

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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



**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 Wednesday, May 20, through Sunday, May 24, 2026.**

**WEDNESDAY**5/20/26<sup>1</sup>**DUTY STEWARD**

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise entries for Saturday, May 23, 2026, and will record the minutes for this reporting period.

**THURSDAY**5/21/26<sup>1</sup>**OWNER STEVEN SKORPANICH – FINANCIAL COMPLAINT (Case #26LA0050)**

A hearing was scheduled today to address a financial complaint filed by trainer Francisco Rodriguez against owner Steven Skorpanich, alleging an outstanding debt for training services. The hearing did not proceed, as Mr. Skorpanich failed to appear, and all attempts to contact him via telephone and email were unsuccessful. Ruling to follow.

5/21/26<sup>2</sup>**LOS ALAMITOS SECURITY VIOLATION**

Jockey Salvador Vargas, and Clerk of Scales Osvaldo Rivera, who served as his interpreter, met with the stewards today regarding a security violation issued by the morning outriders. The violation was for galloping his horse too close to the inside rail during morning workout hours. This action caused two horses working along the rail to take evasive maneuvers to avoid Mr. Vargas mount. Decision to follow.

5/21/26<sup>3</sup>**ENTRIES AND SCRATCHES**

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise entries for Sunday May 24, 2026, and changes to Saturday's program.

5/21/26<sup>4</sup>**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to review the entries for Saturday's program. Following the review there was one entry designated as a hard watch.

**FRIDAY**

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

**ENTRY PANEL**

The entry panel met this morning to review the entries for Sunday’s program. Following the review there were no recommended changes from the panel.

5/22/26<sup>2</sup>

**SCRATCHES AND CHANGES**

Steward Ron Church was present to supervise scratches and changes to Sunday’s program.

5/22/26<sup>3</sup>

**FATALITY REVIEW**

Steward Ron Church, Safety Steward Eddie Rich and Jocelyn Lorbieck DVM, attended the fatality review for the two-year-old standardbred colt “West of the Valley” trained by Brett Erickson who was also present.

**SATURDAY**

5/23/26<sup>1</sup>

**RACING CANCELLED**

Due to a possible threat of a chemical leak at the GKN Aerospace company in the neighboring city of Garden Grove, management canceled tonight’s program for precautionary reasons.

5/23/26<sup>2</sup>

**RULING #40**

Ruling #40

Owner STEVEN J. SKORPANICH (SJS STABLES), having failed to respond to a complaint alleging violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility - \$7,504.00 to trainer Francisco Rodriguez), is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1547 (Failure to Appear). Suspension to commence on May 26, 2026.

The above ruling was issued as Mr. Skorpanich failed to appear for a scheduled hearing to address the financial complaint filed against him by trainer Francisco Rodriguez alleging an overdue debt for training services.

5/23/26<sup>3</sup>

**RULING #41**

Ruling #41

Acting upon notice from Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU), that the post-race sample obtained from the horse Naval Harbor, who finished first in the second race at Los Alamitos Race Course on February 22, 2026, contained the Controlled Medication Substance PHENYLBUTAZONE (Class C), it is hereby ordered that Naval Harbor be disqualified and deemed unplaced.

The Consequences of Disqualification include forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable) of such to the Race Organizer (ADMC Program Rule 3312 – Disqualification of the Covered Horse’s Results).

As directed it is further ordered that all purse monies earned or awarded to Owner/Trainer Alberto Ruvalcaba and Jockey Alfredo Bautista be returned to the Paymaster of Purses at Los Alamitos Race Course within thirty (30) days of the date of this ruling, for redistribution pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1760 (Purse Award or Prize to Be Withheld).

Revised order of finish is as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> – Details Matter      2<sup>nd</sup> – Elegant Life      3<sup>rd</sup> – Embers of Gold      4<sup>th</sup> – Honeymoon Suite

The above ruling was issued upon receipt of notification from Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit that the covered horse “Naval Harbor” (Trainer Alberto Ruvalcaba) has been disqualified as a result of a positive test sample for Phenylbutazone (Class C) obtained following the second race at Los Alamitos Race Course on February 22, 2026.

**SUNDAY**

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

**RULING #42**

Ruling #42

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1530 (Cases Not Covered by Rules and Regulations), Apprentice Jockey SALVADOR VARGAS is fined ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* for failure to follow the orders of the morning outriders – galloping too close to the inside rail.

After consideration of the circumstances heard at the meeting held on Thursday May 21, 2026, with Mr. Vargas, the stewards, in a unanimous decision issued the above ruling.

5/24/26<sup>2</sup>

**JOCKEY OBJECTION – NO CHANGE – 1<sup>ST</sup> RACE**

The Stewards posted the objection sign following the first race at the request of jockey Edgar Payeras, who finished last on #1 Comanche Gal. Mr. Payeras lodged a claim of foul against #3 Going Great Guns (Cristobal Herrera) who finished second, alleging interference going into the turn of the 1000-yard event.

After reviewing the video of the race from all angles, the Stewards unanimously decided to disallow the objection.

Video shows Mr. Payeras aiming for an opening between #2 Andramada on the inside and #3 Going Great Guns on the outside. Unfortunately for Mr. Payeras the hole closed before he got there, and he had to take back.

5/24/26<sup>3</sup>

**INQUIRY - DISQUALIFICATION – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The Stewards conducted an inquiry following the running of the eight race to review and incident at the start involving #5 Quick Enough (Gabriel Lara) second, and #4 MG Vegas Boi (Cesar Ortega) who finished sixth.

After reviewing the video of the race, the stewards decided unanimously to disqualify #5 Quick Enough from second to sixth for interference at the start.

Video shows #5 Quick Enough breaks in sharply leaving the starting gate and impedes #4 MG Vegas Boi, causing that rider to take back sharply and lose any chance of a better placing.

Original Order of Finish 3-(5)-7-1-6-4-2

Official Order of Finish 3-7-1-6-4-(5)-2

5/24/26<sup>4</sup>

**CLAIMED VOIDED – 8<sup>TH</sup> RACE**

The claim deposited in the eighth race by trainer Hector Magallanes, for #5 Quick Enough was voided after Official Veterinarian Gary Beck reported the two-year-old filly was unsound and would be placed on the vet's list. Quick Enough was returned to the barn of trainer Scott Willoughby.

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

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1<sup>st</sup> Race No Changes

2<sup>nd</sup> Race #3 Naughty's Boy (Tr. Jesus Nunez) – Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: \$140.00  
#5 Bretts Acclaim (Tr. Sheldon Paldaninus) – Claimed by Tr. Robert Lucas

3<sup>rd</sup> Race #4 Lena Lindgard (Tr. Jorge Farias) Turned over during warm up on the back side  
Stewards – Refund: \$12,948.66

4<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Miss Joannie (Jorge Farias) – Sick – Dr Fitzgerald – Refund: \$248.10  
#5 Nokie (Tr. Mark Rheinford) – Vanning Problems – Stewards – Refund: \$136.94

5<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

6<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

7<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

8<sup>th</sup> Race No Changes

5/24/26<sup>6</sup>

**DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	490	\$48,816.10
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	853	\$186,330.40
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	N/A	\$1,141,259.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,343	\$1,376,406.34

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 5/22</b>	<b>Sat 5/23</b>	<b>Sun 5/24</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	D	0	0	0	5
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	R	0	1	1	31
<b>Disqualifications</b>	K	0	1	1	5
<b>Inquiries</b>	D	0	2	2	21
<b>Refunds</b>	A	0	4	4	149
<b>Rulings</b>	Y	2	1	3	42
<b>Voided Claims</b>		0	1	1	13

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Church, Steward

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Ward, Steward

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Nuesch, Steward

BOS:RC:dj