

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, October 1, through Sunday, October 5, 2025.

WEDNESDAY10/01/25¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward has the honors this week and will handle entries, scratches and changes, along with writing minutes.

10/01/25²**SATURDAY ENTRIES**

Entries were accepted this morning for the Golden State Million Futurity trials. A total of 113 horses were entered, with the race being split into fourteen divisions.

THURSDAY10/02/25¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES/SATURDAY CHANGES/HEARING DAY**

The entry process for Sunday is under way this morning. Filling the card will likely be a bit more difficult than it was yesterday. Saturday changes were limited to one rider correction and three equipment changes. There were no recommended scratches from the Los Alamitos panel.

10/02/25²**HURTADO/SILVA-VERDUZCO HEARING**

Trainer Clemente Hurtado and his owner, Jorge Silva-Verduzco, were in the office this morning in regard to the horse Mi Chismosa, which won the sixth race at this venue on Saturday, July 12, 2025. At issue was documentation – shipping records – which showed the horse arriving on the grounds of Los Alamitos on the morning of Sunday, July 6, 2025. According to the complaint, this constituted a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1588 (11)(b)(Horse Ineligible to Start in a Race), which states that a horse must be in the care of a licensed trainer and stabled in the enclosure for “seven consecutive days” prior to racing.

Mr. Hurtado and Mr. Silva-Verduzco testified that they complied with the rule as, according to their count, the horse ran on the seventh day after arriving.

This case hinges entirely on the interpretation of “seven consecutive days”. When does “day one” start?

We will discuss the issue and come to a determination.

10/02/25³

BACKSTRETCH SECURITY INCIDENT

Jockey Jose Arana and Exercise rider Everardo Martinez were in the office this morning in response to security citations for engaging in a fight on the grounds last week. Security officer Rudy Alvarez said that on the afternoon in question Arana had tried to hit Martinez with his car while Martinez was driving a golf cart. Fortunately, he missed, but then went to Martinez' barn to continue the issue. It was there that he confronted his nemesis and a got a bloody and blackened eye for his efforts. In the following days, Arana's two brothers also confronted Martinez and suffered the same fate.

We will take this matter under submission and come to a determination.

10/02/25⁴

RULING #140

Ruling #140

Trainer Satchell Stevens, having complied with the provisions of California Horse Racing Board rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility - \$2,229.30 to Post Time Self Insurance Group), is restored to good standing. Ruling #136, issued at Los Alamitos Quarter Horse Racing Association on September 20, 2025, is set aside.

This ruling was issued after Post Time Insurance informed us that Mr. Stevens had paid his debt in full. Just by coincidence, he has a horse in at Remington Park this evening.

10/02/25⁵

TRAINER IN – MORNING TRACK SAFETY ISSUE

Trainer Gail Ruffu was in the office, responding to a citation from security for galloping her horse too close to the inside rail during training hours. Ms. Ruffu did not dispute the allegation but said that since being cited she has made a concerted effort to maintain her distance from the rail. Decision forthcoming.

FRIDAY

10/03/25¹

SUNDAY CHANGES AND PANEL

Sunday scratches and changes passed with nothing significant to report. The panel convened this morning, with one horse making the "hard watch" list.

SATURDAY

10/04/25¹

RULING #141

Ruling #141

Jockey Jose Arana is fined TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – Fighting) and placed on probation for term of his license.

This ruling was issued to finalize the citation issued against Mr. Arana for an altercation in the stable area. His fellow combatant was not penalized as we felt that even though he got the best of Arana in the fight, he was merely defending himself. Arana indicated that he was going to appeal.

10/04/25²

SECOND RACE REFUNDS

Two refunds occurred in the second race this evening. #5 Blow Ur Whistle flipped in the starting gate after being loaded, prompting Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald to recommend the horse be scratched. The refund amounted to \$7,950.97.

Refund number two was necessary as #6 Maximos Toy got loose from the pony rider behind the starting gate and ran off into the stable area. This refund totaled #11,071.40.

10/04/25³

NINTH RACE REFUND

The Stewards ordered a refund in the ninth race as #3 Hell Fire Queen V reared in the starting gate, suffering a head injury in the process. Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald recommended the scratch. There was a refund of \$6,597.77 due to the declaration.

10/04/25⁴

LATE EVENING

The fourteen race program at this venue started at 6:05 PM and was scheduled to end at 11:08 PM. Due to unexpected delays, the last trial race went “Official” at 11:54 PM.

There were late declarations in two races which created minor setbacks, but the vast majority of lost time was due to equine injuries which necessitated horses being removed via ambulance. Since there is only one equine ambulance available here, it requires that the succeeding race remain in the saddling paddock until the ambulance is back in position. We cannot run any race without that support vehicle available.

Concerns were voiced by several people regarding the possibility that the final trial could not be run prior to midnight. They were told that CHRB rule #1544 (a)(Calling Off Race) is explicit as it states that “if the Stewards determine that a race cannot start before midnight or cannot be conducted in accordance with the Board’s rules or regulations, they shall call off such race”.

The concerns were certainly legitimate as, if the last race was not run, the entire set of trials would have been cancelled per conditions set forth on the nomination blank. Fortunately, that turned out not to be the case.

10/04/25⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

- 1st Race No Changes
- 2nd Race #5 Blow Ur Whistle (Tr. A. Farias) Flipped Gate – Stewards – Refund: \$7,950.97
#6 Maximos Toy (Tr. J. Flores) Loose – Stewards – Refund: \$11,071.40
- 3rd Race No Changes
- 4th Race No Changes
- 5th Race No Changes
- 6th Race No Changes
- 7th Race No Changes
- 8th Race #2 Fabulous Emblem (Tr. A. Valles) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$114.89
- 9th Race #3 Hell Fire Queen V (Tr. J. Nunez) Injured Gate – Stewards – Refund: \$6,597.77
- 10th Race No Changes
- 11th Race No Changes
- 12th Race No Changes
- 13th Race #1 I Never Lie (Tr. A. Valles) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$131.60
#7 Apollirevenge (Tr. R. Castillo) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$280.59
- 14th Race No Changes

10/04/25⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	1,070	\$142,065.00
SCOTWINC	1,226	\$339,520.20
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$1,336,500.52
TOTAL	2,296	\$1,818,085.72

SUNDAY

10/05/25¹

RULING #142

Ruling #142

Pursuant to a hearing held on Thursday, October 2, 2025 it is hereby ordered the horse, MI CHISMOSA who finished first in the sixth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on Saturday, July 12, 2025 be disqualified and deemed unplaced in accordance with California Horse Racing Board rule #1588 (a)(11)(B) (Horse Ineligible to Start in a Race) and Rule #1592 (Ineligible Horse to be Disqualified).

It is further ordered that all purse monies (\$4,510) earned or awarded to Owner JORGE SILVA-VERDUZCO, Trainer CLEMENTE HURTADO, and Jockey IRVING LARA be returned to the Paymaster of Purses at Los Alamitos Race Course by November 4, 2025, for redistribution pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1760 (Purse Award or Prize to be Withheld).

The foregoing ruling was issued following a discussion of the case filed against trainer Clemente Hurtado and his owner, Jorge Silva-Verduzco. (Ref. 10-2-25-2) As mentioned at the original hearing, the entire case hinged on what constituted “day one”. In this instance, the majority felt that the day count started on the day after the horse arrived. Ward felt that the connections had complied with the rule.

10/05/25²

RULING #143

Ruling #143

Jockey CESAR FRANCO 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 a race) while riding MING DYNASTY in the Fifth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 28, 2025.

This ruling was issued after Mr. Franco accepted responsibility for a crop violation last evening.

10/05/25³

RIDER EXCUSED

Eduardo Nicasio was excused from his one mount this evening due to illness. A replacement rider was named.

10/05/25⁴

REFUND

A refund was ordered in the third race as #9 Not My Rodeo flipped in the starting gate, prompting Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald to recommend that the horse be declared. The refund amounted to \$19,078.65.

10/05/25⁵

GOOD EVENING

Aside from the above-mentioned refund, the remainder of the nine-race card went off without incident.

10/05/25⁶

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

- 1st Race No Changes
- 2nd Race No Changes
- 3rd Race #2 Dontgetfooledagain (Tr. A. Aquino) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$149.80
- 4th Race No Changes
- 5th Race No Changes
- 6th Race #5 Charmed Dream (Tr. A. Ruvalcaba) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$424.24
- 7th Race #3 Ohh Goodie (Tr. R. Figueroa) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$285.92
- 8th Race No Changes
- 9th Race #1 Bossy Girl Mg (Tr. R. Zuazo) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$478.42

10/05/25⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	616	\$68,028.50
SCOTWINC	961	\$175,147.50
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$923,262.96
TOTAL	1,577	\$1,166,438.96

SUMMARY

	Fri 10/03	Sat 10/04	Sun 10/05	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	10
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	12
Claims	R	0	3	3	84
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	17
Inquiries	D	0	0	0	25
Refunds	A	6	5	11	278
Rulings	1	1	2	4	143
Voided Claims		0	0	0	19

Tom Ward, Steward

Richard Lewis, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

BOS:TW:dj