



Contact:
Chad Keller
Assistant Racing Secretary
chad.keller@prairiemeadows.com
515.967.1205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Prairie Meadows' First 2018 Quarter Horse Condition Book Now Available

2018 Quarter Horse Season Opens August 18, Concludes October 13; Stall Applications Available, Due July 11

May 8 – Altoona, IA. Opening day of the 2018 Quarter Horse racing season at Prairie Meadows is 14 weeks away, but the racetrack has already released its first condition book. The Quarter Horse season opens Saturday, August 18, and will continue through Saturday, October 13. The first condition book covers the initial 14 days of the 26-day meet. It is available at prairiemeadows.com and will be sent to owners and trainers by mail over the next several days.

Stall applications, which are due Wednesday, July 11, are also available online and will be distributed by mail. Stall applications must be returned to Prairie Meadows' racing office by the deadline date.

The 2018 Quarter Horse meet overnight purse structure has increased from the 2017 meet. Changes include increases from \$200 to \$500 in most categories, and the bottom overnight purse will be \$7,000, with the top-end allowance runners with no conditions competing for \$14,200.

Additionally, the Iowa supplement monies for Iowa-bred Quarter Horses finishing in the top four positions will begin the 2018 season with a 5 percent increase in comparison to last year. In restricted races, 35 percent will be awarded in 2018, rather than the 30 percent that was offered last year. In open races, 45 percent will be awarded in 2018, rather than the 40 percent that was offered in 2017.

Purses in 2018 for Iowa-bred allowance races will range from \$15,136 for maiden allowance runners up to \$19,021 for allowance runners with no conditions.

Prairie Meadows will offer 15 Quarter Horse stakes races in 2018, with a slightly different schedule than past years. The Grade III \$45,000-guaranteed Keokuk, for three-year-olds and up at 400 yards, will be shifted from opening day to Saturday, September 15. That same day, Prairie Meadows will offer two regional challenge finals for the 2018 Bank of America Challenge Championships. The championships will take place November 17 at Los Alamitos Race Course.

Three-year-olds will compete in the \$37,500-added Adequan Prairie Meadows Derby Challenge at 400 yards, while two-year-olds will contest the \$45,000-added John Deere Prairie Meadows Juvenile Challenge at 350 yards.

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The final day of the season – Saturday, October 13 – will feature Prairie Meadows’ traditional eight, end-of-season stakes races. They are the Grade III Covered Bridges, the Future Of Iowa (IA), the Grade III Two Rivers, the Terrace Hill (IA), the Altoona Derby, the Jim Bader Futurity (IA), the Valley Junction Futurity, and the Polk County Derby (IA).

All documents and information for owners and trainers pertinent to the 2018 Quarter Horse season are available online at prairiemeadows.com/racing/horsemens-info/quarter-horse-meet.

About Prairie Meadows

Prairie Meadows began operations as a nonprofit 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 1,700 slot machines, table games, live and simulcast racing, hotel accommodations, entertainment, and more.

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