

## CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS**  
**Pacific Racing Association**  
Golden Gate Fields, Berkeley, California  
TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member

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Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

**Report for the Week of Thursday, May 31, 2023, Through Sunday, June 4, 2023.****WEDNESDAY**5/31/23<sup>1</sup>**DARK DAY****THURSDAY**6/1/23<sup>1</sup>**ENTRY DAY**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for Sunday June 4, 2023. **Richard Lewis** is the Duty Steward overseeing entries, declarations, and all changes this week.

6/1/23<sup>2</sup>**LUIS D LOPEZ COMPLAINT (CASE #23GG0037)**

A formal hearing was scheduled for today in our office. Along with Stewards **Baker, Lewis** and **Nevin** present today were Golden Gate Fields Security Guards **Patrick Larkin** and **James Fitch**. **Christine Niccoli** (Court Reporter) and California Horse Racing Board **Noe Longoria** was present.

*The respondent in this case is Groom **Luis D. Lopez** who has a terminated license. He has been charged with alleged violation of California Horse Racing Board #1481(a) (Occupational Licenses and Fees). Rule #1530 (Cases not Covered by Rules and Regulations), Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct) and Rule #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers). The alleged incident took place on February 19, 2023, in the Golden Gate Fields Stable Area.*

The cover page of Investigator **Longoria's** thirty (30) page complaint packet reads as follows. *Golden Gate Fields Security Sergeant Patrick Larkin received a complaint from Association Employee Santana Navarro that Groom Luis Lopez had refused to stop at*

*the Gilman Gate as directed and drove through. When Sgt. Larkin located Groom Lopez, he (Lopez) was intoxicated and verbally assaulted Sgt. Larkin with profanities and threatened to batter Sgt. Larkin. A short while later, Sgt. Jay Fitch arrived to assist Sgt. Larkin and was also met with profanities and threats of bodily injury. Groom Lopez was served with an Exclusion Order (1989) and escorted off the premises.*

**Luis D. Lopez** failed to appear for today's hearing. More to follow.

**FRIDAY**  
6/2/23<sup>1</sup>

**LUIS D LOPEZ RULING (REF: 6/1/23<sup>(2)</sup>)**

Groom **Luis D Lopez** failed to appear at a hearing here yesterday at Golden Gate Fields. In a unanimous decision the Stewards issued the following ruling.

**GGF RULING #75**

Groom **LUIS D LOPEZ** whose license has been terminated by the California Horse Racing Board for material misrepresentation on application for license and having failed to appear for a scheduled hearing before the Board of Stewards on June 1, 2023 to answer to charges of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – Intoxication) and Rule #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers) is deemed ineligible for licensure pending a hearing on current charges and petitioning the California Horse Racing Board for a fitness hearing.

Furthermore, **LUIS D LOPEZ** is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards).

6/2/23<sup>2</sup>

**OFFICIAL CHANGES**

There were two (2) racing official changes today. Placing Judge **Nancy Barney** is being replaced by Director of Racing/ Racing Secretary **Steven Martinelli**. Clerk of the Course **Tina Bryant** is being replaced by Placing Judge/Stakes Coordinator **Lisa Jones**.

6/2/23<sup>3</sup>

**ROUTINE MATTERS**

A regular course of procedures took place in the Steward's Office this morning. Duty Steward **Lewis** disseminated all scratches and changes for today's eight (8) race card.

6/2/23<sup>4</sup>

**VOIDED CLAIMS – RACE 5**

California Horse Racing Board Veterinarian **Forrest Franklin** informed the Stewards that two (2) horses claimed out of this race were lame. The horses were: #1 **Shezaghost** – Tr. **S. Calvario** (claimed by I. **Tamayo**) #5 **Shezarunaway** – Tr. **D. Markle** (claimed by **J. Wong**)

Both horses were claimed for \$25,000. Both claims were voided by the Stewards and the horses were returned to their original barns.

6/2/23<sup>5</sup>

**STEWARDS REVIEW – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

Track Announcer **Matt Dinerman** said that a Stewards' Review would be conducted into the start of this race. #6 **Gardees World (Alexander Chavez)** reared in the starting gate when Starter **Todd Stephens** dispatched the field. Jockey **Chavez** stepped off the horse and the horse raced riderless. Fifth place finisher #7 **Short It Out (Frank Alvarado)** was forced wide at the ¼ pole location by the loose horse. The Stewards deemed this horse a Starter as his own actions caused the mishap. An Assistant Starter was injured as a result of this incident. Safety Steward **Cal Rainey** is reviewing this incident for the California Horse Racing Board.

6/2/23<sup>6</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

1<sup>ST</sup> Race Declaration #4 **Coolcross** Tr. (**J. Wong**) Sick – **Mike Parker DVM** Refund: \$514.00  
2<sup>ND</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Elegant Sway** (Tr. **S. Paldanius**) Sick – **Karen Hassan DVM**  
Refund: \$258.50

2<sup>ND</sup> Race #4 **Sweet Blush** (Tr. **S. Specht**) claimed, **O.J. Jauregui**, trainer  
 2<sup>ND</sup> Race No Show Wagering  
 4<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #3 **Causeway Girl** (Tr. **Q. Miller**) Injured – **Karen Hassan DVM**  
 Refund: \$163.25  
 4<sup>TH</sup> Race Cancel \$1 Rolling Super High Five  
 6<sup>TH</sup> Race #1 **Dawn at Last** (Tr. **A. Mathis**) claimed, **J. Wong**, trainer  
 7<sup>TH</sup> Race Declarations #5 **Trinidad** (Tr. **R. Hansen**) Sick – **Karen Hassan DVM**  
 #8 **Incredible Shot** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) Sick – **Jerry Parker DVM** Refund Totals: \$496.45  
 7<sup>TH</sup> Race Wagering Cancel \$1 Rolling High Five  
 8<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Righteously** (Tr. **T. McCanna**) Injured – **Karen Hassan DVM**  
 Refund: \$263.85  
 8<sup>TH</sup> Race #5 **O’Neills Legacy** (Tr. **J. Steiner**) claimed, **S. Calvario**, trainer  
 #6 **Gardees World** (Tr. **M. Lenzini**) claimed, **J. Wong**, trainer

6/2/23<sup>7</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

|                    |       |                |
|--------------------|-------|----------------|
| On track           | 447   | \$173,801.74   |
| SCOTWinc           | 0,000 | \$1,178,853.83 |
| Out of state + ADW | N/A   | \$186,426.89   |
| Total              | 1,140 | \$1,939,793.79 |

**SATURDAY**

6/3/23<sup>1</sup>

**JOSE PUENTES COMPLAINT (CASE #23GG0047)**

A tape-recorded hearing was held in the Stewards Office this morning. California Horse Racing Board Investigator **Noe Longoria** prepared a forty-seven (47) page complaint for this case. Rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility) is the alleged violation. The cover page of the complaint reads as follows.

*Owner **Ismael Mendoza Ramirez** (298693 – 08/23) filed a financial complaint against Trainer **Jose Puentes** in the amount of \$14,307.25, for reimbursement of feed, dentist, vitamins, veterinarian, horseshoes, and galloper fees associated with the horse “**Trash Talkin Cat**” Trainer **Puentes** is 25% owner of the horse. A payment demand letter and invoices were sent by USPS Registered Mail to trainer **Puentes** on 3/22/23, with no response or offer to settle. California Horse Racing Board Supervising Investigator **Louis Quezada** presented this case and served as an interpreter. Owner **Ismael Mendoza Ramirez** is the complainant in this matter. Trainer **Jose Puentes** is the respondent. Local Attorney **James Ghidella** represented Trainer **Puentes**. Steward **Dennis Nevin** chaired the proceeding.*

Owner **Mendoza Ramirez** wanted to purchase the 25% ownership of the horse “**Trash Talkin Cat**” **Mr. Ramirez** and Trainer **Puentes** have had some good fortune racing this horse. The horse is currently at a farm while these ownership partners work out their differences. **Mr. Mendoza Ramirez** listed hay, straw, and oat bills in his complaint. He did not pay training fees to **Mr. Puentes** but gave him 25% ownership of the horse. The Stewards deliberated immediately after the hearing. It was felt that this complaint was frivolous and was not filed to recover the \$14,307.25 allegedly owed but to put some pressure on Trainer **Puentes** to transfer his 25% ownership of the horse. This complaint appeared to be filed without any clearly defined purpose. Case dismissed.

6/3/23<sup>2</sup>

**DIEGO HERRERA AMAENDED RULING (REF: 5/26/23<sup>(3)</sup>)**

The ruling below was originally issued on May 29, 2023. Following the May 26 hearing (Case#22BM0036) it was discovered that Groom **Diego Herrera** did not have an expired license which was originally presented to the Stewards at the live hearing. **Mr. Herrera’s** license was renewed in November 2022. The particulars in this amended ruling supersede the original ruling text.

**GGF RULING #74 (AMENDED)**

Groom **DIEGO HERRERA**, having appeared to answer to Case Number 22BM0036, Pacific Racing Association Ruling #22 issued at Golden Gate Fields on December 3, 2022, is set aside.

Groom **DIEGO HERRERA** is now suspended for the term of his license for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct- Intoxication – Multiple Violations), on August 2, 2022, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds (Pleasanton).

Prior to reinstatement **DIEGO HERRERA** must sign a testing agreement with the California Horse Racing Board while licensed in California. **DIEGO HERRERA** is ordered to be evaluated by the Winner's Foundation and abide by the recommendations of this organization which are acceptable to the Board of Stewards.

During the term of this suspension all licenses and license privileges of **DIEGO HERRERA** are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards to Suspend Fine) **DIEGO HERRERA** is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction).

6/3/23<sup>3</sup>

### **FRANCISCO NAVARRO RULING**

Jockey Agent **Fernando Navarro** appeared in our office to explain his involvement with a jockey change in the sixth race for today's card. We allowed Jockey **William Antongeorgi III** to ride trainer **Ed Moger's #4 Tarantino** in this race. Jockey **Epifanio Garcia** was named an 'Alternate Rider' at the racing office draw for this race. **Moger** told Agent **Navarro** to make the change at 'change time'. **Navarro** failed to do so, and the late jockey change was allowed with the following ruling issued.

### **GGF RULING #76**

Jockey Agent **FERNANDO NAVARRO** is fined One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)\* for failure to conduct his business in a proper manner on June 1, 2023, at Golden Gate Fields; a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1530 (Cases not Covered by Rules and Regulations).

6/3/23<sup>4</sup>

### **VOIDED CLAIM – RACE 9**

At 6:30 p.m. California Horse Racing Board Veterinarian **Forrest Franklin** stated that #6 **Chief Jackson** (3<sup>RD</sup> place) as diagnosed as being lame following the cooling out period in the Test Barn. The Stewards conducted Equibase and other racing officials, with this information. Trainer **D. Wayne Baker** retains care of the horse.

6/3/23<sup>5</sup>

### **GOOD RACING**

Today's nine (9) race card went well as it was free of Stewards inquires and /or Jockey objections.

6/3/23<sup>6</sup>

### **SATURDAY DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

2<sup>ND</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Grandma Shark** (Tr. **L. Ekstrom**)

Flipped in Paddock – **Casille Batten DVM** Refund: \$1,224.23

2<sup>ND</sup> Race #5 **Laura Branigan** (Tr. **S. Miyadi**) claimed, **S. Calvario**, trainer

3<sup>RD</sup> Race #1 **Sugar Beets** (Tr. **J. Steiner**) claimed, **M. Badilla**, trainer

5<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Quagmire Magic** (Tr. **G. Papaprodromou**)

Sick – **Casille Batten DVM** Refund: \$175.56

6<sup>TH</sup> Race Jockey Change #4 **Tarantino** – **W. Antongeorgi III** for **E. Garcia** – Double Jockey Mount.

8<sup>TH</sup> Race Declarations #1 **Harbor Abby** (Tr. **D. Franko**) Re-Enter – **Stewards**

#4 **Feeling Flush** (Tr. **S. Paldanius**) Sick – **Casille Batten DVM**

#10 **Jacrodra's** (Tr. **T. McCanna**) Sick – **Casille Batten DVM**

#11 **Going To Shaboos** (Tr. **B. McLean**) Sick – **Casille Batten DVM**

Refunds: \$1,404.62

9<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #2 **Mesa Empire** (Tr. **M. Lenzini**) Sick – **Casille Batten DVM**

Refund: \$249.70

9<sup>TH</sup> Race #4 **Pacific Zip** (Tr. **E. Jackson**) claimed, **J. Wong** trainer

6/3/23<sup>7</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

|                    |       |                |
|--------------------|-------|----------------|
| On track           | 788   | \$256,279.59   |
| SCOTWinc           | 0,000 | \$1,416,215.52 |
| Out of state + ADW | N/A   | \$339,037.97   |
| Total              | 1,894 | \$2,753,174.25 |

**SUNDAY**

6/4/23<sup>1</sup>

**SIXTH RACE STEWARDS' REVIEW**

The Stewards called for a Stewards' Review after observing the start of this 5 ½ furlong race. #5 **Stormy Rouge** (Alejandro Gomez) went to her knees when starter **Todd Stephens** dispatched the field. Jockey **Alejandro Gomez** eased up #5 **Stormy Rouge** through the final ¼ mile of this race as she trailed throughout. No action was taken by the Stewards.

6/4/23<sup>2</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

2<sup>ND</sup> Race #1 **Gulara** (Tr. **S. Sherman**) claimed, **M. Meier**, trainer

4<sup>TH</sup> Race #3 **Love Candy** (Tr. **E. Moger Jr.**) claimed, **S. Calvario**, trainer

5<sup>TH</sup> Race #2 **Sippin N Kissin** (Tr. **B. McLean**) claimed, **J. Wong**, trainer

6<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #8 **Mojave Princess** (Tr. **D. Wayne Baker**)

Loose on track – **Casille Batten DVM** Refund: \$11,704.08

6/4/23<sup>3</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

|                    |       |                |
|--------------------|-------|----------------|
| On track           | 932   | \$335,653.10   |
| SCOTWinc           | 0,000 | \$1,292,080.66 |
| Out of state + ADW | N/A   | \$359,090.82   |
| Total              | 1,864 | \$2,536,672.30 |

**SUMMARY**

|                          | Wed<br>5/31 | Thurs<br>6/1 | Fri<br>6/2 | Sat<br>6/3 | Sun<br>6/4 | Week | Meet |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------|------|
| <b>Accidents</b>         | 0           | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0    | 4    |
| <b>Cal-Bred Races</b>    | 0           | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0    | 0    |
| <b>Claims</b>            | 0           | 0            | 4          | 5          | 3          | 12   | 209  |
| <b>Disqualifications</b> | 0           | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0    | 4    |
| <b>Inquiries</b>         | 0           | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0    | 14   |
| <b>Refunds</b>           | 0           | 0            | 5          | 4          | 1          | 10   | 270  |
| <b>Rulings</b>           | 0           | 0            | 1          | 2          | 0          | 3    | 77   |
| <b>Voided Claims</b>     | 0           | 0            | 2          | 1          | 0          | 3    | 43   |

**VETERINARIAN RECOMMENDED SCRATCHES**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Race</b> | <b>No.</b> | <b>Horse</b>      | <b>Trainer</b>  | <b>Reason</b> | <b>Vet</b> | <b>Refund</b> |
|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| 2-Jun.      | 1           | 4          | Coolcross         | J. Wong         | Sick          | Parker     | \$514.00      |
| 2-Jun.      | 2           | 1          | Elegant Sway      | S. Paldanius    | Sick          | Hassan     | \$258.50      |
| 2-Jun.      | 4           | 3          | Causeway Girl     | Q.Miller        | Injured       | Hassan     | \$163.25      |
| 2-Jun.      | 7           | 5          | Trinidad          | R. Hansen       | Sick          | Hassan     | See Below     |
| 2-Jun.      | 7           | 8          | Incredible Shot   | I.Tamayo        | Sick          | Jones      | \$496.45      |
| 2-Jun.      | 8           | 1          | Righteously       | T.McCanna       | Injured       | Hassan     | \$263.85      |
| 3-Jun.      | 5           | 1          | Quagmire Magic    | G.Papaprodromou | Sick          | Batten     | \$175.56      |
| 3-Jun.      | 8           | 1          | Harbor Abbey      | D. Franko       | ReEnter       | Stewards   | See Below     |
| 3-Jun.      | 8           | 4          | Feeling Flush     | S. Paldanius    | Sick          | Batten     | See Below     |
| 3-Jun.      | 8           | 10         | Jacrodra's Devil  | T. McCanna      | Sick          | Batten     | See Below     |
| 3-Jun.      | 8           | 11         | Going to Shabooms | B. McLean       | Sick          | Batten     | \$1,404.62    |
| 3-Jun.      | 9           | 2          | Mesa Empire       | M. Lenzini      | Sick          | Batten     | \$249.70      |

Respectfully submitted,

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Grant Baker, Steward

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Dennis Nevin, Steward

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Richard Lewis, Steward

BOS:GB:lw