

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, April 24 through Sunday, April 28, 2024.

WEDNESDAY4/24/24¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward will have morning duty this week and will be writing minutes during this period.

4/24/24²**SATURDAY ENTRIES**

The entry process went surprisingly well this morning as the nine-race card was finalized by mid-afternoon. There are four races carded for two-year-olds, with all of the entrants being in compliance with the law. Foaling dates were checked.

THURSDAY4/25/24¹**SATURDAY PANEL/ SATURDAY SCRATCHES/ SUNDAY ENTRIES**

The panel met this morning to discuss the Saturday entrants. No horses were scratched by the panel, however there were two hard-watch horses. Three horses previously trained by Sally Rivera were declared as we were uncomfortable with the transfer process from Ms. Rivera, who currently has no workers compensation, to other trainers. The horses remained in Ms. Rivera's shed row after they had been entered. A horse trained by Alfred Voucolo was declared as the horse had raced at Santa Anita on April 21st, and was beaten over 30 lengths. The horse had not worked the required 5/8ths to be removed from the Stewards' List. All trainers were notified.

4/25/24²**FINANCIAL HEARING**

A financial hearing was held by telephone as Groom Consuelo Solares filed a financial complaint against Owner Sean Perry for \$200.00 in wages. She said that Mr. Perry was to pay half of her wages and his trainer was to pay the other half. Perry's trainer, Jose Raudales, kept his end of the agreement while Perry did not.

Mr. Perry, who has since moved his horses to New Mexico, originally said that he wanted a continuance, but after some argument, decided to have Mr. Raudales pay Ms. Solares and then settle up with him.

FRIDAY
4/26/24¹

SUNDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL

The panel met this morning to discuss entries for Sunday. There were no scratches, but one horse made the “hard watch” list. Two horses were scratched, as one horse was put in the wrong race by the Racing Office and another was taken out by Starter Gary Brinson as it “refused” in its prior start at Santa Anita and did not work from the starting gate.

SATURDAY
4/27/24¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

5th Race #2 Speights (Vet – injured) Refund of \$4,223.65
9th Race #2 BH Free Drop Willy (Vet – sick) Refund of \$90.85

4/27/24²

RULING

Ruling #51

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1766 (h) (Designated Races-participating in more than one trial heat in one racing day), Jockey Eduardo Nicasio is suspended one (1) additional racing day (May 4, 2024).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Nicasio participated in several trial heats last weekend while serving a suspension.

4/27/24³

RULING

Ruling #52

Trainer Gail E. Ruffu's appeal of Ruling #157 having been dismissed following a hearing with the California Horse Racing Board, it is ordered that the original ruling be re-imposed in its entirety.

The preceding ruling was issued as we were in receipt of the decision from the California Horse Racing Board regarding Ms. Ruffu's appeal of ruling #157, stemming from an incident with Lorenzo Ruiz.

4/27/24⁴

RULING

Ruling #53

Jockey Jesse P. Gonzalez, who rode Separate Impact in the eighth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on April 21, 2024, is suspended for three (3) racing days (May 4th, 5th, and 11th, 2024) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course, causing interference which resulted in the disqualification of his mount from first to second. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules- Careless Riding).

The foregoing ruling was issued after Mr. Gonzalez had viewed the eighth race from April 21, following which his mount was disqualified from first to second position for interference during the race. He came up with a number of excuses, none of which were even close to relieving him of responsibility.

4/27/24⁵

STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The Inquiry sign was posted after the third race as the Stewards reviewed an incident entering the home stretch involving the second and fifth place finishers, #4 Ferociously (C. Figueroa) and

#2 Pollo D'Oro (B. Harvey). Observation showed Mr. Harvey taking up sharply while between horses, losing all chance for a better placing.

After reviewing all angles, including drone shots, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Ferociously from second to fifth position. Review showed that Mr. Figueroa's horse drifted out while he was looking for racing room and placed Mr. Harvey and his mount on heels, forcing him to check sharply and virtually eliminating the horse from competition.

4/27/24⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|----------------|
| ON TRACK | 783 | \$92,500.80 |
| SCOTWINC | 1,229 | \$242,685.00 |
| OUT OF STATE + ADW | N/A | \$876,840.36 |
| TOTAL | 2,012 | \$1,212,026.16 |

SUNDAY

4/28/24¹

EARLY DECLARATIONS

4th Race #3 Olivia's Kid (Vet-injured) Refund of \$161.55
7th Race #5 Lisbon Crystal (Vet-unsound) Refund N/A
8th Race #6 Over Bet (Vet-injured) Refund of \$168.35

4/28/24²

RIDERS EXCUSED

Ruben Lozano and Irving Lara were excused from their mounts this evening due to illness. Replacement riders were named.

4/28/24³

RULING

Ruling #54

Jockey Cerapio Figueroa, who rode Ferociously in the third race at Los Alamitos Race Course on April 27, 2024, is suspended for three (3) racing days (May 5th, 11th, and 12th, 2024) for permitting his mount to drift out entering the stretch, causing interference which resulted in the disqualification of his mount from second to fifth. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules- Careless Riding).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Figueroa could not be excused for his actions in the fourth race last evening, which resulted in the disqualification of his mount.

4/28/24⁴

STEWARDS' INQUIRY – NO CHANGE

The inquiry sign was posted following the fourth race to review an incident in the far turn involving the first and fifth place finishers, #2 O C Rhapsody (E. Garcia) and #5 Betting Fever (R. Ramirez). Observation indicated that the winner was getting out through the turn, carrying the fifth place finisher wide.

Following review, the Stewards opted to leave the original placings intact. It was a majority decision, as Ward dissented. The majority were of the opinion that while Betting Fever was forced to lose ground by the actions of the winner, the incident did not alter the original placings. The rider was held blameless as he made an excellent effort to correct his horse. Unfortunately, to no avail.

4/28/24⁵

SLOPPY WORK

There were five weight corrections announced in the fifth race this evening as fillies and mares in the race were not given the proper weight allowance by the Racing Office. The program had them carrying 126 pounds, instead of the correct weight of 121 pounds.

4/28/24⁶

REFUND

A refund was ordered in the sixth race as #2 Apollitical Wonder was injured during the loading procedure and was declared on the recommendation of Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald. The refund amounted to \$12,287.96. The rider was not injured.

4/28/24⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|----------------|
| ON TRACK | 576 | \$57,493.10 |
| SCOTWINC | 1,049 | \$143,410.50 |
| OUT OF STATE + ADW | N/A | \$1,033,680.82 |
| TOTAL | 1,625 | \$1,234,530.42 |

SUMMARY

| | Fri | Sat 4/27 | Sun 4/28 | Week | Meet |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Accidents | D | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Cal-Bred Races | A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Claims | R | 4 | 1 | 5 | 44 |
| Disqualifications | K | 1 | 0 | 1 | 13 |
| Inquiries | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 23 |
| Refunds | D | 2 | 4 | 6 | 96 |
| Rulings | A | 3 | 1 | 4 | 54 |
| Voided Claims | Y | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 |

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

BOS:TW:ap