

**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  
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 Monday, March 25, 2024, through Sunday, March 31, 2024.**

**WEDNESDAY**03/27/24<sup>1</sup>**ENTRY - PANEL**

Entries for Saturday were under the guidance of Steward **Dennis Nevin**. Seven races with forty-three entrants made the overnight.

**Dr. Grande** led an "Entry Panel" along with Veterinarian **Forrest Franklin** and **Steward Nevin** into Friday's race program.

**THURSDAY**03/28/24<sup>1</sup>**ENTRY - CHANGE DAY**

The full Board of Stewards were in attendance today. **Mr. Dennis Nevin** oversaw the entries for Sunday and changes to the Saturday race program Saturday's "Entry Panel" consisted of **Drs. Grande** and **Forrest Franklin** along with Steward **Nevin**.

3/28/24<sup>2</sup>**COUTON HEARING – 24GG0016**

California Horse Racing Board complaint 24GG0016, an eighteen-page document, was presented by Investigator **Jerry Smith**. At issue were violations of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1845(a)(d), #1489(a)(8), #1874 & #1900 alleging that **Julien Couton**, licensed as a Jockey (#295587 Exp. 02/25) submitted a urine sample, per the conditions of an "Agreement to Test," which tested positive for cocaine and marijuana. Testimony was presented by both complainant and respondent. Exhibits were labeled and put into evidence. The Stewards closed the twenty-five minute hearing, and a decision will follow.

**FRIDAY**03/29/24<sup>1</sup>**PROGRAM CHANGES**

There were no program changes at the designated time.

5<sup>TH</sup> Race #3 **Honorable Gal** (Tr. **V. Trujillo**) claimed, **M. Badilla**, trainer

6<sup>TH</sup> Race #5 **Driver's Ed** (Tr. **A. Mathis**) claimed, **G. Greiner**, trainer

03/29/24<sup>2</sup>

**JIMENEZ FILM REVIEW**

Jockey **Luis Jimenez** was present along with Jockey **Leonel Camacho-Flores**, interpreter, to view video from Sunday's first race (REF: 03/24/24<sup>2</sup>). Jockey **Jimenez** had claimed foul for interference leaving the starting gate which was unanimously disallowed. We wanted him to understand why we made no change to the order of finish. The incident in question took place well after the start and video showed there was nothing that took place to make any changes.

03/29/24<sup>3</sup>

**CLEAR RACING**

Today's seven race card was clear of any reportable events.

03/29/24<sup>4</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	225	\$131,518.55
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$1,103,921.51
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$155,514.80
Total	917	\$1,750,925.50

**SATURDAY**

03/30/24<sup>1</sup>

**PROGRAM CHANGES**

1<sup>ST</sup> Race #3 **Precedent Luke** (Tr. **F. Taylor**) claimed, **I. Tamayo**, trainer  
 2<sup>ND</sup> Race #3 **Silent Beauty** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) claimed, **J. Nunnally**, trainer  
 4<sup>TH</sup> Race #2 **Little Liliana** (Tr. **J. Bonde**) claimed, **I. Tamayo**, trainer  
 7<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Canelito** (Tr. **R. Cone**) Unsound – **Mike Perrone, DVM**  
 Refund: \$402.70  
 7<sup>TH</sup> Race #3 **Quality Cat** (Tr. **W. McDaniel**) claimed, **R. France**, trainer

03/30/24<sup>2</sup>

**OROZCO – FILM REVIEW**

Jockey **Irving Orozco** took part in film review of Friday's seventh race. **Mr. Orozco's** use of the riding crop was the focus of attention. The crop to the eye appears very close to making contact with the horse's ear. Video was inconclusive so a very harsh warning was given.

03/30/24<sup>3</sup>

**AMADOR FILM REVIEW**

Jockey **Silvio Amador** also attended film review to observe the start of race three. **Mr. Amador** was on the #1 horse of this mile event. Replays show #1 breaking out into the number two slightly. The #1 finished sixth and last while the two ran second. **Mr. Amador**, although he grabbed his horse, was warned that his reaction time needs to be quicker.

03/30/24<sup>4</sup>

**THOMAS HEARING 24GG0021**

This complaint entailed wages owed to a groom who passed in early 2023. The sister of the deceased indicated that two checks for the amount of Three Thousand Dollars were found in the groom's belongings. The checks were returned to **Mr. Thomas** to be reissued but had not by the time of this hearing. **Mr. Thomas** agreed to have a check tomorrow for the amount owed.

03/30/24<sup>5</sup>

**GOOD RACING**

The seven-race program run today was free of inquiries, objections, or any noteworthy events.

03/30/24<sup>6</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	510	\$245,092.30
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$858,386.53
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$140,372.91
Total	1,728	\$1,923,098.79

**SUNDAY**

03/31/24<sup>1</sup>

**PROGRAM CHANGES**

2<sup>ND</sup> Race #3 **Bourbon Glaze** (Tr. **B. Wright**) claimed, **V. Trujillo**, trainer  
3<sup>RD</sup> Race #6 **Jerry Jeff Walker** (Tr. **L. Rivera**) claimed, **R. France**, trainer  
5<sup>TH</sup> Race #4 **Super Ellie** (Tr. **S. Sherman**) claimed, **E. Miranda**, trainer  
5<sup>TH</sup> Race #5 **Brookys Gal** (Tr. **T. McCanna**) claimed, **I. Tamayo**, trainer  
6<sup>TH</sup> Race #4 **J T'S Watch** (Tr. **G. Greiner**) claimed, **W. McDaniel**, trainer  
7<sup>TH</sup> Race Declaration #1 **Union Coach** (Tr. **I. Tamayo**) Works – **Stewards**  
Refunds: \$686.25

03/31/24<sup>2</sup>

**ALVARDO RULING**

Jockey **Frank Alvarado** stopped in as requested by the Stewards to discuss his use of the riding crop in Saturday's seventh race. Video shows the crop being used once prior to the quarter pole and then six times down the lane. All parties were in agreement, so the following ruling was issued.

**GGF RULING #49**

Jockey **FRANK ALVARADO** who rode **BIG SPIN** in the seventh race at Golden Gate Fields on March 30, 2024, is suspended one (1) racing day Sunday, April 7, 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).

03/31/24<sup>3</sup>

**COUTON RULING (REF: 03/28/24<sup>(1)</sup>)**

The following ruling was written by the Board of Stewards after deliberating over the facts presented at a hearing on March 28, 2024.

**GGF RULING #50**

Jockey **JULIEN COUTON** is hereby suspended 30 days, April 08, 2024 through May 07, 2024 inclusive and will remain on probation for the term of his license (2/28/25) for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1845 (a) & (d) (License Subject to Conditions and Agreements), #1874 (Disorderly Conduct – Illegal Substances: Cocaine and Marijuana) and #1489 (a)(8) (Grounds for denial or refusal of license) pursuant to #1900 (Grounds for Suspension or Revocation) on March 1, 2024.

Prior to reinstatement of his license privileges **MR. COUTON** must show proof of completion of a minimum thirty (30) day in – house rehabilitation program acceptable to this Board of Stewards and provide a negative test result.

As conditions of probation **MR. COUTON** must remain on a testing program as long as he is licensed by the California Horse Racing Board and abide by the terms of a contract with Winners Foundation. Failure to comply with terms of probation will be grounds for actions against **MR. COUTON** license privileges pursuant to California Horse Racing Board Rule #1485 (License Subject to Conditions and Agreements).

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

03/31/24<sup>4</sup>

**RACE 3 – VOIDED CLAIM**

**Dr. Forrest Franklin** notified the Stewards that #3 **Awesome Dude** (Tr. **M. Trujillo**) entered the test barn lame and was put on the Vet's list. We voided the claim submitted by trainer **Jennifer Nunnally**.

03/31/24<sup>5</sup>

**RACE 7 DELAY**

Due to a medical emergency this race was delayed by fifteen minutes. The on-track ambulance crew was first on the scene and assisted 911 until they took full control.

03/31/24<sup>6</sup>

**RACE 8 – LATE GATE SCRATCH**

The last race of the day was delayed 4 minutes due to a late scratch at the gate. Number 9, **Master the Battle**, was unruly in the gate and injured himself. On the advice of Track Veterinarian **Cloninger** the Board of Stewards declared the three-year-old.

03/31/24<sup>7</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	836	\$167,686.46
SCOTWinc	N/A	\$1,299,231.25
Out of state + ADW	N/A	\$189,504.31
Total	1,530	\$1,934,646.96

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 3/29</b>	<b>Sat 3/30</b>	<b>Sun 3/31</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>	2	3	5	10	95
<b>Disqualifications</b>	0	0	0	0	6
<b>Inquiries</b>	0	0	0	0	9
<b>Refunds</b>	0	1	1	2	106
<b>Rulings</b>	0	0	1	1	49
<b>Voided Claims</b>	0	0	1	1	23

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Richard Lewis, Steward

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George Yniguez, Steward

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Dennis Nevin, Steward

BOS:RL:lw