

**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**

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro DVM, Chairman  
Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member  
Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member  
Honorable Brenda Washington Davis, Member  
Honorable Thomas C. Hudnut, Member  
Honorable Peter Stern, Member  
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director  
Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director  
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

**Report for the Week of Wednesday, May 14, through Sunday, May 18, 2025.**

**WEDNESDAY**05/14/25<sup>1</sup>**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward Ron Church was present to oversee entries for Saturday, May 17, 2025, and will record the minutes for this reporting period.

**THURSDAY**05/15/25<sup>1</sup>**ENTRIES AND SCRATCHES**

Steward Ron Church was once again present to oversee entries for Sunday, May 18, 2025, and changes to Saturday's program.

05/15/25<sup>2</sup>**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to discuss Saturday's program. After reviewing all entries, there were three entries listed as a hard watch with no other panel recommendations.

05/15/25<sup>3</sup>**STEWARD ABSENT**

Steward James Dreyer was absent this morning for personal reasons. Safety Steward Paul Atkinson was available if needed.

05/15/25<sup>4</sup>**FINANCIAL WITHDRAWN (Case #25LA0079)**

Trainer Jorge Farias appeared this morning in response to the financial complaint filed against him by Robyn Gordon (DBA Robert Gordon Feed Company) alleging an overdue feed bill. Present in addition to Mr. Farias was Robyn Gordon, and CHRB Investigator Vito Racowski. Mr. Farias acknowledged he owed the debt and paid the amount in full. The complaint was withdrawn.

05/15/25<sup>5</sup>**OWNER JOEL LIRA (CASE #25LA0087)**

The hearing scheduled for today to address the financial complaint filed by Trainer Sergio Morfin against Owner Joel Lira alleging an outstanding debt for training services did not take place as Mr. Lira failed to appear. Ruling to follow.

**FRIDAY**  
05/16/25<sup>1</sup>

**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to discuss Sunday's program. After reviewing all entries, there was one recommended panel scratch.

05/16/25<sup>2</sup>

**SCRATCHES**

Steward Ron Church was present to oversee scratches and changes to Sunday's program.

**SATURDAY**

05/17/25<sup>1</sup>

**STEWARD ABSENT**

Steward James Dreyer will remain out for the weekend and will be replaced by Steward David Nuesch.

05/17/25<sup>2</sup>

**STARTER ABSENT**

Starter Gary Brinson will be out this weekend for personal reasons and will be replaced by Head Assistant Starter Shane Craigmyle.

05/17/25<sup>3</sup>

**RULING #64**

**Ruling #64**

Owner Joel Lira, having been duly noticed, is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1547 (Failure to Appear). Suspension commences on May 19, 2025.

The above ruling was issued after Mr. Lira failed to appear for his scheduled hearing on Thursday May 15, 2025.

05/17/25<sup>4</sup>

**CLAIM VOIDED 4<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The claim deposited in the fourth race by trainer Jorge Farias for #6 Smiling for Nana (Tr. A. Aquino) was voided after Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported the filly was unsound in the left foreleg and would be placed on the vet's list. Smiling for Nana was returned to the barn of Angela Aquino.

05/17/25<sup>5</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Race #5 A Perfect Path (Tr. W. McDaniel) – Turned over in saddling paddock – Stewards Refund: \$677.96
- #8 Strawberry Girl (Tr. C. Dollase) – Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$1,285.70
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Race #3 Just A Little Luck (Tr. A. Flores) – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$1,246.97
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Race No Changes
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 5<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 6<sup>th</sup> Race #5 Mental Lapse (Tr. F. Gonzalez) – Entered Back – Stewards – Refund: \$116.85
- 7<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 8<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 9<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

05/17/25<sup>6</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	900	\$93,487.70
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	1,345	\$302,509.60
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$1,103,122.09
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,245	\$1,499,119.39

**SUNDAY**  
05/18/25<sup>1</sup>

**RULINGS #65**

**Ruling #65**

Jockey Cesar Franco is fined SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$750.00)\* 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 Heather Denise in the eighth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on May 17, 2025.

The above ruling was issued by a unanimous decision after Mr. Franco and the Stewards reviewed the video of the eighth race from Saturday May 17, 2025. Mr. Franco accepted responsibility, and the penalty imposed. The violation was his second within sixty days.

05/18/25<sup>2</sup>

**STEWARDS - INQUIRY – DOUBLE DISQUALIFICATION 6<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The Inquiry sign was posted after the sixth race as the Stewards reviewed interference which took place at the start of the 110-yard event. Horses involved were #4 Nomad Too (2<sup>nd</sup> J. Roman), #5 Run Thru The Nite (6<sup>th</sup> R. Lozano) and #6 Back Side Of Water (5<sup>th</sup> C. Franco). Observation of the race indicated that Run Thru The Nite had been pinched back at the start. After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of the race, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify both #4 Nomad Too and #6 Back Side of Water for causing significant interference at the break. Noman Too was placed fifth and Back Side Of Water was placed sixth. The riders were not held responsible as they did not have sufficient time to prevent interference.

05/18/25<sup>3</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Race #3 Ara (Jockey Cristobal Herrera) – Replaced by Jose Alcala
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Race No Changes
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Race #4 Ocasek (Tr. R. Lucas) – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$239.68
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race #3 Project Leader (Tr. J. Uranga) – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$160.60
- 5<sup>th</sup> Race #5 Lit De Tiger (Tr. G. Haley) – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$545.46
- 6<sup>th</sup> Race #1 Bravery (Tr. S. Willoughby) – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$848.87
- 7<sup>th</sup> Race # 4 Jazzy Girl (Tr. P. Jones) – Turned over in Starting Gate – Stewards – Refund: \$11,827.12
- 8<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes
- 9<sup>th</sup> Race #4 VGK Zigfield Follies (Tr. A. Farias) – Stake – Stewards – Refund: \$306.59  
#8 CM Jesse B A Cowboy (Tr. L. Lindsey) – Stake – Stewards – Refund: \$204.40

05/18/25<sup>4</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	571	\$59,484.60
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	925	\$189,781.60
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$1,180,167.86
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,496	\$1,429,434.06

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 5/16</b>	<b>Sat 5/17</b>	<b>Sun 5/18</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	D	0	0	0	4
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A	0	1	1	1
<b>Claims</b>	R	0	0	0	36
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K	0	2	2	10
<b>Inquiries</b>	D	0	0	0	11
<b>Refunds</b>	A	4	7	11	147
<b>Rulings</b>	Y	1	1	2	65
<b>Voided Claims</b>		1	0	1	12

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Ron Church, Steward

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Tom Ward, Steward

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David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:RC:dj