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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Report for the Week of Wednesday, October 21, through Sunday, October 25, 2026.

WEDNESDAY

10/21/26[1] **DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward has the honors this week, and will be overlooking entries, scratches, changes and panel. Minutes will also be in Ward's scope of duties.

10/21/26[2] **SATURDAY ENTRIES**

The Racing Office staff is hard at work taking entries for the Saturday card. Since rain is in the forecast, we hope that it will not have an influence on the entry process.

10/21/26[3] **OFFICIAL OUT**

Paddock Judge Tom Bazley will not be available this week as he is out on medical leave. Arrangements will be made to cover his position.

THURSDAY

10/22/26[1] **SATURDAY SCRATCHES AND PANEL / SUNDAY ENTRIES**

The entry process is underway for Sunday, with the highlight of the card being the Golden State Million Futurity Finals.
Eight races will comprise the Saturday offering. The draw was completed prior to 4:00 P.M.
The Los Alamitos panel met this morning to discuss the condition of Saturday's horses.
While there was much discussion among the members, there were no scratches or hard watch horses. Scratch time came and went with nothing significant to report.

10/22/26[2] **HEARING DAY – MEDICATION HEARING**

Trainer Jaime Gomez responded to a complaint via telephone this morning as a horse in his care, Mathilde, tested positive for Butazolidin following a workout to be removed from the Veterinarian's List.

Mr. Gomez accepted responsibility for the findings. However, Investigator Barrett Halcromb's report indicated that Mr. Gomez told him that the horse's groom admitted that he administered the medication the day before the work as he was not aware the horse would be working for its removal from the list the next day. A ruling will be issued this coming weekend.

FRIDAY

10/23/26[1] **SUNDAY PANEL AND CHANGES**

A nine-race program will be offered on Sunday evening, with the feature race being the Golden State Million Futurity finals. The Los Alamitos panel convened today resulting in two "Hard Watch" horses – both in the feature race. There was also one horse scratched for insufficient workouts. Scratch time had nothing major to report.

SATURDAY

10/24/26[1] **RULING #85**

Ruling #85

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1887 (Trainer or Owner to Insure Conditions of Horse), trainer Jaime Gomez, who worked the horse Mathilde for removal from the Veterinarian's list at Los Alamitos Race Course on July 24, 2026, is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($500.00)* for violation of CHRB rules #1843 (a)(b) & (d) (Medication Drugs and Other Substances) and #1843.1 (a) (Prohibited Drug Substances – Phenylbutazone – Class IV, Penalty level C). In accordance with CHRB rule #1843.4 (Multiple Medication Violations), Mr. Gomez is assessed ½ point.

The above ruling was issued to close the case filed against Mr. Gomez.

10/24/26[2] **LATE RIDERS**

Armando Aguilar and Edwin Escobedo had to be replaced in their respective races; Aguilar was delayed after riding at Santa Anita and Escobedo, who had ridden in Kansas earlier in the day, missed his flight connection. Replacement riders were named.

10/24/26[3] **DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1st Race No Changes
2nd Race No Changes
3rd Race #7 Interest Free (Tr. P. Jones) Injured – Dr Fitzgerald – Refund: $118.49
4th Race No Changes
5th Race No Changes
6th Race #5 Eagle On The Sky (Tr. F. Rodriguez) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: $131.70
7th Race No Changes
8th Race #4 Jess Tell (Tr. E. Andrade) Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: $156.30

10/17/26[4] **DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

ON TRACK	1,412	$78,006.40
SCOTWINC	849	$193,284.90
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	$745,870.41
TOTAL	2,261	$1,017,161.71

SUNDAY

10/25/26[1] **RULING #86**

Ruling #86

Jockey ARMANDO VIRAMONTES, is suspended for THREE (3) RACING DAYS (November 7th, 8th and 14th, 2026) for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1688 (b)(8) (Use of Riding Crop – more than six times during the race) and rule #1688 (b)(7) (Use of Riding Crop – more than two times in succession, without giving the horse a chance to respond) while riding Famous Talk in the eighth race, the second division of the Super Derby Trials, at Los

Alamitos Race Course on October 18, 2026.

Furthermore, pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1688 (f) (Trial Heats) Armando Viramontes is not eligible to participate in the Los Alamitos Super Derby, scheduled to run on November 8, 2026.

The foregoing ruling was issued after Mr. Viramontes viewed the eighth race (Los Alamitos Super Derby Trials) from October 18, during which he violated the crop rule rather dramatically. During review it appeared that he struck his mount thirteen times. The rider did not contest the violation.
The decision resulting in a suspension was by majority as Ward felt since Mr. Viramontes was eligible for the minimum penalty, to go from that to a suspension which prevents him from riding in the finals would be excessive

10/25/26[2] **RULING #87**

Ruling #87

Jockey ARMANDO AGUILAR 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 Race Course on October 24, 2026.

This ruling was issued as Mr. Aguilar failed to arrive in time to fulfill his obligation in the second race on Saturday evening.

10/25/26[3] **JOCKEY OBJECTION – NO CHANGE**

The Objection sign was posted after the second race as Pedro Flores, who finished fifth aboard #1 Topstitch, lodged a claim of foul against the second-place horse, #3 Mischief River, with Cesar Ortega aboard. Flores felt that his mount was hindered shortly after the start by the actions of the “Place” horse.
After speaking with the riders involved the Stewards voted unanimously to dismiss the Objection as most of the blame was placed on #2 Project Leader, who finished behind Flores and his mount.

10/25/26[4] **JOCKEY OBJECTION – DISQUALIFICATION**

Jockey Eduardo Nicasio (9th, #5 Contentious) lodged an Objection against Justine Klaiber (8th, #6 Dios Dorado) following the eighth race, alleging interference at the start. The Objection sign was not posted due to the finish position of both horses, but an announcement was made to the public.
After concluding a review of the start, the Stewards voted unanimously to disqualify Dios Dorado from eighth to ninth position as Ms. Klaiber’s mount bobbled and broke in, placing Nicasio in tight quarters for several strides. Ms. Klaiber was not held responsible as she made a good effort to straighten her mount.

10/25/26[5] **DECLARATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS**

1st Race No Changes
2nd Race No Changes
3rd Race #6 Nostrangertotherain (Tr. A. Aquino) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: $260.05
4th Race #6 Honorable Gal (Tr. J. Uranga) Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald – Refund: $522.39
5th Race No Changes
6th Race No Changes
7th Race No Changes
8th Race #2 Call Me Champion (Tr. J. Flores) Stakes – Stewards – Refund: $139.55
9th Race No Changes

DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE

ON TRACK	744	$95,059.30
SCOTWINC	808	$188,595.80
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	$935,602.63
TOTAL	1,552	$1,219,257.73

SUMMARY

	Fri 10/23	Sat 10/24	Sun 10/25	Week	Meet
Accidents	0	0	0	0	9
Cal-Bred Races	0	0	0	0	16
Claims	0	0	2	2	72
Disqualifications	0	0	1	1	17
Inquiries	0	0	2	2	43
Refunds	0	3	3	6	283
Rulings	0	1	2	3	87
Voided Claims	0	0	0	0	22

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Tom Ward, Steward

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David Nuesch, Steward

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Ron Church, Steward

BOS:TW:dj