

**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 the week of Wednesday, January 21, 2026, through Sunday, January 25, 2026.**

**WEDNESDAY**1/21/26<sup>1</sup>**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward Dave Nuesch was present to oversee entries for Saturday night's program. Additionally, he will be drafting the Stewards' minutes for this reporting period.

1/21/26<sup>2</sup>**THE DRAW**

The racing office compiled sixty-one runners to complete an eight-race program for Saturday.

1/21/26<sup>3</sup>**CAL-BRED REPORT**

The first race in the book for California bred three-year-old maiden fillies going 300 yards did not receive a single entry and was promptly called off.

**THURSDAY**1/22/26<sup>1</sup>**SCRATCHES**

Steward Nuesch was present to approve scratches and changes for Saturday evening's card, along with overseeing entries for Sunday's races. Additionally, the entry panel met to review and discuss all the runners on Saturday's eight-race card.

1/22/26<sup>2</sup>**CAL-BRED REPORT**

The first race in the book, for California bred maiden fillies and mares, three years old and upward going 300 yards, only received two entries and was ultimately called off.

1/22/26<sup>3</sup>**THE DRAW**

Fifty-four additional runners were assembled today to make up another eight-race program for Sunday evening, with a scheduled first post time of 5:10pm.

1/22/26<sup>4</sup>**JUAN ESCOBEDO HEARING**

The CHRB filed a financial responsibility complaint (25LA0206) against owner Juan Escobedo for an outstanding debt owed to Dr. Larry Overly's Equine Medical Services. Yesi Tenas from

Equine Medical Services was in attendance. Mr. Escobedo did not attend the hearing, but his niece contacted us via telephone and explained that payment was being worked out between the parties, and the issue should be resolved within the week. More to follow...

1/22/26<sup>5</sup>

### **HISA DISQUALIFICATION HEARING**

The Stewards held a hearing to disqualify the horse Momo's Kiddo, the winner of the second race at Los Alamitos on December 20, 2025, due to a crop violation by his rider. HISA rules dictate that if the rider exceeds the allowed number of strikes by more than three, the horse shall be disqualified. In the hearing was trainer Jose Valdez, along with his rider from that evening Rigoberto Sevilla. The hearing was brief and a ruling will be issued in the coming days.

## **FRIDAY**

1/23/26<sup>1</sup>

### **SCRATCHES AND PANEL**

Steward Nuesch was in the office to oversee scratches and changes for Sunday evening's card. Additionally, the entry panel met once again to review and discuss all the runners on the eight-race program.

## **SATURDAY**

1/24/26<sup>1</sup>

### **FILM REVIEW**

Jockey Ricardo Ramirez came into our office to review one of his rides from last week where the Stewards felt he crossed over too quickly, and without sufficient clearance, going into the far turn. After reviewing the race in question, in a majority decision, the Stewards opted to give Mr. Ramirez a warning. Steward Church was the dissenting vote, feeling a penalty was in order.

1/24/26<sup>2</sup>

### **HISA RULING (Ref: 1/22/26<sup>3</sup>)**

After the hearing on Thursday, the following ruling was issued.

#### **Ruling #9**

Pursuant to an informal hearing held on January 22, 2026, it is hereby ordered that MOMO'S KIDDO who finished First in the Second race at Los Alamitos Race Course on December 20, 2025 be disqualified and deemed unplaced pursuant to HISA Rule 2282 (Riding Crop Violations and Penalties [Class 2 Violation]) for violation of HISA Rule 2280 (Use of Riding Crop).

It is further ordered that all purse monies awarded to Owners Benjie Stable, Urbana Rio Stable and Alfredo Pavia Trainer Jose Valdez, and Jockey Rigoberto Sevilla, be redistributed in accordance with the revised order of finish by the Paymaster of Purses at Los Alamitos Racecourse.

1/24/26<sup>3</sup>

### **ESCOBEDO RULING**

As a result of jockey Adrian Escobedo missing his first scheduled mount at Los Alamitos last Sunday, the following ruling was issued.

#### **Ruling #10**

Jockey ADRIAN ESCOBEDO is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) \* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1872 (Failure to Fulfill Jockey Agreement), causing a late rider change in the second race at Los Alamitos Racecourse on January 18, 2026.

1/24/26<sup>4</sup>

### **VOIDED CLAIM**

The Stewards were notified by Official Veterinarian Gary Beck that the horse Dial A Friend did not pass her post-race soundness examination, so the claim submitted by trainer Jesus Uranga was voided. The five-year-old mare will remain in the care of trainer Jesus Mendoza.

1/24/26<sup>5</sup>

### **ACCIDENT / DELAY – RACE 5**

During the running of the fifth race, #1 Imm Relentless suddenly “locked up” behind, throwing jockey Cruz Mendez to the track. Jockey Mendez was attended to by the on-call paramedics and later transported to Long Beach Hospital for further evaluation and treatment. Imm Relentless was ultimately euthanized on the track as diagnostics led the racing vets to conclude that the three-year-old filly sustained a lumbar fracture. The entire process delayed the remainder of the races by about twenty minutes.

1/24/26<sup>6</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race No Changes  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Race #6 Dial A Friend (Tr. J. Mendoza) – Claimed by trainer J. Uranga – VOIDED  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Race No Changes  
 4<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Graydar Classic (Tr. G. Vallejo) Unsound – Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$84.68  
 5<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes  
 6<sup>th</sup> Race #6 Surprise Temptation (Tr. K. Castaneda) Jockey changed to F. Calderon  
 7<sup>th</sup> Race #4 Notorious (Tr. K. Castaneda) Jockey changed to F. Calderon  
 #6 Shinning Favorite (Tr. S. Morfin) Jockey changed to R. Ramirez  
 8<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Underworld Goddess (Tr. M. Jungers) Jockey changed to C. Franco  
 #4 Famous Talk (Tr. J. Flores) Jockey changed to M. Arriaga

1/24/26<sup>7</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	637	\$89,186.40
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	1,076	\$300,100.50
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$1,024,634.97
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,713	\$1,413,921.87

**SUNDAY**

1/25/26<sup>1</sup>

**QUIET AFTERNOON**

With no riders scheduled to see us and no rulings to put out, afternoon administrative activities were minimal.

1/25/26<sup>2</sup>

**SMOOTH SAILING**

This evening’s eight-race card was conducted smoothly, with no notable incidents.

1/25/26<sup>3</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race No Changes  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Race No Changes  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Race #8 Warmhearted (Tr. J. Glenn Jr.) – Claimed by trainer S. Rivera  
 4<sup>th</sup> Race #5 Z Boss Sauce (Tr. I. Becerra Perez) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$231.77  
 5<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Gogurt Gangster (Tr. R. Zuazo) Jockey changed to E. Gasca  
 6<sup>th</sup> Race #3 Consyderation (Tr. F. Gonzalez) Starting Gate – Stewards – Refund: \$30,208.55  
 7<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes  
 8<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

1/25/26<sup>4</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	481	\$47,646.30
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	871	\$149,557.30
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$1,173,205.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,352	\$1,370,408.67

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 01/23</b>	<b>Sat 01/24</b>	<b>Sun 01/25</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	D	1	0	1	2
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	R	0	1	1	8
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K	0	0	0	0
<b>Inquiries</b>	-	1	0	1	6
<b>Refunds</b>	D	1	2	3	26
<b>Rulings</b>	A	2	0	2	10
<b>Voided Claims</b>	Y	1	0	1	4

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David Nuesch, Steward

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Ron Church, Steward

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Tom Ward, Steward

BOS:JD:dj