

**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 Monday, June 1, 2026, through Sunday, June 7, 2026.**

**MONDAY**  
06/01/26<sup>1</sup>

### **ENTRY DAY**

The Santa Anita racing office was scheduled to take entries today for Saturday, June 6. At 9:32 a.m. a mass text message was sent out by the racing office. This text message stated in part that the phone system and internet system were having power issues. The announcement stated that 'double entries' would be taken tomorrow (June 2) for both Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7. Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty today and along with CHRB matters, handled issues for HISA and HIWU.

**TUESDAY**  
06/02/26<sup>1</sup>

### **DOUBLE ENTRY DAY**

Due to power issues at Santa Anita yesterday, today was a 'double draw' day in the racing office. Ten (10) races were drawn for Saturday, June 6, 2026. Ninety-one (91) horses are scheduled to start. The racing department also produced a good card for Sunday, June 7, 2026. Ten (10) races were drawn with eighty-nine (89) horses scheduled to start. Steward Kim Sawyer was on duty today for the CHRB.

**THURSDAY**  
06/04/26<sup>1</sup>

### **LIBRADO BAROCIO FORMAL HEARING (CASE #25DM0060)**

The CHRB filed a twenty-eight (28) page complaint against Trainer Librado Barocio for alleged violation of CHRB Rule #1662 (Sale or Transfer of Claimed Horse) and Rule #1902 (Conduct Detrimental to Racing). The cover page of today's twenty-eight (28) page complaint, prepared by CHRB Investigator Anne Dillion, reads as follows:

*Barocio claimed the horse GHOST OF MIDNIGHT from Trainer Sean Williams on November 1, 2025, at Del Mar in a two-way shake. Barocio transported the horse to his barn at Santa Anita immediately after the claim but returned the horse to William's barn at Del Mar on November 24. Williams immediately began training the horse, paid for a pre-work exam, and worked the horse 5 furlongs on the dirt track at Del Mar on November 28 while Barocio was still listed as the trainer of record. Williams shipped the horse to*

*Oaklawn on November 30, 2025, where it was sold to a new owner. After the sale, Williams was listed once again as the official trainer.*

The following people participated in today's hearing.

1. Luis Jauregui- Steward—Hearing Chair
2. Kim Sawyer-Steward
3. Grant Baker-Steward
4. Jacqueline Loyd-CHRB General Counsel
5. Anne Dillon-CHRB Investigator
6. Librado Barocio-Respondent-Trainer
7. Michelle Derieg-Court Reporter (Weinstein Court Reporter LLC)
8. John Tyre-Attorney for Librado Barocio

At the start of this hearing Jacqueline Loyd (CHRB) stated that the CHRB would drop Rule #1902 (Conduct Detrimental to Racing) as one of the alleged violations for this case. Testimony was given and exhibits were marked for identification and entered into evidence. Decision to follow.

**FRIDAY**

06/05/26<sup>1</sup>

**MORNING DUTIES**

The Stewards spent a good portion of their morning trying to help an owner get his money back on a claim of the horse Tom Seaver, who ran in the ninth race on April 17, 2026, that tested positive for Diclofenac. The claim of \$20,000 has been voided, however we need a case number from HISA or HIWU before the Paymaster of Purses' office here at Santa Anita will refund money to the original owners. William Branch, who was a part-owner, has called this office several times in the past few weeks requesting his portion of money. The Stewards spoke to Marc Guilfoil (HISA Director of Stewarding & State Racing Commission Relations). He referred us to Kyle Kremers, who is an attorney for HIWU. No resolution was reached today. The Duty Steward will take this matter up on Monday, June 8. It has been frustrating not being able to assist owner Branch and his co-owners, but we will keep trying.

06/05/26<sup>2</sup>

**SAFETY STEWARD CHANGE**

Safety Steward Paul Atkinson is off sick today. Safety Steward Brice Blanc will fill in.

06/05/26<sup>3</sup>

**EIGHTH RACE STEWARDS' REVIEW**

Stewards had fill-in Announcer Pete Aiello broadcast that a Stewards' Review would be conducted into the start of today's eighth race. In this one (1) mile main track event, #6 Mr. Disrespectful (Armando Ayuso) reared at the start. This horse caused his own problems when Starter Kiel Travis dispatched the field. No upgrade to an Inquiry was made and this race was declared official.

06/05/26<sup>4</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1 <sup>st</sup> Race	Declaration #1 Catalina Cocktail (Tr. J. Sadler) Sick—Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$973.43
1 <sup>st</sup> Race	#3 Going Deep (Tr. M. Glatt) claimed, S. Miyadi, trainer #5 Dea Matrona (FR) (Tr. R. Baltas) claimed, D. O'Neill, trainer #7 Cameron Slough (Tr. N. Drysdale) claimed, N. Drysdale, trainer
2 <sup>nd</sup> Race	#2 Princess Daddy (Tr. Genaro Vallejo) Sick—Jay Deluhery DVM REFUND: \$379.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Race	Declarations #6 Never in Doubt (Tr. A. Mathis) Injured-Nolton Pattio VMD #8 Very Smart (Tr. Peter Eurton) Injured—Nolton Pattio VMD REFUND TOTAL: \$2,860.02

5<sup>th</sup> Race #4 Mr. Leasure (Tr. T. Yakteen) claimed, S. Knapp, trainer  
 6<sup>th</sup> Race Declarations #3 Gogetiz (Tr. I. Tamayo) Injured—Nolton Pattio VMD  
 #8 Waiting for My Cue (Tr. L. Powell) Unsound—Jay Deluhery DVM  
 REFUND TOTAL: \$1,372.31  
 6<sup>th</sup> Race #4 Kitty Mac (Tr. D. Blacker) claimed, E. Alvarez, trainer  
 7<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #5 My Perfect Wave (Tr. T. Yakteen) Full Field-Stewards  
 REFUND: \$609.82  
 8<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #4 Berlin Wall (Tr. S. Knapp) Injured—Nolton Pattio VMD  
 REFUND: \$687.73

06/05/26<sup>5</sup>

**ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	3,273	\$394,245.36
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	2,768	\$1,050,003.85
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	n/a	\$4,438,051.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	6,041	\$6,362,778.17

**SATURDAY ADRIAN ESCOBEDO MEETING/RULING**

06/06/26<sup>1</sup>

Jockey Adrian Escobedo appeared in the Stewards' Office as ordered to discuss his actions prior to the ninth race on Friday, June 5, 2026. When the riders were getting legged up in the walking ring prior to the ninth race, the Stewards' received a phone call from Assistant Clerk of Scales Charles McCaul. Mr. McCaul told us that Jockey Adrian Escobedo (#8 Springline) was nowhere to be found. Jockey Escobedo was finally located and legged up about four (4) minutes after the rest of the field had entered the racetrack. Jockey Escobedo told us he was in the bathroom at the time the horses were in the walking ring. Jockey Escobedo received the following penalty in a unanimous decision.

**LATS RULING #75**

Jockey ADRIAN ESCOBEDO is fined TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1680 (Jockeys and Drivers to Report- late to paddock) for the ninth race on June 5, 2026, at Santa Anita Park.

06/06/26<sup>2</sup>

**SAFETY STEWARD CHANGE**

Safety Steward Paul Atkinson is off sick today. Safety Steward Brice Blanc will fill in.

06/06/26<sup>3</sup>

**FIRST RACE INQUIRY/DISQUALIFICATION**

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign after viewing an incident in the proximity of the ¼ pole. This race was contested at 6 ½ furlongs on the infield turf course. On the ¼ pole turn fourth place finisher # 7 Decisive Deception (Abel Lezcano) and fifth place finisher #8 Kinzlee'sscharisma (Tyler Baze) were racing towards the rear of this eight-horse field. #8 Kinzlee'sscharisma drifted in and contacted #7 Decisive Deception three (3) times while racing alongside each other. The contact was significant. Jockey Bazes' horse lost ground, re-rallied and was beaten one length by his offending rival. The Stewards received a Patrol Judge Report, spoke to both jockeys involved and viewed all camera angles (including regular drone and enhanced drone) of the incident. In a unanimous decision #7 Decisive Deception was disqualified and placed fifth. Jockey Abel Lezcano was ordered to film review before the Stewards.

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

06/06/26<sup>4</sup>

**FOURTH RACE VOIDED CLAIM**

Eighth (last) place finisher #9 Bro Bro was claimed out of today's fourth race for \$20,000. Following this race CHRB Veterinarian Nolton Pattio contacted the Stewards and informed us this horse was being placed on the Veterinarian's List. The Stewards made all the necessary phone calls, the claim was voided and #9 Bro Bro returns to the barn of original trainer Doug O'Neill.

06/06/26<sup>5</sup>

**SIXTH RACE POST RACE ACCIDENT**

Following the running of this six (6) furlong race on the infield turf course there was an accident. Fourth place finisher #6 Someone Like You (Welfin Orantes) stumbled while 'galloping out' past the finish line. Jockey Orantes was examined by the Santa Anita Track Physician following the incident. He was **not** cleared to ride his lone remaining mount (10<sup>th</sup> Race) on the day's program. He will be re-examined prior to returning to action.

06/06/26<sup>6</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

- 1st Race Declaration #2 I'll Be Your Baby (Tr. P. Gallagher) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$648.40
- 4<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #1 Stylishlyacclaimed (Tr. C. Gaines) Injured-Jay Deluhery DVM. REFUND: \$1,524.03
- 5<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #1 He's Proof of Joy (Tr. A. Ruvalcaba) Sick- Nolton Pattio VMD. REFUND: \$887.10
- 6<sup>th</sup> Race #9 Empress Matilda (GB) (Tr. R. B. Hess Jr.) claimed, R. Hanson, trainer.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #9 Reef City (Tr. J. Bonde) Sick-Nolton Pattio VMD REFUND: \$ 174.80
- 7<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Carol's Comic (Tr. V. Brinkerhoff) claimed, G. Vallejo, trainer  
#3 Windribbon (Tr. J. Hernandez Jr.) claimed, I. Tamayo, trainer  
#7 Chasin Munny (Tr. L. Barocio) claimed, J. Uranga, trainer
- 8<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #10 Revera (Tr. J. Sadler) Stake-Stewards REFUND: \$ 727.40
- 9<sup>th</sup> Race Declarations #1 Mongolian Max (Tr. S. Miyadi) Injured- Jay Deluhery DVM  
#4 Crypto Ride (Tr. K. Frey) Injured-Michael Pirrone DVM  
REFUND TOTAL: \$2,818.95
- 9<sup>th</sup> Race #6 Cathal (IRE) (Tr. S. Knapp) claimed, J. Valdez, trainer
- 10<sup>th</sup> Race Declarations #2 Magic Wind (Tr. H. Palma) Full Field-Stewards  
#5 Queen Kimbe (Tr. C. Dollase) Entered Back-Stewards  
REFUND TOTAL: \$845.45
- 10<sup>th</sup> Race Jockey Change #11 Cindys Beach House T. Pereira for W. Orantes-Accident

06/06/26<sup>7</sup>

**ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	15,203	\$1,561,803.28
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	7,505	\$3,142,720.82
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	n/a	\$8,271,421.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	22,708	\$14,446,003.38

**SUNDAY**  
06/07/26<sup>1</sup>

**LIBRADO BAROCIO DECISION (REF: 06/04/26<sup>1</sup>)**

The following ruling was issued after a formal hearing that was held in our office on Thursday, June 4. Trainer Librado Barocio's attorney John Tyre stopped by our office

to pick up our ruling (decision). CHRB General Counsel Jacqueline Loyd will be informed of our decision tomorrow.

A snapshot of this case is explained in our minutes from June 4. Here are some notes from the day of the hearing and/or highlights contained in a twenty-eight (28) page investigative report.

1. Trainer Librado Barocio claimed 'Ghost of Midnight' for \$50,000 at Del Mar Racetrack on November 1, 2025. The horse finished fifth and was beaten 3 ¼ lengths for the win.
2. After bringing this horse to his barn at Santa Anita, he decided he did not wish to work or enter the horse in races for professional reasons. He commented he didn't like the way the horse looked and planned to turn the horse out.
3. Barocio told CHRB Investigator Anne Dillion he planned to turn the horse out but was approached by Owner Nick Cosato who wanted to purchase the horse.
4. This horse was sold for \$75,000 and 23 or 24 days after the claim KC Horse Transport was contacted by Nick Cosato and shipped back to Del Mar to the care of Trainer Sean Williams.
5. 'Ghost of Midnight' had a five (5) furlong workout at Del Mar on November 28, 2025. The horse was in the barn of Sean Williams; however, Librado Barocio was the owner/trainer on the day of the workout.
6. 'Ghost of Midnight' arrived at Oaklawn Park (Arkansas) on November 30, 2025.
7. December 13, 2025, an Oaklawn Park Official reported the ownership of Ghost of Midnight was 'RMFR Racing and Slam Dunk Racing'.

This ruling below was the result of a unanimous vote.

#### **LATS RULING #76**

Trainer LIBRADO BAROCIO is fined TWO THOUSAND AND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500.00)\* for the transfer of GHOST OF MIDNIGHT, which was claimed November 1, 2025 at Del Mar Race Track; a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1662 (Sale or Transfer of Claimed Horse- returned to the former trainer on November 24, 2025, inside of 30 days of being claimed).

06/07/26<sup>2</sup>

#### **ALBERTO RUVALCABA RULING**

Trainer Alberto Ruvalcaba registered his trainee 'Proof He Goes' after time of entry. This first time Lasix user finished fourth in the fifth race, Saturday, June 8. For violation of CHRB Rule #1845 the Stewards, in a unanimous decision, issued the following ruling.

#### **LATS RULING #77**

Trainer ALBERTO RUVALCABA, who started the horse PROOF HE GOES in the fifth race on June 6, 2026, at Santa Anita Park, is fined FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$400.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1845 (Authorized Bleeder Medication – late registration).

06/07/26<sup>3</sup>

#### **MICHAEL MCMILLAN RULING**

Trainer Peter Miller contacted our Office and said that owner Michael McMillan, who is co-owner of Gallatin, did not want to start his horse. Owner McMillian confirmed this to our office over the telephone. Stewards issued the following ruling.

#### **LATS RULING #78**

Owner MICHAEL MCMILLAN, who was scheduled to start GALLATIN in the sixth race on June 7, 2026, at Santa Anita Park, is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1629 (Penalty for Late Declaration – didn't want to run).

06/07/26<sup>4</sup>

**ARMANDO AGUILAR INFORMAL HEARING/RULING**

CHRB Safety Steward Paul Atkinson, with the assistance of Santa Anita Security, issued Jockey Armando Aguilar a 'Violation Notice' for an incident on June 1, 2026. On this day there was an incident in which a loose (riderless) horse was galloping the 'wrong way' (clockwise) on the training track. Warning lights and sirens were activated, as is normal procedure when there is a 'loose horse'.

When there is a loose horse, all riders must immediately slow their horse to a jog. (Emergency Warning System rules on located on Page 13 of the current Santa Anita Condition Book) On June 1 Jockey Aguilar continued to exercise his horse normally as if there were no lights nor siren. When asked to identify himself after the alleged incident, he told officials, "You know who I am". Jockey Aguilar had a somewhat similar incident at Del Mar (REF: Del Mar Ruling #14, 08/02/2024). The Stewards, in a unanimous decision, issued the following ruling.

**LATS RULING #79**

Jockey ARMANDO AGUILAR is fined THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00)\* for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1437 (Conditions of a Race Meeting – Failure to stop working his horse while sirens/warning lights were activated) and Rule #1930 (Obedience to Security Officers and Public Safety Officers – Refused to show CHRB license) on June 1, 2026 at Santa Anita Park.

06/07/26<sup>5</sup>

**ABEL LEZCANO FILM REVIEW/RULING (REF: 06/06/26<sup>2</sup>)**

Jockey Abel Lezcano appeared in the Stewards' Office to review his ride in yesterday's first race, which was conducted at 6 ½ furlongs on the turf. Jockey Lezcano was accompanied by his agent Ryan Glatt. Jockey Lezcano was aboard #7 Decisive Deception, who finished fourth but was disqualified and placed fifth in this race.

Today's film review shows #7 Decisive Deception drift in and contact original fifth place finisher #8 Kinzlee'scharisma (Tyler Baze) at the ¼ pole location. Jockey Lezcano told the Stewards his horse was lugging in. The Stewards' analysis of race replays didn't concur. A very clear drone shot shows Jockey Lezcano allowing his horse to drift in. He did not make any effort to grab the right rein and straighten his mount. The incident could not be placed on his horse. In a unanimous decision the following penalty was issued.

**LATS RULING #80**

Jockey ABEL LEZCANO, who rode DECISIVE DECEPTION in the first race at Santa Anita Park on June 6, 2026, is suspended for THREE (3) racing days (June 21, 26 and 27, 2026) for failure to make the proper effort to maintain his path in the turn and causing interference, resulting in the disqualification of his mount from fourth to fifth; a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1699 (Riding Rules – Careless Riding).

06/07/26<sup>6</sup>

**WELFIN ORANTES FILM REVIEW/HISA RULING**

Jockey Welfin Orantes appeared in our office to review his ride in yesterday's fourth race. Jockey Orantes finished second aboard #6 Highplainsdrifter in this one (1) mile turf race. The Stewards viewed Jockey Orantes use his riding crop seven (7) times in this race. The Stewards were of the unanimous opinion that the following HISA penalty was warranted.

**HISA RULING**

Having violated the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop) and pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (Ruling Crop Violations and Penalties - Class 3 - second offense), Jockey WELFIN ORANTES who rode HIGHPLAINSDRIFTER in the fourth race (Purse \$67,000) at Santa Anita Park on June 6, 2026, is suspended for TWO (2) days (June 21 and 26, 2026) and fined ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000.00) for ONE (1) strike over the limit.

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

(2026-02382, issued 05/10/2026)

06/07/26<sup>7</sup>

**CHRB VETERINARIAN CHANGE**

Dr. Nolton Pattio is off today in his role as State Veterinarian. Dr. Jocelyn Lorbiecki will replace him.

06/07/26<sup>8</sup>

**SECOND RACE INQUIRY**

The Stewards posted the Inquiry sign to review the start of this 5 ½ furlong main track event. Sixth (last) place finisher #2 Tommy Norris reared high in the air when the gates opened and lost much ground. Replays indicated this horse caused his on problems and no further involvement of the Stewards was necessary. No change.

06/07/26<sup>9</sup>

**FOURTH RACE VOIDED CLAIM**

Third place finisher #7 Travelin' Show was claimed out of the fourth race for \$30,000. Following an examination in the test barn CHRB Veterinarian Jocelyn Lorbiecki told the Stewards this horse was unsound, the claim was voided and the horse returns to the barn of Craig Lewis.

06/07/26<sup>10</sup>

**DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1 <sup>st</sup> Race	#2 Rexford (Tr. J. Raudales) claimed, P. Miller, trainer
	#6 Central Dispatch (Tr. J. Sadler) claimed, V. Brinkerhoff, trainer
3 <sup>rd</sup> Race	#2 Toulouse Detrac (Tr. G. Papaprodromou) claimed, J. Farias, trainer
	#7 Donttellourwives (Tr. L. Powell) claimed, L. Campuzano, trainer
3 <sup>rd</sup> Race	Declaration #6 Backstage Drama (Tr. J. Valdez) Sick- Jay Deluhery DVM. REFUND: \$172.64
4 <sup>th</sup> Race	Declarations #4 Cupid's Crusader (Tr. G. Vallejo) Injured- Jay Deluhery DVM
	#5 Kimmer (Tr. G. Vallejo) Injured-Jay Deluhery DVM
	REFUND TOTAL: \$1,006.87
6 <sup>th</sup> Race	#10 Pick It Up (Tr. M. Glatt) Full Field-Stewards
	#11 Gallatin (Tr. P. Miller) Owner didn't want to run-Stewards
	REFUND: \$1,724.53

9<sup>th</sup> Race Declaration #5 Eagles Dare (Tr. D. Dunham) Sick-Michael Pirrione  
DVM. REFUND: \$696.43

9<sup>th</sup> Race #9 Big Notion (Tr. S. Miyadi) claimed, J. Periban, trainer

06/07/26<sup>11</sup>

**ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

<b>ON TRACK</b>	5,683	\$792,623.68
<b>SCOTWINC</b>	3,123	\$1,178,517.14
<b>OUT OF STATE + ADW</b>	n/a	\$7,957,718.24
<b>TOTAL</b>	8,806	\$10,490,589.19

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Fri 06/05</b>	<b>Sat 06/06</b>	<b>Sun 06/07</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Meet</b>
<b>Accidents</b>	0	1	0	1	12
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	2	2	4	8	1153
<b>Claims</b>	5	6	5	16	182
<b>Disqualifications</b>	0	1	0	1	7
<b>Inquiries</b>	0	1	1	2	39
<b>Refunds</b>	8	9	10	27	408
<b>Rulings</b>	0	1	5	6	80
<b>Voided Claims</b>	0	1	1	2	25

**VETERINARIAN REPORT – WEEK OF 06/01/26 TO 06/07/26**

Horses on Vet List 24  
Horses off Vet List 16  
Shock Wave Therapy 7  
Fatalities 0  
Medication 0

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Grant Baker, Steward

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Kim Sawyer, Steward

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Luis Jauregui, Steward

BOS:GB:sh