

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 Brenda Washington Davis, Member

Honorable Alex Solis, Member

C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of November 29, 2021, through December 5, 2021.

Monday

11/29/2021

(1) HEARING FOR VETERINARIAN

The Stewards met this "off" day for a complaint filed by the Board against Veterinarian Nicola Hardgrove. Dr. Hardgrove failed to file an electronic report of work she performed on a Martin Valenzuela horse. Dr. Hardgrove testified that she sent all of her treatments to her assistant but did not have an explanation as to why the injection did not appear along with other treatments done that day. She did indicate that there have been other problems with the system currently in place.

The Stewards issued a warning in this instance, as we have done with other veterinarians who have omitted treatments on their reports.

Wednesday

12/01/2021

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward was in the office this week for entries and assorted duties. The entry process for Saturday went rather smoothly, as the card was drawn by mid-afternoon. Sunday's card was a different story. The ten race program was not finalized until after the dinner hour - around 7:30 pm. As one might surmise, changes were few. Ward will write minutes for the coming week.

(2) OFFICIAL CHANGES

Steward Rich Williams will be moving over to the Thoroughbred meeting for the next two weeks and David Nuesch will take his place for the remainder of this meeting (December 19). Safety Steward Paul Atkinson is also going over to Thoroughbreds, with George Yniguez moving into the vacant position.

Friday

12/03/2021

(1) PANEL MEETINGS

The Los Alamitos Panel met on Thursday and Friday to review past performances for the coming weekend. Short fields, along with mainly allowance races, made the review process rather speedy.

Saturday
12/04/2021

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 1st Race #2 Wicked Blue (Panel-Not Eligible-not on grounds for seven days prior to entry)
Refund of \$254.60
- 7th Race #1 SS Diablo (Vet-injured) Refund of \$76.50

(2) APPRENTICE ALLOWANCE REDUCED

Apprentice Diego Herrera, who is claiming a seven pound apprentice allowance, won his fortieth race with the “bug” in this evening’s first race and therefore is now entitled to only a five pound allowance. Steward David Nuesch was interested in the number of wins the young man had and in comparing his statistics from the Daily Racing Form against his apprentice certificate, determined that one “win” was missing from his apprentice certificate records. The Jockeys’ Room was contacted and the weight for his one remaining Thoroughbred mount of the evening was increased by two pounds. Announcements were made regarding the correction.

(3) STEWARDS’ INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the fifth race as the Stewards reviewed video of the interference at the start of the 110 yard race. The horses involved were the fourth, fifth and sixth place finishers- #3 Fly Light (V. Salazar), #2 Camilo Fire (D. Herrera), and #1 Tribal Princess (H. R. Lopez).

After reviewing video, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Fly Light from fourth to sixth position. The review showed the horse stumbling slightly and breaking in sharply bumping Camilo Fire and forcing that horse into Tribal Princess. The margins were a “nose” and a “head”. Consequently, the Stewards felt that the incident at the start cost the two horses a position.

(4) STEWARDS’ INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the seventh race, once again for an incident at the start. The third place finisher, #6 Bet Thru The Eagle (R. Lozano) broke in, bothering #5 Jet Force One (J. P. Leon) and #4 Bully Girl (H. R. Lopez) in the process. After review, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Bet Thru The Eagle from third to sixth position. Video showed that the contact in the second stride was solid, ultimately placing Bully Girl on the heels of another runner.

(5) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	736	\$120,548.90
Off track	991	\$296,754.90
Out of state	N/A	\$945,847.65
Total	1,727	\$1,363,151.45

Sunday
12/05/2021

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 3rd Race #4 Empire Rocket (Vet-sick)
#5 Apollos Dashn Cowboy (Vet-sick) Refund of \$193.66
- 4th Race #1 Mystic Grey (Vet-sick) Refund of \$426.90
- 8th Race #1 La Zaina De Nogales (Vet-sick)
#4 Set Forth (Panel-Veterinarian Issues) Refund of \$151.12
- 9th Race #2 Cartell Chick (Vet-sick)
#4 Jess Reloaded (Vet-sick) Refund of \$228.52

(2) RULING #225

Ruling # 225

DR. NICOLA J. HARDGROVE IS ISSUED A WRITTEN WARNING FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1842 (a) (EVERY VETERINARIAN WHO TREATS A HORSE WITHIN THE ENCLOSURE SHALL,

USING AN ELECTRONIC ON-LINE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD, REPORT TO THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN) FOR TREATMENT AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON OCTOBER 9, 2021, TO BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 10, 2021.

This ruling was issued to finalize the complaint against Dr. Hardgrove, which was heard on November 29th.

(3) VIDEO REVIEW/ RULING #226

Victor Salazar and Ruben Lozano were in the office this afternoon to address possible riding infractions from Saturday evening. (Ref. 12-4-2021 #3 and #4). After a review of the video, Mr. Salazar was held blameless for the incident as he made the proper effort to correct his mount after it had broken in and stumbled. Mr. Lozano, on the other hand, was given a two day suspension as it was felt that he could have reacted sooner to control his mount. The following ruling was issued:

Ruling # 226

JOCKEY RUBEN LOZANO, WHO RODE BET THRU THE EAGLE IN THE SEVENTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON DECEMBER 4, 2021, IS SUSPENDED FOR TWO (2) RACING DAYS (DECEMBER 12TH AND 18TH, 2021) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE AT THE START, CAUSING INTERFERENCE WHICH RESULTED IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS MOUNT FROM THIRD TO SIXTH POSITION. THIS CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1699 (RIDING RULES- CARELESS RIDING).

(4) STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION- NEW VIDEO TOOL

The Stewards posted the inquiry sign after the second race to review an incident entering the far turn involving the first, second, and sixth place finishers; respectively, #4 Dairy Kid (J. Sanchez), #1 My Bella Chick (E. Rojas), and #3 Project Logic (B. Harvey). Observation during the race indicated that Mr. Harvey's horse was in tight quarters at the point of the turn and was checked sharply. After review, Dairy Kid was disqualified from the Win and placed sixth in a unanimous decision. Our normal camera placements were inconclusive as to the cause; however, our new "drone" camera, which has been operational for the past two weeks, proved to be just what we needed to sort out responsibility for the interference. The overhead shot showed that the outside horse, Dairy Kid, dropped in without sufficient clearance to cause tight quarters.

The addition of this camera to the video review process is a great step forward in officiating as it effectively eliminates the "blind spot" we encounter when dealing with incidents on a turn. We hope we can keep it.

(5) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	443	\$71,238.70
Off track	901	\$183,642.30
Out of state	N/A	\$1,057,885.27
Total	1,344	\$1,312,766.27

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on December 6, 2021. One equine death was reported this week due to racing injuries. During this reporting period, 9 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 1 for soundness, 1 for injury, 6 for sickness, and 1 for bleeding. Four 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	Sat 12/04	Sun 12/05	Week	Meet
Accidents	D			0	0	0	4
Cal-Bred Races	A			0	0	0	19
Claims	R			4	1	5	221
Disqualifications	K			2	1	3	32
Inquiries		D		2	1	3	70
Refunds		A		2	4	6	460
Rulings		Y		0	2	2	226
Voided Claims		S		0	0	0	28

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

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward

George Yniguez, Safety Steward