



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 9, 2020**

## **The Solano Race Place at the Solano County Fairgrounds Now Open**

*New operation procedures in place to conform with Solano County social distancing protocols.*

**Solano County, CA** – The Solano Race Place at the Solano County Fairgrounds is now open after having closed in March 2020 due to health and safety restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fairgrounds staff has worked diligently and undergone special training to ensure that operations conform to the requirements for low risk activities as defined in the “Solano County Social Distancing Protocol” which was updated on May 5, 2020.

“We are pleased to be able to open the Solano Race Place in advance of the Belmont Stakes, which takes place on June 20,” stated SCFA Executive Director & CEO, Mike Ioakimedes. “Although the Belmont Stakes is not typically the first race of the Triple Crown series, this year it replaces the Kentucky Derby in that role due to the disrupted schedule of horse racing across the globe. We welcome patrons to once again start enjoying all the fun that the Race Place has to offer and build up to the excitement of the Belmont Stakes happening in a couple of weekends.”

The following is a partial list of the physical and operational changes at the Solano Race Place enacted to ensure social distancing and health protections.

- Installation of plexiglass shielding at the security station and pari-mutuel betting windows.
- Removal of multiple chairs and stools to limit the proximity of seating positions.
- Disabling half of the betting machines and betting windows to provide social distancing.
- Clearly marked, six-foot spacing for seating and queues for admissions, ATM and betting stations.
- Limiting capacity to 50 patrons at any given time.
- Posting of signage inside and outside of the facility regarding social distancing and hygiene guidelines for both patrons and employees.
- Installation of multiple hand sanitizing stations throughout the facility.



- Frequent cleaning of high-contact surfaces and common areas along with cleaning logs to document sanitation procedures.

In addition to these items and the entire list of county operational requirements, employees and patrons who are exhibiting any symptoms associated with COVID-19 or who are not practicing social distancing will be asked to leave the facility. Employees will be provided with face masks and gloves and be required to wear them during their work shift. Employees have also been given dedicated training for appropriate personal hygiene techniques and the unique cleaning and operational requirements for opening the Solano Race Place.

Patrons of the Solano Race Place are strongly encouraged to wear face masks while in the facility and masks will be available for purchase for those that need them. Food and beverage operations will remain closed until a future date. While these services are closed, patrons will be allowed to bring in their own food and non-alcoholic beverages. Once food service resumes, outside food and beverages will no longer be allowed.

The Solano Race Place will be open on Fridays through Sundays, with additional select days based on the broader simulcast racing calendar. For exact operating days and times visit [www.scfair.com/solano-race-place](http://www.scfair.com/solano-race-place).

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