

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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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, January 20, 2026, through Sunday, January 25, 2026.

TUESDAY01/20/26¹**REPLACEMENT STEWARD**

Steward Kim Sawyer is off this week for personal reasons. She returns to work February 12. Veteran Multi-Jurisdictional Steward John Herbuveaux will replace her.

01/20/26²**ENTRY DAY**

The racing office was open today accepting entries for Sunday January 25. Nine (9) races were drawn. Sixty (60) horses were scheduled to start. Steward John Herbuveaux was on duty for the CHRB.

FRIDAY01/23/26¹**HECTOR BERRIOS FILM REVIEW/RULING**

Jockey Hector Berrios appeared in the Stewards' Office to review his ride in the second race Monday, January 19. The Stewards were focusing on the start of this six (6) furlong race, contested on the main track. In this five (5) horse field, Jockey Berrios was aboard #5 Comedy Town. Race replays show Jockey Berrios slap his horse three (3) times on his right-shoulder with his riding crop in the downward position. This action caused his horse to drift inward into the path of second place finisher #4 Del Mar Jerry (Emisael Jaramillo) causing that horse to throw his head in the air, steady and lose ground.

Jockey Berrios understood the reason he was called into the Stewards' Office. He said that rival Jockey Emisael Jarmillo 'made it look worse than it actually was'. Jockey Berrios corrected his horse but well after the 'damage' had been done.

The majority felt that Jockey Berrios' actions at the start of this race were done 'without care' and voted for the following penalty. Steward Jauregui did not vote for a suspension. He believes that Mr. Berrios attempted to correct his mount and had not had a riding infraction since 2023. The following ruling was issued.

LATS RULING #24

Jockey HECTOR I. BERRIOS, who rode COMEDY TOWN in the second race at Santa Anita Park on January 19, 2026, is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (February 6, 7 and 8, 2026) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain a straight course at the start and causing interference; a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1766 (Designated Races), the term of suspension shall not prohibit participation in designated races.

01/23/26²

ADRIAN ESCOBEDO FILM REVIEW

Jockey Adrian Escobedo appeared in our office to review an incident in the ninth race from Monday January 19, 2026. Five (5) horses participated in this race which was contested at six (6) furlongs on the infield turf course. Jockey Escobedo was aboard third place finisher #1 Uecker. This horse was lugging out somewhat at the ¼ pole location. In the stretch, Jockey Escobedo switches to a left-handed crop, striking his horse twice and drifting out more significantly. Fourth place finisher #2 Chas N Ryan (Kazushi Kimura) drifted out alongside #1 Uecker so as not to be contacted by that rival. Jockey Escobedo apologized to Stewards for his ride.

In a majority vote, Jockey Escobedo received a warning. Steward Baker voted for a riding suspension.

01/23/26³

JUAN HERNANDEZ RULING (REF: 01/17/26²)

On Tuesday, January 20, four days after the Stewards issued Jockey Juan Hernandez a ruling (LATS Ruling #22 01/17/2026), HISA lawyer Rebecca Price sent the Stewards back an amended penalty. Jockey Hernandez was represented in the HISA appeal process by Jockey Agent Ryan Glatt. Mr. Glatt represents Jockey Abel Lezcano as his jockey agent.

The original ruling included a \$500 fine and a two-day riding suspension. The following ruling reflects a modification of the original ruling.

LATS RULING #25

Per the HISA crop appeal resolution's enforcement counsel, the penalty for Jockey JUAN HERNANDEZ from ruling LATS #22 (01/17/2026) has been modified, and by the order of HISA, the following ruling is now issued.

Having violated the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop) and pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (Riding Crop Violations and Penalties – Class 3 – second offense), Jockey JUAN HERNANDEZ, who rode REHEARSAL (IRE) in the first race at Santa Anita Park on January 16, 2026, is fined EIGHTY SEVEN DOLLARS (\$87.00) for one (1) strike over the limit.

01/23/26⁴

ASSISTANT TRAINER OBJECTION—RACE 5

Following the running of the fifth race, Assistant Trainer Cajay Legette lodged an objection. He said he was representing Trainer Robert Falcone Jr. The Falcone trained horse was #4 Son of a Birch (Umberto Rispoli) who finished third in this race which was contested at 6 ½ furlongs on the downhill turf course. The claim of foul was lodged against first place finisher #6 Gran Oriente (IRE) (Armando Ayuso).

The alleged incident in this race took place at the turf/dirt/turf transition (1/4 pole). Race replays show #6 Gran Oriente (CHI) two (2) full lengths in front of #4 Son of a Birch, at this location. Stewards spoke to both Jockeys involved, received a Patrol Judge Report and reviewed all camera angles of the incident. Stewards did not see anything that remotely warranted a change in the original placings. No change.

01/23/26⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

2nd Race #3 Smiling Tizzy (Tr. P. Oviedo) claimed, J. Valdez, trainer
 4th Race #4 Liam Smith (Tr. D. O'Neill) claimed, J. Mullins, trainer
 5th Race Declarations #1 Vlahos (Tr. D. O'Neill) Fell going to Receiving Barn—
 Nolton Pattio VMD
 #2 Nesso's Lastharrah-Injured—Jay Deluhery DVM
 REFUND TOTAL: \$7,407.56
 6th Race Declaration #8 Valentina Mia (Tr. S. Knapp) Injured—Jay Deluhery
 DVM. REFUND: \$1,122.79
 8th Race Declarations #3 Twirling Point (Tr. J. Thomas) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD
 #6 Hotrocket (IRE) Sick- Nolton Pattio VMD
 REFUND TOTAL: \$4,288.97

01/23/26⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	2,762	\$319,985.56
SCOTWINC	2,041	\$690,341.43
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$4,315,300.13
TOTAL	4,803	\$5,639,897.64

SATURDAY OFFICIAL CHANGE

01/24/26¹ Horse Identifier Jennifer Paige is off today for personal reasons. Assistant Horse Identifier Heriberto Garcia will replace her.

01/24/26²

ROUTINE MATTERS

The Stewards' Office was relatively quiet today. John Herbuveaux collaborated with Assistant Clerk of Scales Charles McCaul to review late scratches and jockey changes for the day's card.

01/24/26³

SEVENTH RACE INQUIRY

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after viewing an incident approaching the ¼ mile marker. This race was contested at 1 1/8 miles on the infield turf course. #4 Angelic Appeal (IRE) (Juan Hernandez) was injured in a single horse incident. This horse was immediately pulled up by the jockey and attended by track veterinarians. No other horses were involved in the incident, and the Stewards made no change in the order of finish.

01/24/26⁴

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

1st Race #1 The Only Nine (IRE) (Tr. J. Periban) claimed, G. Headley, trainer
 2nd Race Declarations #2 Autism Unity (Tr. S. Calvario) Injured-Jay Deluhery
 DVM
 #4 Matts Advisor (Tr. A. Lezcano) Injured-Jay Deluhery DVM
 REFUND TOTAL: \$1,127.79
 2nd Race NO SHOW WAGERING
 6th Race Declarations #3 Don't Ju Forget (Tr. G. Papaprodromou) Injured- Jay
 Deluhery DVM

#6 Cee's the Image (Tr. F. Rondan) Injured-Jay Deluhery DVM
REFUND TOTAL: \$1,496.97
6th Race NO SHOW WAGERING

01/24/26⁵

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	7,182	\$1,148,754.41
SCOTWINC	3,787	\$1,425,540.86
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$5,386,849.97
TOTAL	10,969	\$8,642,043.59

SUNDAY
01/25/26¹

MUTUEL MANAGER INFORMAL MEETING

Santa Anita Director of Pari-Mutuels Dan Sanborn stopped by our office to update us on all things wagering. Mr. Sanborn answered some friendly questions regarding his background (extensive), venues where he has worked (many throughout the US) and wagering trends here at Santa Anita (upward on track). We appreciate the opportunity to spend time with employees of the Mutuel Department. There are several dozen rules and statues in the California Horse Racing Board Laws and Regulations Book regarding wagering. This morning's informal gathering helped us stay updated on this important topic.

01/25/26²

FOURTH RACE ACCIDENT/INQUIRY

Stewards posted the incident after viewing an accident at the start of this six-furlong main track event. Immediately after the starting gate opened #6 Turkey Bird stumbled from his outside post, unseating Jockey Geovanni Franco. #6 Turkey Bird was not injured and ran around the racetrack before being captured by a track outrider. Jockey Franco was examined in the office of the Track Physician and released. After a short film review the Stewards determined that this was a single horse incident and no interference took place. In a unanimous decision, there was no change in the order of finish.

01/25/26³

NINTH RACE INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after observing an incident entering the first turn of this 1 1/8-mile race on the turf course. Stewards observed original sixth place finisher #1 Out of the Woods (Diego Herrera) get sandwiched and lose ground, when taking back from between horses. Original fourth place finisher #3 Charlie's Curlin (Hector Berrios) shifted out and bumped #1 Out of the Woods. Ninth (last) place finisher #6 Mendel's Tune (Tiago Pereira) on the outside of the proverbial sandwich, was bumped hard due to the incident to his inside.

The Stewards received a Patrol Judge report and reviewed all available camera views of the incident. This included an enhanced overhead 'drone shot'. #1 Out of the Woods was beaten by a 'head' for fourth position. In a unanimous vote #3 Charlie's Curlin was disqualified and placed sixth. Jockey Hector Berrios was ordered to film review with the Stewards.

ORIGINAL ORDER OF FINISH 4-7-8-(**3**)-2-1-9-5-6
OFFICAL ORDER OF FINISH 4-7-8-2-1-(**3**)-9-5-6

01/25/26⁴

VOIDED CLAIMS

There were two (2) voided claims on today's nine race card.

First Race- #2 Pacific Quest was claimed by Trainer Sean McCarthy. Following post-race examination by CHRB Veterinarian Nolton Pattio, was returned to the stable of original trainer R.B. Hess Jr. Unsound.

Second Race- #1 Babe Ruthless was claimed by R. B. Hess Jr. Following post-race examination by Nolton Pattio VMD, the horse was returned to the barn of original trainer Dan Blacker.

01/25/26⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES & REFUNDS

1st Race Declaration #1 Got Soul (Tr. A. Mathis) Unsound-Jay Deluhery DVM
REFUND: \$2,308.83

2nd Race Jockey Change #4 Cathal (IRE) V. Espinoza for U. Rispoli—Injured

3rd Race #3 A.P. Again (Tr. Tr. D. O’Neill) claimed S. Knapp, trainer
#4 Very Quiet (Tr. P. Miller) claimed, M. Stortz, trainer

5th Race #3 Surf Song (Tr. L. Powell) Sick—Nolton Pattio VMD

6th Race Jockey Change #1 Smiling Rapper A. Ayuso for W. Orantes—Sick

7th Race Jockey Change #7 Latter Than Planned (IRE) T. Pereira for U.
Rispoli—Injured

8th Race Declaration #5 Team Player (Tr. R. Hanson) Injured-Nolton Pattio
VMD. REFUND: \$14,405.53

8th Race Jockey Change #8 Left Hand Man J. Hernandez for U. Rispoli---
Injured

9th Race Jockey Change #5 Essos A. Lezcano for U. Rispoli--Injured

01/25/26⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	5,590	\$524,766.59
SCOTWINC	2,368	\$733,170.30
OUT OF STATE + ADW	n/a	\$6,238,351.17
TOTAL	7,958	\$7,874,219.24

SUMMARY

	Fri 01/23	Sat 01/24	Sun 01/25	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	1	1	5
Cal-Bred Races	2	2	3	7	30
Claims	2	1	3	6	21
Disqualifications	0	0	1	1	1
Inquiries	0	1	2	3	7
Refunds	6	5	7	18	76
Rulings	2	0	0	2	17
Voided Claims	0	0	2	2	4

VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 01/19/26 TO 01/25/26

Horses on Vet List 19
Horses off Vet List 2
Shock Wave Therapy 3
Fatalities 2
Medication 0

Grant Baker, Steward

Luis Jauregui, Steward

Kim Sawyer, Steward

BOS:GB:sh