

**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 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 June 18 through June 21, 2020.

**Thursday**  
6/18/2020

**(1) WARD ON DUTY**

Tom Ward was on duty these past three days for entries, scratches, and changes. Oddly enough, entries proved more difficult to come by as the week progressed. The eight-race card, including the Million Dollar Ed Burke Futurity, was drawn at 5:15 pm. Ward will also be documenting minutes for this week.

**Friday**  
6/19/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

4<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Mr Spirit (Stewards - entered back) Refund of \$14.00

**(2) RIDER EXCUSED**

Jockey Irving Lara was excused from his mounts this evening due to illness. Replacement riders were named.

**(3) TRAINER RESPONDS TO MEDICATION COMPLAINTS**

Trainer Juan Aleman was in the Stewards' Office this afternoon to address two medication complaints for the supplement Cobalt, which was found in elevated levels in his horses "Cattail Cove" and "Kiss Thru Fire", both of which competed in the trials for the Los Alamitos Two Million, run on November 24, 2019. "Cattail Cove's" sample showed the presence of 29.97 Ng/ml of Cobalt, which equates to a Class 4 violation, while the "Kiss Thru Fire" test was considerably higher, as 52.61ng/ml of the product was present in the sample. This level is a Class 3 violation, which requires disqualification. The ruling disqualifying the horse has already been published as this is the penalty phase.

Present at the formal hearing were the Board of Stewards; Mr. Aleman; CHRB Investigator Barrett Halcromb, and Court Reporter Michelle Deireg. Mr. Aleman was not represented by counsel.

The facts surrounding both cases were nearly identical. Mr. Aleman testified that both horses were on a twice a day regimen of Iron Power, a feed supplement which contained Cobalt. Additionally, both horses were fed Gastric Acid, which helps with ulcers. The bottles look similar. The trainer surmises that "Kiss Thru Fire's" test was higher as the horse was a fussy eater with Iron Power in its feed and

the groom gave the supplement with a dose syringe. A mistaken administration of Iron Power instead of Gastric Acid may also have contributed to the problem. We will review testimony in the matter and publish rulings shortly.

**(4) RULING**

Ruling #139

TRAINER GAIL E. RUFFU IS FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00) \* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1629 (PENALTY FOR LATE DECLARATION-HORSE MEDICATED RESULTING IN LATE DECLARATION), ON JUNE 14, 2020.

This ruling was issued after Ms. Ruffu accepted responsibility for entering a horse after it had been given a prohibited medication- Acepromazine. She explained that the horse had been given a small amount of the drug on entry day prior to its morning gallop. Late that morning the racing office staff contacted her about the possibility of running the horse on Sunday as they were struggling to fill the card. The medication administration completely slipped her mind and she told them to enter the horse. It was not until after the draw was completed that she remembered about the Ace.

**(5) RULING**

Ruling #140

OWNER ALBERT STERN (DBA STERN RANCHES), HAVING COMPLIED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1876 (FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY), IS RESTORED TO GOOD STABDING. RULING #117, ISSUED AT LOS ALAMITIOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION ON MAY 16, 2020, IS SET ASIDE.

The above ruling was issued as trainer Jose Flores, who had obtained a judgment against Mr. Stern for delinquent training bills, gave us a copy of an agreement between the two in order to settle the debt.

**(6) RULING**

Ruling #141

APPRENTICE JOCKEY MAURO V. DONOE IS FINED ONE HUNDRED (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE 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 SIXTY DAYS) DURING THE SECOND RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JUNE 14, 2020.

This ruling was issued after Mr. Donoe had viewed the second race from last Sunday, during which he violated the "crop" rule. He accepted full responsibility for violation.

**(7) VOIDED CALIM**

The claim slip deposited prior to the second race by trainer Angela Aquino for #3 "Bayonce" was voided as Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported that the three year old filly was unsound in the right foreleg while in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Brian Cunningham.

**(8) LATE RIDER CHANGE DUE TO WEIGHT ISSUE**

There was a late rider change announced prior to the eighth race as jockey Carlos Huerta was over the seven pound maximum overweight limit when he stepped on the scales to weigh out. Mr. Huerta, whose battles with the scale have been documented in previous minute entries, weighed 131.4 lbs. when he weighed out, .40 pounds over the limit.

**(9) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$1,429,486.01
Total	0	\$1,429,486.01

6/20/20

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Race #5 Maz Kamata (Stewards – entered back)  
#6 Sarazona Two (Vet-unsound) Refund \$1,512.42.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Flattering Pose (Stewards – entered back)  
#10 Fed Hike (Stewards – entered back) Refund \$295.30

**(2) RIDER EXCUSED**

Erick Garcia was excused from his mount this evening due to illness caused by what he termed food poisoning. A replacement rider was named.

**(3) RULING**

Ruling #142

TRAINER JUAN ALEMAN, WHO STARTED THE HORSE “CATTAIL COVE”, THE FIRST PLACE FINISHER IN THE FIRST RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON NOVEMBER 24, 2019, IS FINED ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00)\* PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1887 (TRAINER OR OWNER TO INSURE CONDITION OF HORSE) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES #1843 (A & D) (MEDICATION, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES), AND #1843.1 (A) (PROHIBITED DRUG SUBSTANCES-COBALT).

The above ruling was issued to finalize complaint #19LA0289, filed against the trainer for an overage of the Class 4 substance Cobalt. (Ref.6-20-20)

**(4) RULING**

Ruling #143

JOCKEY CARLOS HUERTA IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) \* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1683 (MAXIMUM OVERWEIGHT), RESULTING IN LATE RIDER CHANGE IN THE EIGHTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACECOURSE ON JUNE19, 2020.

This ruling was issued as Mr. Huerta could not come within seven pounds of his assigned weight in last evening’s finale, prompting a late rider change.

**(5) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$1,703,521.43
Total	0	\$1,703,521.43

**Sunday**  
06/21/2020

**(1) RIDER CHANGE**

Apprentice Jockey Victor Flores did not arrive in time to fulfill his engagement in the first race this evening as he had ridden in the last race at Santa Anita. A replacement rider was named.

**(2) LATE RIDER CHANGE DUE TO WEIGHT ISSUE**

Jockey Juan Pablo Leon was removed from his mount in the sixth race as he could not come within the seven pound overweight limit on his mount, #5 “Pappaslileagle”. The original impost was 119lbs., but the lightest Mr. Leon could tack was 127.5lbs. A replacement rider was named.

**(3) TRAINER OBJECTON – NO CHANGE**

The objection sign was posted after the seventh race as Trainer Ricardo Guillen (5<sup>th</sup>, #2 “Docs Tiene Fire) lodged a claim of foul against Oscar Andrade, Jr. (4<sup>th</sup>, #1 “Catalina Rocket”) for interference at the start. After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to dismiss with the objection as the incident was minor, having no effect on the original placings.

**(4) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	0	\$0.00
Off track	0	\$0.00
Out of state	N/A	\$1,642,085.10
Total	0	\$1,642,085.10

## TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on June 21, 2020. There were no equine deaths to report this week. During this reporting period, 4 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 3 for soundness and 1 for bleeding. Eighteen 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 06/19	Sat 06/20	Sun 06/21	Week	Meet
<b>Accidents</b>	D		0	0	0	0	3
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	R		2	4	3	9	167
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K		0	0	0	0	24
<b>Inquiries</b>		D	0	0	1	1	41
<b>Refunds</b>		A	1	2	0	3	251
<b>Rulings</b>		Y	3	2	0	5	137
<b>Voided Claims</b>		S	1	0	0	1	24

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