

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
LOS ANGELES TURF CLUB, INC.
Arcadia, 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 for the Week of Monday, February 5, through Sunday, February 11, 2024.

WEDNESDAY2/7/24¹**ENTRY DAY**

The Racing Office was open accepting entries for Saturday, February 10, 2024. Steward Kim Sawyer is overseeing entries and declarations for the CHRB this week. Ten (10) races were drawn in the racing office by veteran racing officials Charlie McCaul and Robert Moreno. Eighty (80) horses are scheduled to start.

2/7/24²**RACING CARD CANCELLED**

At 11:07 a.m. Santa Anita Park management sent out a message stating in part, the following: *(Santa Anita) ATTENTION HORSEMEN: Racing on Friday has been cancelled. We will add a make-up day on Thursday Feb. 15, and races that had been scheduled for Friday will be offered for Thursday. Entries for the Thursday card will be taken on Saturday, Feb. 10.* This cancellation was due to rain forecast here in Southern California.

THURSDAY2/8/24¹**ENTRY DAY**

The racing office was open accepting entries for Super Bowl Sunday February 11, 2024. Nine races will be carded. Seventy-two horses are scheduled to face Starter Jay Slender.

2/8/24²**MICHAEL McCARTHY COMPLAINT (23SA0190)**

The CHRB filed a complaint against Trainer Michael McCarthy for alleged violation of CHRB Rule #1865(e) (Altering of Sex of Horse). CHRB Investigator J.C. Garrido prepared a twenty-five (25) page complaint packet for today's hearing. The cover page of this complaint reads as follows:

CHRB Investigators were advised the horse UNCLE REG had been scratched from the 4th race on December 26, 2023, at Santa Anita Park for being entered as a colt when it was a gelding.

Stewards Baker, Jauregui, and Sawyer heard this matter. Trainer Michael McCarthy was in attendance. Trainer McCarthy 'pled guilty' to the alleged rule violation. More to follow.

FRIDAY
2/9/24¹

CANCELLED RACE DAY (REF: 2/8/24²)

Due to recent California storms today's racing card was cancelled on Wednesday February 7, 2023. Duty Steward Sawyer oversaw scratches for Sunday February 11, 2024. She also participated in an Entry Panel. Stewards Baker and Jauregui worked a partial day writing minutes, reviewing past and future complaints and meeting with a CHRB Investigator.

SATURDAY
2/10/24¹

ENTRY DAY

Racing was cancelled on Sunday, February 4 due to inclement weather. Santa Anita has added next Thursday, February 15 as a racing day. Today the racing office was open accepting entries for this newly scheduled day of racing.

2/10/24²

MICHAEL MCCARTHY RULING (REF: 2/8/24²)

The Michael McCarthy trained 'Uncle Reg' was scratched from the fourth race on opening day, December 26, 2023. He was incorrectly listed as a gelding in the 'official program. Trainer McCarthy accepted responsibility for the error and the following ruling was issued.

LATS Ruling #21

Trainer MICHAEL McARTHY, who entered the horse UNCLE REG, in the fourth race on December 26, 2023, at Santa Anita Park is fined One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1865 (Altering Sex of Horse - true sex not identified) necessitating a late declaration.

2/10/24³

RETURN OF JAY COHEN

The very popular Hornblower Jay Cohen returned to Santa Anita today following an eight (8) month absence. Cohen has been playing his "Call to the Post" here at Santa Anita since 1987. After his recovery from back surgery, it was very good to see the friendly and very talented Cohen back in the Winners Circle in his bright red jacket, bringing the field of horses for each race out onto the racetrack.

2/10/24⁴

SIXTH RACE INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after observing an incident between the first two finishers in the stretch drive. In this six (6) furlong turf course race, original first place finisher #8 Exultation (Joel Rosario) drifts well out into the middle of the racecourse and bumps second place finisher #5 Barristan The Bold (GB)(Geovanni Franco). This bump was about three (3) strides before the finish line and forced #5 Barristan The Bold off of what was previously a straight course. The margin between these rivals was an extremely slim 'nose' margin.

The Stewards reviewed all camera angles (including drone) of the incident, received a patrol judge report and spoke to both jockeys involved. In a unanimous decision #8 Exultation was disqualified and placed second. Jockey Joel Rosario was ordered to film review with the Stewards.

ORIGINAL ORDER OF FINISH 8-5-4-7-3-2-6-9-1

OFFICIAL ORDER OF FINISH 5-8-4-7-3-2-6-9-1

2/10/24⁵

EIGHTH RACE INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign following the running of the \$100,000 San Marcos Stakes (Grade 3) which was contested at 1 ¼ miles on the infield turf course. Of particular interest were the actions of third place finisher #3 Balladeer (Victor Espinoza) and fourth place finisher #2 Irish Prophet (Juan Hernandez).

At the 1/8th pole #3 Balladeer is leading the race. He drifts out and bumps #2 Irish Prophet forcing Jockey Juan Hernandez to 'take hold' while trying to not interfere with eventual second place finisher #2 Planetario (BRZ) (Hector Berrios) who was also compromised in the incident.

#2 Irish Prophet was beaten the margin of a 'neck' for third position. After reviewing all camera angles, receiving a Patrol Judge report, and speaking to both jockeys involved, the Stewards reached a decision. In a majority vote, (Jauregui dissent-no change) #3 Balladeer was disqualified and placed fourth. Jockey Victor Espinoza was ordered to film review with the Stewards.

ORIGINAL ORDER OF FINISH 1-2-3-2-4-6
OFFICIAL ORDER OF FINISH 1-5-2-3-4-6

2/10/24⁶

VOIDED CLAIM—RACE 9

There was a claim submitted for the first-place finisher of the ninth race, #2 Grand Tiger. Following the testing and 'cooling out' process, CHRB Veterinarian Nolton Pattio informed us this horse was examined and deemed unsound. We subsequently voided the claim and Grand Tiger returned to the barn of Brian Koriner.

2/10/24⁷

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

1st Race Turf Course—Good
1st Race Declaration #2 Control Function (Tr. Richard Baltas) Course Condition- Stewards
REFUND: 1,558.08
4th Race Declaration #10 Fancy Fascinator (Tr. E. Moger, Jr.) Sick- Jay Deluery DVM
REFUND: \$666.19
6th Race #6 Kanderel (Tr. George Papaprodromou) claimed, S. Knapp, trainer

2/10/24⁸

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	6,316	\$938,843.83
SCOTWINC	4,054	\$1,602,668.39
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$7,791,814.21
TOTAL	10,370	\$10,333,326.43

SUNDAY

2/11/24¹

DAN BLACKER DECISION/RULING

The following ruling was issued today following a hearing that was held November 15, 2023, at Santa Anita Park. (Del Mar Minutes 11/15/23²). Mr. Blacker's lawyer, Darrel Vienna was informed as was California Deputy Attorney General Mona Papuchyan.

This ruling was issued by Stewards Luis Jauregui, Kim Sawyer, and Tom Ward. Steward Ward dissented feeling the penalty was too stringent.

LATS RULING #22

Trainer DANIEL BLACKER, is suspended for NINETY (90) days from February 26, 2024, to May 25, 2024, and fined the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00)* for violations of California Horse Racing Board rule #1878 (Workouts - No seventy-two [72] hour pre-workout Veterinarian examinations [527 counts]) occurred between January 1, 2022, through July 1, 2023.

During the term of suspension, all licenses and license privileges of DANIEL BLACKER are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards to Suspend and Fine), DANIEL BLACKER is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction.

2/11/24²

JOEL ROSARIO FILM REVIEW/DISQUALIFICATION (REF: 2/10/24³)

Jockey Joel Rosario appeared in our office today to review his ride in the sixth race on February 11, 2024. This race was contested at five (5) furlongs on the turf course. Jockey Rosario

finished first but was disqualified and placed second for interference to second place finisher #5 Barristan The Bold(GB) (Geovanni Franco).

The Stewards reviewed all available camera angles of this race with Jockey Rosario. Films show Jockey Rosario use his left handed riding crop four (4) times. The last two (2) times he employed his crop, his mount was already drifting out. The result of the outward drift was a bump to #5 Barristan the Bold(GB).

Mr. Rosario did not dispute the Stewards' Film Analysis.
In a unanimous decision the Stewards issued the following penalty.

LATS RULING #23

Jockey JOEL ROSARIO, who rode EXULTATION in the sixth race at Santa Anita Park on February 10, 2024, is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (February 18, 19, and 23, 2024) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course in the stretch, causing interference resulting in the disqualification of his mount from first to second; a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1699 (Riding Rules-careless riding). Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1766 (Designated Races), the term of suspension shall not prohibit participation in designated races.

2/11/24³

RYAN MOORE RULING (REF:SA 11/5/23²)

Jockey Ryan Moore appealed a ruling that was issued the final day (November 5, 2023) of the Santa Anita Park Autumn Meet. Jockey Moore appealed LATC Ruling #55 issued on November 5, 2023.

Jockey Moore participated in a HISA appeal hearing via a ZOOM format on Tuesday January 30, 2023. The HISA Appeal Panel deliberated on the merits of testimony, race replays and other evidence immediately after this hearing and returned a verdict. The Stewards have now received an official remand from HISA stating that Ryan Moore's appeal has been denied. We have now issued the following ruling.

LATS RULING #24

Having received notice of the Decision On Appeal by the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) that the appeal of Ruling LATC #55 (November 5, 2023) has been denied, the original ruling is reinstated. Jockey RYAN MOORE is suspended for ONE (1) racing day (February 18, 2024) and fined TWENTY THOUSAND AND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$20,800.00)*.

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1766 (Designated Races), the term of suspension shall not prohibit participation in designated races.

2/11/24⁴

VICTOR ESPINOSA FILM REVIEW (REF: 2/11/24⁵)

Jockey Victor Espinoza appeared in the Stewards' Office to review his ride in yesterday's eighth race (\$100,000 San Marcos Stakes-Grade 3). Jockey Espinoza was aboard original third place finisher #3 Balladeer, who was disqualified and placed fourth for stretch interference.

Today's film review shows Jockey Espinoza reach up with his right hand, appearing to get ready to employ his riding crop. Now steering with one rein, he drifts out and contacts fourth place finisher #2 Irish Prophet (Juan Hernandez). Jockey Espinoza did not drift out a lot, but it was enough to cause interference and change the outcome of the race, in two (2) Stewards opinion of two (2) Stewards.

Jockey Espinoza accepted responsibility for the incident and in a unanimous decision was issued a 'Warning' for this ride.

2/11/24⁵

EARLY POST TIME

Post time for today's Super Bowl Sunday racing card will be 11:00 a.m. Nine (9) races are carded.

2/11/24⁶

SEVENTH RACE INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after viewing an incident between original third place finisher #1 Alluring (Umberto Rispoli) and tenth place finisher #6 Elegant (Juan Hernandez). This race was contested at about 6 ½ furlongs (Turf-Down the Hill).

Race replays show #1 'Alluring' duck inward behind a leading rival (#11 Julias Dream-Eleventh place-Flavien Prat). This action forced original tenth place finisher #6 Elegant (Juan Hernandez) to steady and duck out sharply forcing Jockey Hernandez to lose his balance, his saddle irons, and an opportunity for a better placing in the majority opinion of the Stewards (Jauregui-dissent-voted to DQ the #5). Ninth place placed finisher #2 Girl of My Dreams (Antonio Fresu) was bumped significantly in this incident.

This decision was made after discussion with both jockeys involved, a Patrol Judge report and the viewing of all available camera replay angles. #1 Alluring was disqualified and placed tenth.

ORIGINAL ORDER OF FINISH 10-4-1-5-8-3-9-7-2-6-11

OFFICIAL ORDER OF FINISH 10-4-5-8-3-9-7-2-6-1-11

2/11/24⁷

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

- 1st Race #2 National Generaux (IRE) (Tr. E. Moger Jr.) claimed, G. Papaprodromou, trainer
- 2nd Race #3 Gypsy Lynn (Tr. S. Knapp) claimed, M. Ortiz Sr., trainer
- 5th Race Declaration #6 Bronster (TR. G. Vallejo) Injured-Jay Deluery DVM
REFUND: \$717.35
- 6th Race Declaration #1 Revised Statute (Tr. R. Mandella) Sick- Jay Deluery DVM
REFUND: \$1,358.10

2/11/24⁸

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	2,512	\$662,765.85
SCOTWINC	2,480	\$977,007.84
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$6,741,725.21
TOTAL	4,992	\$8,381,498.90

SUMMARY

	Sat 2/10	Sun 2/11	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0
Cal-Bred Races	3	2	5	42
Claims	1	2	3	23
Disqualification	2	1	3	5
Inquiries	2	1	3	11
Refunds	3	2	5	10
Rulings	1	3	4	28
Voided Claims	1	0	1	12

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 2/5/24 TO 2/11/24

Horses on Vet List	7
Horses off Vet List	9
Shock Wave Therapy	0
Fatalities	0
Medication	0

Grant Baker, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

Kim Sawyer, Steward

BOS:GB:dw