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New System Will Help Del Mar Fans To Track Their Runners

Racing fans at Del Mar will have a new way to keep track of their favorite runners during the 43-day meeting at the seashore racetrack opening Wednesday, July 18.

The Del Mar Thoroughbred Club will offer for the first time a new feature called Trakus, a system that electronically follows the horses in a race and presents different animated views of their progress on the track's infield video board. All runners will carry a transmitter in their saddle clothes so their exact location can be followed and displayed on two large screens, one offering an animated horse race and the other a numbered "chicklet" version of the same thing. The Trakus system uses real-time, in-motion graphics.

An additional feature is an instantaneous, full-field running order posted throughout all races, replacing the old 1-through-4 posting that previously was offered during the running. The Trakus system also will be a part of the presentation for Del Mar simulcasting and on in-house, closed-circuit Trakus TV. Further, Del Mar's web site will feature Trakus information that will include exact distances all horses have run in each race.

By adding Trakus to its race presentations, Del Mar becomes the first racetrack in the west to offer the system for its fans' benefit. Keeneland Race Course in Kentucky and Woodbine Race Course near Toronto, Canada are the other tracks in North America that currently feature it.



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