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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

WEEKLY UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 21-27, 2009

SACRAMENTO, CA – This is the California Horse Racing Board's weekly update of all complaints along with stewards' rulings involving Class 1, 2, and 3 medication violations and other significant matters. All stewards' rulings can be viewed on the CHRB Website (www.chrb.ca.gov) through the Administrative Hearings link.

The CHRB filed a complaint against the Sonoma County Fair Association for violation of CHRB Rules 1530 and 1629 by failing to establish a protocol that would insure a horse (or mule) would not be removed from the betting pool in error. This resulted in the improper scratch of the mule Bar JF Red Ticket in the first race at the Sonoma County Fair on August 9, 2009. This error caused the late declaration of both Bar JF Red Ticket and the mule Bar JF Bold Thunder. A hearing has been scheduled October 10 by the stewards at the Big Fresno Fair.

In accordance with a stipulated agreement between the California Horse Racing Board and trainer Dean Frey, the stewards at Los Alamitos suspended Frey for 30 days and issued a \$3,000 fine for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d), 1844 (a), 1859.5, 1887, and 1894 after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported the urine sample taken from Bessemer, a horse in his care, contained gabapentin. Gabapentin is a drug having multiple pharmacological uses, including pain-specific analgesic activity. Gabapentin is sold as Neurotonin for human use. Gabapentin is a Class 3 drug and a Category B penalty. A split sample was declined by the trainer. Pursuant to the agreement, the stewards stayed 25 days of the suspension provided Frey has no additional Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the term of his one-year probation. Frey began serving the remaining five days of his suspension September 27 through October 1. Bessemer finished second in the third race at the Alameda County Fair meet on July 18, 2009. The stewards disqualified Bessemer and ordered a redistribution of the purse.

The CHRB filed a complaint against trainer Dean Kitchingman for violation of CHRB Rule 1865 after the official veterinarian determined that Northrop N Down was a gelding but the trainer had failed to make the required notification of the sex of the horse when he entered Northrop N Down in a race at Fairplex Park. The stewards at Santa Anita have a hearing scheduled October 14.

The CHRB filed a complaint against trainer Brian Koriner for violation of CHRB Rule 1865 after the official veterinarian determined that Starry Strive was a gelding but the trainer had failed to make the required notification of the sex of the horse when he entered Starry Strive in a race at Fairplex Park. The stewards at Santa Anita have a hearing scheduled October 10.

The CHRB filed a complaint against Geoff Hines, general manager of the Tulare County Fair, for violation of CHRB Rules 2057 (g), (6) (7) (8) by failing to have a security guard on duty during the operation of the simulcast facility and for having unlicensed personnel perform the duties of a simulcast facility supervisor. The stewards at Fresno have a hearing scheduled October 9.

The CHRB filed a complaint against owner/trainer/driver Brian Pharies for violation of CHRB Rules 1849 (a) and 1900 following his conviction in United States District Court for two felony violations, which are grounds for suspension and/or revocation of license. The stewards at Cal Expo have a hearing scheduled October 3.

The CHRB filed two complaints against trainer Robley Johnson for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (d), 1844 (c) (2), and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported the blood sample taken from Fishy's Sushi, a horse in his care, contained flunixin in excess of the authorized decision level and reported the urine sample contained methocarbamol. Flunixin is a regulated non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication; methocarbamol is a muscle relaxant. Fishy's Sushi finished first at Cal Expo on July 24, 2009. The stewards at Cal Expo have a hearing scheduled October 10.

The CHRB filed a complaint against trainer Frances Mae Henderson for violation of CHRB rule 1843 (d), 1844 (1), 1866, and 1887 after Real Sky, a horse in her care, worked at Golden Gate Fields to get off the Vet's list and the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported the post-work blood sample contained phenylbutazone in excess of the allowed dosage. Phenylbutazone is a regulated non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication. The stewards at Golden Gate have a hearing scheduled October 22.

The CHRB filed a complaint against owner Les Johnston for violation of CHRB Rule 1876 alleging unpaid veterinary services. The stewards at Golden Gate have a hearing scheduled October 3.

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