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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

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WEEKLY UPDATE

SACRAMENTO, CA – This is the California Horse Racing Board's weekly update of complaints, accusations, stewards rulings, and Board decisions involving Class 1, 2, and 3 medication violations and other significant matters.

The CHRB filed 10 complaints against five trainers at Los Alamitos for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d), 1844 (e) (9), and 1887, and also filed a complaint against one owner for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d) and 1844 (e) (9), after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported that blood and urine samples taken from 10 horses racing at Los Alamitos exceeded the regulatory threshold for clenbuterol. The findings in eight of the 10 cases were confirmed by Iowa State University laboratory. The owners and trainers of the other two horses, Red Sovine and Shablazin, did not request a split-sample confirmation analysis. Clenbuterol is a beta-2 agonist bronchodilator commonly used in horses and is a Class 3 violation.

The CHRB called a meeting with horse owners and trainers Saturday morning in the stable area at Los Alamitos. Dr. Rick Arthur, the CHRB equine medical director, reviewed medication procedures, withdrawal times, and medication rules, and the implications of the soon-to-be adopted penalty guidelines. Michael Kilpack, the supervising investigator at Los Alamitos, informed the horsemen that CHRB investigators will be stepping up their barn presence and that horsemen should expect more random barn inspections in the future.

Six of the complaints were filed against one trainer, Jose M. De La Torre, based on the laboratory findings for six horses in his care:

- LDS Heza Streaker, which finished first in the fourth race on February 16, 2008. The stewards at Los Alamitos have scheduled a May 10 hearing on this complaint.
- Bonos Wicked Wench, which finished second in the second race on March 1, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 15.
- Preppy Pilot, which finished first in the first race on March 2, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 16.
- Ima Strawfly, which finished second in the seventh race on March 6, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 17.

- Call Me a Bono, which finished first in the fourth race on March 8, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 23.
- Bonos Key, which finished first in the sixth race on February 23, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 30.

The other four trainers receiving complaints and their horses were:

- Adan Farias, trainer of Mia Fancy Fame, which finished first in the ninth race on February 17, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 22.
- John Frousiakis, trainer of Purple Slurple, which finished first in the second race on January 12, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 2.
- Hector Sanchez, trainer of Red Sovine, which finished first in the fifth race on April 3, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 24.
- Danny Montes, trainer of Shablazin, which finished first in the eighth race March 28, 2008. A hearing is scheduled May 29.

The 11th complaint was filed against Jesus Avila, the owner of Mia Fancy Fame, who admitted to administering clenbuterol to the horse at the ranch. A hearing is scheduled May 22.

In two other unrelated cases involving Farias, the stewards at Los Alamitos issued two separate rulings each suspending the trainer for 15 days. He also was fined \$1,500 and \$3,000, respectively, in the two cases for violations of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d), 1844 (c), and 1887. In both cases, the Maddy Laboratory reported that blood samples taken from horses in his care contained two non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), flunixin and phenylbutazone. Industrial Laboratories in Colorado confirmed both findings. The horses were Downright Secret, which finished first in the 10th race at Los Alamitos on January 20, 2008, and Chiselled in Glory, which finished second in the eighth race at Los Alamitos on February 24, 2008. Rule 1844 (c) states “not more than one approved (NSAID) may be administered to a horse that is entered to race...” Farias requested a stay of the suspension relating to Downright Secret but that request was denied. He then obtained a temporary restraining order from the court, which is in effect pending his appeal. He is currently serving the 15-day suspension relating to Chiselled in Glory (April 18 through May 2).

The stewards at Santa Anita suspended trainer Dan Hendricks for 30 days and fined him \$3,000 for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d) and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported that a sample collected from a horse in his care, Lotacat, tested in excess of the authorized decision level for 3-hydroxy(ethyl)-promazine, a metabolite of acepromazine. Acepromazine is a commonly used tranquilizer in horses. This is a Class 2 violation. Lotacat finished second in the sixth race at Santa Anita Park on February 10, 2008. The stewards stayed the suspension provided Hendricks has no additional Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the one-year probationary period.

The stewards at Santa Anita Park issued a ruling disqualifying Queen of the Derby from first in the eighth race at Del Mar on July 25, 2007, and ordered the redistribution of the purse based on a report from the Maddy Laboratory that Queen of the Derby tested positive for guanabenz. Guanabenz is an alpha-2 adrenergic agonist used to treat hypertension in people. This family of drugs also produces tranquilizer/sedative/analgesic effects in horses and includes the FDA approved equine drugs xylazine and detomidine. This is a Class 2 violation. In a previous ruling, Michael Pender, the trainer of Queen of the Derby, was suspended.

The CHRB filed a complaint against trainer Christopher “Beau” Greeley for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a, d) and 1887 after a horse in his care, Rather Be Lucky, tested positive for hydroxy-carisoprodol and meprobamate. The Maddy Laboratory identified hydroxy-carisoprodol and meprobamate in the post-race sample. Greeley failed to meet the regulatory deadline to request a split sample confirmation under CHRB Rule 1859.25. Carisoprodol is a centrally acting skeletal muscle relaxant. Meprobamate is a pharmacologically active metabolite of carisoprodol with anxiolytic and sedative properties. Carisoprodol is currently a Class VI violation in California; meprobamate is a Class 2 violation. Rather Be Lucky finished first in the third race at Santa Anita on January 21, 2008. The stewards at Hollywood Park have scheduled a May 24 hearing.

The CHRB has filed a complaint against owner Juan Pablo Ramirez for violation of CHRB Rules 1489 (j), 1890, and 1900. During a general barn area inspection, Ramirez was found to have in his possession multiple syringes and vials of therapeutic medications located in his tack room within the restricted area at Cal Expo. The stewards at Cal Expo have scheduled a May 9 hearing.

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