

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS

Humboldt County Fair Ferndale, California

TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member
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Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director
Marc Shaw, Chief, Enforcement Division
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for the Week of Tuesday August 22, 2023, through Sunday August 27, 2023.

TUESDAY

8/22/23¹

DUTY STEWARD

Mr. John Yinger was on duty to assist the Racing Office as they produced a racing program for Friday. Six races were drawn with thirty-five (35) entrants.

WEDNESDAY

8/23/2023¹

ENTRY AND PANEL

Saturday's entries and Friday's changes were under the supervision of Steward **Yinger**. There were no changes at Scratch Time for Friday. Saturday's entries produced eight races, one Quarter Horse dash and seven Thoroughbred events. The dash was carded with four horses and there were forty-two horses in the other seven races.

An Entry Panel was convened led by **Dr. Grande** and **Mr. Yinger** present. Several horses were labeled as "**HARD WATCH**" recommended scratches.

THURSDAY

8/24/23¹

FINAL DAY ENTRIES

Seven races filled the Overnight with Humboldt Marathon closing out the race meet. A Quarter Horse stake with seven runners covering 220 Yards starts the day with the remaining six races being for Thoroughbreds, thirty runners. Six entrants were scheduled for the mile and five-eighth closer.

FRIDAY

8/25/23¹

PROGRAM CHANGES

Race 3 – Scratch – #2 **Spanish Channel** (Tr. **Teri Beckner**) Unsound –
Audrey Clifton, DVM

Scratch – #3 **Cal** (Tr. **Angela Aquino**) Injured–**Audrey Clifton, DVM**

Scratch - #4 **Teaspoon of Pepper** (Tr. **Bruno Maelfeyt**)
Race 4 - #3 **Fully Loaded** (Tr. **Gary Greiner**) Injured – **Audrey Clifton, DVM**

8/25/23²

CLEAR AFTERNOON

This afternoon's race program was clear of any problems.

8/25/23³

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

| | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|
| On track | 1,049 | \$53,651.20 |
| Out of state | n/a | \$163,981.09 |
| SCOTWinc | n/a | \$52,198.40 |
| Total | 1,717 | \$307,272.49 |

SATURDAY

8/26/23¹

PROGRAM CHANGES

Race 1 – Scratch #4 – **Sheza Special Trick** (Tr. **E. Guerrero**) Injured – **Audrey Clifton, DVM** **NO PLACE – NO SHOW WAGERING**

Race 3 – Scratch #1 – **Siege the Day** (Tr. **Angela Aquino**) Injured – **Audrey Clifton, DVM**

8/26/23²

RACE 3 LATE SCRATCH

As the Starter was preparing to dispatch the field from the Starting Gate #6 **Too Tall To Call** broke through the stall doors unseating jockey **Taylor Smith**. The gelding ran down the lane and when he entered the backstretch the horse attempted to jump the outside fence. He made it over with his front legs, but the hind limbs got caught on the upper railing. The horse leaving the Course resulted in the Stewards initiating a scratch which cancelled the **SHOW POOL**.

When the #6 broke through the stall doors of the gate the Betting was locked in error by the Stewards. Tote was immediately notified and prior to the remaining horses being re-loaded the machines were re-activated. Accident report by Safety Steward will be attached to final minutes.

8/26/23³

RACE 3 INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

Two incidents in the running of this race got the attention of this Panel as we hung the **INQUIRY**. Both involved the first horse to cross the wire, #2, **Sasquatch Ride** with **Jose Rodriguez** in the irons.

The first was when horses were approaching the second turn of this five-furlong race. #2 **Sasquatch Ride** dropped in front of #5, **Big Bad Brian**, who finished third, causing that horse to check and lose momentum. We attempted to get **Richard Birdrattler**, who was aboard the #5, on the phone but the connection went dead. This has been an on-going problem, with the phones to all departments.

The second problem was when horses entered the stretch. #2 came out several times bumping and impeding #4 **Mr. Botanicals** ridden by **Francisco Monroy**. Again, we contacted the Winners Circle phone but once **Monroy** got on, the lines went dead.

We reviewed all angles of the video. Regarding the incident going into the

turn, it was unanimous that actions of **#2** causing **#5** to check and steady costing **Big Bend Brian** a better placing.

The actions down the lane were also looked at several times. Again, it was unanimous that the bumping and drifting out by **#2**, plus the fact it was a close photo for the win, cost **Mr. Botanicals** a better placing. In a **3-0** decision we Disqualified **#2** from the first position and placed him behind both runners he bothered.

Original Order of Finish 2 – 4 – 5 – 3
Official Order of Finish 4 – 5 – 2 – 3

8/26/23⁴

RACE 6 GATE DISASTER

This race started with seven betting interests and due to four separate accidents at the gate it finished being a **NO PLACE/NO SHOW** wagering contest. Five horses were in the gate (**#s 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6**) when **#2 Kimberly's Devil** became possessed and flipped in the gate. Jockey **Vladimir Jensen** was thrown out the back, uninjured, but the horse was down in the gate stall. On-track Vet **Clifton** reported the filly as injured and recommended the Stewards withdraw her from the race, which was granted.

The horses were unloaded at this point until the **#2** could be freed from under the gate. As the field was re-entering the gate, **#4 A Lotta Nerve**, got upset in the gate unseating jockey **Hugo Herrera** and getting herself in a sitting position with her front legs over the stall sides. The Stewards agreed and contacted the Mutuel Department about this additional scratch.

As the gate crew was getting **#4** out of her stall **#5 Abbey Oops**, decided to join in the fracas and turned upside down behind the gate landing on her hip and shoulder. Jockey **Francisco Monroy** was thrown clear of the horse, uninjured, but due to the filly hitting the ground she became an automatic scratch request by **Dr. Clifton**. Again, the Stewards backed the decision of the Vet and contacted Mutuels of this additional late scratch and the fact that the Show Wagering Pool would be cancelled.

When **#5** had been withdrawn from the wagering pools the Starter was given the okay to load the remaining four horses. Unfortunately, **#7 Madame Causeway** had different thoughts as she flipped and pinned Jockey **Robert Webb** under her full weight. **Mr. Webb** suffered a severe injury to his right leg and was attended to by the Ambulance crew, who immediately transported him to the hospital.

Madame Causeway's action of body landing on the track surface caused **Dr. Clifton** to ask for the filly to be scratched. This was automatic with the Stewards and resulted in the **Place Pool** being cancelled. The original seven horse field now has three starters.

This is not the end of this fiasco as the three horses were sent back to the Paddock to await an ambulance to arrive. It took approximately thirty-seven (37) minutes for an Ambulance to arrive, and the horses were given ten minutes for a Post Parade. The race finally ran forty-seven (47) minutes later than the scheduled post.

8/26/23⁵

RACE 7 RIDER CHANGE

#3, Live A Good Life, is to be ridden by **Vladimir Jensen**, replacing the injured **Robert Webb**.

8/26/23⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

| | | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|
| On track | 4,712 | \$94,855.90 |
| Out of state | n/a | \$136,450.51 |
| SCOTWinc | n/a | \$39,948.20 |
| Total | 5,941 | \$311,543.01 |

SUNDAY

8/27/23¹

RODRIGUEZ RULING

Jockey **Jose Rodriguez** met with this Board of Stewards to discuss his performance in the running of Saturday’s third race which resulted in the Disqualification of his mount from first to third. His decisions were being questioned when he first caused **Richard Birdrattler** to take up going into the final turn, then his lack of effort down the lane allowing his mount to drift and bump the runner – up. After viewing the replays and some discussion the following ruling was issued.

HCF RULING #1

Jockey **Jose Rodriguez**, who rode **SASQUATCH RIDE** in the third race at the Humboldt County Fair (Ferndale) on August 26, 2023, is suspended three (3) racing days, September 3, 4 and 9, 2023, for causing interference entering the turn (1/4), resulting in a disqualification from first to third place, a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule # 1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

8/27/23²

RIDER CHANGES

Jockey **Robert Webb**, injured in yesterday’s sixth race will be excused from his engagements in the First and Third races. Jockey **Vladimir Jensen** will ride **#7 CONQUEST CREEK** in the opening event. **#5 Great Curves** will be piloted by **Hugo Herrera** in the third.

8/27/23³

RACE 5 CLAIM

Trainer **Bill Hof** claimed **#5 Perseverance** for \$4,000. The claim slip had the **BOX** checked that he would take the horse even if the **VET** did not pass the six-year-old.

8/27/23⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

| | | |
|--------------|-------|----------------|
| On track | 1,686 | \$238,352.06 |
| Out of state | n/a | \$1,227,771.86 |
| SCOTWinc | n/a | \$217,337.37 |
| Total | 2,649 | \$2,203,648.34 |

SUMMARY

| | Fri 8/25 | Sat 8/26 | Sun 8/27 | Week | Meet |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------|------|
| Accidents | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cal-Bred Races | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Claims | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Disqualifications | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Inquiries | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Refunds | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Rulings | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Voided Claims | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

VETERINARIAN RECOMMENDED SCRATCHES

| Date | Race | No. | Horse | Trainer | Reason | Vet | Refunds |
|---------|------|-----|---------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| 8/25/23 | 3 | 2 | Spanish Channel | T.Beckner | Unsound | Clifton | See Below |
| 8/25/23 | 3 | 3 | Cal | A.Aquino | Injured | Clifton | See Below |
| 8/25/23 | 3 | 4 | Teaspoon of Pepper | B. Maelfeyt | Injured | Clifton | \$117.00 |
| 8/25/23 | 4 | 3 | Fully Loaded | G. Greiner | Injured | Clifton | \$30.30 |
| 8/26/23 | 1 | 4 | Sheza Special Trick | E.Guerrero | Injured | Clifton | \$112.00 |
| 8/26/23 | 3 | 1 | Siege the Day | A.Aquino | Injured | Clifton | \$22,030.10 |

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Lewis, Steward

John Yinger, Steward

Calvin Rainey, Steward

BOS RL:lw