

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE
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 February 25, 2026, through March 1, 2026.

WEDNESDAY2/25/26¹**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.

2/25/26²**THE DRAW**

The racing office compiled just fifty-three runners to complete an eight-race program for Saturday evening, which includes five thoroughbred races going four and one-half furlongs.

2/25/26³**CAL-BRED REPORT**

The first race in the book for California bred three-year-old maiden fillies going 300 yards only receive one entry, so it was ultimately called off.

THURSDAY2/26/26¹**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 program.

2/26/26²**STEWARD SWITCH**

John Herbuveaux filled in today for Ron Church who took a few days off. Steward Herbuveaux will also be here on Saturday evening, with Mr. Church scheduled to return to work on Sunday.

2/26/26³**WILLIAMS HEARING**

The CHRB filed a financial responsibility complaint (26LA0016) against owner/trainer Arturo Williams, for an outstanding debt owed to Gordon Feed. Mr. Williams did not argue that the debt was owed and that he was not current with the verbal agreement he made with Gordon Feed's owner Robyn Gordon. Both parties reached a new payment agreement which was memorialized by supervising investigator Kevin Kitashima.

2/26/26⁴

NO DRAW

With the flow of entries into the Racing Office coming to a halt, the early-evening decision was made to call it a day and reconvene tomorrow morning in hopes of filling a card for Sunday.

FRIDAY

2/27/26¹

FINALLY FILLED

The Racing Office staff reassembled this morning and put a race card together for Sunday evening, which was drawn just before noon. With just forty-six horses spread over eight races, three races were carded with just five runners each. As the overnight was created after scratch-time, all late changes will be made on Sunday afternoon. The entry panel will meet later this afternoon (via telephone) to review and discuss all the runners on the eight-race program.

SATURDAY

2/28/26¹

FILM REVIEW

Jockey Cesar Franco came into our office to review one of his rides from last week where the Stewards felt he may have violated the CHRB crop rule. After reviewing the race multiple times, the Stewards ruled that the film was inconclusive, so Mr. Franco just received a warning. However, we were forced to remove him from his lone thoroughbred mount on this evening's card, as Mr. Franco was unable to provide documentation of a current concussion baseline test, a requirement to participate in any races that fall under HISA rule.

2/28/26²

MARCIAL GARCIA RULING#16 (Ref: 1/22/26³)

After learning that a debt going back to 2018 was paid to Equine Sports Medicine, the following ruling was issued, reinstating owner Marcial Garcia to good standing and allowing him to renew his license.

Ruling # 16

Owner MARCIAL GARCIA, having appeared and complied with the provisions of California Horse Racing Board rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility) is declared eligible to be re-licensed by the California Horse Racing Board.

2/28/26³

RULING #17 - #18

Last week, Safety Steward Brice Blanc found two jockeys attempting to ride races using unapproved safety vests. As a result, the following two rulings were issued.

Ruling # 17

Jockey OSCAR M. PEINADO is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1689.1 (Safety Vest Required – use of non-approved vest) at Los Alamitos Race Course.

Ruling # 18

Jockey MARTIN ARRIAGA is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1689.1 (Safety Vest Required – use of non-approved vest) at Los Alamitos Race Course.

2/28/26⁴

STEWARDS' REVIEW - START

Following the running of tonight's second race, the Stewards conducted a review of the start where jockey Adrian Escobedo was unseated. The Stewards quickly determined that #1 Papa Tiger jumped up dramatically just as the field was dispatched. However, the horse was afforded a fair start, so no further action on the Stewards' part was required. Papa Tiger was ultimately caught by outrider Keith Craigmyle and Mr. Escobedo, uninjured in the incident, was cleared to ride his remaining mounts on the card.

2/28/26⁵

STEWARDS' REVIEW – RACE 5

During the running of the fifth race, #2 Beau's Charm took up sharply entering the far turn and was eased through the wire by jockey Ricardo Ramirez. After reviewing the drone shot, the Stewards determined that Beau's Charm bore out entering the turn, making contact with two rivals to his outside, causing his own problems, so no further action was required.

2/28/26⁶

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

1st Race #1 Queen Of The Track (Tr. J. Farias) Claimed by trainer J. Hernandez Jr.
 2nd Race #1 Papa Tiger (Tr. L. Lindsey) Jockey changed to A. Escobedo
 #2 Howbeit (Tr. J. Hernandez Jr.) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald Refund: \$955.06
 5th Race #5 Conejo Malo (Tr. B. Cunningham) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald Refund: \$450.29
 8th Race #2 Jess Flu Thru Fire (Tr. L. Diaz) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald Refund: \$1,025.34

2/28/26⁷

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	687	\$98,084.10
SCOTWINC	1,101	\$269,186.10
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$945,782.14
TOTAL	1,788	\$1,313,052.34

SUNDAY

3/01/26¹

RULING #19

Jockey Jose Alcala was issued the following ruling after a citation was issued for using an unapproved riding crop during morning training at Los Alamitos Racecourse.

Ruling # 19

Jockey JOSE R. ALCALA is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1685 (c)(1) (Equipment – use of non-approved crop) at Los Alamitos Race Course.

3/01/26²

SMOOTH SAILING

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

3/01/26³

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS

1st Race #4 Golden River (Tr. A. Ruvalcaba) Jockey changed to S. Vargas
 2nd Race #3 Going Great Guns (Tr. A. Ruvalcaba) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald Refund: \$391.19
 3rd Race #6 Riolo (Tr. G. Haley) Stewards-Injured at Starting Gate – Refund: \$10,863.45
 4th Race #1 Courtsdream (Tr. S. Paldanius) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$466.65
 #4 Kyathos (Tr. J. Hernandez Jr.) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$140.18
 5th Race #3 Z Boss Sauce (Tr. I. Becerra Perez) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald Refund: \$561.40
 #4 Lena Lindgard (Tr. J. Farias) Stewards – Ineligible – Refund: \$203.34
 8th Race #1 Blownbubbles (Tr. F. Gonzalez) Vet-Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$272.48

3/01/26⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	547	\$54,839.00
SCOTWINC	891	\$223,133.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$777,013.25
TOTAL	1,438	\$1,054,986.05

SUMMARY

	Fri 02/27	Sat 02/28	Sun 03/01	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	3
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	0
Claims	R	1	0	1	14
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	2
Inquiries	-	0	0	0	12
Refunds	D	3	7	10	54
Rulings	A	3	1	4	19
Voided Claims	Y	0	0	0	6

David Nuesch, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

Tom Ward, Steward

BOS:JD:dj