

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
LOS ALAMITOS RACECOURSE
Cypress, 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 Peter Stern, Member
C. Scott Chaney, Executive Director
Cynthia Alameda, Deputy Executive Director
Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for Wednesday, December 3, through Sunday, December 7, 2025

WEDNESDAY12/3/25¹**DUTY STEWARD/SATURDAY ENTRIES**

Tom Ward will be in the office this week for entries, changes, panel and minutes. The Racing Office staff is hard at work filling a program for Saturday evening. A good part of the morning was spent getting things in order for our hearing tomorrow morning.

THURSDAY12/4/25¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES/SATURDAY CHANGES AND PANEL**

Entries for Sunday are being accepted this morning. The Saturday card was finalized close to 4:30 PM, with eight races making up the program. The Los Alamitos panel met this morning, with two horses making the "hard watch" list. There were no scratches and changes were limited to a rider change and two blinker changes.

12/4/25²**HEARING DAY**

The Stewards' morning, and part of the afternoon, was spent hearing ten complaints filed by the Board against trainer Monty Arrossa and his connections for positive tests of the class 1/1A drug Carmoterol. Others named in the complaints were owners of the horses and the jockeys who rode them. The scope of the complaints was limited to the return of purse monies earned in races where the positives occurred.

Present were the Board of Stewards; Katharine Tremblay, Esq. (representing CHRB); Howard Jacobs, Esq. (representing Monty Arrossa, Dunn Ranch, LLC, Travis Saxton); Darrell Vienna, Esq. (representing Billy Peterson). Investigator Barrett Halcrom introduced complaints into the record, while Michelle Derieg recorded the proceedings.

Counselor Vienna made a request for an immediate dismissal of the complaints involving his client due to the lack of a split sample for testing. His request was denied. He then requested a continuance, which was seconded by Mr. Jacobs. Those requests were also denied.

The focus of both attorneys during the hearing was the lack of a split sample. Mr. Vienna also noted that since he was called into the case only a week prior to this hearing, he did not have the opportunity to subpoena witnesses.

After all exhibits were identified and incorporated into the record, the hearing was closed. We will take the facts and arguments into account and render a decision shortly.

FRIDAY
12/5/25¹

SUNDAY SCRATCHES, CHANGES AND PANEL

There were no scratches from the Sunday Program, and changes were limited to rider switches and weight corrections. The panel convened, with four horses making the “hard watch” list.

SATURDAY
12/6/25¹

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN OUT

Dr. Gary Beck was not able to be at his post this weekend. Consequently, Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald filled Dr. Beck’s position, while Dr. Bryn Moser handled the track.

12/6/25²

RULING #161

Ruling #161

Apprentice Jockey ALFREDO BAUTISTA, who rode QUEEN OF THE TRACK in the second race at Los Alamitos Race Course on November 30, 2025, is suspended five (5) racing days (December 20, 21, 27, 28, 2025 & January 3, 2026) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course on the backstretch, causing interference resulting in the disqualification of his mount from first to unplaced. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

The foregoing ruling was issued after Mr. Bautista, accompanied by fellow rider Francisco Monroy, viewed video of the second race from November 30, 2025. His mount was disqualified for causing significant interference during the run down the backstretch.

The situation which led to the actual incident was a three-horse reverse-stair-step formation, with Mr. Bautista on the outside and not clear to drop over. When he did so, this caused the horse to his inside, #4 Real Me, to drift in and into the path of #3 UR In Trouble. That horse clipped heels, stumbled sharply and lost the rider.

Mr. Bautista and his pseudo-attorney both blamed the rider on the #4 horse for drifting in and causing the problem. We disagreed, as that horse and rider had nowhere else to go.

We stress to the riding colony that speed on the outside can be dangerous if not handled well. This was a classic case of just such a situation.

12/6/25³

RULING #162

Ruling #162

Jockey CESAR FRANCO is fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) * for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1688 (b) (8) (Use of Crop – more than six times during a race) while riding SHOW N TELL CARTEL in the eighth race at Los Alamitos Racecourse on November 30, 2025.

This ruling was issued as Mr. Franco decided not to defend his over-use of the crop last weekend.

12/6/25⁴

RULING #163

Ruling #163

Jockey GABRIEL LARA is fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) * for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1688 (b) (8) (Use of Crop – more than six times during the running of the race) while riding BIT OF A SNEAK in the seventh race at Los Alamitos Racecourse on November 29, 2025.

Mr. Lara finally made it to our office to view the seventh race from November 29th, during which he violated the crop rule. He was apologetic, stating that he would be much more aware of the strike count in the future.

12/6/25⁵

REFUND

A refund was ordered in the sixth race as #4 Laughlin flipped in the starting gate during the loading process and was declared on the recommendation of Racing Veterinarian Fitzgerald. The refund totaled \$5,735.84. The rider, Oscar Peinado, was not injured.

12/6/25⁶

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st Race No Changes
2nd Race No Changes
3rd Race #4 Lady K. Westfall (Tr. L. Mendez) Injured - Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$270.30
#6 Crucible (Tr. A. Farias) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$193.40
4th Race #5 Energy Six (Tr. S. Morfin) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$533.22
5th Race #3 Above (Tr. S. Morfin) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$221.10
6th Race No Change
7th Race No Change
8th Race No Change

12/6/25⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	748	\$83,621.20
SCOTWINC	1,253	\$220,074.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$708,676.27
TOTAL	2,001	\$1,012,372.27

SUNDAY

12/7/25¹

VOIDED CLAIM

The claim deposited by trainer Troy Dial in the fourth for #4 Fondest Dream was voided as Official Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald reported that the filly was “off” in the left hind leg while in the detention barn. The horse was returned to the barn of Rolando Quinonez.

12/7/25²

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st Race No Changes
2nd Race #3 C Plum Run (Tr. M. Stortz) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$287.81
3rd Race No Changes
4th Race No Changes
5th Race No Changes
6th Race No Changes
7th Race No Changes
8th Race No Changes

12/7/25³

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	510	\$70,216.90
SCOTWINC	906	\$187,962.70
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$854,706.12
TOTAL	1,416	\$1,112,885.72

SUMMARY

	Fri 12/5	Sat 12/6	Sun 12/7	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	12
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	12
Claims	R	0	2	2	108
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	19
Inquiries	D	0	0	0	32
Refunds	A	5	1	6	341
Rulings	Y	3	0	3	163
Voided Claims		0	1	1	27

Tom Ward, Steward

Richard Lewis, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

BOS:TW:dj