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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

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PAYOFFS CORRECTED AT SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO, CA – An error in the posting of the fourth-place mule in the first race at the Sacramento Fair meet was discovered after the race was declared official Saturday, affecting superfecta payoffs, which require the correct selection of the first four finishers in a race. The error was corrected and ticket-cashing resumed approximately 15 minutes later. Based on the 10-cent minimum wager for superfectas, 474 tickets with the corrected order of finish of 7-6-4-3 each are worth \$18.98. No other wagering pools were affected.

The California Horse Racing Board has begun an investigation of this matter. A preliminary report from the stewards at Cal Expo indicated they misarranged the order of finish for the fourth mule in the race while conducting three separate inquiries that resulted in three separate disqualifications, which completely rearranged the runners.

The original order of finish was 6-7-5-2-3-4-1. First they dealt with interference caused by the 5, who they disqualified and placed last, making the order 6-7-2-4-3-1-5. In a separate inquiry, the stewards determined that the 2, Image of Tomahawk, bothered the 3, Baby Sister, and that disqualification should have changed the order of finish to 6-7-4-3-2-1-5. However, they incorrectly rearranged the finish to 6-7-4-2-3-1-5 – mistakenly keeping the 2 in front of the 3. Finally in a third inquiry, they determined the 6 bothered the 7, making the posted order of finish 7-6-4-2-3-1-5.

During the time it took to recognize the problem, determine the correct order of finish, make the public announcement, and halt payoffs, tickets with the 7-6-4-2 combination were cashed for a total of \$4,557. Approximately 15 minutes after the race was first declared official, the pool was reopened to allow the real winners to cash tickets with the correct 7-6-4-3 combination.

In their preliminary report, stewards Dennis Nevin, Will Meyers, and Grant Baker wrote, “The stewards would like to apologize to the Board for any embarrassment this may cause, to management for any inconvenience this may have generated, and mostly to the fans who were affected.”

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