

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 Brenda Washington Davis, Member

Honorable Thomas Hudnut, Member

Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member

C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of February 28, 2022, through March 6, 2022.

Monday

02/28/2022

(1) MORNING HEARING

The Stewards were in session on this "off" racing day to resolve a complaint filed by Trainer Gail Ruffu against owner Margaret Ransom, who had failed to satisfy a court order financial judgement. Aside from the financial aspect of the court order, there were other items the judge decreed that were beyond the scope of our jurisdiction. Ms. Ruffu understood our position, as her main focus was on the money owed. Ms. Ransom did not appear, but was contacted at her home in Texas. She said that the complaint was not received, but that a check would be sent immediately.

Wednesday

03/02/2022

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward is in the office this week for entries, scratches, and minutes. The entry process was very slow, even with trials on both nights. The ten race programs were not drawn until after 7:00 pm. Changes were held to a minimum.

Thursday

03/03/2022

(1) PANEL MEETINGS

The Los Alamitos entry panel met on Thursday and Friday to review past performances for the weekend.

Saturday

03/05/2022

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

1st Race #4 Iconic Storm (Vet-unsound) Refund of \$144.26

3rd Race #2 Autism Ability (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$135.70
4th Race #6 Suezaaana (Stewards-trainer) Refund of \$308.56
5th Race #5 Jay Boy (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$133.26

(2) **RULINGS**

Ruling # 32

OWNER MARGARET RANSOM, HAVING FAILED TO RESPOND TO A WRITTEN NOTICE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEWARDS AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 28, 2022, IS SUSPENDED FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1547 (FAILURE TO APPEAR) PENDING AN APPEARANCE AT A HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF STEWARDS TO ANSWER TO CHARGES ALLEGING VIOLATION OF CHRB RULE #1876 (FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY). SUSPENSION TO COMMENCE ON MARCH 7, 2022.

This ruling was issued after Ms. Ransom failed to appear in person and the check which she said was mailed to satisfy the judgment did not arrive.

Ruling # 33

JOCKEY ARMANDO R. CERVANTES IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1683 (MAXIMUM OVERWEIGHT) RESULTING IN A LATE RIDER CHANGE IN THE EIGHTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 27, 2022.

The preceding ruling was issued as Mr. Cervantes could not get within the seven pound overweight limit for his mount in the eighth race on February 27, causing a late rider change.

(3) **STARTING GATE ISSUE/ STEWARDS' INQUIRY/ HORSE DECLARED NON-STARTER**

The Stewards posted the inquiry sign following the third race after Starter Gary Brinson informed us that he encountered a problem with the starting gate solenoid. He said the doors of the gate did not open when he first hit the "start" button, but then all opened simultaneously when it was depressed a second time. Consequently, the possibility of calling off the race became a moot issue.

However, at the start, #3 Run Manny Run went in the air in the first stride and lost the rider, Henry Reynoso Lopez. Also, #6 Soul Prodigy turned its head when the doors opened and left the gate with the assistant starter holding the left rein. In a majority decision, the horse was declared a non-starter, with all wagers being refunded. Ward dissented as he felt that the horse was more at fault than the assistant.

The scratch reduced the field to four wagering interests, prompting the cancellation of "Show" wagering, with the refund amounting to \$38,031.32. We did not feel the problems with individual horses encountered were related to the gate issue.

(4) **CLAIM VOIDED**

A claim deposited by trainer Jesus Uranga in the fifth race for #1 Intense was voided as Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported that the horse was unsound in the left foreleg when it was in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Keith Craigmyle.

(5) **REFUNDS IN THE EIGHTH RACE**

There were two refunds ordered in this evening's eighth race, the second division of the Los Alamitos Oaks trials. #4 World Famous Mia flipped as she stepped on the race track, unseating the rider and running off into the stable area. The refund from this scratch amounted to \$10,100.32. The second refund came as the field was loading into the starting gate. #1 Mason Jar became fractious and injured itself, prompting Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald to recommend that the horse be declared. There was a refund of \$6,321.41 from this declaration.

(6) **ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	625	\$112,245.40
Off track	1,336	\$398,641.70
Out of state	N/A	\$1,152,751.28
Total	1,961	\$1,663,638.38

Sunday
03/06/2022

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 1st Race #4 Way Too Sweet (Vet-unsound) Refund of \$443.92
- 3rd Race #3 Big Brother (Vet-Unsound) Refund of \$447.99
- 5th Race #4 Bold Roman (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$383.62
- 8th Race #3 Set For It (Stewards-On Vet's list) Refund of \$189.16

(2) JOCKEY CROP RULINGS

Ruling # 34

JOCKEY VICTOR M. SALAZAR IS FINED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688 (b)(1) (DURING TRAINING) AND (c)(2) (CROP NOT IN THE UNDERHAND POSITION) (USE OF RIDING CROP) ON JANUARY 29, 2022.

Ruling # 36

JOCKEY ARMANDO CERVANTES IS FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688 (b)(1) (USE OF RIDING CROP - DURING TRAINING) ON MARCH 1, 2022.

The foregoing rulings were issued after the riders were observed using the crop during morning training. The disparity in the amount of the fines was that Mr. Salazar used the crop in the "cocked" position, while Mr. Cervantes had his stick down.

(3) RULING

Ruling # 35

PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1766 (h) (DESIGNATED RACES – PARTICIPATING IN MORE THAN ONE TRIAL HEAT IN ONE RACING DAY), JOCKEY RODRIGO ACEVES IS SUSPENDED ONE (1) ADDITIONAL RACING DAY (MARCH 12, 2022).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Aceves rode in four trial heats on the Saturday program. At this point, it is not known if any of the horses qualified for the finals.

(4) REFUND

A refund was ordered in the sixth race as #6 Nash Eye Special reared and fell just before stepping on the track and declared on the advice of Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald. The refund from the scratch totaled \$12,784.63. Jockey Jonathan Roman was not injured.

(5) ACCIDENT/ INQUIRY/ NO CHANGE

The inquiry sign was posted following the eighth race (Derby Trials) to review the circumstances which caused #2 Bello Cartel to fall leaving the starting gate. After review, the Stewards determined that the horse lost its action in the hind end and fell. The horse quickly got to its feet and ran off down the track, none the worse for the experience. Jockey Henry Reynoso Lopez was not injured.

(6) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	596	\$89,851.20
Off track	1,031	\$222,052.60
Out of state	N/A	\$1,224,466.40
Total	1,627	\$1,536,370.20

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on March 6, 2022. There were no equine deaths to report this week. During this reporting period, 14 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 8 for soundness and 6 for injury. 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 03/05	Sun 03/06	Week	Meet
Accidents	D			0	1	1	2
Cal-Bred Races	A			0	0	0	0
Claims	R			1	6	7	43
Disqualification	K			0	0	0	3
Inquiries		D		1	1	2	11
Refunds		A		7	5	12	87
Rulings		Y		2	3	5	36
Voided Claims		S		1	0	1	5

Stewards' Attendance: Stewards Tom Ward, James Dreyer, Rich Williams, and Safety Steward Paul Atkinson were in attendance during this reporting period.

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

Rich Williams, Steward

Paul Atkinson, Safety Steward