

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS

Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc

Arcadia, California

TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member
Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member
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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 Monday, October 20, 2025 through Sunday, October 26, 2025.

MONDAY10/20/25¹**ENTRY DAY**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for Saturday, October 25, 2025. Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty today, representing all matters for the California Horse Racing Board. Ten (10) races were drawn in the racing office for this penultimate racing day of the meet. Seventy-two (72) horses are scheduled to start.

TUESDAY10/21/25¹**ENTRY DAY**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for Sunday, October 26, 2025, which is closing day of the 2025 Autumn meet here at Santa Anita. Kim Sawyer was the Duty Steward for the CHRB today. Ten (10) races were drawn in the racing office. Ninety-eight (98) horses are schooled to face Starter Jay Slender.

THURSDAY10/23/25¹**MARIO HERNANDEZ COMPLAINT (CASE #25DM0040)**

The CHRB has filed a complaint against Stable Worker Mario Hernandez for alleged violation of CHRB Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct). CHRB Investigator Tom Gandara appeared on behalf of the CHRB. A fourteen (14) page complaint packet was presented at this tape-recorded hearing. Steward Luis Jauregui chaired the proceedings. The cover page of today's complaint reads as follows:

On August 22, CHRB Investigators received multiple reports that Mario Hernandez was consuming alcohol that morning while performing his duties as a groom at Del Mar. Hernandez received multiple reports that Mario Hernandez denied consuming alcohol when asked by Investigators but displayed many signs and symptoms of alcohol intoxication. Investigators asked Hernandez to submit a breath sample to check his blood alcohol level, but Hernandez refused to submit sample. CHRB Investigators told Hernandez he was not allowed to work for the remainder of the day.

Stable Worker Hernandez appeared in our office today. He was asked several questions regarding the events of August 22, 2025. Decision to follow.

10/23/25²

MARCOS MEZANO HEARING (CASE #25DM0023)

The CHRB filed a complaint against Groom Marcos Mezano for alleged violation of CHRB Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct). Steward Luis Jauregui opened the hearing. CHRB Investigator Octavio Vergara Jr. participated via telephone from Del Mar CA. The cover page of this complaint reads as follows:

On August 14, 2025, groom Marcos Mezano arrived at the CHRB Investigation office located on the back side of Del Mar and submitted a urine sample pertinent to his CHRB Testing Agreement that he signed and agreed to on August 20, 2024, Ruling #LATC030. The Express Quick Cup test results showed Methamphetamine, Amphetamines, THC (Marijuana), Cocaine and PCP. On August 21, 2025 at approximately 0658, I received an email from CHRB Investigator Jose Flores containing Quest Diagnostic's Test results for Mezano. The Quest Diagnostic test results showed Mezano tested positive for THC (Marijuana).

Respondent Marcos Mezano failed to appear for today's hearing. More to follow.

10/23/25³

JOCKEY AGENT VISIT

Jockey Agent Brian Beach stopped by the Stewards' Office today. His client, Jockey Kazushi Kimura, was recently suspended for a careless riding infraction. Agent Beach wanted to see what the Designated Races (CHRB Rule #1766) will be at the upcoming Bing Crosby meeting at Del Mar.

FRIDAY
10/24/25¹

KYLE FREY RULING (REF: LA MINUTES 09/20/25³)

The ruling below was issued after Kyle Frey dropped an appeal of LATL Ruling #6 issued at the Los Alamitos Thoroughbred Meet on September 20, 2025.

LATC RULING #26

Having received notice from the California Horse Racing Board that the appeal of LATL Ruling #06, issued at Los Alamitos Race Course on September 20, 2025, has been withdrawn, the original ruling is reinstated. Jockey KYLE FREY is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (November 1, 2, and 7, 2025).

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

10/24/25²

MARIO HERNANDEZ DECISION (REF: 10/23/25¹)

An investigative report and testimony at an informal hearing held on October 23 indicated that Stable Worker Mario Hernandez was under the influence of alcohol while working for Trainer Michael McCarthy at Del Mar Racetrack. This incident took place on August 22, 2025. In a unanimous decision, Stewards issued the following ruling.

LATC RULING #27

Stable Worker/Groom MARIO HERNANDEZ is fined TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct - intoxication) on August 22, 2025 at Del Mar Race Track.

Furthermore, MARIO HERNANDEZ must be evaluated by the Winners Foundation, abide by the terms set by their recommendations, and sign a testing agreement while holding a license with the California Horse Racing Board.

10/24/25³

GENARO VALLEJO RULING

The Genaro Vallejo trained Always A Miracle registered for Lasix administration after this horse was entered to compete on October 19, 2025. The late registration is addressed in the following penalty that was issued in a unanimous decision.

LATC RULING #28

Trainer GENARO VALLEJO, who started the horse ALWAYS A MIRACLE in the eighth race on October 19, 2025 at Santa Anita Park, is fined FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late registration).

10/24/25⁴

MARCOS MEZANO RULING (REF:10/23/25²)

Groom Marcos Mezano failed to appear for an informal hearing in our office on October 23, 2025. For violation of CHRB Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear), the license privileges of Marcos Mezano are now suspended.

LATC RULING #29

Groom MARCOS MEZANO, having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Santa Anita Park on or before October 23, 2025, is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer to charges alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – THC/Marijuana).

During the term of this suspension, all licenses and license privileges of MARCOS MEZANO are suspended, and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1578 (Jurisdiction of Stewards), subject is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction.

10/24/25⁵

HECTOR BERRIOS FILM REVIEW (REF:10/19/25⁴)

Jockey Hector Berrios appeared in our office to review his ride in the first race on Sunday, October 19. Jockey Berrios was aboard #9 True Patriot, who finished third but was disqualified and placed twelfth (last) in this 6 ½ furlong turf race. The other horse involved in this incident was eleventh place finisher #5 Lady Lithesome (Serafin Carmona).

Entering the far (3/8ths) turn #9 True Patriot and #5 Lady Lithesome were racing in mid-pack alongside one another. #5 Lady Lithesome was never 'head and head' with #9 True Patriot. Just before turn #5 Lady Lithesome gets pinched in tight quarters, steadies and contacts the inner rail. He loses all action and gets beat 35 ½ lengths to the finish.

Jockey Berrios accepted partial responsibility for the incident. He felt his rival should be held accountable because #5 Lady Lithesome and his rider did not 'take back' before the turn. In a majority decision (Steward Baker dissent/suspension), Jockey Berrios was excused with a warning. It was the opinion of the majority that a lead change of #9 True Patriot caused the inward step.

10/24/25⁶

FOURTH RACE DELAY

#4 Matts Advisor unseated Jockey David Cohen during the post parade for this race. There was an approximate ten (10) minute delay to this race in order to capture the loose horse. Neither horse nor rider were injured.

10/24/25⁷

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

- 1st Race #1 Dakota Country (Tr. D. O'Neill) claimed, S. Sherman, trainer
- 3rd Race Declaration #7 Darlin' Duchess (Tr. V. Brinkerhoff) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$548.00
- 4th Race Declaration #4 Matts Advisor (Tr. T. McCanna) loose on track – Jay Deluhery DVM. REFUND: \$47,648.13
- 5th Race Declaration #1 Blame Eve (Tr. L. Powell) Entered Back—Stewards REFUND: \$866.38
- 6th Race Declaration #6 R Awesome Kid (Tr. J. Mullins) Sick—Jay Deluhery DVM. REFUND: \$1,070.44
- 7th Race Declaration #4 Oobubbakakayo (Tr. J. Uranga) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$227.22
- 7th Race #9 Rastaman Vibe (Tr. S. Knapp) claimed, M. Glatt, trainer
- 8th Race Declarations #4 Galland de Besos (Tr. J. Ramos) Late on track – Jay Deluhery DVM
#5 Cody Boy (Tr. J. Sierra) Entered Back—Stewards
REFUND TOTAL: \$10,255.74
- 9th Race Declaration #5 Broadway Unions (Tr. H. Palma) Late on Track – Jay Deluhery DVM. REFUND: \$26,895.52
- 9th Race #2 Our Bucky Charm (Tr. M. Puype) claimed, S. Williams, trainer

10/24/25⁸

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	2,632	\$356,759.61
SCOTWINC	2,310	\$795,586.94
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$5,095,793.98
TOTAL	4,942	\$6,588,317.54

SATURDAY

MORNING DUTIES

10/25/25¹

The first half of our day was relatively quiet with individual routine duties (Scratches & Changes) and writing of the daily minutes taking place. A quick lunch was had in our upstairs Judges Stand prior to the first race.

10/25/25²

FIRST RACE INQUIRY

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign following an incident in this one (1) mile turf event. Third place finisher #6 Time to Shine (Antoni Fresu) lugged in at the 1/16th marker and contacted sixth (last) place finisher #4 Happyasaclam (IRE). Second place finisher #5 With Love (GB) (Hector Berrios) also was brushed in this incident.

Stewards ruled that #4 Happyasaclam was tiring and was not cost a better placing. #5 With Love (GB) was beaten a 'nose' for the win after being part of this three (3) horse incident. The Stewards spoke to the three (3) jockeys involved, received a Patrol Judge report and reviewed all available camera angles. In a unanimous decision the original placings were allowed to stand. No Change.

10/25/25³

VOIDED CLAIM

There was a voided claim in today's ninth race. First place finisher #11 Self Sufficient was claimed by Trainer Isidro Tamayo for \$10,000. Following the race CHRB

Veterinarian informed us this horse was unsound and Self Sufficient was returned to the barn of original trainer Andy Mathis.

10/25/25⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

- 4th Race Declaration #1 Sparrow (Tr. N. Drysdale) Sick—Nolton Pattio VMD
REFUND: \$185.00
- 8th Race Declaration #9 Munnings Tale (Tr. J. Valdez) Sick—Jay Deluhery
DVM. REFUND: \$419.21
- 8th Race #2 A Rousing Babe (Tr. B. Wright) claimed, P. Miller, trainer
- 9th Race #4 No More Ding Dongs (Tr. S. McCarthy) claimed, A. Mathis, trainer

10/25/25⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	8,408	\$886,573.88
SCOTWINC	3,495	\$1,313,084.41
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$5,201,408.84
TOTAL	11,903	\$7,993,975.70

SUNDAY

JOCKEYS' GUILD REP VISIT

10/26/25¹

Jockeys Guild Western Regional Manager Darrel Haire stopped by our office today for an informal meeting. He shared some of the events with his organization. Mr. Haire was complimentary of recent meetings with Los Alamitos management regarding safety improvements on the racing oval and Jockey Room updates.

10/26/25²

CLOSING DAY

Today was closing day of the Santa Anita Autumn Meet. There was a big crowd and the infield was very full of patrons watching dog races and participating in other events. Now that this 16-day stand is completed, we pack our bags and head to Del Mar to officiate at the Breeders' Cup World Championships October 31 and November 1.

10/26/25³

GOOD RACING

Today's ten (10) race card went well as it was free of Steward Inquires and/or Jockey Objections.

10/26/25⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

- 2nd Race Declaration #1 Austonian (Tr. R.B. Hess Jr.) Injured-Jay Deluhery
DVM. REFUND: \$1,162.00
- 2nd Race #5 Speed Crazy (Tr. Aggie Ordonez) claimed, Antonio Garcia, trainer
- 4th Race Declaration #2 Tiz Grace (Tr. T. Yakteen) Injured-Nolton Pattio VMD
REFUND: \$1,056.81
- 5th Race Declaration #8 Mono's Kiddo (Tr. J. Valdez) Injured-Laurie Bohannon
DVM. REFUND: \$464.80
- 5th Race #6 Blue Cheese Olive (Tr. S. Knapp) claimed R. Gonzalez, trainer
#9 Morello (Tr. L. Campuzano) claimed A. Harris, trainer
- 7th Race Declarations #2 Que Bella Luna (Tr. R. Ellis) Injured-Nolton Pattio VMD
#7 Stormy Rouge (Tr. T. McCanna) Injured- Nolton Pattio VMD
REFUND TOTAL: \$1,064.40
- 9th Race Declarations #1 Wound Up (Tr. L. Barocio) Injured—Laurie Bohannon
DVM
#8 Patron d' Oro (Tr. J. Nunez) Injured-Laurie Bohannon DVM
REFUND TOTAL: \$2,046.56
- 10th Race #6 Royal Charter (Tr. L. Powell) claimed, J. Mullins, trainer

10/26/25⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	11,226	\$927,459.64
SCOTWINC	2,939	\$1,117,028.17
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$6,880,057.73
TOTAL	14,165	\$9,410,495.78

SUMMARY

	Fri 10/24	Sat 10/25	Sun 10/26	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0	2
Cal-Bred Races	3	1	2	6	31
Claims	4	2	4	10	43
Disqualifications	0	0	0	0	3
Inquiries	0	1	0	1	8
Refunds	9	7	10	26	114
Rulings	4	0	0	4	29
Voided Claims	0	1	0	1	7

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 10/20/25 – 10/26/25

Horses on Vet List	20
Horses off Vet List	9
Shock Wave Therapy	1
Fatalities	1
Medication	0

Grant Baker, Steward

Kim Sawyer, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:GB:sh