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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

MARCH 22, 2009

WEEKLY UPDATE

SACRAMENTO, CA – This is the California Horse Racing Board's weekly update of complaints, accusations, stewards rulings, and Board decisions involving Class 1, 2, and 3 medication violations and other significant matters.

In accordance with a stipulated agreement between the CHRB and trainer Matias Ruiz, the stewards at Cal Expo suspended Ruiz for 90 days (beginning April 1) and also issued a \$7,500 fine for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d) and 1887 after the Ken Maddy Laboratory at U.C. Davis reported the samples collected from three horses in his care contained heptaminol, a prohibited Class 3 substance. Ruiz declined split-sample analysis. Heptaminol is a myocardial stimulant and an anti-hypotensive drug. All three violations occurred at the Cal Expo harness meet in Sacramento: Avid Sportsman finished first in the 14th race on December 19; Bob Lee finished fourth in the 9th race on December 27; Sandra Hotspur finished sixth in the 10th race on December 27. In separate rulings, the stewards disqualified all three horses and ordered the redistribution of those purses. As stipulated in the agreement, the stewards stayed the \$7,500 fine provided Ruiz has no additional Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the term of a one-year probation.

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