

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 Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, Chairman

Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman

Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member

Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member

Honorable Alex Solis, Member

Rick Baedeker, Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of January 14, 2020 through January 19, 2020.

Thursday

01/16/2020

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward was in the office for entries this week. The card for Friday proved a chore to fill, as the draw was not completed until just past 3:30 pm. Trials are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday and consequently entries were more plentiful as the draws were completed at 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm, respectively. Changes were few and far between. Ward will write the minutes for the upcoming week.

Friday

01/17/2020

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

5th Race #4 Dream Artist (Vet-injured) Refund of \$744.00

8th Race #2 Jess a Cowboy (Vet-injured) Refund of \$219.00

(2) RIDER EXCUSED

Jockey J. R. Ramirez was excused from his mount in the eighth race as he suffered from flu-like symptoms and could not fulfill his engagement. A replacement rider was named.

(3) RULINGS**Ruling #15**

JOCKEY ALFREDO RAMOS, HAVING FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION RULING #340, DATED DECEMBER 14, 2019, IS SUSPENDED PENDING COMPLETION OF A DRUG PROGRAM AS SET FORTH BY THE WINNERS FOUNDATION. SUSPENSION TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 18, 2020.

DURING THE TERM OF SUSPENSION ALL LICENSES AND LICENSE PRIVILEGES OF ALFREDO RAMOS 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.

Ruling #16

EXERCISE RIDER ROBERTO PONCE, HAVING FAILED TO COMPLY

WITH THE PROVISIONS OF LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION RULING #337, DATED DECEMBER 13, 2019, IS SUSPENDED PENDING COMPLETION OF A DRUG PROGRAM AS SET FORTH BY THE WINNERS FOUNDATION. SUSPENSION TO COMMENCE ON JANUARY 18, 2020.

DURING THE TERM OF SUSPENSION ALL LICENSES AND LICENSE PRIVILEGES OF ROBERTO PONCE 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.

These rulings were issued as neither licensee complied with the terms of rulings which required their adherence to rehabilitation programs set by the Winner's Foundation.

(4) RULING

Ruling # 17

JOCKEY MARK JASSO IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1872 (FAILURE TO FULFILL JOCKEY AGREEMENT) AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JANUARY 12, 2020.

The preceding ruling was issued as Mr. Jasso did not attend a meeting with the Stewards to explain the circumstances which resulted in his failure to fulfill his riding engagement at this venue last Sunday evening.

(5) LATE DECLARATION

A refund was ordered in the eighth race as the Stewards were in receipt of a phone call from Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald that #7 Galloping Goddess flipped in the Receiving Barn and injured herself. She recommended that the horse be declared. The refund from the scratch totaled \$1,915.00.

(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	418	\$44,485.80
Off track	1,748	\$181,297.80
Out of state	N/A	\$576,319.42
Total	2,166	\$802,103.02

Saturday
01/18/2020

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

7th Race #8 A Mere Felix (Vet-unsound) Refund \$474.00

(2) RULING

Ruling # 18

JOCKEY GUILLERMO SUAREZ 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 JANUARY 17, 2020.

This ruling was issued as the rider did not appear to defend his actions with regard to "crop" use.

(3) FORMAL HEARING

A formal hearing was held this afternoon for trainer Kelly Castaneda, who has three positive tests for Lidocaine pending. The purses have been redistributed and this is the penalty phase of the complaints.

Mr. Castaneda, who has been battling health issues for several months, testified that he was not

present at the track when the positives occurred, as he was recuperating at his home. He was told by his foreman that the husband of Sylvia Soto, Carlos Salazar, gave items called Blue Ice and Arctic Ice to the grooms and told them to use them on his wife's horses. It should be noted that Salazar is not eligible to be licensed. Mr. Castaneda felt that the two products were the source of the problem and had them sent to U. C. Davis for analysis. The results showed no Lidocaine in either product, so we are back at square one as to the source of the positives.

A major source of concern to us is the fact that when the third positive came to light, we gave Mr. Castaneda the opportunity to scratch three horses he had in the entries that evening. He availed himself of the offer, but on the next entry day, he entered a horse owned by Salazar's wife and jumped right back in the fire. Fortunately, the test on that horse cleared.

We will discuss the issues and issue a ruling in the near future.

(4) CLAIM VOIDED

The claim deposited by trainer Sergio Morfin in the fourth race for #1 Zapattack was voided as the horse was off in the left hind leg during its time in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Angela Aquino.

(5) STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the seventh race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at the start which involved the fourth and seventh place finishers, #4 JR Prissys Blood (J. Valenzuela) and #5 Trumpster (E. Nicasio).

After reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards voted to disqualify JR Prissys Blood from fourth to seventh position. Video shows the horse breaking out sharply despite the efforts of the rider, bumping the horse to his outside and costing that horse the opportunity for a better placing. The decision was unanimous. Valenzuela was exonerated.

(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	681	\$70,065.80
Off track	1,815	\$203,500.40
Out of state	N/A	\$841,692.77
Total	2,496	\$1,115,258.97

Sunday
01/19/2020

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

1st Race #1 Rosat (Vet- injured) Refund \$279.00

(2) RULINGS

Ruling # 19

PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1766 (DESIGNATED RACES), JOCKEY VINNIE BEDNAR, HAVING PARTICIPATED IN MORE THAN ONE DESIGNATED RACE WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION, SHALL SERVE ONE ADDITIONAL SUSPENSION DAY (JANUARY 25, 2020) IN ORDER TO SATISFY THE TERMS OF L.A.Q.H. RULING #11, DATED JANUARY 10, 2020.

This ruling was issued as the rider participated in more than one trial race last evening and owed us one more suspension day. It was worth his efforts as he qualified three horses for the finals.

Ruling # 20

JOCKEY EDUARDO NICASIO 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 SIXTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JANUARY 18, 2020.

The preceding ruling was sent out as Mr. Nicasio opted not to mount a defense for his actions.

Ruling # 21

TRAINER JESUS MENDOZA IS FINED SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$750.00) * FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1865 (ALTERING OF SEX OF HORSE-FAILED TO NOTIFY RACING SECRETARY THAT TALAYO WAS A GELDING AT TIME OF ENTRY).

This ruling was put in print as Mr. Mendoza fell on the sword, accepting full responsibility for failing to note the correct sex of the horse, Talayo, the winner of the fourth race this evening. The horse was permitted to run as all provisions of the "gelding rule" were followed. The information was announced and put on television monitors last evening, and it was also broadcast throughout the afternoon racing cards.

(3) QUIET EVENING

All matters during the course of the racing program were routine.

(4) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	597	\$75,450.50
Off track	1,643	\$284,987.90
Out of state	N/A	\$729,591.22
Total	2,240	\$1,090,029.62

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on January 19, 2020. One equine death was reported this week due to racing injuries. During this reporting period, 8 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 2 for soundness, 5 for injury, and 1 for bleeding. Six 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 01/17	Sat 01/18	Sun 01/19	Week	Meet
Accidents	D		0	0	0	0	0
Cal-Bred Races	A		0	0	0	0	0
Claims	R		2	4	1	7	32
Disqualification	K		0	1	0	1	5
Inquiries		D	0	1	0	1	8
Refunds		A	3	1	1	5	38
Rulings		Y	3	1	3	7	21
Voided Claims		S	0	1	0	1	4

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, Safety Steward