

**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**  
**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  
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 the Week of Tuesday February 20, 2024, through Sunday, February 25, 2024.**

**WEDNESDAY**2/21/24<sup>1</sup>**ENTRY DAY**

Steward **Richard Lewis** was in the office to monitor entries being taken for Friday. **Mr. Lewis** also attended a veterinary panel review via Microsoft Teams to discuss horses entered for Friday. The panel identified five horses that will receive enhanced scrutiny before competing.

**THURSDAY**2/22/24<sup>1</sup>**ENTRY DAY**

**Richard Lewis** was once again present this morning to oversee all entry-related matters. Racing Secretary **Steve Martinelli** and his staff carded eight races for Sunday.

2/22/24<sup>2</sup>**FATALITY REVIEW**

Steward **Richard Lewis**, Safety Steward **Calvin Rainey**, and trainer **Rodney Cone** participated in a fatality review via Microsoft Teams. **Dr. Alina Vale** chaired the meeting, which was also attended by Equine Medical Director, **Dr. Jeff Blea** and Official Veterinarian, **Dr. Forrest Franklin**.

2/22/24<sup>3</sup>**VETERINARY PANEL**

**Richard Lewis** attended the Veterinary Panel meeting to review the horses scheduled to participate in Saturday's card. Seven horses were flagged as "Hard Watches" by the panel.

2/22/24<sup>4</sup>**JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR (CASE #23GG0069)**

Exercise Rider **JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR**, who was scheduled to come in to answer to a complaint filed by the CHRB for rule violations of #1485 (d) (License Subject to Conditions and Agreements); 1489 (A) (1) (Grounds for Denial or Refusal of License); 1874 (Disorderly Conduct); 1900 (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation) & 1930 (Obedience to

Security Officers and Public Safety Officers). **Mr. Saldivar** failed to make an appearance and a ruling will follow.

### GGF RULING #39

Exercise Rider **JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR**, having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Golden Gate Fields on February 22, 2024, is suspended immediately, for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer charges alleging violations of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1485 (d) (License Subject to Conditions and Agreements); #1489 (a) (1) (Grounds of Denial or Refusal of License); #1874 (Disorderly Conduct); #1900 (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation) & #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers).

During the term of this suspension, all licenses and license privileges of **JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR** are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards), subject is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction.

2/22/24<sup>5</sup>

#### QUINN HOWEY (CASE #24GG0004)

A financial hearing was scheduled this morning against trainer **Quinn Howey**. Plaintiff **Agustin Jaime Garcia Saldivar** was in attendance, along with Investigator **Jennifer Tolman** to present the case. **Mr. Howey**, however, failed to appear and a decision will follow.

2/22/24<sup>6</sup>

#### ENTRY PENDING REGISTRATION

The racing office contacted the Stewards with information that trainer **Manuel Badilla** was attempting to enter **Malpractice Meuser (GB)** for Sunday without registration papers from the Jockey Club. The Stewards discussed the issue, and if the entry was allowed, **Mr. Badilla** would have to produce Jockey Club registration by scratch time.

FRIDAY

2/23/24<sup>1</sup>

#### JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR RULING #39 (CASE #23GG0069)

Exercise Rider **JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR**, having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Golden Gate Fields on February 22, 2024, is suspended immediately, for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer charges alleging violations of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1485 (d) (License Subject to Conditions and Agreements); #1489 (a) (1) (Grounds of Denial or Refusal of License); #1874 (Disorderly Conduct); #1900 (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation) & #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers).

During the term of this suspension, all licenses and license privileges of **JOSE DE JESUS MARTINEZ SALDIVAR** are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards), subject is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction. The above ruling was issued after exercise rider Jesus Saldivar failed to appear for his scheduled hearing. (Ref: 2/22/24<sup>4</sup>)

2/23/24<sup>2</sup>

#### QUINN HOWEY RULING #38 (CASE #24GG0004)

Trainer **QUINN HOWEY**, having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Golden Gate Fields on February 22, 2024, is suspended effective Friday, March 1, 2023, for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer

charges alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility - \$17,355.00 to Plater **AGUSTIN JAIME GARCIA SALDIVAR**).

During the term of this suspension, all licenses and license privileges of **QUINN HOWEY** are suspended and pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1528 (Jurisdiction of Stewards), subject is denied access to all premises in this jurisdiction. The above ruling was issued after trainer **Quinn Howey** failed to appear for his scheduled hearing. (Ref: 2/22/24<sup>5</sup>)

2/23/24<sup>3</sup>

**MANNY BADILLA**

Trainer **Manuel Badilla** came into the Steward's office this morning inquiring if this Board of Stewards were going to let his trainee **MALPRACTICE MEUSER (GB)** run on Sunday. The Stewards informed **Mr. Badilla** that the horse was allowed to enter pending Jockey Club registration and discussed possible penalties if Jockey Club registration could not be verified.

2/23/24<sup>4</sup>

**LUIS JIMENEZ -FILMS**

The following ruling was issued after Jockey **Luis Jimenez** met with the Stewards to review video of the seventh race on Sunday February 18, 2024. The videos revealed **Mr. Jimenez's** mount, #6 **VENOM** (Tr. **A. Mathis**) veered in at the start. The Stewards were unanimously of the opinion that his effort to correct was less than satisfactory. **Mr. Jimenez** agreed he could have been quicker to correct his mount and accepted the following penalty.

**GGF RULING #36**

Jockey **LUIS M. JIMENEZ** who rode **VENOM** in the seventh race at Golden Gate Fields on Sunday, February 18, 2024, is suspended three (3) racing days, March 1, 2, & 3, 2024, for failure to make a proper effort leaving the starting gate causing interference, a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

2/23/24<sup>5</sup>

**IRVING OROZCO -FILMS**

Jockey **Irving Orozco** reported to the Steward's office to review two races from last Sunday's program. The first was to address his ride aboard #3 **BLOSSOMING** in Sunday's second race, where the video reveals his mount drifting out near the sixteenth pole. **Mr. Orozco** acknowledge he could have made a better effort to keep his mount straight and will try harder going forward. -A warning was given.

Jockey **Irving Orozco** remained in the office to review his crop use in Sunday's seventh race, aboard #8 **THANKS MAGGIO (ARG)**. After reviewing multiple angles of the video, **Mr. Orozco** agreed he used the crop once over the allowable limit and accepted the following penalty.

**GGF RULING #37**

Jockey **IRVING OROZCO** who rode **THANKS MAGGIO (ARG)** in the seventh race at Golden Gate Fields on February 18, 2024, is suspended one (1) racing day Friday, March 1, 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).

2/23/24<sup>6</sup>

**CHRB VISITORS**

Executive Director **Scott Chaney**, Deputy Executive Director **Cynthia Alameda**, and staff, along with Vice Chairman **Oscar Gonzales**, Board Members **Brenda Washington Davis** and **Dennis Alfieri** toured Golden Gate Fields today. Investigator **Jennifer Tolman** led the

entourage on stops through the Steward's office, racing office and Receiving barn. The group also visited the steward's stand after lunch, which was provided by GGF Management.

2/23/24<sup>7</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race: Declaration #1 **MENDONSA** (Tr. **S. Ledezma**) Injured -**Mark Christin, DVM**.

Refunds: \$221.86

1<sup>st</sup> Race: #5 **SUPERNAL** (Tr. **M. Lenzini**) **K. Orozco** replaces **C. Herrera** -program error.

1<sup>st</sup> Race: #6 **SEEKET SAUCE** (Tr. **B. McLean**) **C. Herrera** replaces **S. Rivera** -program error.

1<sup>st</sup> Race: #4 **TIGERSUN** (Tr. **R. Thomas**) Claimed -**R. Cone**, Trainer.

2<sup>nd</sup> Race: #1 **HAMMETT** (Tr. **C. Lewis**) Unsound -**Mark Christin, DVM**. Refunds: \$149.90

3<sup>rd</sup> Race: #5 **PETER FLIES** (Tr. **J. Steiner**) Claimed -**C. Essex**, Trainer.

2/23/24<sup>8</sup>

**HEAD STARTER REPLACEMENT**

Starter **Todd Stephens** was off this weekend. Assistant Starter **Manny Trujillo** stepped up and did an outstanding job filling in for **Mr. Stephens**.

2/23/24<sup>9</sup>

**HUMAN AMBULANCE SWITCH**

Just after the running of the fourth race, the human ambulance personnel informed the Stewards of an engine issue. The backup ambulance was seamlessly put into place with no interruption to the afternoon's program.

2/23/24<sup>10</sup>

**VOIDED CLAIM**

Official Veterinarian **Dr. Franklin** informed the Stewards that #4 **TIGERSUN** was determined to be unsound in his right hind. Therefore, the claim submitted by **Rodney Cone** was voided. **TIGERSUN** will remain in the care of Trainer **Ruby Thomas**.

2/23/24<sup>11</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	311	\$150,329.74
<b>SCOTWINC</b>		\$1,097,964.46
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$162,564.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,017	\$1,783,672.29

**SATURDAY**

2/24/24<sup>1</sup>

**RAFAEL VEGA (CASE #24GG0003)**

A hearing was scheduled this morning to hear case #24GG0003, against Pony Rider **Rafael Vega** for alleged violations of CHRB Rule #1481 (Occupational License and Fees), #1861 (Vendors), 1862 (Dealers in Hay), & 1930 (Disobedience to Security Officers). Investigator **Jennifer Tolman** was present to read the complaint and GGF Security Officer **Eduardo Miles** was also present as a witness. Defendant **Vega**, however, failed to appear. Ruling to follow.

2/24/24<sup>2</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

2<sup>nd</sup> Race: #5 **CRY ME A RUNNER** (Tr. **J. Maravilla**) Claimed, **M. Badilla** -Trainer.

2/24/24<sup>3</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	853	\$284,370.50
<b>SCOTWINC</b>		\$1,341,386.81
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$275,437.32
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,019	\$2,590,915.90

**SUNDAY**

2/25/24<sup>1</sup>

**RAFAEL VEGA RULING (CASE #24GG0003)**

The following ruling was issued after **Rafael Vega** failed to appear at his hearing on Saturday (Ref: 2/24/23<sup>1</sup>).

**GGF RULING #41**

Pony Rider **RAFAEL VEGA**, having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Golden Gate Fields on February 24, 2024, is suspended immediately, for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer charges alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1481 (11) (Occupational License and Fees), #1861 (Vendors) #1862 (Dealers in Hay) & #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers).

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

2/25/24<sup>3</sup>

**DAMIAN CRUZ -FILMS**

Jockey **Damian Cruz** appeared in the office to review his crop use in the eighth race aboard #1 **MISS PERU**. After reviewing the video, **Mr. Cruz** acknowledged he utilized his crop once over the allowable limit and accepted the following penalty.

**GGF RULING #40**

Jockey **DAMIAN CRUZ** who rode **MISS PERU** in the eighth race at Golden Gate Fields on February 24, 2024, is suspended one (1) racing day, Sunday, March 3, 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).

2/25/24<sup>4</sup>

**SCRATCHES**

There were six scratches submitted for approval by the Stewards. Five Veterinarian recommended scratches and one trainer requested scratch by **Manuel Badilla** for his trainee **Malpractice Meuser (GB)**, due to the horse not being on the grounds. (See below Declarations).

2/25/24<sup>5</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race: Declaration #5 **KERRYGOLD LADY** (Tr. **L. Medina**) Sick -**Karina Cox, DVM**.

Refunds: See Below

1<sup>st</sup> Race: #7 **LIGHT UP** (Tr. **F. Rondan**) **S. Amador** replaces **A. Chavez** -Sick.

Refunds: \$473.38

1<sup>st</sup> Race #2 **STEIN'S GIRL** (Tr. **B. Wright**) Claimed -**R. Thomas**, Trainer.

2<sup>nd</sup> Race: Declaration #6 **CAT BANDIT** (Tr. **S. Miyadi**) Injured -**Ashton Cloninger, DVM**.

Refunds: \$395.25

3<sup>rd</sup> Race: Declaration #5 **BIG DIFFERENCE** (Tr. **W.L. McDaniel**) Injured -**Karina Cox, DVM**.

Refunds: \$83.80

4<sup>th</sup> Race: #3 **MY YAMMY LADY** (Tr. **S. Sherman**) **I. Orozco** replaces **A. Chavez** -sick.

Refunds: \$14.50

5<sup>th</sup> Race #1 **COUNCILWOMAN JILLY** (Tr. **S. Hobson**) **J. Couton** replaces **A. Chavez** -sick.

Refunds: \$77.50

6<sup>th</sup> Race: Declaration #1 **MALPRACTICE MEUSER** (GB) (Tr. **M. Badilla**) Not on Grounds – Stewards. Refunds: See Below

6<sup>th</sup> Race: Declaration #7 **BLUE SILVER** (Tr. **G. Haley**) Sick -**Karina Cox, DVM.**

Refunds: See Below

6<sup>th</sup> Race: #8 **GRAZEN SUN** (Tr. **B. Wright**) **I. Orozco** replaces **A. Chavez** -sick.

Refunds: \$241.35

6<sup>th</sup> Race: #2 **MOB BOSS** (Tr. **R. France**) Claimed -**C. O'Hagan**, Trainer

7<sup>th</sup> Race: Declaration #2 **CANDY LITZ** (Tr. **S. Calvario**) Sick -**Ashton Cloninger, DVM.**

Refunds: See Below

7<sup>th</sup> Race: #7 **CATALINA COCKTAIL** (Tr. **T. McCanna**) **C. Herrera** replaces **A. Chavez** -sick.

Refunds: \$232.05

8<sup>th</sup> Race: #6 **ONE BIG SMILE** (Tr. **B. McLean**) **I. Orozco** replaces **A. Chavez** -sick.

2/25/24<sup>6</sup>

**SMOOTH CARD**

Today's racing card was free of Steward Inquiries, and/or Jockey objections.

2/25/24<sup>7</sup>

**ALL PRESENT**

The full Board of Stewards were present this week.

2/25/24<sup>8</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	669	\$228,812.59
<b>SCOTWINC</b>		\$1,579,980.65
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$255,696.58
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,550	\$2,525,538.42

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 2/23</b>	<b>Sat 2/24</b>	<b>Sun 2/25</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>	1	1	2	4	57
<b>Disqualifications</b>	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Inquiries</b>	0	0	0	0	8
<b>Refunds</b>	2	0	7	9	75
<b>Rulings</b>	4	0	2	6	41
<b>Voided Claims</b>	1	0	0	1	13

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Yniguez, Steward

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Lewis, Steward

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Nevin, Steward

BOS:GY:lw