

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

Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of August 2, 2023, through August 6, 2023.

Wednesday

08/02/2023

(1) DUTY STEWARD – SATURDAY ENTRIES

Tom Ward will be in the office this week for entries, scratches, and panel duty. The entry process went well, as a ten-race card was finalized around four o'clock. Two Thoroughbred, two Mixed Breed, and six Quarter Horse events comprise the evening's line-up.

Thursday

08/03/2023

(1) STEWARD OFF

Mr. James Dreyer will be absent for a few days for personal reasons. Mr. Paul Atkinson will replace Mr. Dreyer.

(2) SUNDAY ENTRIES/ HEARING DAY/ SATURDAY PANEL

Entries are being accepted this morning for what hopefully will be another ten-race program for Sunday. The Panel met this morning by phone, with one horse being declared due to lingering veterinary issues.

(3) TRAINER MEDICATION HEARING

Trainer Elena Andrade was in the office this morning in response to a complaint filed against her by the Board. Her horse, Jessica Cruz, the winner of the seventh race at Los Alamitos on May 21, 2023, showed the presence of Phenylbutazone in the post-race sample.

Ms. Andrade was straightforward, stating that she inadvertently gave the filly oral Bute by mistake three days prior to the race and her attending veterinarian, Dr. Ashley Troncatty, injected the horse two days prior. Ms. Andrade felt this was the cause of the problem.

A ruling will be issued this coming weekend.

(4) ELIGIBILITY HEARING

The second hearing of the day involved the horse Rock N Rye, the winner of the sixth race at Los Alamitos on March 18, 2023. In question was the eligibility of the horse, as it had been off for over a year and failed the post-work blood test following its required five furlong work on March 6th. The complaint stated that because it failed to test it was not eligible to start.

The horse's trainer, Edwin Alvarez, stated that the Official Veterinarian told him that the horse was "okay to enter" following the work. He also said that he was not aware of any problem with the test until the day after the horse ran. Mr. Terry Lovinger, the majority owner of the horse, testified that the horse was never on the Veterinarian's List prior to the March 6th work. Equine Medical Director, Dr. Jeff Blea, was contacted and affirmed the fact that the horse was not on any list prior to the race. He did say that InCompass is now designating all horses which have not raced in a year or more as "on Vet's List".

We will discuss the facts of the interesting case and render a decision in the near future.

Friday
08/04/2023

(1) SUNDAY CHANGES/ SUNDAY PANEL

Scratch time for the Sunday card went smoothly, with one horse declared as its trainer could not obtain a suitable replacement rider. There were, however, a number of weight corrections. The Los Alamitos panel met, with one horse being placed on the "hard watch" list.

Saturday
08/05/2023

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

1st Race #2 Some Royalty (Panel-vet issues) Refund of \$196.80
4th Race #4 Divine Rascal (Vet-injured)
#6 City of Champions (Vet-injured) Refund of \$198.15
6th Race #3 Jesses Kisses (Vet-injured) Refund of \$533.65
10th Race #5 Shott Gun (Stakes) Refund of \$754.35

(2) VIDEO REVIEW

Jockey Ricardo Ramirez, who was involved in a disqualification last Sunday, was in the office this afternoon to discuss the race. Accompanying the rider was trainer Jesus Nunez, who acted as an interpreter. Following a thorough review of the race and a lengthy discussion, it was the unanimous decision of the Stewards not to penalize Mr. Ramirez. Video showed that his mount broke in rather sharply and was corrected by the rider. His horse then proceeded to drift out even though the rider had its head turned. Compounding the problem was the fact that Mr. Rojas's mount was drifting inward while the inside horse was coming out. Culpability was likely 55%-45% to the inside horse and rider- not enough to warrant a suspension.

(3) RULING

Ruling # 91

TRAINER JOSE FLORES IS FINED THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00)* FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER THE HORSE HARD TO KNOW AS A BLEEDER PRIOR TO ENTRY. THIS CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1845 (b)(2) (BLEEDER LIST-LATE REGISTRATION).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Flores neglected to register his horse Hard To Know as a bleeder at the proper time.

(4) RULING

Ruling # 92

JOCKEY JAIRO RANGEL IS FINED SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$750.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688 (b) (7) (USE OF RIDING CROP – MORE THAN TWO TIMES IN SUCCESSION WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND) WHILE RIDING REQUIRED FIRST IN THE NINTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JULY 30, 2023.

This ruling was issued following video review of the ninth race from July 30, 2023, during which Mr. Rangel violated the crop rule. The fine amount reflected a second crop violation. His first was in early July.

(5) RULING

Ruling #93

JOCKEY CERAPIO FIGUEROA IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1872 (FAILURE TO FULFILL RIDING ENGAGEMENT), CAUSING A LATE RIDER CHANGE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON JULY 29, 2023.

Mr. Figueroa was the recipient of this ruling as he chose to ride at Del Mar rather than honor his commitment at Los Alamitos last Saturday evening. His actions resulted in a late rider switch.

(6) RULING

Ruling # 94

TRAINER ELENA ANDRADE, WHO STARTED THE HORSE "JESSICA CRUZ", AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON MAY 21, 2023, IS FINED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* AND ASSESSED 1/2 POINT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1843.4 MULTIPLE MEDICATION VIOLATIONS (EXPIRES MAY 20, 2024) 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), #1843.1 (A) (PROHIBITED DRUG SUBSTANCES – PHENYLBUTAZONE- FIRST VIOLATION WITHIN THE PAST 365 DAYS).

The preceding ruling was issued to finalize the case against Ms. Andrade. This was her first violation in quite a long time, and she said it would not happen again.

(7) RULING

Ruling # 95

JOCKEY KEVIN JESUS CAMACHO, HAVING NOW COMPLIED WITH CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1532 (PAYMENT OF FINES), IS RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING AND LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION RULING #73, IS SET ASIDE.

The foregoing ruling was published after the Stewards were informed by Paymaster Dawn Jackson that Mr. Camacho had paid all of this past due fines. As such, he is now eligible to come on the grounds and accept mounts.

(8) STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted following the seventh race as the Stewards reviewed the start, which was, without a doubt, a mess. Following video review, the Stewards disqualified #2 CM Apollitical Dandy for coming out at the break, forcing the rider aboard #3 Jessie Wagon Cash to check in order to avoid heels. CM Apollitical Dandy was disqualified from fifth to eighth position. The rider, Irving Lara, was held blameless.

(9) LATE DECLARATION – NO RIDER

A late declaration was announced in the ninth race as Victor Salazar, scheduled to ride #1 One Famous Commando, took off due to illness and no rider in the room would accept the open mount. The refund from the scratch amounted to \$2,026.50.

(10) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	985	\$104,483.30
Off track	955	\$296,803.30
Out of state	N/A	\$1,182,339.05
Total	1,940	\$1,583,625.65

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 1st Race #3 Hot Pursuit (Vet-unsound)
#7 Time Is Gone (Vet-sick) Refund of \$516.20
- 2nd Race #2 Quiet Forest (Vet-sick)
#6 Noisy Burglar (Vet-unsound) Refund of \$495.00
- 4th Race #3 Big Cheddar (Vet-injured) Refund of \$203.50
- 5th Race #7 Blownbubbles (Vet-sick) Refund of \$154.10
- 9th Race #1 Shez Our Jess (Stakes)
#2 One Sweet Duck (Stakes) Refund of \$416.65

(2) RIDERS EXCUSED

Jockeys Armando Viramontes and Juan Pablo Leon were excused from their mounts due to illness. Replacement riders were announced.

(3) RULING

Ruling # 96

JOCKEY ARMANDO R. CERVANTES IS FINED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688 (b) (8) (USE OF RIDING CROP – MORE THAN SIX TIMES DURING THE RUNNING OF THE RACE) WHILE RIDING SCOOPS DYNASTY IN THE TENTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON AUGUST 5, 2023.

This ruling was issued as Mr. Cervantes was observed violating the crop rule in the tenth race last evening while riding Scoops Dynasty to a narrowly-beaten second place finish. He admitted the violation and said that the heat of competition, going nose and nose with World Champion Empressum, just got the better of him.

(4) STEWARDS' INQUIRY – NO CHANGE

The inquiry sign was posted after the first race to review an incident entering the far turn involving #2 Epic Drama (2nd J. Gonzalez) and #1 We Miss Geno (B. Harvey). Observation of the race indicated that Mr. Harvey may have been shut off by his rival as he checked very sharply. However, after reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to make no change to the original placings. Mr. Harvey had no reason to react the way he did as even though there had been minor contact between the two horses on the backstretch, there was still ample room for both horses to make the turn.

(5) ACCIDENT/ STEWARDS INQUIRY/ DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was on the tote board after the second race as the Stewards reviewed the cause of an accident entering the far turn which resulted in Jesse Gonzalez being unseated from his mount, #4 Run Auntie T Run. After reviewing video of the video of the incident, the Stewards voted to disqualify #7 Cal, ridden by Barrington Harvey, from second to "unplaced". Video showed that Mr. Harvey permitted his mount to drift in without sufficient clearance, causing Mr. Gonzalez' mount to clip heels and stumble sharply.

Mr. Gonzalez was examined by paramedics and, fortunately, was cleared to ride. Mr. Harvey will review video on Saturday.

(6) CLAIM VOIDED

A claim in the second race by trainer Jeff Metz for #5 Night Party was voided as the horse exhibited signs of soreness in the right foreleg during its time in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Chuck Treece.

(7) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	601	\$81,986.80
Off track	790	\$94,956.40
Out of state	N/A	\$1,008,123.40
Total	1,391	\$1,185,066.60

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on August 6, 2023. There were no equine deaths to report this week. During this reporting period, 13 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 6 for soundness, 4 for injury, and 3 for sickness. One horse 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 08/05	Sun 08/06	Week	Meet
Accidents	D			0	1	1	11
Cal-Bred Races	A			0	0	0	16
Claims	R			5	1	6	91
Disqualifications	K			1	1	2	19
Inquiries		D		1	2	3	31
Refunds		A		6	5	11	319
Rulings		Y		5	1	6	96
Voided Claims		S		0	1	1	20

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

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

Paul Atkinson, Safety Steward