

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 John Carvelli, Member
- Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member
- Honorable Brenda Washington Davis, Member
- Honorable Thomas C. Hudnut, Member
- C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director
- Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director
- Marc Shaw, Chief, Enforcement Division
- Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for Monday, October 21, through Sunday, October 27, 2024.

WEDNESDAY

10/23/24¹

DUTY STEWARD

Steward Kim Sawyer was present to oversee entries for Saturday (10 races) and approve scratches and program changes for Friday (9 races).

THURSDAY

10/24/24¹

DUTY STEWARD

Steward Jauregui was available to make decisions pertaining to Sunday entries (10 races) and Saturday’s declarations.

10/24/24²

VASQUEZ HEARING CASE 24SR0031

MEZANO HEARING CASE 24SR0032

Both complaints filed alleged a violation of CHRB rule 1874 (Disorderly Conduct), both complaints read as follows:

On August 20, 2024, Nelvin Vasquez and Marcos Mezano were drinking alcohol in the lower parking lot when they began grabbing and touching each other’s chest in a playful manner. At some point the actions became more than playful and they began pushing and shoving each other. Mezano stated he was struck in the face by Vasquez, a claim that Vasquez denies. After both parties were separated, the San Diego County Sheriff Department was contacted and later arrived on scene. Vasquez was ultimately cited and released for Penal Code 242 - Simple Battery.

Before the BOS via Microsoft Teams with the help of CHRB Investigator Ryan Russell from the CHRB office at San Luis Rey Training Center were groom Nelvin Vasquez and San Luis Rey Security Supervisor Hector Feliciano. Groom Marcos Mezano was available by Microsoft Teams located at Del Mar Race Track with the help of CHRB Investigator Anne Dillon. Testimony was heard, neither respondent could agree to the twist in their stories. Documents were entered into evidence and the hearing was closed. Decision to follow.

10/24/24³

SAN LUIS REY CITATIONS

CAMARGO HEARING

Groom Juan Camargo was issued a citation at San Luis Rey Training Center on September 18, 2024 by Security Officer Victor Gonzalez for smoking in a stall while under the employment of trainer Michael McCarthy. As this licensee was not notified of the hearing, a new date will be set.

CAMPBELL HEARING

Exercise rider Ashley Campbell was issued a citation by Safety Steward George Yniguez and is employed by trainer Kimberly Mars for galloping while the track warning lights and siren were activated on August 17, 2024. Ms. Ashley testified she was on an erratic two-year-old that wanted to lay down when she tried to refrain from training while the lights and siren were on. The loose horse was not apprehended for at least five to seven minutes. She believed it was safer to remove her horse from the race track during this extensive time frame. Safety Steward George Yniguez was also present for the hearing. After deliberation Ms. Campbell will be issued a warning.

BRIONES HEARING

Exercise rider Marco Briones was issued a citation at San Luis Rey Training Center by Safety Steward George Yniguez for using a crop during a workout after the wire. The alleged incident occurred on August 8, 2024. Mr. Briones called in via the Microsoft Teams phone line from Tijuana and it became apparent he would have to appear in person and the hearing was rescheduled.

10/24/24⁴

BAKER FORMAL HEARING CASE 24SA0107 (ref-10-10-24¹)

Gathered for the hearing before the BOS were, respondent Veterinarian Vincent Baker, Trainer John Sadler, Assistant Trainer Juan Leyva and representing the CHRB Investigator Hiroshi Yokoyama, Court Reporter Michelle Derieg recorded the proceedings. The complaint was continued twice, the original hearing date was September 12, 2024. The narration on the cover sheet of the complaint reads as follows:

An audit of workouts performed at Santa Anita Park in June 2024 showed twenty (20) timed workouts performed by trainer John Sadler did not have clearance examinations by the attending veterinarian recorded in EquiTAPS. Upon further review of the records and statements provided by attending veterinarian Dr. Vincent Baker, the lack of examination records in EquiTAPS was attributed to Dr. Baker either not recording the examinations on his handwritten Confidential Report, his assistant not uploading his examination into EquiTAPS, or glitches with the EquiTAPS system which failed to record the concerned examinations.

Testimony was given by Dr. Baker and Juan Leyva; evidence was submitted into the record and the hearing was closed. Decision to follow.

FRIDAY

10/25/24¹

STEWARD REPLACEMENT

David Nuesch replaced Luis Jauregui today in the duties of the title of Steward.

10/25/24²

MILLER RULING

The following ruling was issued after Mr. Miller requested to be excused from the race as his owner Gary Barber did not want his horse to perform.

LATC RULING #25

Trainer PETER MILLER, who was scheduled to start ITZEL in the first race on October 25, 2024, at Santa Anita Park, is fined SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$750.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1629 (Penalty for Late Declaration – owner didn't want to run).

10/25/24³

MUNOZ RULING

The following ruling was issued after a report from Winners Foundation Executive Director Darin Scharer Mr. Munoz left the country without the approval of Winners Foundation.

LATC RULING #26

Groom JUAN MUNOZ is hereby suspended for having failed to comply with the provisions of Ruling LATS #112 dated June 13, 2024, (failure to abide by the recommendations of the Winners Foundation) for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct — Methamphetamine, Amphetamine and THC [Marijuana]).

During the term of the suspension, all licenses and license privileges of JUAN MUNOZ are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards to Suspend or Fine) JUAN MUNOZ is denied access to all premises under the jurisdiction of The California Horse Racing Board.

10/25/24⁴

INQUIRY /NO CHANGE /SECOND RACE 3/4 dirt

Following the running of the race the inquiry sign was lit to review an incident soon after the start. Involved were #4 Casalu (M. Garcia 4th) and #5 Silent Law (J. Hernandez 1st). After a review of the videos, a report from the Patrol Judge and conversation with both jockeys involved, there was no change in the order of finish and the race was made official. In a unanimous decision #5 did cross over early but prior to that #4 took a stutter step and the incident did not warrant a disqualification.

10/25/24⁵

INQUIRY /DISQUALIFICATION /SIXTH RACE 5 ½ dirt

Following the running of the race the inquiry sign was posted to review an incident near the 1/16 marker. Involved were #4 Cardinal Spirit (A. Fresu 2nd) and #6 Just Deal (J. Hernandez 1st). After a review of the videos, a report from the Patrol Judge and conversation with both jockeys involved, in a unanimous decision #6 was disqualified from first and placed second behind #4. #6 drifted inward making contact with #4 knocking that one off stride which cost it the opportunity of a better placing (nose).

ORIGINAL ORDER OF FINISH (6)-4-5-2-3-1-7
OFFICIAL ORDER OF FINISH 4-(6)-5-2-3-1-7

10/25/24⁵⁶

VOIDED CLAIM

After a report from the Official Veterinarian Nolton Pattio, in the sixth race #6 Just Deal who was claimed failed the Veterinarian examination. The horse was placed on the Veterinarian’s List, the claim was voided and it was returned to the stable of Bob Baffert.

10/25/24⁷

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race #5 Power Surge (Tr. B. Koriner) claimed by Tr. R. Hanson
Refund \$349.72

2nd race NO SHOW WAGERING
#2 Mawu (Tr. B. Baffert) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio
Refund \$1512.00

3rd race No Changes; Refund \$103.24

4th race #2 Stellar Cap (Tr. S. Knapp) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio
#3 Miracle Ball (Tr. F. Garcia) Veterinarian-unsound-Dr. Benson
Refund \$895.60

5th race #1 Senor Reece (Tr. P. D’Amato) DNF
#7 Om by Dark (Tr. D. Blacker) Veterinarian-unsound-Dr. Benson
Refund \$436.80

6th race #6 Just Deal (Tr. B. Baffert) claimed by Tr. J. Periban VOID
Refund \$32.00

7th race #5 Control Function (Tr. R. Baltas) Veterinarian-injured-Dr. Benson
#7 Highlands (Tr. G. Lopez) Veterinarian-injured-Dr. Benson
Refund \$1111.61

8th race #7 Neezer Dalton (Tr. S. Miyadi) Veterinarian-unsound-Dr. Benson
Refund \$861.35

9th race #6 Pondicherry (Tr. D. Blacker) claimed by Tr. D. O’Neill
#8 Flight to Quality (FR) (Tr. P. D’Amato) claimed by Tr. S. Knapp

10/25/24⁸

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	2,774	\$386,251.95
SCOTWING	2,153	\$825,217.10
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$5,869,483.17
TOTAL	4,927	\$7,080,952.22

SATURDAY

10/26/24¹

BALTAS RULING

The following ruling was issued as Mr. Baltas was tardy to register his entrant in a timely manner as required by rule.

LATC RULING #27

Trainer RICHARD BALTAS is fined FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late registration) of NAIDA in the eighth race on October 25, 2024, at Santa Anita Park.

10/26/24²

BLACKER RULING

The following ruling was issued after trainer Dan Blacker failed to register his horse prior to entry.

LATC RULING #28

Trainer DAN BLACKER is fined FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late

registration) of PONDICHERRY in the ninth race on October 25, 2024, at Santa Anita Park.

10/26/24³

CAMPUZANO RULING

The following ruling was issued after trainer Lorenzo Campuzano admitted he entered the horse into the wrong race and did not want run his entrant in these conditions.

LATC RULING #29

Trainer LORENZO CAMPUZANO, who was scheduled to start SMOKEM EZ in the fifth race on October 27, 2024, at Santa Anita Park is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1629 (Penalty for Late Declaration – didn't want to run).

10/26//24⁴

MEZANO RULING ref 10-24-24²

The ruling listed below was issued after a Stewards' deliberation that involved a dust up between two licensees.

LATC RULING #30

Groom MARCOS MEZANO is fined TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – drinking/fighting) on August 20, 2024, at San Luis Rey Downs. Furthermore, MARCOS MEZANO must be evaluated by the Winners Foundation, abide by the terms set by their recommendations, and ordered to sign a testing agreement while holding a license with the California Horse Racing Board.

10/26//24⁵

VASQUEZ RULING ref 10-24-24²

The ruling listed below was issued after the Stewards' deliberated that involved a dust up between two licensees.

LATC RULING #31

Groom NELVIN VASQUEZ is fined TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – drinking/fighting) on August 20, 2024, at San Luis Rey Downs. Furthermore, NELVIN VASQUEZ must be evaluated by the Winners Foundation, abide by the terms set by their recommendations, and ordered to sign a testing agreement while holding a license with the California Horse Racing Board.

10/26//24⁶

BAKER RULING ref 10-24-24⁴

The following ruling was issued post hearing.

LATC RULING #32

Veterinarian VINCENT BAKER is fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00)* for violations of California Horse Racing Board rule #1842 (Veterinarian Report – failure to report in a timely manner) between June 1, 2024, and June 29, 2024, at Santa Anita Park.

10/26//24⁷

BAINUM RULING

The following ruling was issued after trainer Bainum stated her owner was adamant he did not want to run. She was informed it would help in the future if she would communicate with her owner prior to entry.

LATC RULING #33

Trainer KELLY BAINUM, who was scheduled to start CHASING RAIN in the eighth race on October 26, 2024, at Santa Anita Park, is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1629 (Penalty for Late Declaration – owner didn't want to run).

10/26//24⁸

JOCKEY FILM REVIEW

Juan Hernandez met with the Stewards to review two different races. The first being, an inquiry in the second race wherein, Mr. Hernandez in a four-horse field crossed over with marginal clearance shortly after the start, the horse to his inside contributed to the incident. Warning (ref 10-25-24³)

The second race involved an inquiry and the disqualification of his mount. The BOS agreed his actions that led to the incident did not rise to the level of careless riding. Warning (ref 10-25-24⁴)

10/26//24⁹

INQUIRY /NO CHANGES /TENTH RACE 1 1/8 turf

Following the running of the race the inquiry sign was posted to review an incident in the stretch. Involved were #4 Donnor Lake (J. Hernandez 1st) and #5 Sbagliato (U. Resopli 2nd). Approaching the 1/16 marker #4 drifted out brushing #5 who drifted out with #4. After a report from the Patrol Judge, a review of the videos and conversation with both jockeys involved. It was a unanimous decision that this movement did not cost #5 an opportunity of a better placing and the race was made official.

10/26//24¹⁰

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race No Changes; Refund \$0
 2nd race #5 Devil Be Me (Tr. J. Mullins) claimed by Tr. S. Knapp
 3rd race No Changes; Refund \$0
 4th race No Changes; Refund \$0
 5th race No Changes; Refund \$0
 6th race No Changes; Refund \$18.00
 7th race No Changes; Refund \$85.00
 8th race #3 Chasing Rain (Tr. K. Bainum) Stewards-owner did not want to run
 #8 Jarama (Tr. T. Yakteen) Veterinarian-unsound post parade-Dr. Benson. Refund \$140,114.47
 9th race #8 Blue Oasis (Tr. T. Yakteen) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio Refund \$494.18
 10th race #3 Legitify (IRE) (Tr. P. Miller) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio Refund \$1,139.05

10/26/24¹¹

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	6439	\$1211494.53
SCOTWINC	3292	\$723162.70
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$6044785.82
TOTAL	9731	\$7979441.05

SUNDAY

10/27/24¹

JOCKEY FILM REVIEW

Juan Hernandez met with the Stewards to review the tenth race yesterday that involved an inquiry (no disqualification ref 10-26-24⁹). In a majority decision this drift did not validate a careless ride. Steward Baker voted for a three-day suspension.

Armando Ayuso joined the Stewards to discuss the use of his crop in the second race. After a review of the video the conversation involved Mr. Ayuso possibly raising his hand over his head before the use of the crop. It was also stated, moving forward that this BOS needs to have a meeting with all jockeys to remind them this is a HISA violation.

10/27/24²

INQUIRY /DISQUALIFICATION /NINTH RACE 6 ½ turf-down hill

Following the running of the race the inquiry and jockey objection signs were flashed on the tote board to review an incident in the stretch. Involved were #2 Lemon Sushi (K. Frey 4th) and #9 Double Jab (A. Ayuso 1st). After a review of all angles, conversation with both jockeys involved and a report from the Patrol Judge in a majority decision #9 was disqualified and placed fourth behind #2, Steward Jauregui dissented as he believed #4 was not cost a better placing. The majority believed when #9 crossed over in front of #2, who had to check to stay off of heels and was cost the opportunity of a better placing.

10/27/24³

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race No Changes; Refund \$1,575.43
 2nd race #2 Hardmoneymuchachos (Tr. P. Miller) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio-Stewards. Refund \$1,432.65
 3rd race NO SHOW WAGERING
 #1 Noble Reflection (Tr. G. Papaprodromou) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Bohannon. Refund \$640.13
 4th race No Changes; Refund \$35.00
 5th race #6 Hacking It Up (Tr. G. Papaprodromou) Veterinarian-injured-Dr. Deluhery. Refund \$990.59
 6th race Changes; Refund \$167.44
 7th race #5 Mixologist (Tr. R. Mandella) Stewards-Stake
 #11 Esprit Enchante (Tr. P. Miller) Veterinarian-unsound-Dr. Deluhery Refund \$3,524.71
 8th race #5 Pilot Commander (Tr. B. Baffert) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Pattio Refund \$3,349.51
 9th race No Changes; Refund \$402.52
 10th race No Changes; Refund \$0

10/27/24⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	2,933	\$799,436.26
SCOTWINC	8,607	\$1,182,583.76
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$6,394,859.12
TOTAL	11,540	\$8,376,879.14

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 10/21/24 TO 10/27/24

Horses on Vet List	22
Horses off Vet List	16
Shock Wave Therapy	2
Fatalities	1
Medication	0

SUMMARY

	Fri 10/25	Sat 10/26	Sun 10/27	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0	0
Cal-Bred Races	2	3	1	6	30
Claims	3	1	0	4	24
Disqualifications	1	1	1	3	4
Inquiries	2	0	1	3	8
Refunds	8	5	9	22	97
Rulings	2	7	0	9	33
Voided Claims	1	0	0	1	2

Kim Sawyer, Steward

Grant Baker, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:KS:dw