

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

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

GENERAL DATA:

Dates: Friday, September 12, 2025, through Sunday, September 21, 2025.
Racing Fridays through Sundays. Total number of racing days is six.

Post time: Weekdays/weekends/holidays – 1 p.m. first post, unless otherwise specified.

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

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ADMINISTRATION

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John Ferrero, Mutuel Manager
Orlando Gutierrez, Director of Marketing
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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

Grant Baker, Steward
Kim Sawyer, Steward
Luis Jauregui, Steward
Paul Atkinson, Safety Steward
George Yniguez, Director of Racing
Nate Estrada, Associate Director of Racing
Randy Valdez, Racing Secretary & Placing Judge
Kevin Colosi, Assistant Racing Secretary & Assistant Clerk of Scales
Heather Correa, Clerk of Course
Amanda Navarro, Assistant Clerk of Course & Patrol Judge
Charles McCaul, Clerk of Scales
Dawn Jackson, Paymaster of Purses
Danielle Kasparoff, Placing Judge
Jesus Calvillo Jr., Paddock Judge
Gary Brinson, Starter
Nolton Pattio, Official Veterinarian representing CHRB
Laura Austgen, Racing Veterinarian
Marco Avina, Stable Superintendent
Jennifer Paige, Horse Identifier
David Vargas, Horseshoe Inspector
Michael Wrona, Announcer

Report for Monday, September 8, 2025 through Sunday, September 14, 2025.

TUESDAY ENTRY DAY

09/09/25¹ Today was the first day of entries for the 2025 Los Alamitos Thoroughbred September Meet. This is a two-week meeting consisting of six (6) racing days. Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty representing the CHRB. Racing Secretary Randy Valdez and his staff compiled a racing card of eight (8) races with sixty-six (66) horses scheduled to face Starter Gary Brinson. Opening day is Friday.

WEDNESDAY ENTRY DAY

09/10/25¹ Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty today overseeing entries for September 13. Steward Sawyer also supervised scratches and changes for Friday, September 12. Entries were taken today for Saturday, September 13. A good racing card of ten (10) races has been produced. Ninety-two (92) horses are scheduled to start.

THURSDAY RANDY VALDEZ HEARING (CASE #25LT0001)

09/11/25¹ A tape-recorded hearing was held today for Racing Official Randy Valdez. Mr. Valdez is currently the Racing Secretary at the three (3) thoroughbred meetings conducted here at Los Alamitos. Racing Secretary Valdez has been charged with CHRB Rule #1605 (Change in Conditions After Entry Prohibited). Mr. Valdez and CHRB Investigator Hiroshi Yokoyama were present today. Investigator Yokoyama

presented a forty-seven (47) page complaint before the Stewards. The cover page of the complaint reads as follows:

Extra Race No 6 (X6) was published on the overnight for Friday, June 27, 2025, as a 5-1/2 Furlong claiming race with a \$13,000 purse, "For Three Year Olds and Upward Which Have Never Won Two Races." The condition included a \$8,000 claiming price with the clause, "(Maiden and Claiming Races for \$6,250 Or Less Not Considered IN Allowances)." Entries were taken the morning of Tuesday, June 24, 2025, and it was later discovered the word "Allowances" did not fit the intent of the condition of the race. This discrepancy was brought to the attention of the Racing Secretary after entries had commenced, and the word "Allowances" was crossed out and substituted with the word "Eligibility by Racing Secretary Randy Valdez.

The Stewards asked several questions at this hearing. Documents were marked and entered into evidence. Steward Luis Jauregui chaired the hearing. More to follow.

09/11/25²

ANTONIO GARICA COMPLAINT (CASE #250117)

The CHRB has filed a complaint against Trainer Antonio Garcia for alleged violations (5) of CHRB Rule #1878 Workouts. CHRB Investigator Hiroshi Yokoyama was on hand today to present this complaint for the CHRB. The cover page of this complaint reads as follows:

An audit of workouts performed at Santa Anita Park showed Trainer Antonio Garcia recorded five (5) timed workouts in June 2025 without a corresponding clearance by an attending veterinarian.

Trainer Antonio Garcia appeared at this hearing via telephone. He did not appear in person as he "forgot" there was a scheduled hearing today. The Stewards asked Trainer Garcia questions, and this tape-recorded hearing was closed. Steward Luis Jauregui chaired the proceedings. More to follow.

FRIDAY
09/12/25¹

RANDY VALDEZ DECISION (REF: 09/11/25¹)

An informal hearing was held yesterday alleging Racing Secretary Randy Valdez violated CHRB Rule #1605 (Change in Conditions After Entry Prohibited). The Investigative Report and testimony in this case provided the following information in part.

Trainer Ed Freeman entered the horse Infamous Angel (IRE) in the Extra Race #6 for Friday, June 27, 2025. This was an \$8,000 claiming race for horses that have never won two races. There was a clause written that said **(Maiden and Claiming Races for \$6,250 Or Less Not Considered in Allowances).**

The day after entries (June 25, 2025) Randy Valdez received a call from Trainer Ed Freeman. Trainer Freeman was reported to be upset that the conditions to the race he entered were apparently changed after he entered. Extra Race #6 was drawn with 7 horses. Only 2 horses were eligible under the original conditions.

Between 11:00 AM and 11:30 AM on entry day, Randy Valdez, after conferring with Assistant Racing Secretary Kevin Colosi, the clause for Extra Race #6 was changed to the following: **(Maiden and Claiming Races For \$6,250 Or Less Not Considered in Eligibility).** The change was made after the conditions had been published and several entries had been accepted. This change in the conditions

made five (5) additional horses eligible for Extra 6.

Randy Valdez was candid and accepted full responsibility for his actions. In an unanimous decision, Mr. Valdez was determined to have violated CHRB Rule #1605 (Change in Conditions After Entry Prohibited). The majority voted for an 'Official Warning' as listed in the ruling below. Steward Baker dissented regarding the penalty, voting for a fine of \$500.00.

LATL RULING #01

Racing Official RANDY VALDEZ is issued an OFFICIAL WARNING for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1605 (Change in Conditions After Entry Prohibited – Changed Conditions) on June 24, 2025 at Los Alamitos Race Course.

09/12/25²

ANTONIO C. GARCIA DECISION (REF: 09/11/25²)

Trainer Antonio Garcia failed to have examinations performed prior to five (5) official workouts. Trainer Garcia forgot he had a hearing date here at Los Alamitos. We contacted him on the telephone and conducted the hearing. The following ruling was issued, in what was an unanimous decision.

LATL RULING #02

Trainer ANTONIO GARCIA is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)* for violations of California Horse Racing Board rule #1878 (Workouts – No seventy-two (72) hour pre-workout Veterinarian examinations [Non-compliance for five workouts]) in June 2025 at Santa Anita Park.

09/12/25³

VETERINARIANS' VISIT

Today is opening day at the Los Alamitos September meet. This meeting consists of six (6) race days. As he often does, CHRB Veterinarian Nolton Pattio calls for an informal meeting with the Stewards. Today he met with the Stewards, along with Racing Veterinarian Laura Austgen. Stewards went over two-way radio protocol with the Veterinarians and addressed other topics as well. We appreciate Dr. Pattio being proactive once again and initiating these important meetings.

09/12/25⁴

GOOD RACING

Today's eight race card went well, as it was free of Steward Inquiries and/or Jockey Objections.

09/12/25⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

2nd Race #4 Youramystyle (Tr. C. Kelly) Sick—Nolton Pattio VMD
REFUND: \$818.30

9th Race #9 Ya'll Come (Tr. D. Pederson) claimed, L. Campuzano, trainer

09/12/25⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	602	\$64,769.76
SCOTWINC	1,774	\$131,544.33
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$1,527,105.10
TOTAL	2,376	\$1,723,419.19

SATURDAY STEWARDS CHANGE

09/13/25¹

Steward Grant Baker is off today for personal reasons. Safety Steward Paul Atkinson will fill-in. Eddie Rich will fill-in as Safety Steward today.

09/13/25²

FRANCISCO ORDUNA ROJAS FILM REVIEW

Jockey Francisco Orduna-Rojas appeared in the Stewards' office to review his ride aboard #7 Nabers, who finished fifth in yesterday's (September 12) eighth race. #7 Nabers was beaten for fourth position in what was a photo finish. It was noticed that Jockey Orduna-Rojas was not 'down in the saddle' in the photo for fourth place. He was cautioned to ride his mounts out to the finish line.

09/13/25³

VOIDED CLAIMS

There were three (3) voided claims during today's ten (10) race card.

- Race 1 #3 Father Delay claimed by J. Uranga. Returns to the barn of original trainer L. Campuzano.
- Race 5 #9 Moochie Girl Claimed by C. Hurtado. Returns to the barn of original trainer J. Uranga
- Race 6 #8 Instinct D'Oro claimed by F. Rodriguez. Returns to the barn of original trainer S. Morfin.

09/13/25⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

- 3rd Race Declarations #2 Redeeming Spirit (Tr. A. Garcia) Injured-Nolton Pattio VMD
#5 Golden Surprise (Tr. J. Cassidy) Sick-Laura Austgen DVM
REFUND TOTAL: \$521.88
- 5th Race #8 Shes Just Fluffy (Tr. D. Wayne Baker) claimed, J. Glenn, trainer
- 7th Race #2 Grazed (P. Miller) Sick—Laura Austgen DVM
- 8th Race Declaration #7 Goodnight Nellie (Tr. J. Periban) Turned over/Receiving Barn-Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$3,268.05
- 8th Race #6 Clubhouse Bride (Tr. I. Kruljac) claimed, A. Mathis, trainer
#10 Miranda (Tr. G. Mandella) claimed, C. Dollase, trainer
- 10th Race #6 Distant Fleet (Tr. J. Periban) claimed, J. Valdez, trainer

09/13/25⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	1,082	\$140,032.18
SCOTWINC	3,442	\$300,714.38
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$2,543,912.69
TOTAL	4,524	\$2,984,659.25

SUNDAY

09/14/25¹

ASSAEL ESPINOZA RULING

Jockey Assael Espinoza failed to appear for a film review today. The purpose of the informal hearing the Stewards wished to conduct was Jockey Espinozas' use of the riding crop in the sixth race yesterday, September 13. Jockey Espinoza was aboard The Big Cheeseola who finished second. The Stewards determined that Jockey Espinoza used his riding crop seven (7) times in this race.

The Stewards contacted Jockey Espinoza by telephone. He pled guilty to HISA Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop). The following ruling was issued.

LATL RULING #03

Having violated the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop) and pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (Ruling Crop Violations and Penalties – Class 3 – first offense) Jockey ASSAEL ESPINOZA, who rode THE BIG CHEESEOLA in the sixth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 13, 2025, is suspended for ONE (1) day (September 28,

2025) and fined TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$250.00) for one (1) strike over the limit.

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

09/14/25²

SECOND RACE INQUIRY/ACCIDENT

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after viewing an accident on the 3/8ths turn. Preliminary analysis shows #2 Malibu Rocks (Efrian Hernandez) falling and unseating Jockey Hernandez. This was a six (6) horse field.

Further review shows #2 Malibu Rocks racing between fourth place finisher #3 Majestic Palisades (Kazushi Kimura) and third place finisher #6 Fast Service. A split second before the incident, #2 Malibu Rocks was racing in a half-in/half-out position, before clipping heels with #3 Majestic Palisades and falling. Stewards reviewed all camera angles of the incident, received a Patrol Judges report and spoke to two out of the three jockeys possibly involved in the incident.

The majority ruled #2 Malibu Rocks caused his own problem by drifting in and clipping the heels of #3 Majestic Palisades and the original placings should be allowed to stand. Steward Sawyer determined that the actions of #6 Fast Service contributed to the accident and that this horse should be disqualified and placed Unplaced. No Change.

09/14/25³

THIRD RACE INQUIRY

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after viewing an incident at the start of this 5 ½ furlong race. The focus of this review were the actions of first place finisher #5 Very Quiet (Ricardo Gonzalez) and fourth place finisher #6 De Novo (Cristobal Herrera). Following this event, race replay shows #5 Very Quiet break out and #6 De Novo break in.

The Stewards spoke to both jockeys involved and received a Patrol Judge report. Stewards determined that there was contact between these two rivals. It was also determined that these horses were equally responsible for the incident. In a unanimous decision, the original placings were allowed to stand. No change.

09/14/25⁴

FIFTH RACE STEWARDS' REVIEW

Track Announcer Michael Wrona broadcast that a 'Stewards Review' would be conducted into the start of this six (6) furlong event. The Stewards wanted to review the actions of seventh (last) place finisher #3 Bottom Dollar (Brayan Pena) who reared in the air just as Starter Gary Brinson was dispatching the field. Following the review the Stewards determined that that #3 Bottom Dollar caused his own problems and that no mechanical or human factors were involved. No formal Inquiry was conducted.

09/14/25⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

1 st Race	Declaration #3 Golden M.O. (Tr. P. Ovideo) Injured-Tim Grande DVM REFUND: \$1,237.03
2 nd Race	Declaration #4 Naismith (Tr. R.B. Hess Jr.) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD REFUND: \$850.50
4 th Race	#2 Halo Rando (Tr. D. Pederson) claimed, R. Diodoro, trainer #7 Panuco (Tr. G. Stute) claimed, J. Periban, trainer

7th Race Declaration #1 Emirates Affair (Tr. R. B. Hess Jr.) Injured Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$1,405.55
 8th Race Declaration #2 Evermore (Tr. O. J. Jauregui) Unsound- Laura Austgen DVM. REFUND: \$767.19

09/14/25⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	1,046	\$90,176.78
SCOTWINC	2,832	\$250,030.86
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$1,946,712.56
TOTAL	3,878	\$2,286,920.20

SUMMARY

	Fri 09/12	Sat 09/13	Sun 09/14	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	1	1	1
Cal-Bred Races	0	4	0	4	4
Claims	1	3	2	6	6
Disqualifications	0	0	0	0	0
Inquiries	0	0	2	2	2
Refunds	2	4	4	10	10
Rulings	2	0	1	3	3
Voided Claims	0	3	0	3	3

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 09/08/25 – 09/14/25

Horses on Vet List 18
 Horses off Vet List 16
 Shock Wave Therapy 5
 Fatalities 0
 Medication 0

Grant Baker, Steward

Kim Sawyer, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:GB:sh