

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association
Cypress, California

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 C. Hudnut, Member
- Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member
- C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director
- Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director
- Marc Shaw, Chief, Enforcement Division
- Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of September 13, 2023, through September 17, 2023.

WEDNESDAY

9/13/23¹

DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward is on duty this week and will also write minutes for this corresponding period.

9/13/23²

SATURDAY ENTRIES

The Saturday card filled rather well, as nine races were drawn by mid-afternoon.

THURSDAY

9/14/23¹

HEARING DAY

The Stewards convened this morning to hear case #23LA0159, filed against trainer Heath Taylor for the presence of two NSAIDs – Phenylbutazone and Flunixin – in a post work blood test taken from Political Rivalry on July 22, 2023. The horse was on the list for bleeding following its last race.

Mr. Taylor had no problem with the Phenylbutazone finding as his attending veterinarian, Dr. Ashley Troncatty, administered the drug to the horse on two occasions. He did, however, strongly object to the Flunixin finding as he maintained that the horse never received the medication. He said that he does not keep Flunixin in the barn and that he did not order the administration from his vet.

Mr. Taylor, who had started quite a few horses at this meeting with good success, has had one similar violation back in January of this year. We will review all testimony and render a decision shortly.

9/14/23²

SUNDAY ENTRIES/ SATURDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL

The entry process for Sunday did not fare as well as the previous day as entries were not drawn until late afternoon. There were two weight corrections on the Saturday card.

The Los Alamitos nighttime panel met to discuss the Saturday entries, with one horse being scratched as it was not eligible to enter. The horse had been placed on the Veterinarian's List.

FRIDAY
9/15/23¹

SUNDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL

There were weight corrections, rider changes, and pari-mutuel offering changes at scratch time this morning. The Los Alamitos night panel convened to discuss Sunday entries. One horse was scratched by the panel due to veterinarian concerns. As an aside, the same horse had been entered for the Saturday day meet and was panel scratched there, as well. The trainer was informed. There was one "hard watch" horse on the card.

SATURDAY
9/16/23¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

4th Race #5 Break Even (Not eligible to enter)
#6 AJ Hot Boy (Vet-injured) Refund of \$1,138.35

9/16/23²

RIDERS EXCUSED

Jockey Jairo Rangel was excused from his mounts this evening due to illness. Replacement riders were named. Mark Jasso was replaced in the second race as he called to say that he was named without having given a call and was not in town.

9/16/23³

JOCKEY RULINGS

Ruling #112

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1766 (h) (Designated Races- participating in more than one trial heat in one racing day), Jockey Armando Cervantes is suspended one (1) additional racing day (September 23, 2023).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Cervantes rode more than one trial heat last weekend while under suspension.

Ruling #113

Jockey Jose M. Nicasio, who rode You See That in the ninth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 10, 2023, is suspended for two (2) racing days (September 23rd and 24th, 2023) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course leaving the starting gate, causing interference which resulted in the disqualification of his mount from fourth to ninth position. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules- Careless Riding).

The preceding ruling was issued after Mr. Nicasio, with Jesus Nunez

acting as his interpreter, had viewed the ninth race from September 10, as his mount had been disqualified for interference at the start. Following review and quite a bit of discussion, the decision was reached to suspend Mr. Nicasio for two racing days as it was felt that he could have reacted sooner to prevent interference. The vote was majority – Ward dissenting.

09/16/23⁴

RULING

Ruling #114

Owner Salvador Banuelos, Jr., having complied with the provisions of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility), is restored to good standing. Ruling #LAQL202, issued at Los Alamitos Racing Association on August 16, 2016, is set aside.

This ruling was issued after the Stewards were informed that Mr. Banuelos had satisfied his debt to Equine Sports Medicine.

09/16/23⁵

STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the ninth race (Grade 1 Millie Vessels) as the Stewards reviewed an incident nearing the middle of the 400 yard event. The horses involved were the second place finisher (#1 Lil Longmire – J. Nicasio), the eighth place horse (#4 Lefty Cartel – I. Lara), and the ninth place runner (#5 Sweet Tess – O. Peinado).

After reviewing video of the race from all angles, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Lil Longmire from second to ninth position. The review showed the horse bearing out considerably, forcing #2 CIR Lady Moon into the path of both horses and forcing their riders to check their mounts sharply. The incident, in the Stewards' opinion, cost both horses the opportunity for a better placing.

9/16/23⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	686	\$107,149.00
Off track	1,228	\$287,838.10
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$901,688.17
Total	1,914	\$1,296,675.27

SUNDAY

9/17/23¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

1st Race #1 Run Auntie T Run (Stewards - entered in wrong race)
Refund of \$160.96

2nd Race #3 Pollo D'Oro (Vet – injured) Refund of \$2,082.29

3rd Race #3 Tiz A Master (Vet – injured) Refund of \$117.35

5th Race #2 Dance Kid (Panel) Refund of \$169.60

8th Race #6 Booz Crooz (Vet – Injured) Refund of \$352.80

9/17/23²

RULING

Ruling # 115

Trainer Heath Taylor, who worked the horse POLITICAL RIVALRY at Los Alamitos Race Course on July 22, 2023, is fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00)* and assessed ½ point in accordance with California Horse Racing Board Rule #1843.4 (Multiple medication violations – expires July 21, 2024) pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rules #1887 (Trainer or Owner to insure condition of horse), #1866 (Veterinarian's List), and #1588 (Horse ineligible to start in a race) for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1843 (a, b & d) (Medication, drugs and other substances) and #1843.1 (a) (Prohibited drug substances – Phenylbutazone and Flunixin – second violation within the past 365 days).

The foregoing ruling was issued after a discussion of the complaint filed against Mr. Taylor. Even though he maintained that his horse never received Banamine, the fact is that it showed in the post-work sample. The horse did receive a number of medications prior to the workout, increasing the chance that a mistake was made and Banamine was given.

9/17/23³

RULING

Ruling #116

Having violated the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2280 (use of riding crop) and pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (riding crop violations and penalties – class 3), jockey Edgar Payeras, who rode SHES SO FANCY in the first race at Los Alamitos race course on September 16, 2023, is suspended for (1) day (September 24, 2023), and fined two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00)* for one (1) strike over the limit.

Furthermore, jockey Edgar Payeras is assigned three (3) violation points that will be expunged on March 17, 2024, six (6) months from the date of final adjudication pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (riding crop violations and penalties) – second offense. Jockey Edgar Payeras has accumulated a total of six (6) points.

This ruling was issued after Mr. Payeras had viewed the first race on September 16, 2023, during which he violated the HISA crop rule. The rider did not contest the violation he was charged with.

9/17/23⁴

RULING

Ruling #117

Jockey Jesus Rios Ayala 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 CORPUS CHRISTI in the fourth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 16, 2023.

The above ruling was issued as Mr. Ayala pled “no contest” to the violation.

9/17/23⁵

RULING

Ruling #118

Jockey Jose M. Nicasio, who rode LIL LONGMIRE in the ninth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 16, 2023, is suspended for three (3) racing days (September 30th and October 1st and 7th, 2023) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course, causing interference which resulted in the disqualification of his mount from second to ninth position. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules- Careless Riding).

The preceding ruling was issued after Mr. Nicasio had viewed the ninth race from September 16, following which his mount was disqualified for interference. A majority vote – Ward dissenting – led to the issuance of a three day suspension, as it was felt that the rider did not make a sufficient effort to control his mount. The minority position was that his actions did not equate to “careless riding”.

9/17/23⁶

RIDERS EXCUSED

Jockey Diego Herrera was excused from his mounts this evening as he was involved in a spill during the afternoon program. Juan Pablo Leon was excused due to illness. Replacement riders were named.

9/17/23⁷

CLAIM VOIDED

A claim deposited by trainer Jesus Nunez prior to the second race for #6 Krixus Flash was voided as Official Veterinarian Lorbiecki reported that the horse was “off” in the right foreleg during its time in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Angela Aquino.

9/17/23⁸

GOOD EVENING

All other matters during the racing program were routine.

9/17/23⁹

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	558	\$74,052.20
Off track	905	\$195,645.80
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$850,398.73
Total	1,463	\$1,120,096.73

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on September 17, 2023. There was one equine death to report this week due to racing injuries. During this reporting period, 5 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 1 for soundness and 4 for injury. Eight 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 9/16	Sun 9/17	Week	Meet
Accidents	D			0	0	0	11
Cal-Bred Races	A			0	0	0	16
Claims	R			0	0	0	108
Disqualifications	K			1	0	1	26
Inquiries		D		1	0	1	39
Refunds		A		1	5	6	366
Rulings		Y		3	4	7	118
Voided Claims		S		0	1	1	25

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

Tom Ward, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

Paul Atkinson, Safety Steward