

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**

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Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman
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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, March 25, through Sunday, March 29, 2026.

WEDNESDAY3/25/26¹**DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward will be in the office this week to oversee entries, scratches and changes. Ward will also be writing the minutes for the week.

3/25/26²**SATURDAY ENTRIES**

The Racing Office staff put together an eight-race program for Saturday, featuring the Los Alamitos Oaks, a Grade I race for three-year-old fillies at 400 yards. Also, on the card there are five races for two-year-olds.

THURSDAY3/26/26¹**SUNDAY ENTRIES/SATURDAY CHANGES AND PANEL**

Entries for Sunday are being accepted today, with the card highlighted by the El Primero Del Ano Derby. The Los Alamitos panel met this morning, resulting in one horse being scratched as it did not meet workout requirements. There are also two "hard watch" horses. Scratch time, aside from the previously mentioned declaration, was limited to two jockey changes.

FRIDAY3/27/26¹**SUNDAY PANEL AND CHANGES**

While not drawn as early as yesterday, the eight-race Sunday racing program was still finalized at a reasonable hour. The feature race of the evening will be the Grade II El Primero Del Ano Derby, going with a field of nine three-year-olds.

The Los Alamitos panel met this morning, with nothing of consequence to report. As far as scratch time is concerned, there were no early declarations and changes were few.

SATURDAY3/28/26¹**RIDER FORCED TO MISS MOUNT**

Jockey Christian Cardenas, who was coming in from New Mexico to ride a two-year-old for trainer James Gonzales II, ran into problems with his connecting flight and called to say he

would not be able to fulfill his commitment. A replacement rider was named and rode the horse to a powerful victory.

3/28/26²

STEWARDS' INQUIRY AND DISQUALIFICATION

The Inquiry sign was posted following the third race as the Stewards reviewed an incident at the start involving the fourth and sixth place finishers, #3 Bonus Bet (R. Lozano) and #2 Cowboy Down Perry (I. Lara).

After reviewing video and speaking with the riders involved, the Stewards unanimously voted to disqualify Bonus Bet from fourth to sixth position. Review made it clear that Bonus Bet broke in sharply, making hard contact with its competitor and bumping that horse off stride. The horse which was compromised was beaten only a "head" for fifth position and the Stewards felt that the interference cost it a position.

The rider was not held responsible as his mount made a sharp left-hand turn when the stall doors opened.

3/28/26³

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

1st Race #1 Grazen Together (Tr. J. Ramos) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$166.88

2nd Race #1 Strong Proof (Tr. M. Stortz) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$216.00

#4 Kyathos (Tr. J. Hernandez) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$110.81

3rd Race No Changes

4th Race No Changes

5th Race No Changes

6th Race #2 Moonstone V (Tr. J. Nunez) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$222.12

7th Race No Changes

8th Race #6 Walk When I Walk (Tr. S. Morfin) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald - \$312.54

3/28/26⁴

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	1,012	\$104,766.40
SCOTWINC	1,113	\$255,699.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$746,912.82
TOTAL	2,125	\$1,107,379.02

SUNDAY

3/29/26¹

RIDERS EXCUSED

Kody Kellenberger was excused this evening as he encountered car trouble on his way from Arizona. Francisco Orduna-Rojas was ill and could not participate. Adrian Escobedo, who was involved in an accident on Saturday at Santa Anita, was still sore and could not fulfill his obligation. Christian Cardenas had airline issues and asked to be excused.

Replacement riders were announced.

3/29/26²

RULING #25

Ruling #25

Jockey JESUS RIOS AYALA is fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00)* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1688 (b) (8) (Use of Riding Crop – more than six times during the running of the race) while riding Cm Jessa Blue Monday in the eighth race, The Los Alamitos Oaks, at Los Alamitos Race Course on March 28, 2026.

The ruling was issued as Mr. Ayala readily admitted violating the crop rule in the feature race on Saturday. He apologized, stating that he "got excited" when he thought he had a chance to win the Grade I Oaks and forgot about the strike count.

The penalty was increased due to the number of strikes and the fact that the violation took place in a Grade I race.

3/29/26³

REFUND

A refund was ordered in the second race as #3 Infinite Spirit injured itself entering the starting gate and was scratched on the advice of Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald. The refund amounted to \$45,054.97. The jockey, Cesar Ortega, was not injured.

3/29/26⁴

TRAINER OBJECTION – NO CHANGE

The Objection sign was posted following the fourth race as Jairo Monascal, trainer of #1 Miss Miche Lada, lodged a claim of foul against the winner, #3 Cioppina Pasadina, for inference in the far turn.

After speaking with the riders involved and reviewing video of all pertinent camera positions the Stewards unanimously voted to dismiss the objection. While Mr. Monascal’s horse was racing in tight quarters, it did not suffer what could be termed “interference”. The rider outside of Miss Miche Lada made it tight but left sufficient room.

3/29/26⁵

DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

- 1st Race No Changes
- 2nd Race #3 Infinite Spirit (Tr. J. Glenn) Injured at Gate – Stewards – Refund: \$45,054.97
- 3rd Race No Changes
- 4th Race No Changes
- 5th Race #3 Up To Forgive It (Tr. S. Willoughby) Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund \$319.45
- 6th Race No Changes
- 7th Race No Changes
- 8th Race #2 Unmarked (Tr. F. Rodriguez) Stake Scratch – Stewards – Refund: \$203.60

3/29/26⁶

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	737	\$92,129.50
SCOTWINC	911	\$205,105.30
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	\$1,064,225.62
TOTAL	1,648	\$1,361,460.42

SUMMARY

	Fri 3/27	Sat 3/28	Sun 3/29	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	4
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	0
Claims	R	0	1	1	20
Disqualifications	K	1	0	1	3
Inquiries	D	1	1	2	16
Refunds	A	5	3	8	88
Rulings	Y	0	1	1	25
Voided Claims		0	0	0	9

Tom Ward, Steward

David Nuesch, Steward

Ron Church, Steward

BOS:TW:dj