

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 Thursday, July 2, through Sunday, July 5, 2026.

THURSDAY

7/2/26¹

DUTY STEWARD

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise entries for Sunday, July 5, 2026, and will record the minutes for this reporting period.

7/2/26²

STEWARD ABSENT

Steward Tom Ward was absent today for personal reasons. Mr. Ward was replaced by Steward Luis Jauregui.

7/2/26³

RULING #54

Ruling #54

Jockey RICARDO S. RAMIREZ 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 Alphabetical Order in the fourth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on June 14, 2026.

The foregoing ruling was issued after jockey Ricardo Ramirez failed to appear, as requested, to review his use of the crop in the seventh race conducted on Sunday, June 21, 2026. The Stewards reviewed the race in question, confirmed a violation of the crop rule, and by unanimous decision, issued the above ruling.

7/2/26⁴

RULING #55

Ruling #55

Owner LISA COPELAND, having failed to respond to a complaint alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility - \$1,298.00 to Veterinarian Cecilia Chaparro), is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1547 (Failure to Appear). Suspension commences on July 9, 2026.

The above ruling was issued after owner Lisa Copeland failed to respond or appear for the hearing scheduled for today regarding a financial complaint filed by Cecilia Chaparro DVM. The complaint alleges that Ms. Copeland has an outstanding debt for veterinary services rendered.

FRIDAY

7/3/26¹

ENTRY PANEL

The entry panel met this morning to review the entries for Sunday's program. Following the review there were no recommended changes from the panel.

SATURDAY

7/4/26¹

NO LIVE RACING

Due to the Fourth of July holiday, Los Alamitos management did not request a live racing program for this evening.

SUNDAY

7/5/26¹

VIDEO REVIEW – JOCKEY IRVING LARA

Jockey Irving Lara met with the Stewards along with Steward Luis Jauregui who interpreted for Mr. Lara for a review of his ride in the seventh race on Sunday, June 21, 2026. Mr. Lara's mount was the subject of a Steward's inquiry that resulted in the disqualification of his mount. After reviewing the incident, the Stewards determined that Mr. Lara made a credible effort to control his mount and issued a warning.

7/5/26²

VIDEO REVIEW – RULING #56

Ruling #56

Jockey CESAR FRANCO, who rode Show N Tell Cartel in the tenth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on June 28, 2026, is suspended for SIX (6) RACING DAYS (July 19th, 25th, 26th, August 1st, 2nd and 8th 2026) 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), #1688 (b)(7) (Use of Riding Crop – more than two times in succession, without giving the horse a chance to respond), and rule #1688 (c)(2) (Use of Riding Crop in cocked position).

The foregoing ruling was issued after Mr. Franco appeared before the Stewards to review his ride in the tenth race, the Grade 1 Vessels Maturity, conducted on Sunday, June 28, 2026. Mr. Franco acknowledged using his crop in the overhand position and striking his mount more than the maximum number of times permitted during the running of the race. As this was Mr. Franco's second crop violation within the preceding two-week period, the Stewards, by unanimous decision, imposed an enhanced penalty to promote future compliance with the crop regulations.

7/5/26³

ACCIDENT – DELAY – 1ST RACE

While the field for the first race was loaded into the starting gate #3 Ventura Cowgirl became fractious, turned over in the gate, and unseated jockey Justine Klaiber. Ventura Cowgirl subsequently broke loose, went over the inside rail, ran around the infield, and was eventually caught by track veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald.

Dr. Fitzgerald examined the two-year-old filly and directed that the horse ambulance transport her to the barn of trainer Eddie Willis for further evaluation. As a result of the incident, the start of the race was delayed approximately twenty minutes.

Jockey Justine Klaiber was uninjured and fulfilled her remaining riding engagements. Ventura Cowgirl was reported to have sustained lacerations to her hindquarters.

7/5/26⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st Race #3 Ventura Cowgirl (Tr. Eddie Willis) Stewards – Refund: \$10,578.94

2nd Race No Changes

3rd Race No Changes
 4th Race #6 Brownie Foose (Jockey Cesar Franco) Replaced by Erasmo Gasca
 5th Race No Changes
 6th Race No Changes
 7th Race #2 Blackk Maggic (Tr. Cesar DeAlba) Stake – Stewards – Refund: \$441.04
 8th Race No Changes
 9th Race No Changes
 10th Race #5 Cheater (Tr. Scott Willoughby) Sick - Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$296.94

7/5/26⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	514	\$82,339.20
SCOTWINC	855	\$223,685.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$1,200,074.53
TOTAL	1,369	\$1,506,099.53

SUMMARY

	Thu 7/2	Sat 7/4	Sun 7/5	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	1	1	9
Cal-Bred Races	0	0	8	8	8
Claims	0	0	0	0	38
Disqualifications	0	0	0	0	10
Inquiries	0	0	0	0	28
Refunds	0	0	3	3	176
Rulings	2	0	1	3	56
Voided Claims	0	0	0	0	14

Ron Church, Steward

Tom Ward, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:RC:dj