

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS LOS ANGELES TURF CLUB, INC Arcadia, 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 Tuesday, December 30, 2025, through Sunday, January 4, 2026.

TUESDAY ENTRY DAY

12/30/25¹ The racing office was open today accepting entries for Sunday January 4, 2026. Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty representing the California Horse Racing Board. Nine (9) races were drawn in the racing office. Sixty-seven (67) horses are scheduled to start.

WEDNESDAY CANCELLED RACE DAY

12/31/25¹ At 7:19 a.m. the Stewards received a text message from Assistant Clerk of Scales Charlie McCaul. The text message reads as follows:

(Santa Anita) ATTENTION HORSEMEN: Due to the incoming storm, racing has been cancelled today (Dec. 31) and tomorrow (Jan. 1). A make-up day of racing will be scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 8 card will be taken Saturday, Jan. 3.

A list of races for the Jan. 8 card will be available.

12/31/25² ADOLFO RODRIGUEZ RULING (REF: 12/29/25²)

On November 24, 2025, Safety Steward Brice Blanc observed Exercise Rider Adolfo Rodriguez use his riding crop four or five times during a morning workout. An informal hearing for Exercise Rider Adolfo Rodriguez was conducted in our office Monday December 29, 2025. In a unanimous decision the following ruling was issued.

LATS RULING #03

Exercise Rider ADOLFO RODRIGUEZ is fined THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1688(b)(1) (Use of Riding Crop - use of crop during a.m. training) on November 24, 2025, at Santa Anita Park.

12/31/25³

JOHN G. GRAHAM RULING (CASE #25SW0036)

On September 11, 2025, Shauna Weeks Avrith, a Hearing Officer designated by the California Horse Racing Board conducted a hearing for Standardbred Trainer John Graham. Graham was the trainer of record of the horse 'Bin a Mystery' who ran in the 13th race at Cal Expo (Harness) on May 2, 2025, finishing first. A post-race urine sample #PR01961, was tested by the CHRB official laboratory and found to contain Diisopropylamine, a Class 2, Penalty B prohibited substance. Trainer Graham requested testing of a split sample, which was confirmed positive by the Ohio Department of Agriculture Analytical Toxicology Laboratory, 1843.4(a), and 1887 (a).

The complaint alleges that Graham violated CHRB Rules 1843(a) and (d), 1843.1 (a). Graham has been a trainer for over 50 years, has a spotless record, with no prior medication violations over the course of his entire career.

On October 10, 2025, Hearing Officer Shauna Weeks Avrith completed an eleven (11) page Conclusion/Proposed Decision and sent it to the CHRB. The following decision by the hearing officer was adopted by the CHRB.

LATS RULING #04

After a Proposed Decision adopted by the California Horse Racing Board on November 20, 2025, the following ruling is now issued.

Trainer JOHN G. GRAHAM, who started the horse BIN A MYSTERY in the 13th race at Cal Expo (Harness) on May 2, 2025, is fined TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250.00)* with no medication violation points (pursuant to CHRB rule 1843.4) for violations of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1843 (a) and (d) (Medication, Drugs, and Other Substances – Di-isopropylamine – Drug Class 2 – Penalty Class B) and Rule #1887 (a) (Training or Owner to Insure Condition of Horse).

THURSDAY CANCELLED RACE DAY

01/01/26¹

Today's New Years Day card has been cancelled due to significant storms in Southern California. The main track is closed this morning, The Synthetic training track is open, but no official workouts will be conducted. Stewards Baker, Jauregui and Sawyer were on duty in the office for a partial day.

FRIDAY MICHAEL MCCARTHY VIOLATION NOTICE

01/02/26¹

We had an informal hearing with Trainer Michael McCarthy regarding an alleged backside parking violation. The following people also attended this meeting.

- A. Steve Martinelli-Santa Anita Racing Coordinator
- B. Vaughn Whalen-Santa Anita Backside Security
- C. Octavio Vergara Jr.-CHRB Enforcement

Santa Anita Seargent Byron Carter issued a 'Violation Notice' to Trainer McCarthy on December 31, 2025. The Violation Notice read as follows:

This space is reserved for staff of Chaplaincy only, not permitted to permitted to others not belonging to Chaplaincy. Failure to appear can result in this going to the Board of Stewards or Security Management.

Trainer McCarthy did not appear at the Stable Security Office. Today the Stewards called Mr. McCarthy, and he appeared shortly thereafter to discuss the matter. More to follow.

01/02/26²

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Following local rainstorms, the Stewards held an Inclement Weather Policy Meeting this morning. The following people participated in the meeting.

- A. Paul Atkinson-Safety Steward
- B. Nate Newby—Santa Anita General Manager
- C. Rob Moore—Track Superintendent
- D. Darrel Haire—Jockeys Guild
- E. Amy Zimmerman-Santa Anita Vice President
- F. Alan Balch—CTT
- G. Jason Egan—Santa Anita Director of Racing

Track Superintendent Moore spoke about the latest weather information he had received from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Mr. Moore told us he is recommending a track condition of 'fast' before today's 1st race. He also said, based on forecasting the Main Track will be closed for training tomorrow, January 3.

01/02/26³

FIRST RACE INQUIRY MEETING

Stewards posted the Inquiry sign following the running of this one (1) mile event on the main track. The focus of this Inquiry were the actions of first place finisher #7 Bank Shot (Adrian Escobedo) and second place finisher #4 Wolf Hill (Diego Herrera). Race replays show #7 Bank Shot drift out in mid-stretch and make light contact with #4 Wolf Hill. The Stewards determined #4 Wolf Hill stepped inward nearing the wire. The Stewards spoke to both Jockeys involved, received a Patrol Judge report and viewed all camera angles of the incident. An enhanced Drone camera shot of this race was very helpful to the Stewards in deciding our votes. In a unanimous decision, the original placings were allowed to stand. No Change.

01/02/26⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

2 nd Race	Jockey Change #7 Tom's Star A. Ayuso for F. Orduna-Rojas
3 rd Race	#6 Tiger Fire (Tr. B. Koriner) claimed, J. Uranga, trainer
4 th Race	OFF TURF
4 th Race	Declarations #1 Vron by You (Tr. C. Gaines) Off Turf- Stewards
	#3 Big Bill (Tr. M. Glatt) Entered Back- Stewards
	#6 Roxiiebadboy (Tr. J. Gutierrez) Off Turf- Stewards
	#7 Strait Country (Tr. B. Galvin) Off Turf- Stewards
	REFUND TOTAL: \$2,010.46
5 th Race	#1 Dirty Words (Tr. D. O'Neill) claimed, I. Tamayo, trainer
	#8 Spiritist (Tr. J. Wallace) claimed, R. Quinonez, trainer
6 th Race	Jockey Change #2 Style Cat C. Belmont for A. Fresu—Injured
6 th Race	#5 See Through (Tr. G. Vallejo) claimed, P. Miller, trainer
7 th Race	Declarations #1 Garden Party (Tr. L. Powell) Off Turf—Stewards
	#2 Just A Kiss (Tr. A. Mathis) Off Turf—Stewards
	REFUND TOTAL: \$3,508.60

01/02/26⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	5,190	\$569,910.91
SCOTWINC	2,430	\$963,184.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$5,041,643.51
TOTAL	7,620	\$7,043,810.82

SATURDAY RACING CANCELLED

01/03/26¹

The Stewards received a text message this morning announcing that due to the incoming rainstorm expected this afternoon racing has been cancelled today. Santa Anita will add a make-up day of racing on January 15. Stewards Baker, Jauregui and Sawyer were on duty today.

01/03/26²

SPECIAL ENTRY DAY

Santa Anita has scheduled an additional racing day (Thursday, January 8) following cancellations. Grant Baker is the Duty Steward for today's entry day.

01/03/26³

LOBBY DISAGREEMENT

The Stewards heard loud discussion taking place outside our office. Two licenses were summoned into our office. Assistant Trainer Cajay Legette, who works for Trainer Robert Falcone Jr., was having dialogue with Exercise Rider Patrick Valenzulea was talking about wages for worked performed at Del Mar. Mr. Legette said he will have a check ready for Mr. Valenzula Monday January 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

01/03/26⁴

O. J. JAUREGUI RULING

Trainer O.J. Jauregui trained Lanzador, who finished fifth in yesterday's eighth race. Trainer Jauregui registered his trainee for Lasix after the time of entry. In a unanimous decision, Stewards issued the following penalty.

LATS RULING #05

Trainer O.J. JAUREGUI, who started the horse LANZADOR in the eighth race on January 2, 2026, at Santa Anita Park, is fined FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late registration).

SUNDAY RACING CANCELLED

01/04/26¹

The Stewards and all horsemen received a text message this morning that read the following:

Due to continued rainfall expected throughout the day, racing is cancelled today. (Sunday, Jan.4).

Stewards Baker, Jauregui and Sawyer were in the Stewards office working on routine matters

01/04/26²

ENTRY DAY

The racing office was opening today accepting entries for Friday, January 9, 2025. Veteran racing officials Bob Moreno and Charles McCaul drew the ten (10) races that will be carded. Seventy-seven (77) horses are scheduled to start. Grant Baker is the Duty Steward today.

01/04/26³

MICHAEL MCCARTHY DECISION (REF: 01/02/26(1))

The Stewards telephoned Trainer Michael McCarthy today and informed him that the parking Violation Notice matter that was heard in our office January 2, 2026, has been dismissed. It has come to our attention that Santa Anita Stable Security has adjudicated some parking Violation Notices themselves, with fines being paid directly to the racetrack. Some other parking Violation Notices have been sent to the Stewards' Office to hear. The Stewards are open to assisting Santa Anita with parking issues, however having two different tribunals enforcing Association parking regulations can lead to a myriad of issues, including but not limited to due process concerns, consistency and most importantly fairness.

Ironically, Trainer McCarthy had some very similar parking matters addressed in our office in 2016. (REF: SA Minutes 01/23/16(1)).

SUMMARY

	Wed 12/31	Thurs 01/01	Fri 01/02	Sat 01/03	Sun 01/04	Week	Meet
Accidents	No	No	0	No	No	0	1
Cal-Bred Races	Racing	Racing	3	Racing	Racing	3	6
Claims	No	No	4	No	No	4	9
Disqualifications	Racing	Racing	0	Racing	Racing	0	0
Inquiries	No	No	1	No	No	1	2
Refunds	Racing	Racing	6	Racing	Racing	6	25
Rulings	2	No	0	1	No	3	5
Voided Claims	Racing	Racing	0	Racing	Racing	0	1

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 12/29/25 TO 01/04/26

Horses on Vet List	7
Horses off Vet List	7
Shock Wave Therapy	3
Fatalities	0
Medication	0

Grant Baker, Steward

Kim Sawyer, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:GB:sh