

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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Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for the week of February 12, 2025, through February 16, 2025.

WEDNESDAY2/12/25¹**DUTY STEWARD / SATURDAY ENTRIES**

Tom Ward will be on duty this week. Entries will likely be a challenge for Director of Racing George Yniguez and his staff. Weather reports indicate a series of storms is due to arrive later today, with several inches of rain predicted to fall between today and Friday. We will batten down the hatches and hope for the best. Also, good thoughts go to those affected by debris run off from the recent fires. Additionally, Ward will be writing the minutes for the week.

THURSDAY2/13/25¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES / SATURDAY PANEL AND SCRATCHES**

Sunday entries are being accepted this morning. The Saturday card filled better than expected, as eight races were drawn by mid-afternoon. Highlighting the card is the Grade I Winter Derby. Panel and scratch time took place with nothing to report.

2/13/25²**HEARING DAY**

Our hearing day was comprised of two financial complaints, but we were notified that one of them had been settled in full. The second complaint, filed against Owner David Foran, was unable to go forward as Mr. Foran did not appear and efforts to contact him were unsuccessful.

FRIDAY2/14/25¹**SUNDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL**

The Sunday wagering opportunities will comprise nine races, the most significant of which is the Brad McKinzie finals. The Los Alamitos Panel met this morning, with several horses being scheduled for cautionary exams. Scratches and changes were limited to two sex allowance weight changes.

SATURDAY2/15/25¹**RULING #14**

Ruling #14

Owner Dave Foran, having been duly noticed, is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1547 (Failure to Appear). Suspension commences on February 17, 2025.

This ruling was issued following Mr. Foran's unexcused absence from his Thursday financial complaint hearing. (Ref.2-13-2025-2)

2/15/25²

RULING #15

Ruling #15

Jockey Armando R. Cervantes is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1683 (Maximum Overweight), causing a late rider change in the ninth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on February 8, 2025.

The preceding ruling was issued in light of Mr. Cervantes failing to make weight on the Saturday card, prompting a late rider switch.

2/15/25³

VIDEO REVIEW / RULING #16

Jockey Gabriel Lara, in the company of Trainer Jesus Nunez, was in the office to review the ninth race from last Saturday, following which his mount was disqualified for interference approaching the finish. Mr. Lara did not offer much in the way of excuses, other than to say that his mount may have been shying from crowd noise. Mr. Nunez felt that the inside horses contributed to the incident as the field was racing in close quarters when the spill took place. He was correct regarding tight quarters; however, all horses still had sufficient room until Mr. Lara's horse came in to close the door on the horse which fell.

Ruling #16

Jockey Gabriel Lara, who rode Set To Go in the ninth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on February 8, 2025, is suspended for five (5) racing days (March 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th and 15th, 2025) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course, resulting in the disqualification of his mount from second to unplaced. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules- Careless Riding).

2/15/25⁴

STARTING GATE INCIDENT / HORSE EUTHANIZED / 30 MINUTE DELAY

The start of the third race this evening was delayed by more than 30 minutes as, during the loading procedure, #5 Kimberly's Devil, became fractious and seriously injured herself. She was immediately declared on the advice of Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald. The horse was ultimately euthanized at the site (Details are available in the Safety Steward's report). The delay was compounded by the fact that Los Alamitos uses one horse ambulance. That one was needed to transport Kimberly's Devil after the mare was euthanized, the race could not be run until the equine ambulance was back in position. The remainder of the card was problem free.

2/15/25⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

3rd Race #5 Kimberly's Devil (Tr. R. Lucas) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$10,654.10
4th Race #9 Pretty Morning (Tr. C. Dollase) Track Condition/Entered Back – Stewards – Refund: \$104.80
5th Race #1 Divine Passage (Tr. G. Haley) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$405.90
#8 Tizthehartofdixie (Tr. G. Ruffu) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$95.38

2/15/25⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	763	\$66,751.10
SCOTWINC	1168	\$173,409.90
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$1,040,098.99
TOTAL	1,931	\$1,280,259.99

SUNDAY
2/16/25¹

RULING #17

Ruling #17

Jockey Jesus Rios Ayala is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1688 (b) (8) (Use of Riding Crop – more than six times during the running of the race) while riding Cartel Perry in the eighth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on February 15, 2025.

This ruling was issued as Mr. Ayala offered no excuse for violation of the crop rule.

2/16/25²

RIDERS EXCUSED

Jockey Eduardo Nicasio was excused from his mount this evening as he was not feeling well. A replacement rider was named. Efrain Hernandez was relieved of duties in the fifth race as he had suffered an injury to his foot while leaving the starting gate in the prior race. A replacement was found.

2/16/25³

PROBLEM FREE CARD

The nine-race program was conducted without reportable incidents.

2/16/25⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

2nd Race #5 Cardinal Trick (Tr. S. Morfin) Stewards' List at Santa Anita – Refund: \$280.31
3rd Race #5 Divine Rascal (Tr. G. Vallejo) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$331.45
7th Race #5 Capital Cartel (Tr. K. Castaneda) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$359.25

2/16/25⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	652	\$77,705.60
SCOTWINC	992	\$185,537.10
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$1,453,345.23
TOTAL	1,644	\$1,716,587.93

SUMMARY

	Fri 02/14	Sat 02/15	Sun 02/16	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	4
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	0
Claims	R	0	1	1	11
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	4
Inquiries	-	0	0	0	4
Refunds	D	4	3	7	50
Rulings	A	3	1	4	17
Voided Claims	Y	0	0	0	4

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:TW:dj