

California Horse Racing Board

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 263 – 6000
(916) 263 – 6042 Fax



**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION
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 Wendy Mitchell, Member
Honorable Alex Solis, Member
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director
Cynthia Alameda, Assistant Executive Director
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of March 23, 2021 through March 28, 2021.

Thursday
03/25/2021

(1) DUTY STEWARD

Tom Ward was in the office this week for entries, scratches and changes. The entry process went fairly well, as two seven race cards and one eight race program will be presented. The Grade III Los Alamitos Oaks and the Grade III El Primo Del Ano Derby highlight the weekend offerings. Scratches and changes were held to a minimum. Ward will be handling minutes for the week.

Friday
03/26/2021

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

1st Race #3 Empire Rocket (Not eligible-no exam within 14 days) Refund of \$102.50
2nd Race #4 Reds Tribal Heart (Vet-unsound) Refund \$186.70
3rd Race #4 Secret of War (Stewards-on vet's list-injured) Refund of \$96.72

(2) RIDER IN FOR HEARING

Jockey Rolando Munoz was in the office in response to a complaint filed against him as he tested positive for Methamphetamine during a random test of jockeys on February 13, 2021. Mr. Munoz did not question the results, but stated that he had not used the drug in a long time and felt that a medication he purchased in Mexico- Redotex- to help in weight loss was responsible for the findings. The investigators felt that products from Mexico that the riders use for weight control could contain prohibited drugs. Prior to the hearing, the rider reached out to Winners Foundation and is currently enrolled in their program via Zoom meetings. He is also enrolled in a program at Clinica Romero, where he attends group and individual sessions. A ruling will be forthcoming.

(3) RULINGS

Ruling # 53

OWNER ALEJANDRO ARZABALA, HAVING COMPLIED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1876 (FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY- \$180.00 TO EQUINE SPORTS MEDICINE) IS RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING. RULING #133, ISSUED AT LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION ON MAY 20, 2017, IS SET ASIDE.

This ruling was issued after we received confirmation that Mr. Arzabala's three year old debt to Southern California Equine Sports Medicine had been settled.

Ruling # 54

JOCKEY ROLANDO MUNOZ IS SUSPENDED FOR TEN (10) DAYS (APRIL 2 THROUGH APRIL 11, 2021. WITH CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED. ACTUAL TERM OF SUSPENSION WILL BE APRIL 2 THROUGH APRIL 5, 2021) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1489 (a)(8) (GROUNDS FOR DENIAL OR REFUSAL OF LICENSE) #1500. 1 (a) (RANDOM DRUG TESTING- POSITIVE FOR METHAMPHETAMINE) AND #1900 (GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION).

FURTHERMORE, ROLANDO MUNOZ SHALL CONTACT THE WINNERS FOUNDATION FOR AN EVALUATION AND ABIDE BY THEIR ASSESMENT AND SIGN A TEST AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD.

This ruling finalized the case filed against the rider.

Ruling # 55

GROOM HENRY A. SANCHEZ, HAVING FAILED TO APPEAR TO ANSWER CITATION #6867 IS SUSPENDED FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1547 (FAILURE TO APPEAR).

The foregoing ruling was issued as Mr. Sanchez did not appear in response to a complaint filed against him by stable area security.

(4) CLAIM VOIDED

A claim deposited prior to the third race by trainer Santos Perez for #3 Musically was voided as the horse was unsound in the left foreleg while in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of trainer Brian Cunningham.

(5) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	0	\$31,466.80
Off track	531	\$161,963.20
Out of state	N/A	\$918,335.16
Total	531	\$1,111,765.16

Saturday
03/27/2021

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

2nd Race #3 According To Plan (Vet-sick)
#5 Rockin My Mojo (Vet-sick) Refund of \$340.56
3rd Race #1 Copper Cowgirl (Vet-injured) Refund of \$205.66
6th Race #6 Fox Fan (Vet-injured) Refund of \$154.75

(2) RIDER IN FOR HEARING

Jockey Eduardo Nicasio was in the office this afternoon responding to a complaint filed against him for a positive urine test for cocaine. The test was obtained when investigators did a random test of a number of riders in accordance with California Horse Racing Board rule #1500.1. Mr. Nicasio was adamant that he has never taken drugs of any kind and could give no reason for the findings. The sample was submitted on February 13th, the results of which were reported on February 20th. He was removed from his mounts on the 21st and was not allowed to name on pending a clean sample. He returned on February 25th and submitted a sample which was tested and cleared on March 4th. At that point, he was allowed to resume riding. Mr. Nicasio has reached out to Winner's foundation and is currently enrolled in their program. Ruling to follow.

(3) RULING

Ruling # 56

JOCKEY EDUARDO NICASIO IS SUSPENDED FOR TEN (10) DAYS (APRIL 3 THROUGH APRIL 12, 2021. WITH CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED. ACTUAL TERM OF SUSPENSION WILL BE APRIL 3 THROUGH APRIL 6, 2021) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1489 (a)(8) (GROUNDS FOR

DENIAL OR REFUSAL OF LICENSE) #1500. 1 (a) (RANDOM DRUG TESTING- POSITIVE FOR COCAINE METABOLITES) AND #1900 (GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION). FURTHERMORE, EDUARDO NICASIO SHALL CONTACT THE WINNER'S FOUNDATION FOR AN EVALUATION AND ABIDE BY THEIR ASSESMENT AND SIGN A TEST AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD.

This ruling was issued to finalize the complaint against Mr. Nicasio.

(4) STEWARDS' INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

The inquiry sign was posted after the second race to review interference approaching the finish involving the first and fourth place finishers, #4 Shanghai Curly (C. Ortega) and #2 Jack Cool (H. Lopez). After speaking with the riders and reviewing video of the stretch run, the Stewards, in a unanimous decision, disqualified Shanghai Curly from first to fourth position. Video shows the horse drifting in, taking the path of Jack Cook, and forcing that horse's rider to take up sharply. The Stewards were of the opinion that Jack Cool was cost the chance for a better placing due to the actions of the winner.

(5) REFUND

A refund was ordered in the sixth race when #4 In Deep Thought became fractious during the loading procedure, flipped in its starting gate stall, and was declared on the advice of Racing Veterinarian Dr. Becky Fitzgerald. This scratch reduced the field to four starters and prompted the cancellation of the "Show" pool. There was a refund of \$16,988.59 due to the late declaration. The rider, Oscar Peinado, was not injured.

(6) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	0	\$23,983.50
Off track	560	\$108,999.40
Out of state	N/A	\$955,695.86
Total	560	\$1,088,678.76

Sunday
03/28/2021

(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS

3rd Race #2 Rocky's Show (Vet-unsound) Refund of \$501.10
6th Race #3 Dashing Sweet Lady (Vet-unsound) Refund of \$179.88
7th Race #1 Volcom Fire (Vet-sick)
#3 Ms KO (Vet-sick) Refund of \$767.35

(2) RULINGS

Ruling # 57

APPRENTICE JOCKEY CESAR ORTEGA, WHO RODE SHANGHAI CURLY IN THE SECOND RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON MARCH 27, 2021, IS SUSPENDED FOR THREE (3) RACING DAYS (APRIL 9TH, 10TH, AND 11TH, 2021) FOR FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER EFFORT TO MAINTAIN A STRAIGHT COURSE, CAUSING INTERFERENCE WHICH RESULTED IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF HIS MOUNT FROM FIRST TO FOURTH POSITION. THIS CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1699 (RIDING RULES- CARELESS RIDING).

This ruling was issued following a review of the second race from last evening, following which Mr. Ortega's mount was disqualified for interference. There was not much to say in his defense as he simply let his mount drift in, never making an attempt to correct.

Ruling # 58

JOCKEY JUAN PABLO LEON IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1680 (JOCKEYS AND DRIVERS TO REPORT).

This ruling was issued after Mr. Leon waltzed into the Jockeys' Room with only moments to spare before being removed from his mount in the Los Alamitos Oaks. He never contacted anyone in authority to say he would be late. Between his tardiness and weight issues, he is becoming a concern.

Ruling #59

JOCKEY JUAN PABLO LEON IS SUSPENDED FOR FIVE (5) RACING DAYS (APRIL 9TH, 10TH, 11TH, 16TH, AND 17TH, 2021) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688 (b)(7 & 8) (USE OF RIDING CROP – MORE THAN TWO TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND AND MORE THAN SIX TIMES DURING THE RACE) WHILE RIDING “COMANECI” IN THE SEVENTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON MARCH 27, 2021.

The preceding ruling was issued as Mr. Leon was observed in violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1688 (7 & 8) during the Los Alamitos Oaks.

(3) REFUND

A refund was ordered in the first race as #5 Elemental, flipped while behind the starting gate and was scratched on the advice of Racing Veterinarian Dr. Fitzgerald. The refund totaled \$23,560.80. Jockey Efrain Hernandez was not injured and completed his remaining engagements.

(4) ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	0	\$39,563.30
Off track	534	\$119,498.80
Out of state	N/A	\$1,145,066.83
Total	534	\$1,304,128.93

TRACK SAFETY REPORT

The weekly inspection was conducted on March 28, 2021. There were no equine deaths to report this week due to racing injuries. During this reporting period, 12 horses were added to the Veterinarian’s List as follows: 4 for soundness, 4 for injury, and 4 for sickness. Eleven horse previously on the Veterinarian’s List were examined and removed from the list. This report was submitted by Steward Tom Ward.

SUMMARY

	Wed	Thurs	Fri 03/26	Sat 03/27	Sun 03/28	Week	Meet
Accidents	D		0	0	0	0	1
Cal-Bred Races	A		0	0	0	0	1
Claims	R		2	1	2	5	61
Disqualifications	K		0	1	0	1	8
Inquiries		D	0	1	0	1	23
Refunds		A	3	4	4	11	163
Rulings		Y	3	1	3	7	57
Voided Claims		S	1	0	0	1	6

Stewards’ Attendance: Stewards Tom Ward, James Dreyer, Richard Williams, and Safety Steward Paul Atkinson were in attendance during this reporting period.

Tom Ward, Steward

James Dreyer, Steward

Richard Williams, Steward

Paul Atkinson, Safety Steward