

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
Los Alamitos Racing Association
Los Alamitos, California

TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman
Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member
Honorable John Carvelli, Member
Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member
Honorable Brenda 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

GENERAL DATA:

Mailing

Address: 4961 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, California 90720
Telephone number of association: (714) 820-2800

Dates: Friday, December 6, 2024, through Sunday, December 15, 2024.
Total number of racing days is six.

Races: Nine races a day unless otherwise designated.

Post time: 12:30 p.m. weekdays and weekends.

Scratch time: Regular scratch time will be at 10:00 a.m. the day after entries, unless otherwise noted. The deadline for scratches for stakes races, with the exception of overnight stakes races will be prior to the 3rd race or two hours before post time, whichever is longer.

Wagering: Minimum \$2 Win, Place and Show wagering on every race; \$1 Exactas on all races; \$1 Trifectas on all races; \$1 (10 cent minimum) Superfectas on all qualifying races; \$2 Rolling Doubles; \$1 Rolling Pick Threes; \$1 Pick Four on races 2 thru 5, and last four races; \$0.50 Pick Five (14% Takeout) on races 1 thru 5; \$2 Pick Six (with carryover) on final six races; \$1 Super High Five on final race of the day.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Edward C. Allred, President & Chairman of the Board
Rick English, Director, Chief Financial Officer
Richard Shapiro, Director
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ADMINISTRATION

Robert Hurd, Director of Operations
John Ferrero, Mutuel Manager
Orlando Gutierrez, Director of Marketing
Bob Mieszerski, Publicity Director
Rick Hughes, Track Surface Superintendent
Dennis Moore, Track Surface Consultant
Michael Wrona, Track Announcer
Los Alamitos Foodservice, Inc., Food and Beverage
Benoit Photo, Track Photographer
Q Agency, Official Program
Plusmic USA, Photo Finish

OFFICIALS

Luis Jauregui, Steward
Grant Baker, Steward
Kim Sawyer, Steward
David Nuesch, Safety Steward
Randy Valdez, Racing Secretary
Nate Estrada, Director of Racing
Danielle Kasparhoff, Placing Judge
Randy Valdez, Placing Judge
Tony Rose, Patrol Judge
Gary Brinson, Starter
Nolton Pattio, Official Veterinarian representing CHRB
Laura Austgen, Racing Veterinarian
Heather Correa, Clerk of Course
Amanda Navarro, Assistant Clerk of Course
Charles McCaul, Clerk of Scales
Jesus Calvillo, Paddock Judge
Kevin Colosi, Assistant Clerk of Scales
Dawn Jackson, Paymaster of Purses
Jennifer Paige, Horse Identifier
Victor Tovar, Horseshoe Inspector
Michael Wrona, Announcer

Report for Tuesday, December 3, through Sunday, December 8, 2024.

TUESDAY

12/03/24¹

OPENING DAY ENTRIES

Steward Luis Jauregui was available to oversee entries for opening day that formulated an eight race program and resolve any other issues while on duty.

WEDNESDAY

12/04/24¹

DARK DAY ENTRIES

Again, Steward Jauregui was present to approve changes and declarations to Friday's card and make decisions when needed pertaining to Saturday's entries (9 races).

THURSDAY

12/05/24¹

ENTRY STEWARD

Steward Jauregui supervised scheduled declarations for Saturday and observed entries for Sunday (9 races).

12/05/24²

ALVARADO RECORDED HEARING CASE 24SA0121

This complaint was filed by the CHRB for plater Kyle Baze against trainer Ruben Alvarado and the cover page reads as follows;

Trainer Ruben Alvarado is indebted to Kyle Baze in the amount of \$420.00 for services rendered.

Mr. Alvarado called the Stewards stating he could not arrive until approximately 12:00 pm. due to a doctor's appointment. At 11:49 the hearing was put on the record before the BOS, Mr. Baze, respondent Alvarado and CHRB Investigator Octavio Vergara, Jr.

Trainer Alvarado offered Mr. Baze \$220.00 today and signed a financial agreement to satisfy Mr. Baze by December 28, 2024.

12/05/24³

PIRRONE RECORDED HEARING CASE 24DM0053

This complaint was filed by the CHRB against veterinarian Michael Pirrone and the cover page reads as follows;

MAS RAPIDO was drawn in to Race 7 at Del Mar with post time at 1232 hours; however, the assistant to the Official Veterinarian had erroneously notified association employees that the horse had been scratched. The assistant to the Official Veterinarian later notified the Lasix office at 12:37 PM that the horse was racing and needed its Lasix treatment. Dr. Pirrone treated MAS RAPIDO with Lasix at 1240 hours, knowing the 4-hour period before post time had expired.

Present before the BOS were, respondent Pirrone, observer Shirley Kimball (DMTC LASIX Coordinator) and representing the CHRB, Investigator Hiroshi Yokoyama. There were many nooks and crannies in the investigative report that have to be sorted out before a decision could be made. Testimony was given, the complaint was entered into evidence and the hearing was closed. Decision to follow.

12/05/24⁴

BIRCH HEARING CASE 24SA0134

This complaint was filed by the CHRB against practicing veterinarian Sarah Birch and the cover page reads as follows;

An audit of workouts performed at Del Mar and Santa Anita Park in September 2024 showed ten timed workouts performed by various trainers did not have clearance examinations recorded in EquiTAPS by Dr. Sarah Birch. On October 19, 2024, Dr. Birch provided her notes for six of the ten pre-workout examinations she performed, and said she would record them in EquiTAPS as soon as possible. It appears Dr. Birch failed to record at least six (6) examinations into EquiTAPS during the month of September 2024.

Present before the BOS was CHRB Investigator Hiroshi Yokoyama. The scheduled time for the hearing was 10:30 am, at 11:30 am Investigator Yokoyama called Dr. Birch and she stated she assumed this was the previous case filed for the same violation that had already been adjudicated. As she needs to appear in person this complaint will be rescheduled on the first available date.

FRIDAY
12/06/24¹

HERRERA RULING

After notification that the appeal of ruling DFTD #10 had been withdrawn, the following ruling was issued after the BOS agreed on the specific suspension days listed in the ruling.

Ruling LWTL #01

Having received notice from the California Horse Racing Board that the appeal of DFTD Ruling #10 (November 10, 2024) has been withdrawn, the original ruling is reinstated. Jockey DIEGO HERRERA is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (January 3, 4 and 5, 2025).

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

12/06/24²

JOCKEY FILM REVIEW

As ordered, apprentice jockey Byron Cano met with the Stewards to review the sixth race at Del Mar on November 30, 2024. This review was purely educational, and it was good to meet the apprentice in person.

12/06/24³

VETERINARIAN VISIT

Official Veterinarian Nolton Pattio and Racing Veterinarian Laura Austgen met with the Stewards to refresh memories pertaining to the routine at Los Alamitos.

12/06/24⁴

STEWARD SWITCH

Safety Steward David Nuesch replaced Grant Baker for the afternoon races.

12/06/24⁵

CHRB VISITORS

CHRB Deputy Executive Director Cynthia Almeda and newly hired Chief Information Officer Andrew Riordon spent some time upstairs with the BOS. CHRB basics were discussed and Los Alamitos Safety Steward Paul Atkinson will give Mr. Riordon the complete tour of Los Alamitos tomorrow.

12/06/24⁶

INQUIRY /DISQUALIFICATION /FOURTH RACE -6 furlongs

Following the running of the race the inquiry sign was posted to review an incident in the stretch. Involved were #1 Rogue Son (K. Kimura 1st), #5 Erebus (A. Espinoza 2nd) and #6 Dark Marcus (T. Pereira 3rd). There was conversation with all the jockeys involved a report from the Patrol Judge and a complete review of applicable video angles. In a unanimous decision the #1 was disqualified from first and placed third behind #6. # 1 drifted into the path of #6 who had to take up sharply to stay off of heels and was not afforded a better placing.

ORIGINALORDER OF FINISH (1)-5-6-2-4-7

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

12/06/24⁷

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race	#3 McGregor Lake (Tr. D. O'Neill) Veterinarian-unsound-Dr. Pattio Refund \$1,535.02
2nd race	No Changes; Refund \$0
3rd race	No Changes; Refund \$0
4th race	#3 Neon Lights (IRE) (Tr. P. Miller) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Austgen Refund \$651.91
5th race	No Changes; Refund \$0
6th race	#4 Zimba Warrior (Tr. R. B. Hess, Jr.) claimed by Tr. J. Uranga
7th race	No Changes; Refund \$0

8th race #1 Professor's Pride (Tr. R. B. Hess, Jr.) Stewards-entered back
#8 Big Mama Sue (Tr. S. Miyadi) Veterinarian-sick-Dr. Austgen

12/06/24⁸

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	611	\$186,003.54
SCOTWINC	2,032	\$694,490.06
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$2,783,160.70
TOTAL	2,643	\$3,663,654.30

SATURDAY

12/07/24¹

JOCKEY FILM REVIEW ref 12-06-24⁶

Kazushi Kimura was directed to meet with the BOS today, he stated he could not appear due to travel plans. His agent Brian Beach telephoned acting as Kimura's representative and relayed the jockey's opinion pertaining to his actions in the race. Mr. Beach stated Mr. Kimura took full responsibility for the incident. In a unanimous decision this was a careless ride and Mr. Kimura's penalty is listed in the following ruling.

LWTL RULING #02

Jockey KAZUSHI KIMURA, who rode ROGUE SON in the fourth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on December 6, 2024, is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (December 14, 15 and 26, 2024) for failure to maintain a straight course in the stretch, causing interference resulting in the disqualification of his mount from first to third place; 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.

12/07/24²

SMOOTH SAILING

The nine race card was performed without a ripple. Any changes made are listed below.

12/07/24³

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race No Changes; Refund \$0
2nd race No Changes; Refund \$0
3rd race #3 Give Me the Lute (Tr. G. Lopez) DNF. Refund \$0
4th race No Changes; Refund \$0
5th race No Changes; Refund \$0
6th race No Changes; Refund \$0
7th race No Changes; Refund \$0
8th race No Changes; Refund \$0
9th race No Changes; Refund \$0

12/07/24⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	1,203	\$323,106.58
SCOTWINC	3,139	\$1,155,918.79
OUT OF STATE + ADW	Nj/A	\$4,727,572.06
TOTAL	4,342	\$6,206,597.43

SUNDAY

12/08/24¹

PIRRONE RULING ref 12-05-2024³

The following ruling was issued after the disentanglement of the complaint information, evidence and testimony presented at the hearing. This BOS believed

there were respective mitigating data presented at the hearing which was applied to the decision of the penalty.

LWTL RULING # 03

Veterinarian MICHAEL PIRRONE, who treated the horse MAS RAPIDO prior to the seventh race on September 8, 2024, at Del Mar Race Track is fined THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late Lasix treatment).

12/08/24²

JOCKEY FILM REVIEW

Armando Ayuso telephoned the Stewards to discuss the use of his crop in the seventh race yesterday. He violated the rule with an excess of one strike. Ironically, his mount won the race by a very small nose. His penalty is listed in the following ruling.

LWTL RULING # 04

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 ARMANDO AYUSO, who rode TAKES THREE in the seventh race at Los Alamitos Race Course on December 7, 2024, is suspended for ONE (1) day (December 15, 2024), and fined TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)* for one (1) strike over the limit.

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

12/08/24³

SANTA ANITA TOTE DEBACLES

After the fifth race was made official, there was a long delay in posting the payouts. The BOS had conversation with Los Alamitos Mutual Manager John Ferrero and he stated, the Am Tote Operator working at Santa Anita inadvertently changed the display that tote puts out to the public and the Los Alamitos TV department. “The display was changed from the post commission Odds to the pre commission Odds.” “As a result of the error, all of the Odds for all of the prices were inflated.” The Stewards contacted Santa Anita Mutual Manager Don Sanborn to ask questions. After he informed the BOS that Am Tote changed the display, a letter of explanation was requested and will be submitted to the California Horse Racing Board, as well as a letter from Los Alamitos.

12/08/24⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st race	No Changes; Refund \$0
2nd race	No Changes; Refund \$0
3rd race	No Changes; Refund \$0
4th race	No Changes; Refund \$0
5th race	#2 Tequila Talkin (Tr. S. Knapp) claimed by Tr. K. Casteneda #3 Perfect in Gray (Tr. J. Periban) claimed by Tr. I. Tamayo
6th race	No Changes; Refund \$0
7th race	#1 Robin With a Why (Tr. P. Aguirre) Veterinarian-injured-Dr. Austgen Refund \$755.80
8th race	No Changes; Refund \$0
9th race	No Changes; Refund \$0

12/08/24⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	932	\$259,240.61
SCOTWINC	3,031	\$915,559.86
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$3,691,698.30
TOTAL	3,963	\$4,866,498.77

SUMMARY

	Fri 12/6	Sat 12/7	Sun 12/8	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0	0
Cal-Bred Races	2	3	3	8	8
Claims	1	0	2	3	3
Disqualifications	1	0	0	1	1
Inquiries	1	0	0	1	1
Refunds	3	0	1	4	4
Rulings	1	1	2	4	4
Voided Claims	0	0	0	0	0

Kim Sawyer, Steward

Grant Baker, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:KS:dw