

As a “work in progress,” further modifications have been made to the way the panel will operate at Del Mar, Arthur said. At Santa Anita and Los Alamitos, the panel met and reviewed horses before entries were taken. At Del Mar, “the panel will meet after entries are taken,” said Arthur. “We think this will be a more efficient way to do it for everyone,” he added. “It was very cumbersome for the racing office and the panel the way we were doing it.”

Veterinary members of the panel along with additional attending veterinarians, said Arthur, will also be looking “more and more” at horses after entry and before their usual pre-race examinations, as well as at horses identified for extra scrutiny by the veterinarians monitoring morning training. On top of that, additional veterinary and secretarial staff will be employed to “make sure we can get the information we need to make sure only horses that are suitable and fit to race are allowed to race,” said Arthur.

“We think we have personnel that will allow us to do what, frankly, what we’ve always wanted to do, but, never had the backing to get that done previously,” he added.

Another new addition to the Del Mar program is a stakeholder advisory committee that will meet once a week to discuss things like safety practices, daily operations and the state of the track surfaces. The committee will include trainer Jim Cassidy, Del Mar track superintendent Dennis Moore, and Del Mar’s

executive vice president for racing and industry relations Tom Robbins.

“Again, it’s about keeping that open communication and open dialogue between horsemen, management and track superintendent,” he said, about the purpose of the committee.

It’s also one of the factors that Jerkens gives for entering into the meet with what is probably best described as a sense of cautious optimism.

“I still think we’re grateful and appreciative of those who are participating this summer,” he said. “And honestly, we still should have a successful meet.”

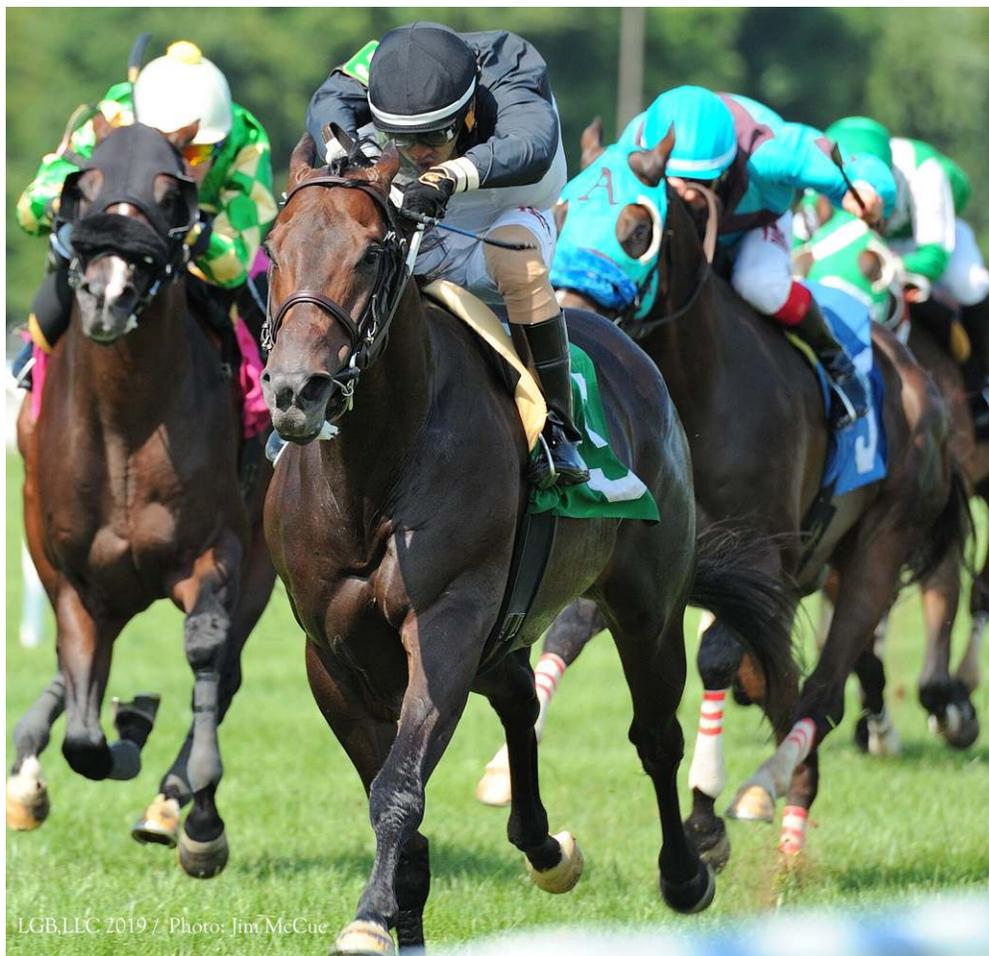
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Kirwan on Right ‘Side’ of Sanford Win

(cont. from p1)

“He was a big, strong, good-looking horse with a lot of class,” Kirwan recalled of By Your Side. “And he was correct. He had all the right angles that I look for.”

By Your Side just got his nose in front on the line to win his debut at Churchill Downs June 14 and was the 7-5 favorite when he drew away to a three-length victory in the Sanford ([video](#)). Anderson doubled up on stakes wins later in the day when the Kenneally-trained Parlor (Lonhro {Aus}) won the Glasgow S. at Delaware Park. **Cont. p7**



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