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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Prairie Meadows Prepares for 2017 Racing Season with Release of First Thoroughbred Condition Book, Stall Applications, and more**

### **Backside Stable Area, Training Track, and Main Track Opening This Spring**

*February 10 – Altoona, IA* Prairie Meadows Casino Racetrack and Hotel is gearing up for their 28<sup>th</sup> season of live horse racing at their one-mile oval track, located just outside of Des Moines, Iowa. The property has released its Condition Book #1, Thoroughbred Stall Application, 2017 Racing Schedule, and other important racing documents. Additionally, Prairie Meadows has announced opening dates for its backside stable area, training track, and main racetrack.

Condition Book #1 covers the first 16 racing days (April 27 – May 21) of the upcoming 2017 Thoroughbred season at Prairie Meadows. It is available online at [prairiameadows.com](http://prairiameadows.com) or in print at Prairie Meadows' Racing Office.

"The first Condition Book gives our horsemen a solid selection of races that will provide plenty of opportunities for horses of all ages and abilities," said Derron Heldt, Director of Racing. "It includes our traditional opening-weekend allowance sprints for Iowa-breds as well as the first four stakes races of the season."

On the first weekend of the season, Prairie Meadows will offer the six-furlong \$65,000-guaranteed Golden Circle for three-year-olds on Friday, April 28 and the six-furlong \$65,000-guaranteed Goldfinch for three-year-old fillies on Saturday, April 29. The stakes schedule continues with the six-furlong \$60,000-guaranteed Mamie Eisenhower for Iowa-bred fillies and mares three-and-up on Friday, May 19 and the six-furlong \$60,000-guaranteed John Wayne for Iowa-bred colts and geldings three-and-up on Saturday, May 20.

In addition to Condition Book #1, Prairie Meadows has made their Thoroughbred Stall Application forms available. Forms are due on Wednesday, March 15 and are available online and in print. They include eligibility rules, terms and conditions, and instructions on how to submit completed documents to Prairie Meadows' racing office by mail, fax, or email.

Prairie Meadows has also announced opening dates for a variety of training areas. The backside stable area will open to horses on Friday, March 31. Training will begin on Sunday, April 2 on the training track. The main racetrack will open for training on Sunday, April 9 at 9am. Starting gate hours will begin Wednesday, April 12 at 8:35am.

"Horsemen should take note of some post-time adjustments for 2017. On Thursdays and Fridays, first post-time will now be at 6pm CDT," noted Chad Keller, Assistant Racing Secretary. "We'll also have several Special Race Days with 4pm CDT post times including three Triple Crown Saturdays on May 6,

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May 20, and June 10; the final day of the Iowa Festival of Racing on Saturday, July 8; and the final day of the Iowa Classic on Saturday August 12.”

Condition Book #1, Thoroughbred Stall Application, 2017 Thoroughbred Meet Live Racing Schedule, 2017 Thoroughbred Meet Training Schedule and Hours, and other racing-related documents can be found at <https://www.prairiemeadows.com/racing/horsemans-info/thoroughbred-meet> and in print at Prairie Meadows’ Racing Office.

### **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.

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