

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**

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Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of February 14, 2019 through February 17, 2019.

THURSDAY

2/14/2019

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward was in the office for entries this week and will be writing the minutes. Entries went rather well, all things considered, with the latest draw taking place around 2:30pm. As usual, Cal Bred horses were nowhere to be found. There were no scratches and changes were held to a minimum.

FRIDAY

2/15/2019

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

4th race - #5 Roseannadana (Vet-sick) refund of \$156.00
8th race- #4 Sheza Dashing PYC (Vet-injured) refund of \$152.00

(2) STEWARD REPLACEMENT

Safety Steward David Nuesch filled in for Steward Scott Chaney for the early hours as Mr. Chaney's flight from the mid-west was delayed. Mr. Chaney arrived early in the card.

(3) MEDICATION HEARING

Trainer Juan Aleman was in the office in response to a complaint filed against him by the California Horse Racing Board investigators regarding the results found in the post-race sample obtained from his horse, "Elicity", the winner of the fourth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on January 6, 2019. The results showed the presence of Dexamethasone at a level of 135 pg/ml and Trichlormethiazide, which is not permitted at any level.

Mr. Aleman, who has trained for a number of years in this jurisdiction, stated that he was been using the medications for the past nineteen years and has never had a problem in a post-race test. He said that he receives the medications from his veterinarian and surmises that it may have been a compounded product, which does not have the strict guidelines of major manufacturers with respect to potency. He said there was a small possibility that his groom made a mistake, but he cannot put much credence into that theory.

A decision will be rendered tomorrow.

(4) MEDICATION HEARING

Trainer Patricia Visscher came to the office this afternoon to respond to a complaint filed against her by the Board investigators indicating that the results found in the post-race sample taken from her horse, "Power Thinker", the second-place finisher in the fifth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on January 5, 2019, contained both Phenylbutazone (1.19 ug/ml) and Flunixin (8.8 ng/ml). Both medications were under the permitted level but cannot be contained in the same sample.

Ms. Visscher said that she administered Banamine on the day following entry and that her vet gave a normal dose of Phenylbutazone on the day before the race. She said that the horse must not metabolize drugs normally, as she has had to scratch the horse on two occasions due to drug reactions.

A decision will be published tomorrow.

(5) FINANCIAL HEARING

Owner Enrique Garcia was in the office with his son, Victor, in response to a complaint filed against him by Equine Sports Medicine for work done on four of his horses over the past year. The bill totaled \$7,733.00. Mr. Garcia, who has owned horses for several years, said that illnesses in his family caused him to lose track of his finances, leading to the delinquency. His trainer, Yanet Rodriguez, sold the horses to recoup her training fees. Victor Garcia indicated that he offered the group \$5,000 as a good faith gesture to settle the matter but was rebuffed. The representative of Equine Sports, Betsy, was instructed to approach her people and see if a compromise could be reached. She will respond within a week.

(6) VIDEO REVIEW

Jockey Christian Aragon came to the office to review the fourth race from last Sunday, as there was some question as to whether his standing up in the irons before the finish cost he and his mount a better finish position. He was narrowly beaten for third place. Mr. Aragon said that his mount was not travelling well over the sloppy track and that the eventual third place finisher had already run past him. In a majority decision-Steward David Nuesch dissenting- Aragon was issued a warning. The majority were of the opinion that the video was not conclusive as to whether Aragon's actions, or lack thereof, cost him a position.

(7) OBJECTION-NO CHANGE

The objection sign was posted after the first race as jockey Minor Arana (2nd, #2 Nutty Sierra) lodged an objection against Edgar Payeras (1st, #1 Jimmy the Bull) for interference in the far turn. After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to make no change to the original order of finish. Unfortunately, the race was contested under a torrential downpour and video could not substantiate a violation by the winner.

(8) REFUND

A refund was ordered in the third race as #5 Garrulous Gal was "off" in the right foreleg during the warm up period and was declared on the recommendation of Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald. The resulting refund amounted to \$8,068.00.

(9) ACCIDENT/INQUIRY/NO CHANGE

The inquiry sign was posted after the eighth race to review the circumstances which resulted in jockey Vinnie Bednar being unseated from his mount, #5 Hez Jess A Secret. After the review, it was determined that Bednar's mount stumbled sharply in the opening strides, causing the rider to lose his balance and fall. Bednar was on his feet quickly after the incident and we understand that he was not injured. The horse was caught without any injury.

(10) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	446	On Track Handle:	\$52,408.60
Off Track Attendance:	<u>1,832</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$169,992.80
Total:	2,278	Out of State:	<u>\$665,905.49</u>
		Total:	\$888,306.89

SATURDAY

2/16/2019

(1) **EARLY DECLARATIONS**

- 1st race- #5 Molly Got Even (Vet-injured) refund \$335.40
- 2nd race- #8 King Of Leon (Vet-unsound) refund \$95.60

(2) **RULING**

RULING # 41

TRAINER JUAN ALEMAN, WHO STARTED THE HORSE "ELICITY", THE FIRST PLACE FINISHER IN THE FOURTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JANUARY 6, 2019, IS FINED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1887(a) (TRAINER OR OWNER TO INSURE CONDITION OF HORSE) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES #1843 (a, b & d)(MEDICATION, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES), #1843.1 (a & b))(PROHIBITED DRUG SUBSTANCES) AND #1844 (F)(4)(AUTHORIZED MEDICATION – TRICHLORMETHIAZIDE AND DEXAMETHASONE (135 PG/ML) IN EXCESS OF AUTHORIZED LEVEL (5PG/ML).

This ruling was issued to finalize the complaint against the trainer for an overage of Dexamethasone and, additionally, Tricholrmethiazide (Refer 2-15-19 #3). Since this was Mr. Aleman's first violation in the past thirty-six months, he was eligible for the minimum fine.

(3) **RULING**

RULING # 42

TRAINER PATRICIA VISSCHER, WHO STARTED THE HORSE "POWER THINKER", THE SECOND PLACE FINISHER IN THE FIFTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JANUARY 5, 2019, IS FINED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1000.00)* PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1887(a) (TRAINER OR OWNER TO INSURE CONDITION OF HORSE) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES #1843 (a & d)(MEDICATION, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES), #1843.1 (b))(PROHIBITED DRUG SUBSTANCES) AND #1844 (C)(AUTHORIZED MEDICATION – PHENYLBUTAZONE (1.19 UG/ML) AND FLUNIXIN (8.8 NG/ML).

The preceding ruling was issued after a discussion of the complaint against Ms. Visscher (Refer 2-15-19 #4). This was her second offense in the past year, and, as such, the fine had to be increased.

(4) **STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION**

The inquiry sign was posted after the second race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at mid-stretch involving the second and fourth place finishers, #7 "Cheyenne Dancer" (F. Rojas) and #3 "Mystic Grey" (E. Hernandez).

After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the stretch run, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify "Cheyenne Dancer" from second to fourth position. Video showed that jockey Hernandez had to steady for four strides when the second-place finisher drifted in, undoubtedly costing him third position.

(5) **RIDER EXCUSED**

Jockey Jairo Rangel was excused from his two mounts this evening as he was ill from reducing. Replacement riders were announced.

(6) **ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE**

On Track Attendance:	640	On Track Handle:	\$73,880.00
Off Track Attendance	<u>1,930</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$280,226.30
Total:	2,570	Out of State:	<u>\$733,744.09</u>
		Total:	\$1,087,850.39

SUNDAY

2/17/2019

(1) **EARLY DECLARATIONS**

- 1st race- #6 Secret Tattoo (Vet-injured) refund of \$155.00
- 3rd race- #3 Seatoshiningsea (Vet-injured) refund of \$165.00
- 4th race- #2 Chiefs Lil Pearl (Vet-colic) refund of \$152.00

(2) RULINGS

RULING # 43

JOCKEY ERASMO GASCA IS FINED ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND- SECOND OFFENSE WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 60 DAY PERIOD), DURING THE FIFTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 16, 2019.

RULING # 44

JOCKEY ERASMO GASCA IS FINED TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND- THIRD OFFENSE WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 60 DAY PERIOD), DURING THE EIGHTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 16, 2019.

These rulings were issued as the rider could not offer a reasonable explanation for the violations.

(3) RULING

RULING #45

JOCKEY FRANCISCO ORDUNA-ROJAS WHO RODE "CHEYENNE DANCER" IN THE SECOND RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 16, 2019, IS SUSPENDED THREE RACING DAYS (FEBRUARY 24TH, MARCH 1ST AND 2ND, 2019) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE, RESULTING IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS MOUNT FROM SECOND TO FOURTH POSITION. THIS CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1699 (RIDING RULES – CARELESS RIDING).

PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1766 (DESIGNATED RACES), THE TERM OF SUSPENSION SHALL NOT PROHIBIT PARTICIPATION IN DESIGNATED RACES.

The foregoing ruling was issued as the rider accepted responsibility for the riding violation.

(4) STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the eighth race- Los Alamitos Maiden Stakes- in order to review an incident shortly after the start involving the fifth, ninth and tenth place finishers - #7 "Miss Montielita" (J. Roman), #4 "Magic Prize" (S. Mendez), and #5 "Wonderland" (J. Nicasio).

After reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify "Miss Montielita" from fifth to tenth position. Video shows the horse drifting in, forcing #6 "Alacarrera" down into the paths of the two horses to its inside and causing those riders to take up in order to avoid heels. The incident, in the Stewards' opinion, cost both horses the opportunity for a better placing.

(5) ATTENDANCE AND HANDLE

On Track Attendance:	564	On Track Handle:	\$103,611.20
Off Track Attendance	<u>1,709</u>	Off Track Handle:	\$382,696.00
Total:	2,273	Out of State:	<u>\$1,018,524.54</u>
		Total:	\$1,504,831.74

TRACK SAFTEY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on February 17, 2019. There were no equine deaths to report this week. During this reporting period twelve (12) horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 5 for soundness, 4 for injury, 2 for sickness, and 1 for bleeding. Five (5) horses previously on the Veterinarian's List were examined and removed from the list.

This report was submitted by Steward Tom Ward.

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

SUMMARY 2019

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI 2/15	SAT 2/16	SUN 2/17	WEEK TOTAL	MEET TOTAL
ACCIDENTS	D				1	0	0	1	1
CAL-BRED RACES		A			0	0	0	0	0
CLAIMS			R		3	2	2	7	48
DISQUALIFICATIONS				K	0	1	1	2	8
INQUIRIES	D				2	1	1	4	14
REFUNDS		A			3	2	3	8	49
RULINGS			Y		0	2	3	5	45
VOIDED CLAIMS				S	0	0	0	0	6

Stewards' Attendance: Stewards Tom Ward, Scott Chaney, James Dreyer, and Safety Steward David Nuesch were in attendance during this reporting period.

Tom Ward (Steward)

Scott Chaney (Steward)

James Dreyer (Steward)

David Nuesch (Steward)