

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, February 21 through Sunday, February 25, 2024.

WEDNESDAY2/21/24¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward has entry duty this week, however David Nuesch filled in for Ward today. The entry process was slow, with a nine-race program being drawn approaching 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY2/22/24¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES/ SATURDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL**

Entries are being accepted for the Sunday card. The Los Alamitos panel met this morning with one horse being scratched. Dr. Flash Dancer will not start in the first race due to ongoing veterinary issues and overall physical appearance. The parties have been notified.

2/22/24²**HEARING FOR TRAINER VUOCOLO**

A hearing was held via telephone this morning into a complaint filed by the Board against Trainer Alfred Vuocolo for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1894 (Duties of Trainer), in that he was not present to saddle his horse and did not inform the Stewards. Mr. Vuocolo, who is dealing with major flooding at his ranch in the hills above Ojai, stated that he was fully intending to satisfy his obligation, but on his way from his ranch he began to feel ill. His condition got progressively worse until he got to Santa Clarita. At that point, he had to pull off the road as he thought he was going to lose consciousness. He headed back to his ranch and called one of his employees to relay his plight. He was extremely apologetic, stating that he realized his mistake, but it was beyond his control. After taking his testimony into consideration, we dismissed the complaint.

FRIDAY2/23/24¹**SUNDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL**

Entries for the Sunday card were extremely difficult to come by, but the Racing Office staff finally pieced together a nine race card. The draw did not take place until around 8:30 p.m. Three rider changes were the extent of scratch time.

SATURDAY

2/24/24¹

CHANGE IN PERSONNEL

Ron Church will be in the Stewards' stand this evening as David Nuesch shifted to Santa Anita today in place of Luis Jauregui.

2/24/24²

EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 1st Race #1 Missing Maurice (Vet-injured) Refund of \$257.70
- 4th Race #3 Nice and True (Vet- sick) Refund of \$224.30
- 6th Race #3 Reginas Five Bar – (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$185.95
- 7th Race #6 BH Free Drop Willy (Not eligible to enter) Refund of \$81.10

2/24/24³

RULING

Ruling #26

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 FRANCISCO ORDUNA-ROJAS, WHO RODE NENE ROMANO IN THE SECOND RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 18, 2024, IS SUSPENDED FOR (1) DAY (MARCH 2, 2024), AND FINED TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)* FOR TWO (2) STRIKE OVER THE LIMIT.

This ruling was issued after Mr. Rojas pleaded guilty to the charge of overuse of the crop. He did not even want to look at the video, as he said he got caught up in the race and just lost count.

2/24/24⁴

VOIDED CLAIM

A claim deposited in the third race for #5 Autism Blue by trainer Manuel Calvario was voided as Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported that the horse was unsound in the left foreleg during its time in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of Sally Rivera.

2/24/24⁵

QUIET EVENING

Aside from the previously mentioned minute entry, all matters during the racing program were routine.

2/24/24⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	778	\$108,371.90
SCOTWINC	N/A	\$338,004.70
OUT OF STATE + ADW	1,234	\$1,081,762.39
TOTAL	2,012	\$1,528,138.99

SUNDAY

2/25/24¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

- 1st Race #5 City Of Champions (Vet-Injured) Refund of 344.59
- 2nd Race #1 Lord Mo (Vet-sick)
- #5 Smiling Widow (Starter) Refund of \$538.19
- 3rd Race #4 Looking For Rosie (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$359.43
- 5th Race #6 Naughty Niko (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$234.58
- 7th Race #1 Fireplace (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$78.74
- 8th Race #5 Max Storm (Vet-Injured) Refund of \$135.40

2/25/24²

RIDER EXCUSED

Jockey Abdul Alsagoor was excused from his only mount of the evening as he called to say that he never knew that he had been named on the horse. A substitute rider was named.

2/25/24³

REFUND

A refund was ordered in the eighth race as #4 Eye Blinker was unsound during the warm up period and was declared on the recommendation of Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald. The refund amounted to \$6,514.22.

2/25/24⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	628	\$54,179.10
SCOTWINC	N/A	\$128,342.70
OUT OF STATE + ADW	949	\$907,157.62
TOTAL	1,577	\$1,089,679.42

SUMMARY

	Fri	Sat 2/24	Sun 2/25	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	1
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	0
Claims	R	4	1	5	25
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	5
Inquiries		0	0	0	10
Refunds	D	4	7	11	53
Rulings	A	1	0	1	26
Voided Claims	Y	2	0	2	10

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:TW:ap