

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
GOLDEN GATE FIELDS****TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro DVM, Chairman

Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman

Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member

Honorable Damascus Castellanos, Member

Honorable Brenda Washington Davis, Member

Honorable Thomas Hudnut, Member

Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member

C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director

Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for the Week of Wednesday, September 6, 2023, Through September 11, 2023**WEDNESDAY**9/6/23¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward **Richard Lewis** was present to oversee entries from Sunday September 9, 2023. **Mr. Lewis** also participated on the Entry Panel for the Saturday September 9, 2023, races.

THURSDAY9/7/23¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward **Richard Lewis** was once again present as entries were being taken for Monday September 11, 2023. **Mr. Lewis** also participated on the Entry Panel for the races to be held on Sunday September 10, 2023.

FRIDAY9/8/23¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward **Richard Lewis** participated on the Entry Panel for their review of the races to be held on Monday, September 11, 2023. **Mr. Lewis** also handled changes for Monday's card.

9/8/23²**ALEJANDRO MIRANDA – CASE #23BM0032**

Valet **Alejandro Miranda** appeared before the Stewards to address the complaint filed against him by the California Horse Racing Board.

The allegations include California Horse Racing Board Rule #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers), #1874 (Disorderly Conduct), #1902 (Conduct Detrimental to Horse Racing) and #1530 (148 P.C.).

According to the complaint “Jockey Valet **Alejandro Miranda** and Owner **Juana Aguilar** refused to cooperate with **ACFA** security officers and **CHRB** investigators. The two drove past the backside guard gate after being requested to show identification by the backside security officer. Both parties were extremely rude, hostile, and argumentative with investigators all the while cussing stating that they did not have to so as instructed. Uniformed Pleasanton P.D. had to be called where it was confirmed that Owner **Juana Aguilar** did not presently possess a valid **CHRB** license.

The Stewards will consider the evidence and testimony presented during this tape recorded hearing and render their decision soon.

SATURDAY

9/9/23¹

RULING #9 – ALEJANDRO MIRANDA

The following ruling was issued following the hearing held on September 8, 2023. Mr. Miranda was informed of the unanimous decision by the Board of Stewards and accepted the penalty imposed.

GGF RULING #9

Exercise Rider/Valet **ALEJANDRO MIRANDA** is fined One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – Refusal to cooperate with Security Officers) on July 21, 2023, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds (Pleasanton).

9/9/23²

DANIEL FRANKO – CASE #23BM0038

Trainer **Daniel Franko** appeared before the Board of Stewards to address the complaint filed against him by the California Horse Racing Board for alleged violation of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1866 (b)(2) and #1887 (a).

California Horse Racing Board Investigator **Jose Flores** presented the case for the California Horse Racing Board in this tape-recorded hearing chaired by the Steward **Grant Baker**.

The complaint alleges, “Trainer **Daniel Franko** exercised the horse “**Mucho Machismo**” on the racetrack at Cal Expo in Sacramento, CA. The horse was scratched a few days prior (July 20, 2023) and had been placed on the Veterinarian’s List through July 28, 2023. The horse was due to race in the 8TH race on July 23, 2023, but because of the scratch, it was placed on the Veterinarian’s List on July 21, 2023. It was scratched by Trainer **Franko** himself because it had a fever”.

The Board of Stewards accepted documents and testimony into the record and a decision will be forthcoming.

9/9/23³

INQUIRY – NO CHANGE – 6TH RACE

The Stewards posted the inquiry sign following the sixth race for a review of an incident in the stretch involving #3 **Miracle Fire (Assael Espinoza)** first and #5 **Dads Dream (Alexander Chavez)** who finished fourth.

After consulting with the patrol judge, interviewing the riders involved and reviewing the video, the Stewards decided unanimously to make the original order of finish official.

The video shows #3 **Miracle Fire** shift out behind horses and make contact with #5 **Dads Dream** near the 1/8 pole, however, the Stewards were of the opinion the incident had no bearing on the order of finish.

9/9/23⁴

MUTUEL PROBLEM – 7TH RACE

American Tote Operator **Jaime Swayze** contacted the Stewards and informed them wagering had closed at or soon after the approximate projected post time schedule. However, the horses for this race had not even arrived at the starting gate. Wagering actually ceased about one to two minutes prior to the start of the seventh race.

Ms. Swayze and Mutuel Manager **Doug Gooby** will consult with Am-Tote personnel to try and determine how and why the wagering was stopped.

The California Horse Racing Investigative staff will be notified to open an investigation.

9/9/23⁵

JOCKEY OBJECTION – 7TH RACE

Jockey **Assael Espinoza**, who rode #6 **A Crown for Kitten** (second) lodged a claim of foul against #3 **Proof of Jazz** (**Adrian Castellanos**) the winner.

After considering the Patrol Judges Report, talking to the riders involved and reviewing the video, the Stewards decided unanimously to make no change in the original order of finish.

The video shows #3 **Proof of Jazz** drift out into the path of #6 **A Crown for Kitten** in the stretch, however the Stewards decided that the incident did not alter the order of finish.

9/9/23⁶

DECLARATIONS:

1ST Race: #2 **Muay Thai (IRE)** (Tr. **Victor Trujillo**) Sick – **DVM Batten**
Refund - See Below

1ST Race #5 **Champagne Pegasus** (Tr. **Ruby Thomas**) Sick – **DVM Cloninger**
Refunds – \$535.78

These declarations reduced the field to four wagering interests and in accordance with California Horse Racing Board Rule #1954, No Show Wagering was offered.

5TH Race: #2 **La Reine's Legacy** (Tr. **Blaine Wright**) Unsound – **DVM Cloninger**
Refunds – \$119.31

6TH Race: #1 **Coral Cat** (Tr. **Daniel Franko**) Entered Back – **Stewards**
Refunds – \$115.60

9/9/23⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	1,266	\$252,343.80
Out of state	n/a	\$791,257.19
SCOTWinc	n/a	\$164,810.48
Total	2,234	\$1,825,041.97

SUNDAY

9/10/23¹

RULING #10 – ADRIAN CASTELLANOS (REFER: 9/9/23)

GGF Ruling #10

Jockey **ADRIAN CASTELLANOS**, who rode **PROOF OF JAZZ** in the seventh race at Golden Gate Fields on Saturday, September 9, 2023, is suspended three (3) racing days, September 17, 18 and 23, for failure to maintain a straight course in the stretch and causing interference; a violation

of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

The above ruling was issued after **Mr. Castellanos** and the Stewards reviewed the video of the seventh race from September 9, 2023.

Mr. Castellanos was very candid in acknowledging he erred in allowing his mount to drift through the stretch.

9/10/23²

VIDEO REVIEW

Jockey **Assael Espinoza** met with the Stewards to review the video of the sixth race from Saturday, September 9, 2023.

Mr. Assael Espinoza's mount **Miracle Fire** was the subject of a claim of foul that was unanimously rejected by the Board of Stewards.

Following today's review **Mr. Espinoza** was cautioned about shifting out around competitors. He was advised to ease out cautiously to achieve the same result and was issued a warning.

9/10/23³

CLAIM VOIDED – 8TH RACE

The Stewards voided the claim submitted by trainer **Leobardo Rivera** for the three-year-old filly **Lulu Lemon Drop** (Tr. **Peter Miller**) after being notified by the Official Veterinarian **Forrest Franklin, DVM**, that the filly was unsound in the left foreleg and placed on the Veterinarians List.

Lulu Lemon Drop was returned to the **Peter Miller** barn.

9/10/23⁴

DECLARATIONS:

1ST Race: #2 **Sherilinda** (Tr. **Tim McCanna**) Injured – **DVM Cloninger**

Refunds: See Below

1ST Race; #5 **Lucy L** (Tr. **Ruby Thomas**) Unsound – **DVM Cloninger**

Refunds: \$5,633.43

These declarations reduced the field to four wagering interests and in accordance with California Horse Racing Board Rule #1954, No Show Wagering was offered.

9/10/23⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	937	\$213,076.10
Out of state	n/a	\$774,731.90
SCOTWinc	n/a	\$185,034.24
Total	1,857	\$1,650,245.56

MONDAY

9/11/23¹

RULING #11 – DANIEL FRANKO

GGF RULING #11

Trainer **DANIEL FRANKO**, who worked out the horse **MUCHO MACHISMO** on July 23, 2023, at the California State Fair (Sacramento) is fined Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1866 (Veterinarian's List – worked out two (2) days after placement on list).

The above ruling was issued following the Board of Stewards deliberation regarding the merits of the charges filed against Trainer **Daniel Franko** presented at the hearing held on September 9, 2023.

Included in the complaint package presented at the hearing was the following quote attributed to the Official Clocker **Jelina Pike** at Cal-Expo on July 23, 2023. "The horse you are inquiring about, **Mucho Machismo**, jogged on the track and ran 4 furlongs at 49.20 seconds. I timed this horse myself. I then noticed on my notes that this horse was scratched a few days prior to this workout while the horses was exercising. I then contacted **Dr. Franklin**". The above quote was during a telephone conversation between **Ms. Pike** and California Horse Racing Board Investigator **Jose Flores**.

The only witness to take the stand during the hearing was Starter **Todd Stephens**, who testified on behalf of **Mr. Franko** that he recalled **Mucho Machismo** standing in the starting gate on July 23, 2023, but his records do not show a workout.

9/11/23²

RULING #12 – TRAINER SERGIO PEREZ

GGF RULING #12

Trainer **SERGIO S. PEREZ**, who was scheduled to start **J J's HOPE** in the eighth race at Golden Gate Fields on September 10, 2023, is fined Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00)* pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1629 (Penalty for Late Declaration) for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1501 (Worker's Compensation Insurance Required).

The above ruling was issued after telephone discussions with **Mr. Perez**, who insisted his workers Compensation Insurance policy was current, but was advised that the California Horse Racing Board records indicate the policy had expired.

9/11/23³

DECLARATIONS:

2ND Race: #4 **Split Aces** (Tr. **Michael Lenzini**) Injured – **DVM Cloninger**
Refunds: \$96.30

4TH Race: #5 **Blazing Peme** (Tr. **Clifford DeLima**) Sick – **DVM Batten**
Refunds: \$90.70

7TH Race: #2 **Big Difference** (**W.L. McDaniel**) Unsound – **DVM Batten**
Refunds: See Below

7TH Race: #8 **Jersey Babe** (Tr. **Tim McCanna**) Unsound – **DVM Batten**
Refunds: See Below

7TH Race: #9 **Do It For Dave** (Tr. **Terri Eaton**) Unsound – **DVM Batten**
Refunds: \$12,649.62

8TH Race: #4 **Western Sierra** (Tr. **Marcia Stortz**) Sick – **DVM Batten**
Refunds: \$176.70

9/11/23⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

On track	201	\$54,295.24
Out of state	n/a	\$1,011,583.78
SCOTWinc	n/a	\$42,722.28
Total	395	\$1,171,974.25

SUMMARY

	Wed 9/6	Thurs 9/7	Fri 9/8	Sat 9/9	Sun 9/10	Mon 9/11	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cal-Bred Races	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claims	0	0	0	5	1	1	7	10
Disqualifications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Inquiries	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Refunds	0	0	0	3	4	4	11	34
Rulings	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	12
Voided Claims	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3

VETERINARIAN RECOMMENDED SCRATCHES

Date	Race	No.	Horse	Trainer	Reason	Vet	Refund
9-Sep	1	2	Muay Thai (IRE)	Trujillo	Sick	Batten	\$535.78
9-Sep	5	2	La Reine's Legacy	B.Wright	Unsound	Cloninger	\$119.31
9-Sep	6	1	Coral Cat	D. Franko	ReEnter	Stewards	\$115.60
10-Sep	1	2	Sherilinda	T.McCanna	Injured	Cloninger	See Below
10-Sep	1	5	Lucy L	R.Thomas	Unsound	Batten	\$5,633.43
10-Sep	4	2	Kennebec	R.Thomas	Sick	Batten	\$226.18
10-Sep	7	8	Sweet Laker	I.Tamayo	Sick	Batten	\$2,569.60
10-Sep	8	8	JJ's Hope	S.Perez	Insurance	Stewards	\$206.46
11-Sep	2	4	Split Aces	Lenzini	Injured	Cloninger	\$96.30
11-Sep	4	5	Blazing Peme	DeLima	Sick	Batten	\$90.70
11-Sep	7	2	Big Difference	McDaniel	Unsound	Batten	See Below
11-Sep	7	8	Jersey Babe	McCanna	Unsound	Batten	See Below
11-Sep	7	9	Do It For Dave	Eaton	Unsound	Batten	\$12,649.62
11-Sep	8	4	Western Sierra	Stortz	Sick	Batten	\$176.70

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Nevin, Steward

Grant Baker, Steward

Richard Lewis, Steward

BOS DN:lw