



140 JULY 2008

Events

Horse and Pony Show

What better way to celebrate our country's independence than with fireworks, family, and a friendly wager?

Lone Star Park's spring thoroughbred season comes to a close on the 27th of this month. But on July 3 and 4, the track and its betting windows and automated self-service betting machines are very much open for business. Flag-waving gamblers have the opportunity to mesh their two loves: country and collecting winnings. Each day features two special 5 PM twilight live races that conclude with a 20-minute fireworks show, soundtracked by hand-over-heart-in-

ducing patriotic music.

If fireworks and horse races aren't enough to entertain your brood, the two-day event also includes a bounce house, petting zoo, arts and crafts vendors, live entertainment, and pony rides, sans odds, of course. General admission is just \$3, which shouldn't make too much of a dent in your betting allowance. One track frequenter calls the event a picnic with purpose, adding that you don't have to bet on the horses to have



a good time—but it helps (as long as you don't bet too much).

If you're still a novice but want more action than a \$2 show bet on the top seed, we have a suggestion: find the top four selections based on the odds. Throw out the favorite. Bet a \$1 exacta box on the next three. It'll cost you \$6.

If the first- and second-place horses are in your group of three, you win. And there's a chance that you'll win enough to cover the next round of beer. Ain't America great? —STACEY YERVASI

Jul 3 & 4, 5 PM. Lone Star Park, 1000 Lone Star Pkwy., Grand Prairie. 972-263-7223. lonestarpark.com.