

Date	Time (PDT*)	Topic	Speaker(s)	Course Description
*PDT begins Sunday, March 8, 2026				
	7:00 - 7:45 am	Arrive, Check-in, and Breakfast		
3/9/2026	7:45 - 8:00 am	Welcome/Logistics	Michael Hardy, DVM	
3/9/2026	8:00 - 8:30 am	What's New	Moderator: Michael Hardy, DVM	Dr. Hardy will moderate a review of new information on a wide range of topics relative to the day-to-day responsibilities of the racing regulatory veterinarian with a focus on safety, welfare, drug testing, pharmacology, technology, and research.
3/9/2026	8:30 - 9:30 am	Unsanctioned Racing - Risks to Regulated Racing	Angela Pelzel McClusky, DVM, MS	Dr. Pelzel-McClusky will discuss her research related to Quarter Horse unsanctioned racing, including uncovered evidence of doping schemes and iatrogenic transmissible equine infectious diseases. She will cite case histories and investigative findings where the practice of blood doping resulted in a threat to both horse health and racing integrity and broader implications to regulated racing.
3/9/2026	9:30 - 10 am	Wearable Technology Update	Will Farmer, DVM	Wearable Technologies provide a unique opportunity for the racing industry to identify new mechanisms to aide horsemen, attending veterinarians, and regulatory veterinarians in monitoring the physical well-being of the horse. Dr. Farmer will provide an overview of what technologies are being used at their respective tracks, what they have learned, and how they will be applied as apart of their day to day responsibilities going forward.
3/9/2026	10:00 - 10:15 am	Break		
3/9/2026	10:15 - 11:15 am	Promoting Safety in Horse Racing - Insights from the Japanese Racing Association (JRA)	Fumiaki Mizobe, DVM, PhD	As Manager of the Examination Division at the Miho Training Center, Dr. Fumiaki will share JRA's research on various topics, including Post-Exertional Distress, and the implications of that work locally and internationally to manage certain conditions in the racehorse.
3/9/2026	11:15 - 11:45 am	Principles of Pre-Race Exam	Michael Hardy, DVM	Dr. Hardy will present on the components and strategies of the pre-race examination, benefits and limitations, and what are considered best practices. He will discuss the AAEP lameness score and how this applies to determining racing soundness of the racehorse and define baseline clinical parameters for determining an unsound horse.
3/9/2026	11:45 - 12:45	Lunch		
3/9/2026	12:45 - 1:45 pm	Case Histories	Moderator: Dionne Benson, JD, DVM; Tim Grande, DVM; Nick Smith, DVM; Danielle Schilpp, DVM	Dr. Benson will moderate a panel discussion of diverse case histories from multiple racing jurisdictions specifically addressing various sources of information regulatory veterinarians utilize to develop a profile which aide in determining racing soundness, alongside the clinical exam of horses in training or racing. Panelists will share case histories, (which will include risk assessment strategies, pre-race/work exam findings, previous injuries, diagnostics, and other sources information) outcomes, and lessons learned.
3/9/2026	1:45 - 2:45 pm	Clinical Pathology at the Racetrack	Lynn Hovda, RPH, DVM, MS, DACVIM	Dr. Hovda, a long-standing regulatory veterinarian and veterinary internist, will review basic principles of clinical pathology in the horse. As clinical pathology is a commonly used tool by practicing veterinarians, Dr. Hovda will discuss its applications to evaluate the racehorse's health.

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3/9/2026	2:45 - 3:15 pm	Starting Gate Management	Rebecca Fitzgerald, DVM	Dr. Fitzgerald, a regulatory veterinarian for Los Alamitos, will discuss the unique responsibilities of the regulatory veterinarian at the starting gate. She will detail key observations, the decision-making tree of the horse's soundness and fitness to race in the event of an adverse event in the gate, and triage response to a starting gate emergency. Dr. Fitzgerald will share starting gate challenges with Quarter Horse racing.
3/9/2026	3:15 - 3:30 pm	Break		
3/9/2026	3:30 - 4:30 pm	How to be an Expert Witness	Dionne Benson, JD, DVM	Regulatory veterinarians are often asked to provide expert witness testimony in various horse racing cases. Dr. Benson will discuss what regulatory veterinarians need to know about establishing credibility through qualifications, understanding what you are being asked to do, factual discoveries from your research, what your conclusions are, and how to prepare for cross-examination.
3/9/2026	4:30 - 5:30 pm	Mortality Reviews - How to utilize the Diagnostic Laboratory as a valuable resource.	Rick Arthur, DVM; Tim Grande, DVM, MPH; Dionne Benson, JD, DVM	This panel will discuss best practices of the mortality review process. They will share how to effectively garner useful information, how to foster an effective relationship with the Diagnostic Laboratory and utilize that as a valuable resource, and how to assimilate conclusions and determine areas of improvement. Panel members will share tips on how to evaluate the results of the review for each individual horse but also keeping the population perspective in mind while also effectively communicating the results of the review and potential next steps with the covered persons.
3/9/2026	5:45 PM	Reception		
3/10/2026	7:00 - 8:00 am	Arrive, Check-in, and Breakfast		
3/10/2026	8:00 - 9:00 am	Risk Analysis - Handicapping	Tim Grande, DVM, MPH	Dr. Grande will present on the strategies for risk analysis. He will discuss in detail what resources are available and what risk assessment parameters are used for review. Dr. Grande will also provide a handicapper's perspective on the health and soundness of a horse based on the resources they have available.
3/10/2026	9:00 - 10:00 am	Cardiac Workup - Considerations for the Collapsed Horse	Mary Durando, DVM, PhD, DACVIM (LAIM)	Dr. Durando will provide an overview of the Cardiac Workup, including signalment, clinical and performance histories, and investigative diagnostics. She will also provide insight into the the workup of the acutely poor performing and the collapsed horse.
3/10/2026	10:00 - 10:15 am	Break		

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3/10/2026	10:15 - 11:45 am	Group Breakout Session: Wetlab (1) - Principles of Splinting/Bandaging; Wetlab (2) - Ultrasound Shoulder/Humerus; Wetlab (3) - Neurologic Exam; Wetlab (4) - Cardiac Auscultation /ECG	Michael Hardy, DVM (Moderator); Ryan Carpenter, DVM, MS, DACVS; Betsy Vaughn, DVM, DACVSMR; Barrie Grant, DVM, DACVS; Mary Durando, DVM, PhD, DACVIM	Attendees will be assigned to small groups; each group will rotate through Wetlab 1-4 providing a time of instruction covering each topic and an opportunity for hands on experience for attendees. For Wetlab (1) - Principles of Splinting/Bandaging, Dr. Ryan Carpenter will moderate; Wetlab (2) - Ultrasound Shoulder/Humerus, Dr. Betsy Vaughn will moderate, Wetlab (3) - Neurologic Exam, Dr. Barrie Grant will moderate, and Wetlab (4) - Cardiac Auscultation/ECG, Dr. Mary Durando will moderate.
3/10/2026	11:45 - 12:45 pm	Lunch		
3/10/2026	12:45 - 2:15 pm	Group Breakout Session: Wetlab (1) - Principles of Splinting/Bandaging; Wetlab (2) - Ultrasound Shoulder/Humerus; Wetlab (3) - Neurologic Exam; Wetlab (4) - Cardiac Auscultation /ECG	Michael Hardy, DVM (Moderator); Ryan Carpenter, DVM, MS, DACVS; Betsy Vaughn, DVM, DACVSMR; Barrie Grant, DVM, DACVS; Mary Durando, DVM, PhD, DACVIM	Attendees will be assigned to small groups; each group will rotate through Wetlab 1-4 providing a time of instruction covering each topic and an opportunity for hands on experience for attendees. For Wetlab (1) - Principles of Splinting/Bandaging, Dr. Ryan Carpenter will moderate; Wetlab (2) - Ultrasound Shoulder/Humerus, Dr. Betsy Vaughn will moderate, Wetlab (3) - Neurologic Exam, Dr. Barrie Grant will moderate, and Wetlab (4) - Cardiac Auscultation/ECG, Dr. Mary Durando will moderate.
3/10/2026	2:15 - 2:45 pm	Atrial Fibrillation in the Standardbred	Sian Durward-Akhurst, BVMS, PhD, DACVIM-LA, MRCVS	Dr. Akhurst will detail atrial fibrillation and its impact on performance and safety and/or risk factors associated with EASD in racehorses, with a focus on Standardbreds. She will provide insight into how to diagnose and manage cases acutely but also in horses with known histories
3/10/2026	2:45 - 3:00 pm	Break		
3/10/2026	3:00 - 4:00 pm	Track Manager in the Field	Will Farmer, DVM	Dr. Farmer will present on the use of the InCompass Track Manager program for the regulatory veterinarian. He will discuss how to best utilize this resource in real-time, including all of the available features such as, pre-race exam maintenance, vet exams, non-race day observations, vets list entry and removal, inputting relevant treatment details, HISA entry requirements, running reports, and apply to race day activities.
3/10/2026	4:00 - 4:30 pm	Standardbred Equipment - Carts, Poles, and Harnesses	Casey Larson	Mr. Larson, Presiding Judge for the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation, will provide an overview of equipment used in Standardbred racing and their potential implications on safety and welfare.