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**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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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.

In accordance with a stipulated agreement between the California Horse Racing Board and trainer Scott Willoughby, the stewards at Los Alamitos fined the trainer \$3,000 and suspended him for 30 days for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d) and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported the urine sample taken from Some Great Catch, a horse in his care, contained Gabapentin. Gabapentin is a drug having multiple pharmacological uses, including pain-specific analgesic activity. Gabapentin is sold as Neurotonin for human use. Gabapentin is a Class 3 drug and a Category B penalty. Some Great Catch finished first in the fourth race at Los Alamitos on December 18, 2008. In accordance with the stipulated agreement, the stewards stayed 25 days of the suspension provided the trainer has no additional Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the term of his one-year probation. Willoughby served five days of his suspension from March 23 through March 27. In a separate ruling, the stewards disqualified Some Great Catch and ordered the redistribution of the purse.

In accordance with a stipulated agreement between the CHRB and trainer Keith Craigmyle, the stewards at Santa Anita fined Craigmyle \$3,000 and issued a 30-day suspension for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported the urine sample taken from My Girl Sandy, a horse in his care, contained Gabapentin. Pennsylvania Research Laboratory confirmed the presence of Gabapentin in the split sample. My Girl Sandy finished first in the fourth race at Fresno on October 8, 2008. In accordance with the stipulated agreement, the stewards stayed 25 days of the suspension provided the trainer has no additional Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the term of his one-year probation. Craigmyle will serve five days of his suspension from April 6 through April 10.

The stewards at Golden Gate Fields suspended the license of equine dentist Larry Lee Mitchell pending his appearance before the Board of Stewards to answer charges of alleged violation of CHRB Rules 1843 and 1887 in relation to a positive test for 3-hydroxy-xylazine, a metabolite of the equine tranquilizer xylazine, from second-place-finisher Gold Ruckus in the first race at Golden Gate Fields on June 2, 2007. Mitchell failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards on March 29, 2009. The complaint against Gold Ruckus' trainer, Gerald Hollendorfer, was withdrawn. The stewards previously disqualified Gold Ruckus and ordered a redistribution of the purse.