

**California Horse Racing Board**

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 263 – 6000  
(916) 263 – 6042 Fax



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

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, Chairman  
Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member  
Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member  
Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member  
Honorable Alex Solis, Member  
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director  
Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director  
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of August 20 through August 23, 2020.

**Thursday**  
08/20/2020

**(1) DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward was in the office this week for the three days of entries. The Friday card was drawn relatively early, but Saturday and especially Sunday proved to be a problem. The Saturday card was drawn at approximately 3:30 pm, while the Sunday program was not in the books until after 7:00 pm. There were few changes given the short fields. Ward will be writing minutes for this week.

**Friday**  
08/21/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race #6 Stellar Way (Vet-Unsound) Refund of \$99.70  
2<sup>nd</sup> Race #1 Derby Star (Vet-Unsound) Refund of \$111.80  
6<sup>th</sup> Race #1 Dayshego (Vet-Unsound) Refund of \$76.51

**(2) RULINGS #189 & #190**

Ruling #189

JOCKEY OSCAR ANDRADE, JR. IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* 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-FIRST OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS) DURING THE SEVENTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON AUGUST 16, 2020.

Ruling #190

JOCKEY ARMANDO VIRAMONTES IS FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)\* 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 PAST 60 DAY PERIOD), DURING THE RUNNING OF THE SEVENTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON AUGUST 16, 2020.

These rulings were issued for “crop” violations from last Sunday, Mr. Andrade admitted to his violation, while Mr. Viramontes chose not to appear to argue his case.

**(3) JOCKEY REMOVED FROM MOUNTS**

Los Alamitos – based jockey Mark Jasso, who ventured to Emerald Downs in Washington to ride a stakes race on Thursday, was denied the opportunity to ride here this evening as he did not meet the criteria set by track management regarding riders returning from other jurisdictions. He could not produce a negative Covid test taken following his return from Washington. Replacement riders were named.

**(4) MEDICATION HEARING TERMINATED**

A hearing with Trainer Scott Willoughby for a double medication finding- Phenylbutazone and Flunixin- in his horse “From Above” was terminated after the trainer informed us that the acknowledgement of test sample included in the complaint package was from the horse “Leedslimit”, which had been tested on June 27<sup>th</sup> of this year. The hearing will continue when the Board gets the correct document.

**(5) STEWARDS’ INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION**

The inquiry sign was posted following the fifth race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at the start involving the second and third place finishers, #3 “Jess Corona Master” (C. Mendez) and #2 “Cachete” (E. Gasca).

After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the start the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify “Jess Corona Master” from second to third position. Video showed the horse breaking in sharply, making hard contact with “Cachete”, causing that horse to stumble sharply and lose all chance. Mendez was not held responsible.

**(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$861,711.09
Total	0	\$923,463.69

**Saturday**  
08/22/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

7<sup>th</sup> Race #5 Stel Chancey (Stewards - entered back)  
#6 Talayo (Stewards - entered back) Refund \$462.00

**(2) RIDER EXCUSED**

Jockey Victor Salazar was excused from his mount this evening as he could not be licensed due to his inability to produce an acceptable form of identification. A replacement rider was named.

**(3) MEDICATION HEARING FOR MINUTES 8/22/2020**

Trainer Christopher O’Dell was in the office this afternoon in response to a complaint filed against him by the California Horse Racing Board for Phenylbutazone detected in his horse “Powerful Favorite”, which was tested following a work to be removed from the Veterinarian’s List on July 11, 2020. Since the hearing was informal, it was recorded. Mr. O’Dell, who was sworn in, testified that the horse only received two grams of the drug, by injection, forty-eight hours prior to the work. He also said that there is oral Bute in his barn, but his grooms do not have access to it. A decision will follow shortly.

**(4) REFUND**

A refund was ordered in the sixth race as #1 “Lovepop” injured itself after becoming fractious in the starting gate. Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald recommended the scratch. There was a refund of \$20,595.20 due to the late declaration. Jockey Erasmo Gasca was not injured.

**(5) ACCIDENT/ INQUIRY/ NO CHANGE**

The Stewards posted the inquiry sign after the eighth race to review the circumstances which resulted in #6 “Peek It Up”, with jockey Vinnie Bednar aboard, falling approximately fifty yards from the finish line while leading and racing in the clear. After reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to make no change to the original order of finish. The horse suffered a

catastrophic injury to its back and fell, catapulting the rider heavily to the track. Emergency crews were on the scene immediately, tending to both horse and rider. Jockey Bednar was placed in the human ambulance and transported to a local hospital. Unfortunately, the horse was euthanized on the track by Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald. There is no definitive information regarding the rider's condition at this time.

**(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$1,049,738.59
Total	0	\$1,135,365.39

**Sunday**  
08/23/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Race #5 Classic Kitty (Vet-Unsound)  
#6 Bluegrass Boogie (Panel scratch) Refund of \$343.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Race #2 Turnaround (Vet- Injured)  
#4 Iron Curtain (Not eligible- on Vet's list) Refund of \$204.00

**Note: These scratches reduced the field to three wagering interests – Win wagering only**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Race #5 Sarah's Smirk (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$194.90
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race #4 Rinse And Repeat (Vet-Sick) Refund of \$384.80
- 8<sup>th</sup> Race #3 Dreamland Express (Vet-Sick) Refund of \$197.00

**(2) RULINGS**

Ruling #191

JOCKEY JUAN PABLO LEON, IS SUSPENDED FOR FIVE (5) RACING DAYS (AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 5<sup>TH</sup>, 6<sup>TH</sup>, AND 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2020) 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-SIXTH OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS) DURING THE FIFTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON AUGUST 22, 2020.

Ruling #192

JOCKEY JAIRO RANGEL IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1683 (MAXIMUM OVERWEIGHT), RESULTING IN A LATE RIDER CHANGE IN THE SIXTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACECOURSE ON AUGUST 22, 2020.

\*California Horse Racing Board Rule #1532 states that all fines shall be paid to the paymaster of purses within seven (7) days of imposition [08/30/20] or the license of the person upon whom the fine was imposed shall be suspended.

These rulings were issued for "crop" violations during the Saturday evening card. Mr. Leon has become a chronic violator of the rule as this is his sixth violation within the past sixty days.

**(3) RIDERS EXCUSED**

Jockeys Erick Garcia, Jairo Rangel, and Juan Pablo Leon were excused from their mounts this evening due to illness. Replacement riders were named. Jockey Vinnie Bednar, who was involved in an accident last evening, was also excused.

**(4) HEARING CONTINUED FOR MINUTES 8/23/20**

Trainer Scott Willoughby was in the office once again, this time with the proper document included in the complaint package, (Ref. 8/21/2020(-4). After examining the correct acknowledgement of test sample with his horse's name on it, he was still not convinced that the sample came from the correct horse as he said that he does not use Flunixin in his barn. It was explained to him that his only option was to request a DNA test on the sample. He was given until next week to make a decision.

**(5) REFUND**

A refund was ordered in the sixth race as #1 "Orale Jesszenidog" injured itself during the loading procedure and was declared on the recommendation of Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald. The refund amounted to \$18,693.42.

**(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$856.077.44
Total	0	\$909.907.84

**TRACK SAFETY REPORT**

The weekly inspection was conducted on August 23, 2020. One equine death was reported this week due to racing injuries. During this reporting period, 12 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 5 for soundness, 4 for injury, 2 for sickness, and 1 for bleeding. Twelve horses previously on the Veterinarian's list were examined and removed from the list. This report was submitted by Steward Tom Ward.

**SUMMARY**

	Wed	Thurs	Fri 08/21	Sat 08/22	Sun 08/23	Week	Meet
<b>Accidents</b>	D		0	1	0	1	4
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A		0	0	0	0	7
<b>Claims</b>	R		0	2	1	3	206
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K		1	0	0	1	27
<b>Inquiries</b>		D	1	1	0	2	48
<b>Refunds</b>		A	3	2	6	11	306
<b>Rulings</b>		Y	2	0	2	4	177
<b>Voided Claims</b>		S	0	0	0	0	30

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

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Tom Ward, Steward

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Richard Williams, Steward

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James Dreyer, Steward

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David Nuesch, Safety Steward