

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**  
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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS  
LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION**

**TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

HONORABLE ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR  
HONORABLE RICHARD B. SHAPIRO, CHAIRMAN  
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KIRK BREED, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RICHARD "BON" SMITH, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of July 15, 2008 through July 20, 2008.

**TUESDAY**  
07/15/2008

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Martin Hamilton is the duty Steward this week and will attend to morning office matters and record the minutes during this reporting period.

(2) SCRATCHES FOR THURSDAY

Four rider changes were approved at the 9:00 a.m. scratch time for Thursday.

(3) ENTRIES FOR FRIDAY

Ten races were drawn for Friday consisting of one Thoroughbred, two Arabian and seven Quarter Horse events. The draw was completed at 12:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
07/16/2008

(1) SCRATCHES FOR FRIDAY

One declaration, one equipment change and one rider change completed scratch time at 9:00 a.m.

(2) ENTRIES FOR SATURDAY

Four Thoroughbred and seven Quarter Horse races make up the eleven race card for Saturday. The draw was completed at 12:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY**  
07/17/2008

(1) SCRATCHES FOR SATURDAY

One rider change was the only adjustment to Saturday's program. Scratch time was supervised at 9:00 a.m.

(2) ENTRIES FOR SUNDAY

Ten races were drawn for Sunday with four Thoroughbred and six Quarter Horse races filling out the card. The draw was completed at 2:30 p.m.

(3) CAL-BRED REPORT

The Cal-Bred race offered for maidens, three years old and upward, claiming price \$8,000, at a distance of 300 yards, was called off with two entries.

(4) CESAR DE ALBA RULING

RULING # 196

JOCKEY CESAR DE ALBA, WHO RODE "PRECIOUS BOOT" IN THE TENTH RACE ON SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2008, AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE, IS SUSPENDED FOUR (4) RACING DAYS (JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 25<sup>TH</sup>, 26<sup>TH</sup>, AND 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2008) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE CAUSING INTERFERENCE RESULTING IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS MOUNT FROM FIRST TO TENTH PLACE. A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE # 1699 (RIDING RULES – CARELESS RIDING).

The foregoing ruling was issued after Cesar reviewed the tenth race from Sunday with the Stewards where his mount was disqualified from first to last. Films show that Cesar's mount continued to bear out through the entire race, and candidly admitted that he felt he was clear of rivals. After further review he concurred with the Stewards that with a bit more effort, the interference could have been avoided.

(5) UGO DE LA TORRE (CASE# 08LA0136)

Owner/assistant trainer Ugo De La Torre was afforded a formal hearing in response to the above referenced complaint alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board rules # 1843 (c) (Medication, Drugs and Other Substances) and # 1890 (Possession of Contraband), pursuant to rule # 1891 (Seizure of Contraband) when California Horse Racing Board Investigators seized needles, syringes and injectable medication from his vehicle.

Present at the hearing in addition to Mr. De La Torre, who was represented by Attorney Donald Calabria, was Assistant District Attorney Patricia Nevenen representing the California Horse Racing Board, Senior Special Investigator Thomas Blake and the Stewards James Dreyer, Kim Sawyer and Martin Hamilton. Court Reporter Barbara Weinstein recorded the proceedings.

The record was opened for the acceptance of testimonial and documentary evidence and closed when deemed submitted for decision.

(6) FILM REVIEW

Jockey Joel Cruz was in, as directed, to review the tenth race from Sunday, where his mount was disqualified from fifth to ninth place. Films reflect Joel's mount was lugging away from another rival who steadily continued to drift out shifting the blame to the horse for the incident.

(7) TRAINER REVIEWS FILMS

Trainer Mike Casselman was in to review the tenth race from Sunday, where his horse "Precious Boot" was disqualified from first to last for causing interference in the closing strides. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Casselman walked away with a better understanding of the decision.

(8) INQUIRY – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE - DISQUALIFICATION

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign in order to review an observed incident mid-way through the 220 yard Quarter Horse sprint.

Films show # 7 "Red Hot Castaway" who finished second with jockey Eulices Gomez, ducked in sharply and started a chain reaction involving the four rivals to his inside.

For that action # 7 was disqualified from second and placed sixth in a unanimous decision.

(9) LATE DECLARATIONS

8<sup>th</sup> Race - # 3 Super Fish (Tr. E. Navarro) no rider available, Stewards.  
Refund: \$13,053.00.

# 9 Check This Noble (Tr. J. Flores) injured, Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$226.00.

(8) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	731	On Track Handle:	\$128,217
Off Track Attendance:	<u>1,998</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$270,689
Total:	2,729	Out of State:	<u>\$453,516</u>
		Total:	\$852,422

FRIDAY

07/18/2008

(1) SCRATCHES FOR SUNDAY

One rider change is the only change at scratch time for Sunday.

(2) CAL-BRED REPORT

The Cal-Bred race written for two year olds, claiming price \$10,000, going 300 yards, failed to fill with three entries passing the entry box.

(3) EULICES GOMEZ RULINGRULING # 197

JOCKEY EULICES GOMEZ, WHO RODE "RED HOT CASTAWAY" IN THE EIGHTH RACE ON THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2008, AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE, IS SUSPENDED FOUR (4) RACING DAYS (JULY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 26<sup>TH</sup>, 27<sup>TH</sup>, AND 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2008) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE CAUSING INTERFERENCE RESULTING IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS MOUNT FROM SECOND TO SIXTH PLACE. A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE # 1699 (RIDING RULES – CARELESS RIDING).

THE TERM OF THIS SUSPENSION SHALL NOT PROHIBIT PARTICIPATION IN DESIGNATED RACES IN CALIFORNIA.

The above noted ruling was issued after Eulices reviewed the eighth race from last evening with the Stewards where his mount was disqualified from second to sixth place. Gomez's mount broke inwardly at the start, then after being straightened the rider whipped his mount right handed which started a multiple bumping incident to his inside.

(4) DIONICIO NAVARRO RULINGRULING # 198

JOCKEY DIONICIO NAVARRO, WHO RODE "RUHLING SOLO" IN THE THIRD RACE ON THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2008, AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE IS SUSPENDED FOUR (4) RACING DAYS (JULY, 25<sup>TH</sup>, 26<sup>TH</sup>, 27<sup>TH</sup>, AND 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2008) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE CAUSING INTERFERENCE AT THE START. A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1699 (RIDING RULES – CARELESS RIDING).

THE TERM OF THIS SUSPENSION SHALL NOT PROHIBIT PARTICIPATION IN DESIGNATED RACES IN CALIFORNIA.

The above ruling was written after Dionicio reviewed the eighth race from last evening with the Stewards, wherein he candidly agreed that he failed to correct his mount at the start of the 4½ furlong affair, allowing him to drift out several strides before taking aversive action.

(5) SCOTT WILLOUGHBY (CASE# 08LA0137)

Trainer Scott Willoughby was afforded an informal hearing in response to the above referenced complaint alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board rules # 1843 (a&d) (Medication, Drugs and Other Substances), # 1844 (c) (Authorized Medication), # 1866 (Veterinarian's List) and # 1887 (a) (Trainer to Insure Condition of Horse).

The complaint cited Mr. Willoughby for Phenylbutazone in excess of the permitted level in a post work blood sample taken from the horse "Bal Week" on June 19, 2008. Said horse was on the vet's list at the time.

Mr. Willoughby offered several arguments in mitigation, specifically, that the notice of the policy change first appeared on the overnight July 13, 2008. This was several weeks after the test was submitted and statements from Association Veterinarian Thomas Hackathorn, DVM, and the Equine Sports Medicine Group asserting that no one from the California Horse Racing Board had informed them or the trainers that sanctions would be levied.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Stewards adjourned for deliberation with a decision forthcoming.

(6) OBJECTION – 6<sup>TH</sup> RACE – NO CHANGE

At the conclusion of the sixth race (4½ furlong – Thoroughbred) jockey Gary Boag astride second place finisher # 1 "Caribbean Dude" and jockey Baltazar Contreras aboard fourth place finisher # 3 "Tutto Va Bene" lodged a claim of foul against first place finisher # 2 "Randy Monarch" and jockey Eulices Gomez for interference going into the far turn.

Films reflect that Boag left a hole along the rail too large to deter access and Gomez was there prior to the break of the turn. Although some contact did occur for various reasons, the unanimous decision of the Stewards were that none of the placings were affected. Accordingly, no change was warranted.

(7) LATE DECLARATIONS

4<sup>th</sup> Race - # 7 No City Girl (Tr. M. Casselman) injured, Dr. Beck.  
Refund: \$308.00.

7<sup>th</sup> Race - # 2 Rares Bye Bye Pie (Tr. A. Aquino) broke through gate/ran off, Stewards.  
Refund: \$9,889.00.

8<sup>th</sup> Race - # 5 Franklymydear (Tr. B. Corcoran) no rider available, Stewards.  
Refund: \$369.00.

(8) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	1,075	On Track Handle:	\$188,371
Off Track Attendance:	<u>3,291</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$465,492
Total:	4,366	Out of State:	<u>\$634,783</u>
		Total:	\$1,288,648

**SATURDAY**  
07/19/2008

(1) ENTRIES FOR THURSDAY

One Arabian, two Thoroughbred and five Quarter Horse races were carded for Thursday with the draw being completed at 12:00 p.m.

(2) CAL-BRED REPORT

The Cal-Bred race offered for maiden two year olds, claiming price \$5,000, going 300 yards, failed to fill Cal-Bred but was used open with ten going post ward in the second race.

(3) UGO DE LA TORRE RULING

RULING# 199

OWNER/ ASSISTANT TRAINER UGO DE LA TORRE IS SUSPENDED THIRTY (30) DAYS (JULY 26, 2008 THROUGH AUGUST 24, 2008) PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1891 (SEIZURE OF CONTRABAND) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES #1489 (GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OR REFUSAL OF LICENSE), RULE #1890 (POSSESSION OF CONTRABAND), AND #1843 (C) (MEDICATION, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES).

DURING THE TERM OF SUSPENSION ALL LICENSES AND LICENSE PRIVILEGES OF UGO DE LA TORRE ARE SUSPENDED AND PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1528 (JURISDICTION OF STEWARDS TO SUSPEND OR FINE), SUBJECT IS DENIED ACCESS TO ALL PREMISES IN THIS JURISDICTION.

FURTHERMORE SUBJECT IS PLACED ON PROBATION FOR THE TERM OF HIS LICENSE.

The foregoing ruling was issued after due deliberation over the facts submitted during the hearing held Thursday, July 17, 2008. The fact that Mr. De La Torre had no blemishes on his record and the nature of the contraband seized is conducive to ranch or lay-up use made his claim that he forgot to take the items out of his truck before arriving at the track plausible. As such, the above ruling is deemed proper.

(4) BRIAN KORINER RULING (CASE# 08LA0140)

Trainer Brian Koriner was afforded a telephonic hearing concerning the above noted complaint filed when his horse "Big Fortune" was late to the Receiving Barn prior to the first race on July 6, 2008 causing a four minute delay to the Paddock. Mr. Koriner stated that he shipped the horse to trainer Dennis Givens' barn to run, however, understood his responsibility as the trainer of record and accepted the following sanction.

RULING# 200

TRAINER BRIAN KORINER IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES # 1852 (REPORTING TO THE RECEIVING BARN LATE) AND # 1894 (DUTIES OF TRAINER) WITH HIS HORSE "BIG FORTUNE" ON JULY 6, 2008 AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE.

(5) IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

Los Alamitos hosted its annual Weiner Nationals dog races sponsored by Weinerschnitzel. There were trial races with a ten gate final. The event was well attended and a good time was had by all. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Seal Beach Animal Shelter.

(6) ACCIDENT – 11<sup>TH</sup> RACE

Pulling up following the eleventh race, # 1 "Mr. Red Hot James" stumbled and unseated jockey Santiago Mendez approaching the 3/8 pole. Mendez was transported to Los Alamitos Medical Center for evaluation. Accident report attached.

(7) NO PROBLEMS

With the exception of the accident noted above, this evening's eleven races were conducted without noteworthy incident.

(8) LATE DECLARATIONS

1<sup>st</sup> Race - # 8 Chihuahua Star (Tr. A. Soto) sick, Dr. Beck.  
Refund: \$398.00.

4<sup>th</sup> Race - # 5 Eyes Wide Shut Br (Tr. P. Jones) sick, Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$729.00.

8<sup>th</sup> Race - # 6 Bunnys Form (Tr. R. Melgoza) sick, Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$192.00.

# 7 My Western Wish (Tr. J. Flores) sick, Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$158.00.

9<sup>th</sup> Race - # 5 Merridoc Hawk (Tr. A. Farias) identification, Stewards.  
Refund: \$248.00.

# 8 Easily Amazed (Tr. R. Dominguez) injured, Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$152.00.

(9) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	8,125	On Track Handle:	\$295,475
Off Track Attendance:	3,241	Off Track Handle:	\$467,646
Total:	11,366	Out of State:	<u>\$813,398</u>
		Total:	\$1,576,521

**SUNDAY**  
07/20/2008

(1) CAL-BRED REPORT

The Cal-Bred race offered for three year olds, claiming price \$5,000, at the distance of 300 yards was called off with three entries.

(2) SCOTT WILLOUGHBY DECISION (CASE# 08LA0137)

After due deliberation and thoughtful consideration over the testimony heard on Friday, July 18, 2008, (refer (5)), a majority of the Board of Stewards, Steward Kim Sawyer dissenting, voted to dismiss the complaint against trainer Scott Willoughby for a high Phenylbutazone reading (6.98 mg/mL) reported in a post work blood sample taken from "Bal Week" on June 19, 2008.

This decision was reached after verifying assertions made by Mr. Willoughby, that a memorandum from Equine Medical Director Dr. Rick Arthur, DVM, addressed to all Official and Association Veterinarians, changing the policy to invoke California Horse Racing Board rule # 1866 (Veterinarian's List) by levying sanctions for NSAID findings in excess of permitted levels following workouts, dated on or about May 8, 2008, was first noted on the overnight dated July 13, 2008.

A letter from Los Alamitos Track Veterinarian Dr. Tom Hackathorn, DVM, stating that he had not alerted Mr. Willoughby to the change in procedure also supported this position. Dr. Arthur was also consulted concerning the matter.

This Board of Stewards is prepared to go forward with any such complaints post July 13, 2008.

(3) FILM REVIEW

Jockey Jeff Jerman was in, as directed, to review the tenth race from last evening where his mount drifted out while marginally clear. The rival to his outside added to the incident by lugging into his hind quarters prior to the drift, however, the Stewards cautioned Jeff to more vigilant.

(4) CLEAN PROGRAM

This evening's ten races were completed without reportable incident.

(5) LATE DECLARATION

7<sup>th</sup> Race - # 4 Keepa Dat Cash (Tr. J. Nunez) lame on track. Dr. Hackathorn.  
Refund: \$11,645.00.

(6) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	797	On Track Handle:	\$210,219
Off Track Attendance:	<u>2,711</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$546,924
Total:	3,508	Out of State:	<u>\$663,346</u>
		Total:	\$1,420,491

VETERINARIAN RECOMMENDED SCRATCHES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Horse</u>	<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Vet</u>	<u>Refund</u>
7/17/2008	8	9	Check This Noble	J. Flores	Injured	Hackathorn	\$226
7/18/2008	4	7	No City Girl	M. Casselman	Injured	Beck	\$308
7/19/2008	1	8	Chihuahua Star	A. Soto	Sick	Beck	\$398
	4	5	Eyes Wide Shut Br	P. Jones	Sick	Hackathorn	\$729
	8	6	Bunnys Form	R. Melgoza	Sick	Hackathorn	\$192
	8	7	My Western Wish	J. Flores	Sick	Hackathorn	\$158
	9	8	Easily Amazed	R. Dominguez	Injured	Hackathorn	\$152
7/20/2008	7	4	Keepa Dat Cash	J. Nunez	Lame on track	Hackathorn	\$11,645

**TRACK SAFETY REPORT**

The weekly inspection was conducted on July 20, 2008.

No equine deaths were reported this week due to racing injuries.

During this reporting period thirteen horses were added to the Veterinarian's

List as follows: five for soundness, four for injury and four for sickness.

Five horses previously on the Veterinarian's List were examined and

removed from the list.

This report was submitted by Steward Martin Hamilton.

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD****SUMMARY**

	MON	TUE	WED	THU 07/17	FRI 07/18	SAT 07/19	SUN 07/20	WEEK TOTAL	MEET TOTAL
ACCIDENTS	D			0	0	1	0	1	23
CAL-BRED RACES		A		0	0	0	0	0	10
CLAIMS			R	5	1	10	4	20	474
DISQUALIFICATIONS		K		1	0	0	0	1	41
INQUIRIES	D			1	1	0	0	2	75
REFUNDS		A		2	3	6	1	12	443
RULINGS			Y	1	2	2	0	5	200

Stewards' Attendance: Martin Hamilton, Kim Sawyer, and James Dreyer were in daily attendance during this reporting period.

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Martin Hamilton (Steward)

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Kim Sawyer (Steward)

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James Dreyer (Steward)