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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Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report for the week of October 28, 2026, through November 1, 2026.

WEDNESDAY

10/28/26[1] **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.

10/28/26[2] **THE DRAW**
The racing office compiled a solid eight-race card for Saturday, consisting of four HISA regulated thoroughbred races, all going four and one-half furlongs.

THURSDAY

10/29/26[1] **ENTRIES, SCRATCHES AND PANEL**
Once again, Steward Dave Nuesch was present to oversee entries for Sunday, and to approve scratches and changes for Saturday evening's card. Additionally, the entry panel met to review and discuss all the runners on Saturday's eight-race program. No scratches were submitted.

10/29/26[2] **HEARING CONTINUED**
Trainer Jesus Nunez called in and asked to participate in his scheduled hearing via telephone, as he traveled to Texas and was delayed in returning. The decision was made to reschedule the hearing to mid-November.

10/29/26[3] **MANAGEMENT MEETING**
The Stewards met with Director of Racing Eulices Gomez and Racing Secretary Osvaldo Rivera to discuss the lack of adequate staffing in many of the Racing Official roles, causing several positions to be "doubled up" as some Officials travel from Santa Anita following the conclusion of their card. Mr. Gomez expressed his frustration in the lack of available workers but said he believes all roles will be filled by Saturday. He also stated that Paddock Judge Tom Bazley will be returning this weekend. Additionally, Track President & Director Cathy Allred met with the Stewards and assured us that every effort will be made to fill all positions as soon as possible.

10/29/26[4] **THE DRAW**

The racing office compiled another eight-race card for Sunday, featuring the Grade 1 Robert L. Boniface Los Alamitos Invitational Championship, going the classic distance of 440 yards.

FRIDAY

10/30/26[1] **SCRATCHES AND PANEL**

Steward Dave Nuesch was present to approve scratches and changes for Sunday's card. The Entry Panel met once again to review and discuss all the runners on the eight-race program.

SATURDAY

10/31/26[1] **FILM REVIEW**

Jockey Gerardo Vera was in our office to review his winning ride aboard Lightning Vaquera in the Golden State Million Futurity where he violated the crop rule. Mr. Vera stated that this was the biggest race he had ever participated in and totally disregarded that the crop rule. Additionally, the riders of the second and fourth place finishers also violated the crop rule, but they called into the Stewards office, as they both reside out-of-state. More to follow…

10/31/26[2] **RULING #88**

For violating the crop rule in last Saturday's sixth race, jockey Rodrigo Aceves was issued the following ruling.

Ruling # 88

Jockey RODRIGO ACEVES is fined FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($500.00)* 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 Keep In Mind in the sixth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on October 24, 2026.

10/31/26[3] **DELAY – Race 2**

Following the first race, the jockeys communicated to Safety Steward Brice Blanc that they were not happy with the track surface, feeling that it was too hard. Track Superintendent Rick Hughes asked for some additional time to make some adjustments to the racing surface.

10/31/26[4] **RACES CANCELLED**

Following the second race, the jockeys met with the Track Superintendent and discussed the racing surface, which they felt was still too hard. Additional time was taken to allow the maintenance crew to work the surface further, but after warming up their mounts for the third race, the jockeys communicated with Starter Gary Brinson that they still did not feel the track surface was safe to race over. As a result, the decision was made to cancel the third race, along with the remaining races on the card.

10/31/26[5] **DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS**

2nd Race #7 We Salute You (Tr. A. Ruvalcaba) Claimed by trainer C. Treece - Voided
3rd Race Races 3 through 8 cancelled - Refunds: $158.786.76

10/31/26[6] **DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

ON TRACK	421	$36,645.00
SCOTWINC	1,005	$136,479.30
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	$339,334.15
TOTAL	1,426	$512,458.45

SUNDAY

11/01/26[1] **STEWARD SWITCH**

Steward Dave Nuesch moved over to Santa Anita today to fill-in for Luis Jauregui. Safety Steward Eddie Rich was brought in to fill the role of Steward for this evening's program.

11/01/26[2] **CROP RULINGS (Ref: 10/31/26[1])**

After reviewing the race multiple times and taking into consideration the size of the purse and the magnitude of the violations, the following rulings were handed down.

Ruling # 89

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1688 (d)(2), Jockey GERARDO M. VERA is fined NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS ($9,700.00)* and suspended for SEVEN (7) RACING DAYS (November 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th and December 5th, 2026) for violations of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1688 (b) (7) (Use of Riding Crop – more than twice in succession without giving the horse a chance to respond), rule #1688 (b)(8) (Use of Riding Crop – more than six times during the running of the race) and #1688 (d)(3) (Using the Crop in the Overhand Position) while riding Lightning Vaquera in the ninth race (Grade I Los Alamitos Golden State Million Futurity, gross purse $1,191,150) at Los Alamitos Race Course on October 25, 2026.

Ruling # 90

Pursuant to California Horse Racing Board rule #1688 (d)(2),Jockey CHRISTIAN L. CARDENAS is fined ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS ($1,980.00)* and suspended for THREE (3) RACING DAYS (November 14th, 15th and 21st) for blatant violations 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 Revenantly in the ninth race (Grade I Los Alamitos Golden State Million Futurity, gross purse $1,191,150) at Los Alamitos Race Course on October 25, 2026.

Ruling # 91

Jockey JOSEPH J. BELLOC JR. 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 Cartel Cowgirl 123 in the ninth race (Grade I Los Alamitos Golden State Millon Futurity, gross purse $1,191,150) at Los Alamitos Race Course on October 25, 2026.

11/01/26[3] **DELAY – Race 4**

The track vet's truck had a mechanical issue that led to a delay in the running of the fourth race. Thankfully, the remainder of the evening's card was conducted smoothly and without incident.

11/01/26[4] **DECLARATIONS, CHANGES, CLAIMS AND REFUNDS**

1st Race	#1 Bako Country (Tr. G. Vallejo) Vet-Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald - Refund: $223.00
	#3 Synopsis (Tr. G. Haley) – Jockey changed to E. Payeras
	#6 Rousing Rhythm (Tr. R. Lucas) Vet-Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald - Refund: $205.40
2nd Race	#3 Liquid Spirit (Tr. J. Farias) – Jockey changed to D. Cruz
3rd Race	#7 Smugglers Isle (Tr. C. Dollase) Vet-Injured – Dr. Fitzgerald - Refund: $183.88
4th Race	#1 Cathal (IRE) (Tr. J. Valdez) Vet-Sick – Dr. Fitzgerald - Refund: $255.85
5th Race	#6 Call Me Soft (Tr. J. Flores) Vet-Unsound – Dr. Fitzgerald - Refund: $168.30
7th Race	#7 Ap Royal Sweet (Tr. J. Flores) Claimed by trainer C. Treece - Voided

11/01/26[5] **DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

ON TRACK	464	$68,741.80
SCOTWINC	816	$169,096.10
OUT OF STATE + ADW	N/A	$862,131.55
TOTAL	1,280	$1,099,969.45

SUMMARY

	Fri 10/30	Sat 10/31	Sun 11/01	Week	Meet
Accidents	D	0	0	0	9
Cal-Bred Races	A	0	0	0	16
Claims	R	0	1	1	73
Disqualifications	K	0	0	0	17
Inquiries	-	0	0	0	43
Refunds	D	1	5	6	294
Rulings	A	1	3	4	91
Voided Claims	Y	1	0	1	23

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David Nuesch, Steward

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Ron Church, Steward

_____
Tom Ward, Steward

BOS:DN:dj