

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS GOLDEN GATE FIELDS Berkeley, California

### TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, Chairman  
Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member  
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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 Thursday, January 18, 2024, through Sunday, January 21, 2024.**

**TUESDAY**01/16/24<sup>1</sup>**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward **George Yniguez** was in the office today and joined the Veterinary Panel for their review of the races to be run on Friday, January 19, 2024.

**THURSDAY**01/18/24<sup>1</sup>**VETERINARY PANEL**

Safety Steward **Calvin Rainey** joined the Veterinary Panel for their review of the races to be run on Saturday, January 20, 2024.

01/18/24<sup>2</sup>**MARTIN ARRIAGA (CASE #23BM0013/23 – HI – 042)**

Jockey **Martin Arriaga** appeared before the Board of Stewards for a formal hearing to address the complaint filed against him for an alleged violation of Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act Rule #2230 (e) (Treatment Restrictions). The alleged offense occurred on or about July 1, 2023. **Mr. Arriaga** waived his right to counsel, California Horse Racing Board Investigator **Jennifer Tolman** presented the case and **Christine Niccoli, CSR**, recorded the proceedings.

According to the complaint, “After conducting a barn inspection at Cal Expo in the areas occupied by Trainer **Jonathan Wong**, an inspection of his employee’s vehicle, Jockey **Martin Arriaga**, was completed. Inside the vehicle was a bottle of injectable medication along with two needles. **Arriaga** stated that he received the medication from **Dr. Kim Kuhlmann** and the needles from his assistant **Juan Landeros**. The possession of injectable medication is a California Horse Racing Board violation, and the possession of the needles is a HIWU violation”.

Testimony and documentary evidence was presented for the record and the matter was deemed submitted. Decision to follow.

01/18/24<sup>3</sup>

**JOSE L. GOMEZ (CASE #23BM0026)**

Stable Foreman Jose L. Gomez, who has been charged with alleged violation of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1874 (Disorderly Conduct) and #1928 (c) (Fire Regulations), met with the Stewards for a formal hearing regarding the allegations. **Mr. Gomez** declined legal representation.

Supervising California Horse racing Board Investigator **Louis Quezada** presented the case and **Christine Niccoli** transcribed the proceedings.

According to the complaint, "A female groom alleged that Stable Foreman **Jose Gomez (Ruiz)** abruptly and without consent, inappropriately reached under her shirt in an attempt to grab her breasts. She also alleged that he then inappropriately grabbed and massaged her crotch area at the same time. This occurred after hours while both were working at the Alameda County Fair. Pleasanton Police were summoned, and they conducted an investigation. The Alameda County D.A. declined to file charges on this matter. Per statements obtained by California Horse Racing Board Investigators from the female groom and **Stable Foreman Gomez**, he had been drinking alcohol and was very intoxicated at the time.

The alleged offense occurred on or about June 26, 2023, in the stable area on the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton California.

Documents were submitted, witnesses testified and were cross examined, and the matter was deemed submitted. Decision forthcoming.

**FRIDAY**

01/19/24<sup>1</sup>

**PANEL STEWARD**

Safety Steward **Calvin Rainey** joined the Veterinary Panel for the review of the races carded for January 21, 2024.

01/19/24<sup>2</sup>

**DECLARATIONS**

2<sup>ND</sup> Race: #5 **Hillsdale Nation** (Tr. **M. McDonald**) Injured – **DVM Batten**

Refunds: See Below

2<sup>ND</sup> Race: #6 **Harbor's Beauty** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) Panel – **Stewards**

Refunds: \$394.39

These declarations reduced the field to four wagering interests. No Show Wagering was offered.

01/19/24<sup>3</sup>

**RULING # 22 – ALEXANDER CHAVEZ**

**GGF RULING #22 (CHAVEZ)**

Jockey **ALEXANDER CHAVEZ** who rode **CAPO SORELLA** in the fourth race at Golden Gate Fields on January 15, 2024, is suspended seven (7) racing days, January 26, 27, 28, and February 2, 3, 4 & 9\* for failure to maintain a straight course in the stretch, and causing interference resulting in a disqualification of his mount from first to fifth, a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding – Third Offensive in sixty (60 days).

Ruling #21 Pacific Racing Association – December 1, 2023  
Ruling #30 Pacific Racing Association – December 3, 2023

The foregoing ruling was issued after **Mr. Chavez**, his agent **Brent Harmon** and the Stewards reviewed the video of the fourth race from Monday, January 15, 2024.

All present concurred that **Mr. Chavez** was remiss in allowing his mount to drift out and impede a rival and deny the latter the opportunity for a better placing. **Mr. Chavez** has, on a number of occasions, been guilty of either just allowing or intentionally moving his mounts in or out in the stretch. This ruling is his third suspension in the last sixty days for similar offenses.

01/19/24<sup>4</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	181	\$96,732.80
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	N/A	\$1,352,738.87
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$178,263.63
<b>TOTAL</b>	879	\$1,915,735.55

**SATURDAY**

01/20/24<sup>1</sup>

**DECLARATIONS**

1<sup>ST</sup> Race: #3 **LaPopis** (Tr. **L. Medina**) Sick – **Batten DVM** Refunds: \$382.41  
2<sup>ND</sup> Race: #4 **Mr. Clutch** (Tr. **R. Thomas**) Sick – **Batten DVM** Refunds: See Below  
2<sup>ND</sup> Race: #6 **Stormin Galileo** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) Sick – **Batten DVM**  
Refunds: \$441.32

These declarations reduced the field to four wagering interests. No Show Wagering was offered.

5<sup>TH</sup> Race: #2 **Medal Ice** (Tr. **M. Lenzini**) Unsound – **Batten DVM** Refunds: \$200.68  
6<sup>TH</sup> Race: #1 **Dorine's Wild Cat** (Tr. **R. France**) Sick – **Batten DVM**  
Refunds: \$456.70

01/20/24<sup>2</sup>

**CLEAR DAY**

There were no hearings scheduled this morning and the afternoon racing program was conducted without any noteworthy incidents.

01/20/24<sup>3</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	368	\$163,509.60
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	N/A	\$1,770,145.65
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$253,259.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,395	\$2,755,045.21

**Sunday**

01/21/24<sup>1</sup>

**DECLARATIONS:**

2<sup>ND</sup> Race: #5 **Chelsiedanziglite** (Tr. **W. McDaniel**) Injured – **Cloninger DVM**  
Refunds: \$304.34

6<sup>TH</sup> Race: #3 **Vantage Point** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) Sick – **Batten DVM** Refunds: \$278.27

8<sup>TH</sup> Race: #4 **River's Behest** (Tr. **G. Preciado**) Unsound – **Cox DVM**  
Refunds: \$264.22

01/21/24<sup>2</sup>

**RULING #23 – HIWU (CASE #ECM)**

**GGF RULING # 23 (BADILLA)**

Acting upon notice from Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU), that the post-race sample obtained from the horse, **REGAL REDWOOD**, who finished third in the first race at the Golden Gate Fields, on September 24, 2023, contained the Controlled Medication Substance, Dexamethasone (Class C), it is hereby ordered that **REGAL REDWOOD** be disqualified and deemed unplaced.

The Consequences of Disqualification includes forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable) of such to the Race Organizer (ADMC Program Rule 3321 – Disqualification of the Covered Horse's Results).

As directed it is further ordered that all purse monies earned or awarded to Owner **JONATHAN HARRIS** (\$1669.00), Jockey **ALEXANDER CHAVEZ** (\$2.00) and Trainer **MANUEL BADILLA** (\$204.00) be returned to the Paymaster of Purses at the **GOLDEN GATE FIELDS** on or before February 23, 2024, for redistribution pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1760 (Purse Award or Prize to Be Withheld).

Revised Order of Finish:

1<sup>ST</sup> IT AINT OVER      2<sup>ND</sup> UNCLE LEON      3<sup>RD</sup> RIGHT HAND RYDER  
4<sup>TH</sup> RANDY'SFURRYFRIEND      5<sup>TH</sup> RAMATHORN      6<sup>TH</sup> SIX HOT GRANDS

All records are ordered changed to reflect this ruling. In accordance with California Horse Racing Board rule #1956 (Race Declared Official) neither pari-mutuel payoffs nor the distribution of any pari-mutuel pool shall be affected.

This Board of Stewards received notice from the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit that "**Regal Redwood**" (Tr. **Manuel Badilla**) has been disqualified as a result of a post – race positive test sample (Dexamathasone) obtained on September 24, 2023, following the first race.

As directed, the Stewards issued the foregoing ruling.

01/21/24<sup>3</sup>

**RULING #24 – MARTIN ARRIAGA (CASE #23BM0013)**

**GGF RULING #24 (M. ARRIAGA)**

**AMENDED**

Jockey **MARTIN ARRIAGA** is suspended Thirty (30) days, January 28, 2024, through February 26, 2024, inclusive and fined the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00)\* pursuant to Horseracing Integrity Safety Act (HISA) Rule #8200 (b)(02) & (03) (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation of License) for violation of HISA Rule #2230 (e) (Possession of Contraband - Needles and Injectable Medication) on July 01, 2023.

During the term of the suspension, all licenses and license privileges of **MARTIN ARRIAGA** are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1520 (Jurisdiction of

Stewards to Suspend or Fine). Subject is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction.

The above ruling was issued after the Stewards deliberated the evidence and testimony presented during the formal hearing held on January 18, 2024.

01/21/24<sup>4</sup>

**RULING #25 – CRISTOBAL HERRERA**

**GGF RULING #25 (C. HERRERA)**

Jockey **CRISTOBAL HERRERA** who rode **MAJOR TOM** in the fifth race at Golden Gate Fields on January 20, 2024, is suspended one (1) racing day Sunday, January 28, 2024 and fined TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)\* pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) Rule #2282 (Riding Crop Violations and Penalties – Class 3, one strike over the limit), for violation of HISA Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop).

The above ruling was issued after **Mr. Herrera** met with the Stewards for review of the fifth race at Golden Gate Fields from January 20, 2024.

**Mr. Herrera** acknowledged he used his riding crop seven times during this race.

01/21/24<sup>5</sup>

**RULING #26 – RUBY THOMAS**

**GGF RULING #26 (R. THOMAS)**

Trainer **RUBY THOMAS** who started the horse **BLOSSOMING** in the first race at Golden Gate Fields on January 20, 2024, is fined One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1853 (Examination Required – Improperly Shod).

Trainer **Ruby Thomas** accepted responsibility for her mare **Blossoming** arriving at the receiving barn prior to the first race with **hind shoes on**, when she was scheduled to run unshod behind. The Horseshoe Inspector, **Augustin Rayas**, removed the hind shoes at the request of **Ms. Thomas**.

01/21/24<sup>6</sup>

**CLAIM VOIDED – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The Stewards voided the claim submitted by Trainer **Luciano Medina** for the gelding **George Herman Ruth** (Tr. **Steven Miyadi**) after being notified by the Official Veterinarian **Forrest Franklin, DVM**. That the seven year old was unsound in the left forelimb and placed on the Veterinarians list. **George Herman Ruth** was returned to **Mr. Miyadi's** barn.

01/21/24<sup>7</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	388	\$154,181.22
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	N/A	\$1,329,949.61
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$255,405.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,214	\$2,114,992.52

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 1/19</b>	<b>Sat 1/20</b>	<b>Sun 1/21</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	4	3	1	8	35
<b>Disqualifications</b>	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Inquiries</b>	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Refunds</b>	1	4	3	8	44
<b>Rulings</b>	1	0	4	5	26
<b>Voided Claims</b>	0	0	1	1	11

Respectfully submitted,

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Dennis Nevin, Steward

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Richard Lewis, Steward

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George Yniguez, Steward

BOS:DN:lw