p Introduction for Keynote Speaker: Everett Dobson from Nancy Holthus
2:10p – 2:50p Keynote Address

2:55p – 4:00p Presentation: Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the Track: Smart Tech for Racing's Next Frontier
4:05p – 5:00p Presentation: Reimagining Racetrack Ownership: A Future Led by Horsemen and Participants

Thursday March 5

7:00a – 8:30a Benefit Providers Breakout
7:30a – 8:30a Breakfast
8:30a – Noon Registration

9:00a – 9:05a Return and Welcome Remarks

9:10a – 10:20a Presentation: Prediction Markets and Wagering: An Emerging Threat to Horse Racing and Interstate Horseracing Act Revenue

10:25 – 11:30a Presentation: Strengthening Integrity Through Education, Support, and Collaboration: ROAP & ORI

11:35a – Noon Presentation: Beyond the Finish Line: Building Pathways to Second Careers for Thoroughbreds

12:10p – 1:30p Benefits Provider Luncheon

12:15p – 12:35p Matt Delehanty of Sterling Thompson Equine

12:35p – 12:50p Katie LaMonica of Godolphin, Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards

12:55p – 1:25p Living Legend Recognition

2:00pm – 5:00pm NHBPA Executive Committee Meeting – BOARD MEMBERS ONLY

Friday March 6

7:30a – 8:30a Breakfast

9:00a – 9:05a Return and Welcome Remarks

9:10a – 9:25a Gunner laCour, who will discuss the value and operational benefits affiliates receive through National HBPA Sponsor CHRIMS

9:30a – 11:45a Presentation: Kent Stirling Memorial Medication Panel

11:50a Conference Wrap Up and Thank You by CEO Eric Hamelback

1:00p – 5:00pm Day at The Races – Carousel Room

1:00p Post Time for 1st Race

Saturday March 7

7:30a – 8:30a Board Members Only - Breakfast

9:00a – 12:30p NHBPA/NHAC Full Board Meeting & NHBPA Foundation Meeting

