

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
Los Alamitos Race Course
Cypress, California
TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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Report for the Week of Wednesday, January 24 through Sunday, January 28, 2024.

WEDNESDAY1/24/24¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward will be in the office for entries, scratches, and other assorted duties this week. Ward will also be writing minutes for the week.

1/24/24²**SATURDAY ENTRIES**

The nine race card for Saturday filled well today as the draw was finalized by mid-afternoon. Three trials for the Los Alamitos Winter Derby highlight the program.

1/24/24³**FATALITY REVIEW**

Tom Ward and Ron Church participated in a fatality review along with Drs. Alina Vale and Equine Medical Director Jeff Blea. The subject of the review was the horse Club Cal, trained by Salvador Naranjo. The horse was found deceased in its stall in October of 2023. Mr. Naranjo, who also attended the discussion, could not offer anything of substance on the horse's demise.

THURSDAY1/25/24¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES/ SCRATCHES/ SETTLEMENT HEARING**

Entries were taken this morning Sunday night's offerings. Scratch time was limited to two rider changes, while the Los Alamitos entry panel was concluded with no recommended scratches.

A "settlement conference" was held this morning between the Stewards, Carolyn Kline, William Kline, and their former trainer and partner, Robert Lucas. Michel Derieg recorded the proceedings. At issue was a long-standing dispute between the parties over a number of horses. The case was originally heard in late 2021, with no agreement between the parties. There were told to go to court and resolve the issues.

Today, Mr. Lucas introduced a document titled "Stipulation for Entry of Judgement" from the small claims court in San Bernardino County, which found in his favor following a case filed against him by the Klins. They indicated that they were not inclined to fulfill the requirements of the decision due to allegations of perjury by Mr. Lucas.

Just as in the original hearing, things were rather contentious, with both parties speaking over the other, rehashing old disputes and opening some new issues. Finally, after one and one half hours of rancor, the Stewards called a halt in the proceedings and terminated the conference.

We will contact counselor Robert Brodnik for a legal determination. More to come.

FRIDAY

1/26/24¹

SUNDAY SCRATCHES

Scratches and changes for the Sunday card consisted of one horse taken out of the first race and two rider changes in the seventh event. The Panel did not meet due to a conflicting schedule with Dr. Fitzgerald.

SATURDAY

1/27/24¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

6th Race #6 Jessa Good Winner – (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$458.30
9th Race #4 Teller Arizona MRL (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$39.20

1/27/24²

VOIDED CLAIM

A claim deposited by trainer Jose Garcia for #7 Cathedral Light was voided as Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported that the colt was unsound in the left foreleg while in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Martin Valenzuela, Jr.

1/27/24³

STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the third race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at the start involving the second place finisher, #6 Blackened (B. Harvey). After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the start, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Blackened from second to sixth position. Video review showed the horse lugging in sharply in the early going, severely hampering #3 Sugar Sugar, #5 Square Tomatoes, and #4 Turquoise Bikini, the fourth, fifth and sixth place finishers, respectively. The Stewards felt that all three horses were cost the opportunity for a better placing.

1/27/24⁴

STEWARDS' INQUIRY – NO CHANGE

The Inquiry sign was posted following the seventh race as the Stewards reviewed an incident occurring mid-race involving #3 Rockin With Energy, #4 CD Docs Candidata, and #5 Just Watch Her. After conversations with the riders and a review of the race from all pertinent angles, the Stewards unanimously voted to make no change to the original order of finish. While there was some contact, horses were not cost a finish position.

1/27/24⁵

RIDER REPLACEMENT

Jockey Juan Pablo Leon once again lost his battle with the scales as he could not get within the five -pound maximum overweight limit and had to be replaced on his mount in the eighth race.

1/27/24⁶

STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The third inquiry of the evening took place in the ninth race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at the start involving the fourth place finisher, #7 Kevins Wise Corona. After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the start, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Kevins Wise Corona from fourth to sixth position. The horse broke in sharply, causing

hard contact with the two horses to its inside. The rider, Jesus Rios Ayala, was not held responsible as he made a good effort to prevent interference.

1/27/24⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	923	\$89,178.60
SCOTWINC	N/A	\$310,066.60
OUT OF STATE + ADW	1,170	\$947,723.41
TOTAL	2,093	\$1,346,968.61

SUNDAY

1/28/24¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

3rd Race #4 Spend It All – (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$160.65
4th Race #5 Betito (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$159.40

1/28/24²

RIDER EXCUSED

Jockey Armando Cervantes was excused from his mount this evening as he was still muscle sore from a spill following the ninth race on Saturday evening. A replacement rider was named.

1/28/24³

RULING

Ruling #16

Jockey Barrington Harvey, who rode Blackened in the third race at Los Alamitos Race Course on January 27, 2024, is suspended for three (3) racing days (February 4th, 17th, and 18th, 2024) 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 second to sixth position. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1699 (riding rules - careless riding).

This ruling was issued after Mr. Harvey had viewed the third race from January 27, following which his mount was disqualified from second to sixth position for interference at the start. Mr. Harvey maintained that he made a good effort to prevent the interference; however, the video failed to back up his statement. It appeared that he merely rode his horse to the inside, interfering with three horses in the process.

1/28/24⁴

JOCKEY OBJECTION – NO CHANGE

The objection sign was posted after the third race as jockey Ismael Mosqueira (5th, #3 Barbacoa) lodged an objection against jockey Adrian Escobedo (3rd, #5 Acceleration) for interference at the start. Mosqueira contended that his mount was bothered when Escobedo's horse broke in. After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards, by majority vote, dismissed the claim of foul. Stewards Dreyer and Ward felt that while Escobedo's mount did come in, the incident did not cost Mosqueira and his horse the chance for a better finish position. Steward Nuesch was the dissenting opinion.

1/28/24⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	564	\$51,203.20
SCOTWINC	N/A	\$182,779.50
OUT OF STATE + ADW	973	\$984,073.43
TOTAL	1,537	\$1,218,056.13

SUMMARY

	Fri	Sat 1/27	Sun 1/28	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	1
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	0
Claims	R	3	1	4	15
Disqualifications	K	2	0	2	4
Inquiries		3	1	4	7
Refunds	D	2	2	4	26
Rulings	A	0	1	1	16
Voided Claims	Y	1	0	1	8

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward