

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 263-6000  
[www.chrb.ca.gov](http://www.chrb.ca.gov)



## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS**

### **Watch and Wager, LLC. Cal Expo, Sacramento, Ca.**

#### 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 C. Hudnut, Member  
Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member  
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director  
Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director  
Marc Shaw, Chief, Enforcement Division  
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

### **Report for Tuesday, December 26 , 2023, through Sunday, December 31, 2023**

#### **TUESDAY**

12/26/23<sup>1</sup>

#### **RACE DAY DUTY**

Rod Newhart Reporting and Duty Steward.

12/26/23<sup>2</sup>

#### **QUALIFIERS**

Two (2) races went postward over a track rated as “Fast” with seven (7) of the nine (9) participants meeting the qualifying standards.

12/26/23<sup>3</sup>

#### **PROGRAM CHANGES**

6<sup>th</sup> Race Equipment Change- #8 SWEET TIMBER- Trainer James Ruchotzke- changing from Blinkers with hood to Blind Bridle with ear plugs.

9<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration- #6 PRINCESSOFTHE DAWN- Trainer Rick Cisco- Injured- Dr. Lane Schloeder. A refund was issued for two hundred seventy-seven and twenty cents (\$277.20).

12/26/23<sup>4</sup>

#### **OUTRIDER**

Back up outrider Jake Sperbeck was filling in for regular outrider Billy Don Wainscott.

12/26/23<sup>5</sup>

#### **RACE DAY**

Thirteen (13) races were scheduled under the Watch and Wager Banner for a special holiday race card with a post time scheduled of 4:55 PM over a track rated as “Fast”.

1<sup>st</sup> Race-Starter Adam Brownlee informed the Stewards that he was assessing driver MARK KENNEDY who drove #8-PECORINO-Trainer Jose Castillo- a Fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1731 (g)- (Fail to come up in position).

6<sup>th</sup> Race-The stewards posted the inquiry sign against the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finisher #8 SWEET TIMBER- Trainer James Ruchotzke- for possible interference in the first turn with 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher-BIN A MYSTERY- Trainer James Kennedy-driven by JAMES KENNEDY. After viewing the video replays, the stewards determined that interference did indeed occur and SWEET TIMBER was placed 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Original Order of Finish: 2-8-7-3-1-4-6-5

Official Order of Finish: 4-7-8-3-1-4-6-5

Driver JAMES LACKEY was summoned to the steward's office on Thursday, December 28, 2023, between 9 and 12 AM.

13<sup>th</sup> Race-The starter caused the recall lights to flash due to Broken Equipment on #1 MYARTBLONGSTOROCK- Trainer Nathalie Tremblay- driven by LUKE PLANO. After the recall, #6 TOMMY SHELBY- Trainer Jessie Pacheco-driven by JESSIE PACHECO-had to return to the paddock to have a shoe replaced which caused a major delay in the start of the race.

12/26/23<sup>6</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	110	\$19,175.00
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$94,756.80
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$805,265.30
Total	N/A	\$919,806.10

**WEDNESDAY**

12/27/23<sup>1</sup>

**ENTRY DAY**

The race office was open today accepting entries for Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. One hundred thirty-one (131) horses were entered with one hundred twenty-nine (129) drawing in. There are nine (9) races scheduled for Friday with a scheduled post time of 6:45 PM and nine (9) for Saturday with a scheduled post time of 6:10 PM.

Entries were also taken for qualifiers to be held prior to the races on Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. One (1) race was drawn with a scheduled post time of 5:30 PM.

The office also took changes for Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> with some driver changes and no scratches.

12/27/23<sup>2</sup>

**DARK DAY**

**THURSDAY**

12/28/23<sup>1</sup>

**CHANGES**

The Stewards' office was open to take changes for Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. There were several driver changes and no scratches.

12/28/23<sup>2</sup>

**VIDEO REVIEW**

Driver JAMES LACKEY, who drove #7 SWEET TIMBER- Trainer James Ruchotzke- in the 6<sup>th</sup> race on Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> was in to review interference call and placing. Mr. Lackey admitted to his actions. Ruling to follow.

12/28/23<sup>3</sup>

**DARK DAY**

**FRIDAY**

12/29/23<sup>1</sup>

**RULINGS ISSUED**

The following rulings were issued:

**CE Ruling # 07**

Cal Expo Harness driver JAMES LACKEY, who drove #8 SWEET TIMBER in the 6<sup>th</sup> race on Tuesday, December 26, 2023 is hereby fined the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1721 (any shall impede the progress of another horse). While driving #8 SWEET TIMBER, Mr. Lackey did cross over shortly after the start where clearance did not exist, impeding the progress of #7 BIN A MYSTERY, forcing driver JAMES KENNEDY to grab his horse and lose momentum. SWEET TIMBER finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> for the violation.

**CE Ruling # 08**

Driver MARK KENNEDY, who drove #8 PECORINO in the first race on Tuesday, December 26, 2023, is hereby fined the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1731 (g) (Driver infractions-fail to come up into position).

12/29/23<sup>2</sup>

**TRAINER SUMMONS**

Trainers James Lackey and Gerald Longo were summoned to the Stewards' office on Thursday, January 4, 2024 to discuss their actions while training earlier in the day.

12/29/23<sup>3</sup>

**PROGRAM CHANGES**

2<sup>nd</sup> Race Declaration- #3 SAY SO'S WIND UP-Trainer Jessie Pacheco- Sick- Dr. Lane Schloeder. A refund was issued of seventy-one dollars and eighty-four cents (\$71.84).

5<sup>th</sup> Race Equipment Change- \$3 SENGA NATAJA- Trainer Ryan Grundy-Open Bridle and Blinkers to replace Kant See Back Bridle.

7<sup>th</sup> Race Gender Change- #6 ILLSEEIFICAN- Trainer James Kennedy- Incorrectly programmed as a horse. Trainer James Kennedy was summoned to the Stewards' office to discuss.

8<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration- #2 AERIAL VIEW- Trainer Kathleen Plested- Injured- Dr. Lane Schloeder. A refund was issued of two hundred thirty-two dollars and twenty-two cents (\$232.22).

12/29/23<sup>4</sup>

**RACE DAY**

Nine (9) races were scheduled under the Watch and Wager banner with a scheduled post time of 6:45 PM over a track rated as "Fast".

2<sup>nd</sup> Race- The timer indicated the quarter time and then inexplicably stopped. The rest of the race was timed manually by the stewards from video replay. The timer worked fine the rest of the night.

4<sup>th</sup> Race- Jessie Pacheco was programmed to drive #4 MYSTERY DRAGON- Trainer Richard Bertrand- but did not fulfill his obligation. The driver was changed to WINTER ASHER-STALBAUM and Mr. Pacheco was summoned to the Stewards' office on Thursday, January 4, 2024.

6<sup>th</sup> Race Inquiry- The Stewards caused the inquiry sign to be lit concerning actions in the first turn. This did not affect the first four finishers, so the Inquiry notification was

removed. After viewing the replay, the Stewards determined there was no reason for any off the board placings.

12/29/23<sup>5</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	115	\$20,912.60
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$261,005.00
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$350,830.75
Total	N/A	\$632,748.35

**SATURDAY**

12/30/23<sup>1</sup>

**QUALIFIERS**

One (1) race went to postward over a track rated "Fast" at 5:30 PM with two (2) of the three (3) participants meeting the qualifying standards.

12/30/23<sup>2</sup>

**PROGRAMS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race Equipment Change- #1 TREASURE HANOVER- Trainer Rene Goulet- from Blinkers to an Open Bridle.

2<sup>nd</sup> Race Equipment Change- #1 HURRY HOME- Trainer Rene Goulet- from Blind Bridle to Kant See Backs and Blinkers.

12/30/23<sup>3</sup>

**RACE DAY**

Nine (9) races were scheduled under the Watch and Wager banner with a scheduled post time of 6:10 PM over a track rated "Fast". No Problems.

12/30/23<sup>4</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	105	\$14,624.90
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$223,781.50
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$372,845.54
Total	N/A	\$611,251.94

**SUMMARY**

	Tues 12/26	Wed 12/28	Fri 12/29	Sat 12/30	Sun 12/31	Week	Meet
<b>Accidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Disqualification</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Inquiries</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Refunds</b>	1	0	2	0	0	3	19
<b>Rulings</b>	0	0	2	0	0	2	25
<b>Voided Claims</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**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>
26-Dec.	9	6	PRINCESSOFTHEDAWN	Rick Cisco	Unsound	Schloeder	\$277.20
29-Dec.	2	3	SAY SO'S WIND UP	Jessie Pacheco	Sick	Schloeder	\$71.84
29-Dec.	8	2	AERIAL VIEW	Kathleen Plested	Unsound	Schloeder	\$232.22

---

Rod Newhart, Steward

---

John Yinger, Steward

---

Steve Carpenito, Steward

---

Tom McCarthy, Safety Steward

BOS:RN:tw