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## CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD



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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

DECEMBER 23, 2010

### WEEKLY UPDATE: DECEMBER 5 – 19, 2010

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

The members of the California Horse Racing Board, while meeting in executive session on December 16, voted not to adopt the Proposed Decision of Administrative Hearing Officer Steffan Imhoff and ordered preparation of the record pertaining to the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation against trainer Jeff Mullins from the 2006 mepivacaine violation involving the horse Rob's Coin. The Board will review the record, including transcripts, and any further argument submitted on behalf of the parties, and then will issue a decision.

Mullins served 20 days of a 90-day suspension in connection with the mepivacaine violation – with the remaining 70 days of the suspension stayed provided Mullins committed no further Class 1, 2, or 3 violations during the term of his one-year probation. Mullins did have such a violation (TCO2) within one year and he served a 30-day suspension for that new violation. The CHRB then sought to impose the remaining 70 days of the suspension for the original mepivacaine violation. Mullins requested a hearing on his probation violation. Imhoff was the hearing officer. Imhoff proposed reducing the 70 days remaining on Mullins' mepivacaine suspension to 40 days. The Board declined to accept the Proposed Decision in closed session. No date has been set for the Board to decide this matter and issue its own decision. Imhoff's Proposed Decision can be viewed on the CHRB Website ([www.chrb.ca.gov](http://www.chrb.ca.gov)) through the links Administrative Hearings/Board Decisions.

Proceeding with a case previously announced in the weekly update issued September 7, the Deputy Attorney General representing the CHRB filed an accusation against trainer Doug O'Neill alleging violation of CHRB Rules 1843, 1843.1, 1843.6 (d), and 1887 after the Ken Maddy Laboratory at UC Davis reported that a sample taken from a horse in O'Neill's care, Argenta, exceeded the regulatory threshold of 37.0mmol/l for total carbon dioxide (TCO2). This is a Class 3 violation. The filing of the accusation is the next phase in legal proceedings against O'Neill. No hearing date has been set. Argenta finished eighth in the sixth race at Del Mar on August 25, 2010. In an earlier ruling, the stewards at Oak Tree at Hollywood Park disqualified Argenta and ordered the redistribution of the purse.

The CHRB filed a complaint against trainer Michael Pender alleging violation of CHRB

Rules 1843 (a) (d) and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at U.C. Davis reported the sample collected from Benecia, a horse in his care, contained indomethacin. The trainer declined to have a split sample tested. Indomethacin is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, which became a Class 3 violation after July 1, 2008. Benecia finished first in the ninth race at Fairplex Park on September 26, 2010. The stewards at Santa Anita have scheduled a December 31 hearing.

The stewards at Los Alamitos ordered the return of purse money awarded to Lajolla Famosa for qualifying and entering the Los Alamitos Wild West Futurity – even though he was scratched due to injury and did not actually run in the race – after Lajolla Famosa was subsequently disqualified from the trial for the Futurity for a positive test finding for clenbuterol. Horses qualifying and entering certain futurities at Los Alamitos are awarded purse monies even if they do not start. However, due to his disqualification, Lajolla Famosa was no longer eligible to enter the Los Alamitos Wild West Futurity.

In accordance with a stipulated agreement between the CHRB and trainer Yanet Rodriguez, the stewards at Los Alamitos fined Rodriguez \$3,000 and suspended her for 30 days for violation of CHRB Rules 1843 (a) (d), 1844 (e) (9) (f), and 1887 after the Maddy Laboratory at U.C. Davis reported the blood sample collected from a horse in her care, MB Sun Shine, contained clenbuterol in excess of the authorized decision levels. Clenbuterol is a beta-2 agonist bronchodilator commonly used in horses. This is a Class 3 violation. Pursuant to the agreement, the stewards stayed 15 days of the suspension provided Rodriguez commits no further Class 1, 2, or 3 penalties during the term of her one-year probation. Rodriguez will begin serving the imposed 15-day suspension on January 1. MB Sun Shine finished first in the first race at Los Alamitos on October 1, 2010. The stewards issued a ruling disqualifying MB Sun Shine and ordered the redistribution of the purse.

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