

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD
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SACRAMENTO HARNESS ASSOCIATION

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Proceedings of the Board of Stewards for the period of Monday, November 26, 2007 through Sunday, December 02, 2007. Steward Grant Baker was the Reporting and Duty Steward for the enclosed period.

Monday

11/26/07 (1) **Dark Day**

Tuesday

11/27/07 (1) **Double Draw**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for race cards on Friday, November 30th and Saturday, December 1st.

Twelve (12) races filled for Friday, November 30th. Ninety three (93) horses are scheduled to face Starter Bill Vallandingham. Seven (7) races were drawn for Saturday, December 1st. Five (5) additional races will be drawn on Thursday, November 29th at which time an 'overnight' sheet will be put out.

11/27/07 (2) **Dark Day**

Wednesday

11/28/07 (1) **Scratch Time**

Scratch time for November 30th was held this morning in the racing office at 9:00 a.m. Four (4) driver changes took place at the deadline.

11/28/07 (2) **Qualifying Races**

Five (5) qualifying races were held prior to tonight's ten (10) race pari-mutuel card. Twenty one (21) of the twenty six participants made the grade.

11/28/07 (3) **Smooth Card**

Tonight's ten (10) race card was uneventful as there were no steward's inquiries or driver objections.

11/28/07 (4) **Program Changes**

10th Race Declaration - #4 "Tycoon Ernesto" – Trainer George Reider

Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.

#8 "Wildest Dream" – Trainer Rick Plano

Refund Total: \$2.50

Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.

11/28/07 (5) **Attendance and Handle**

Attendance	125
Live Handle (On Track)	\$40,285
Handle (In State)	\$369,132
Handle (Out of State)	<u>\$182,655</u>
Total Handle	\$592,072

Thursday

11/29/07 (1) **Morning Entries**

Six (6) races were drawn this morning in the racing office. Racing Secretary Fred Kuebler combined these races with the seven (7) races that were drawn Tuesday, November 27th.

Ninety five (95) horses are scheduled to start.

11/29/07 (2) **Gregg Pistochini Hearing (Case No: 07SW-0075)**

A formal hearing was heard this afternoon in the steward's office. The California Horse Racing Board filed a complaint against horse owner Gregg Pistochini for alleged violations of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1489 (G) (Grounds for Denial or Refusal of License), Rule #1900 (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation) and Rule #1902 (B) (Conduct Detrimental to Racing).

This case was investigated and presented by California Horse Racing Board Senior Special Investigator Martin Snezek. Kathryn Swank (Capitol Reporters) recorded the proceedings.

This complaint revolves around an arrest made by Placer County Sheriff's detectives of Gregg Pistochini in Roseville, CA on September 4, 2007. Original charges filed against Pistochini were conspiracy, grand theft and burglary.

11/29/07 (2) continued

This arrest involves the alleged sale of stolen 'high end' (Callaway) golf balls on an eBay website. Pistochini, at the time of his arrest, was serving as a commentator for Cal Expo simulcasts. He was an employee of SHA (Sacramento Harness Association) before his arrest. His arrest was reported in the local (Sacramento Bee) print media. A photo of Pistochini also appeared.

Exhibits were presented. Testimony was given. Mr. Pistochini also presented the stewards with letters from two (2) track officials addressing his 'contributions to the standardbred industry'. The stewards will deliberate and render a decision next week.

11/29/07 (3) **Gilbert Herrera Film Review**

Driver Gilbert Herrera appeared in the steward's office to review his drive behind #10 "Another Wish" (sixth place) in last night's November 28th, eighth race. The stewards questioned Driver Herrera about his mount 'allowing a hole' while racing on the first turn. Driver Herrera stated his horse was 'on a line' (lugging out) and was difficult to urge.

The stewards did not issue a sanction in this matter in lieu of what seemed to be a credible analysis of films by Driver Herrera.

11/29/07 (4) **Richard Bertrand Appeal Hearing (Case No: 07SW-0070)**

Administrative Hearing Unit Senior Investigator Sharyn Jolly assigned a Richard Bertrand (Driver) appeal of Sacramento Harness Ruling #129 (June 28, 2007) to Steward Will Meyers to referee. This matter involved a two hundred (\$200) dollar fine regarding a driving violation at Cal Expo on June 23, 2007. California Horse Racing Board Rule #1721 (H) (Driving Rules – Allow a Hole) was the rule violation Driver Bertrand was disputing.

Stewards Wayne Oke presented the steward's case in this matter. Steward Baker participated as a witness. This hearing was record by Kathryn Swank from Capitol Reporters.

Race replays were reviewed. The stewards' minutes from June 28, 2007 [Ref. 06/28/07 (3)] were introduced into evidence.

11/29/07 (5) **Smooth Card II**

Once again this evening there were no inquiries or driver objections on the evening's ten (10) race card.

11/29/07 (6) **Program Changes**

5th Race Declaration - #6 "Rapid Current" – Trainer Lou Pena
Refund: \$3 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.

11/29/07 (7) **Attendance and Handle**

Attendance	212
Live Handle (On Track)	\$36,952
Handle (In State)	\$298,274
Handle (Out of State)	<u>\$215,690</u>
Total Handle	\$550,916

Friday

11/30/07 (1) **Claude Ladouceur Film Review**

Provisional Driver Claude Ladouceur appeared in the stewards' offices to review the start of the fifth race from November 24, 2007. Mr. Ladouceur had second place finisher "Website Story" 'off the gate' (six lengths back) at the start of this race. This was Mr. Ladouceur's ninth drive of 2007 here at Cal Expo.

A warning was issued in this matter.

11/30/07 (2) **Big Fresno Fair – Elliott Demesme (Case No: 07SW-0095) & Juan Avila (Case No: 07SW-0096)**

Cal Expo Stewards, in a formal hearing, decided a controversy between two (2) jockeys today in Sacramento. This case involves an altercation (fight) between Elliott Demesme and Juan Avila October 14, 2007 in the Big Fresno Fair jockey's room. California Horse Racing Board Senior Special Investigator Martin Snezek presented his investigation to the stewards. Trainer Efrain Miranda served as interpreter for Jockey Juan Avila. Esther Schwartz (Capitol Reporters) transcribed the proceedings.

This altercation evolved around Jockey Demesme questioning Jockey Avila's riding tactics that took place during the sixth race on that day. One thing led to another and an altercation ensued.

Following the altercation, Jockey Avila was transported via ambulance to a local (Fresno) hospital emergency room to attend to a significant wound above his right eye.

Jockey Demesme was questioned by Fresno police regarding the incident. No charges have been filed against either jockey at this time.

Two (2) written witness accounts were presented at this hearing. Decision to follow.

11/30/07 (3) **Smooth Card III**

For the third consecutive night, the races here were uneventful as far as fouls or interference were concerned.

11/30/07 (4) **Program Changes**

7th Race Declaration - #9 "Tequila Flash" – Trainer Rocky Stidham
 No Refund Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
 8th Race Declaration - #7 "Sassy Brenda" – Trainer Frank Petrelli
 Refund: \$16 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
 9th Race Claiming Price - #4 should read \$25,500

11/30/07 (5)	<u>Attendance and Handle</u>	
	Attendance	355
	Live Handle (On Track)	\$60,481
	Handle (In State)	\$469,127
	Handle (Out of State)	<u>\$348,951</u>
	Total Handle	\$878,559

Saturday

12/01/07 (1) **Double Draw**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for Wednesday, December 5th and Thursday, December 6th. Eleven (11) races will be run Wednesday, December 5th. Eighty seven (87) horses are scheduled to start.

Ten (10) races will be contested Thursday, December 6th. Eighty one (81) horses are scheduled to start.

12/01/07 (2) **Big Fresno Fair Frank Petrelli Hearing (Case No: 07SW-0094)**

The stewards held a financial hearing today regarding a dispute between Trainer Frank Petrelli and Farrier Luis Oyarzabal.

This matter was recorded by Esther Schwartz (Capitol Reporters). Along with the stewards the following people were present: Supervising Investigator Greg Fabbri along with witnesses, Troy Thomas (Farrier) and Harold Meriman (Owner).

This case revolved around a bill for \$6,030. Blacksmith Oyarzabal stated that he shod sixty four (64) horses for Trainer Petrelli between August 25th and October 6th, with no payment so far on the amount stated above.

Mr. Oyarzabal stated he charged a base rate of ninety (\$90) dollars as his shoeing charge. Trainer Petrelli stated he 'always gets (shoeing) deals' based on his large stable size. He claimed the agreement was for between seventy five (\$75) and eighty (\$80) dollars. Oyarzabal presented documentation. Petrelli did not. The stewards will deliberate and arrive at a decision next week.

12/01/07 (3) **Claude Ladouceur Ruling**

Ruling # 83

Provisional Driver Claude Ladouceur, who drove "Website Story" in the Ninth Race on Friday November 30, 2007, is hereby fined the sum of Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1721 (F) (Driving Rules –Take Up Abruptly in Front of Other Horses so as to Cause Confusion or Interference Among the Trailing Horses).

The ruling above was issued to Provisional Driver Claude Ladouceur. Mr. Ladouceur accepted the penalty over the telephone. He drives here sparingly and failed to appear in person or send a representative for film review in this matter.

12/01/07 (4) **Third Race – Inquiry/Disqualification**

The stewards posted the inquiry sign after viewing fifth (5th) place finisher #5 “Relinquishment” failed to comply with California Horse Racing Board Rule #1722 by losing ground.

For this violation, #5 “Relinquishment” was disqualified and placed sixth (last).

12/01/07 (5) **Fourth Race Recalls**

Equipment problems led to two (2) recalls being held prior to the fourth race. Starter Bill Vallandingham sent the horses off on the third attempt without a hitch.

12/01/07 (6) **Program Changes**

2nd Race Declarations - #4 “Frankthebank” – Trainer Bernie Wolin
Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
#6 “D Jokerman” – Trainer George Reider
Refund Total: \$2 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
4th Race Declaration - #2 “Easter Call” – Trainer Lou Pena
Refund: \$2 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
8th Race Driver Change - #2 F. Petrelli for R. Wojcio – Stewards
8th Race Declaration - #7 “Red Star Billy” – Trainer Jeff Waltenburgh
Refund: \$0 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.
12th Race Declaration- #2 “Bomb Breeze” – Trainer Frank Petrelli
Refund: \$0 Injured – Robert Goodbary, D.V.M.

12/01/07 (7) **Attendance and Handle**

Attendance	392
Live Handle (On Track)	\$59,651
Handle (In State)	\$628,956
Handle (Out of State)	<u>\$343,163</u>
Total Handle	\$1,031,770

RULINGS ISSUED THIS WEEK

12/01/07	83	Provisional Driver Claude Ladouceur, who drove "Website Story" in the Ninth Race on Friday November 30, 2007, is hereby fined the sum of Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1721 (F) (Driving Rules –Take Up Abruptly in Front of Other Horses so as to Cause Confusion or Interference Among the Trailing Horses).
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W E E K L Y S U M M A R Y

ATTENDANCE REPORT -

The full Board of Stewards was in session each day during this reporting period for both morning business and the afternoon racing program.

VETERINARIAN RECOMMENDED SCRATCHES

Date	Race	No.	Horse	Trainer	Reason	Vet	Refund
28-Nov	10	4	TYCOON ERNESTO	REIDER	Injured	Goodbary	\$1.25
	10	8	WILDEST DREAM	PLANO	Injured	Goodbary	\$1.25
29-Nov	5	6	RAPID CURRENT	PENA	Injured	Goodbary	\$3.00
30-Nov	7	9	TEQUILA FLASH	STIDHAM	Injured	Goodbary	\$0.00
	8	7	SASSY BRENDA	PETRELLI	Injured	Goodbary	\$16.00
1-Dec	2	4	FRANKTHEBANK	WOLIN	Injured	Goodbary	\$1.00
	2	6	D JOKERMAN	REIDER	Injured	Goodbary	\$1.00
	4	2	EASTER CALL	PENA	Injured	Goodbary	\$2.00
	8	7	RED STAR BILLY	WALTENBURGH	Injured	Goodbary	\$0.00
	12	2	BOMB BREEZE	PETRELLI	Injured	Goodbary	\$0.00

WEEKLY HANDLE SUMMARY FOR SATELLITE FACILITIES

Bakersfield	\$	13,062.30
Bay Meadows	\$	103,223.40
Eureka	\$	-
Fresno	\$	4,560.20
Fresno Club One	\$	4,561.30
Golden Gate	\$	86,805.80
Monterey	\$	13,238.20
Pleasanton	\$	44,114.70
Sacramento	\$	154,166.30
San Jose	\$	54,968.40
Santa Rosa	\$	11,147.30
Stockton	\$	37,575.50
Tulare	\$	1,260.00
Turlock	\$	1.20
Vallejo	\$	30,596.20
Racing Fairs	\$	-
So. California	\$	-
Out of State	\$	1,090,458.44

SACRAMENTO HARNESS ASSOCIATION

SUMMARY

2007

	Mon 11/26	Tues 11/27	Wed 11/28	Thurs 11/29	Fri 11/30	Sat 12/01	Total Week	Total Meet
Accidents	D	D	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cal-Bred Races	A	A	0	0	0	0	0	23
Claims	R	R	3	0	1	0	4	73
Disqualifications	K	K	0	0	0	1	1	30
Inquiries	D	D	0	0	0	1	1	72
Refunds	A	A	2	1	2	5	10	39
Rulings	Y	Y	0	0	0	1	1	83

Stewards Attendance: Stewards Baker, Oke and Meyers were in attendance.

All drivers submitted to a breathalyzer test.

Grant Baker, Steward

Will Meyers, Steward

Michael W. "Wayne" Oke