

BC THOROUGHBRED OWNERS & BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

"One Voice for Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders in British Columbia"

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BCTOBA Newsletter By Mike Heads

BREEDERS CUP STARTS TOMORROW

The 32nd renewal of the Breeders' Cup is upon us tomorrow. Since 2007 it has been a two-day event and the action gets started Friday at 12:30 p.m. (our time). There are four Breeders' Cup races on the Friday afternoon program.

On Saturday, things kick off early with some local interest in the \$100,000 Perryville Stakes, post time is at 8:00 a.m. **Bluegrass Angus**, the runner-up in the 2015 B.C. Derby, who is owned by Chad Joe's Copper Water Thoroughbred Company and trained by Craig MacPherson, will take on eight other sprinters at the six furlongs distance. Also in the line-up are Mark DeDomenico's **Prime Engine**, who was the winner of the Emerald Derby earlier this summer and John Gunther's **Lord Commander**, who rounds out the local contingent in the Saturday opener. The Breeders' Cup races start at 9:05 a.m. and finish with the \$5,000,000 Classic at 2:35 p.m. local time.

Unfortunately, a lot of the air from the Classic balloon was let out when it was announced this morning that the filly Beholder had been scratched. It became apparent after training today that she is not 100% and bled in a routine gallop. She spiked a slight temperature after shipping to Keeneland earlier this week, but when her temperature came back to normal 24 hours later she resumed her usual training schedule. Obviously she is still feeling the effects of the long trip to Kentucky, which necessitated the scratch. Nonetheless, the Classic will feature the final race of American Pharaoh and with the scratch of Beholder he certainly has locked up Horse-of-the-Year honours.

HASTINGS NUMBERS UP FOR 2015

The 2015 thoroughbred season ended last Sunday at Hastings with a nine race card that handled close to \$1 million. The total handle and field size average were both up from 2014, which is always encouraging. The incentive programs for 2016 have been announced and can be found on the BCTOBA website tomorrow.