

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary #2024A12**

Horse Information: 3-year-old Thoroughbred.

Incident Summary: This horse was injured during a race.

Necropsy Summary: A necropsy examination revealed left carpus (“knee”) comminuted fractures of the radial carpal bone, intermediate carpal bone, ulnar carpal bone, 2nd carpal bone, 3rd carpal bone (slab fracture with subchondral red discoloration of several fragments), 4th carpal bone, 2nd metacarpal bone, and osteochondral fragmentation of the distal radius. Dorsal metacarpal disease was noted in the right forelimb.

Racing/Training History: This horse did not race as a 2-year-old and had more than 5 lifetime starts. The horse was claimed recently. The final trainer recalled thickening of a suspensory ligament and was told by the breeder the horse sustained the injury as a foal.

Veterinary History Summary: Two days prior to the final race the horse was treated with phenylbutazone, methocarbamol, vitamins, and electrolytes. The horse received furosemide prior to races and timed workouts. Previously, radiographs were obtained of the left shin and left carpus. The horse was placed on the CHRB Veterinarian’s list twice for left carpus intra-articular medication, and three times for shockwave therapy of the shins.

Pre-race Examinations: The final pre-race examination noted joint capsule hypertrophy and a decreased range of motion in both front fetlock joints, right front lateral suspensory ligament branch enlargement and left front fetlock effusion. Recent exams had noted effusion in both carpi, slightly sensitive to palpation, and the horse jogged choppy. Other exams noted effusion in the left radiocarpal joint, and once shin exostosis was noted.

Conclusion: This horse sustained multiple carpal fractures while racing, and chronic remodeling was noted on the postmortem examination. This horse did not race as a 2-year-old and was recently claimed. The horse had previously received intra-articular medication in the left carpus.