



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Chad Keller/Racing Office  
chad.keller@prairiemeadows.com  
515.957.3027

## **Prairie Meadows Stables Now Open To Horses**

Nomination & Payment Deadlines Arrive, Training Hours Begin, and Main Track Opens in April

*March 31 – Altoona, IA.* The start of the live racing season at Prairie Meadows in Altoona, Iowa is just around the corner, and significant deadlines are also fast approaching. Horsemen planning to compete at Prairie Meadows for the Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse seasons should be aware of upcoming important dates and deadlines regarding the 2017 season.

Horsemen are reminded that the backside stable area at Prairie Meadows will open to horses on Friday, March 31 in preparation of the 2017 Thoroughbred season. Horsemen will have nearly four full weeks of training opportunities before the 67-day Thoroughbred season opens on Thursday, April 27 at Prairie Meadows racetrack.

Training hours start on Sunday, April 2 on the training track while the main track will open for training on Sunday, April 9 at 9am CDT. Later that week, on Wednesday, April 12 the starting gate hours will begin at 8:35am CDT.

Complete information on the 2017 Thoroughbred training schedule and hours, gate schooling, workouts, preference dates, safety equipment, entry schedules, and post times is detailed in the Thoroughbred Meet Training Schedule and Hours document, which can be found at <https://www.prairiemeadows.com/racing/horsemans-info/thoroughbred-meet>.

Horsemen should take note of Prairie Meadows' post time modifications. The most notable changes occur on Thursdays and Fridays. In 2017, racing will begin at 6pm CDT on Thursdays and Fridays instead of 5:30pm CDT. Weekend racing will continue with 1pm CDT post times.

Prairie Meadows will also offer special 4pm post times on Triple Crown Saturdays (May 6, May 20, June 10); Monday, July 3; the final day of the Iowa Festival of Racing (Saturday July 8); and the Iowa Classic (Saturday August 12). The Thoroughbred season will close with the Iowa Classic.

The Quarter Horse season will kick off Saturday, August 19 at Prairie Meadows. While the season is nearly five months away, all Prairie Meadows and Iowa Quarter Horse Racing Association Futurity and Derby nomination payments begin Saturday, April 1.

The April 1 deadline for the initial payment applies to the Iowa Double Gold Futurity, Iowa Double Gold Derby, Iowa Stallion Futurity (Iowa-bred), Iowa Stallion Derby, Jim Bader Futurity (Iowa-bred), Polk County Derby (Iowa-bred), Valley Junction Futurity, and Altoona Derby.

**Casino ♦ Racetrack ♦ Hotel**

1 Prairie Meadows Drive ♦ PO Box 1000 ♦ Altoona, IA 50009 ♦ 515.967.1000 ♦ 800.325.9015 ♦ prairiemeadows.com

We support responsible gaming. 800 BETS OFF



Nomination forms, including payment schedules and general conditions for each race, can be found at <https://www.prairiemeadows.com/racing/horsemens-info/quarter-horse-meet>.

Quarter Horse stall application forms will be available in mid-April, and are due Wednesday, July 12. The Prairie Meadows Racing Office expects to release Quarter Horse Condition Book #1 in early May.

### **About Prairie Meadows**

Prairie Meadows began operations as a non-profit organization in 1989 with the goal of promoting economic development, jobs, agriculture, and tourism in the state of Iowa. Through taxes, grants, and charitable donations, Prairie Meadows has given more than \$1.6 billion to the state of Iowa. Prairie Meadows offers more than 1,900 slot machines, table games, live and simulcast racing, hotel accommodations, entertainment, and more.

###

**Casino ♦ Racetrack ♦ Hotel**

1 Prairie Meadows Drive ♦ PO Box 1000 ♦ Altoona, IA 50009 ♦ 515.967.1000 ♦ 800.325.9015 ♦ [prairiemeadows.com](http://prairiemeadows.com)

We support responsible gaming. 800 BETS OFF